The Inka city of Machupicchu
A wonderful journey into the past

Main circuits

Location

The Inka city of Machupicchu:

1. The Main Gate frames Waynapicchu Mountain, one of the site's key features. The trapezoidal shape is characteristic of Inka architecture.

2. The Temple of the Sun, an example of organic architecture, contains artistic fountains, ceremonial niches, a large carved rock, and elements from which to observe the stars.

3. The House of the Inka, strategically located in relation to the water sources and the Temple of the Sun, displays elements clearly associated with religious worship.

4. Ceremonial water fountains, forming 30 fountains in total, exhibit similar construction techniques and are located in Machupicchu's Llaqta urban sector.

5. The Intihuatana Pyramid is a rocky outcrop with two enclosures located at the summit and between these are a monolith stone sculpture known as Intihuatana or Intiwatsa.

6. Water Mirrors consist of a space designed for astronomical observation using water mirrors located at ground level.

7. The Sacred Plaza is the site of the Main Temple, the Temple of the Three Windows, and a less elaborate enclosure that served as a residence and storage facility.

8. The Sacred Rock is a granite block surrounded by an altar and dedicated to the cult of the sacred mountains (apus). It is located between the central zone of the Llaqta and Waynapicchu Mountain.

9. The Three Gates consist of three exits which serviced as residences for the elite and were designed following the kancha principles. Each has an opening for access with a double door pivot.

10. The Temple of the Condor is a monumental area which features the representation of a condor and houses underground passages related to the cult of water.

About your trip

BEFORE TRAVELLING:
- To ensure the visit is the best experience of your life, you need to plan it in advance and avoid reaching the llaqta or Inka city without an entry ticket.
- Be prepared, and remember that you cannot re-enter unless your ticket includes the mountains.
- Remember also that there are no toilet facilities inside the llaqta.

TICKET PURCHASE:
- Buying tickets in advance is very easy. Go to www.machupicchu.gob.pe, select your date, visiting hours, and route, and then make an online payment.
- You can also purchase tickets in person through your travel agent or at the offices of The Cusco Dirección Descendants of Cultura.

TRAVEL TIME:
- From Machupicchu town (Vilcanota) to the llaqta or Inka city: forty minutes by bus or ninety minutes on foot.

Useful information

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE PROHIBITED:
- Backpacks larger than 40 x 35 x 20 cm
- Umbrellas
- Drugs and alcohol
- Drones
- Firearms and sharps
- Selfie sticks
- High heels
- Pets
- Luggage
- Cigarettes and electronic cigarettes
- Food
- Matches
- Speakers and music players

SPACES WITH LIMITED ENTRY TIMES
- For conservation reasons.

For the Llaqta or Inka city of Machupicchu:
- Opening time: 06:00 h / 07:00 h / 08:00 h
- Closing time: 17:30 h
- The tour of the Altiplano lasts between two and four hours. If your ticket includes Waynapicchu or Wayna Picchu Mountain, the tour can last up to six or seven hours.

Opening hours:
- Inca Little Cusco: 07:00 to 10:00 h
- Temple of the Condor: 10:00 to 13:00 h
- Temple of the Sun: 13:00 to 16:00 h

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FREE DISTRIBUTION. NOT FOR SALE.
Nestled strategically between the Andes and the Amazon, it is a masterpiece of art, architecture, and engineering in perfect harmony with nature.

**Inka constructions** possess the beauty of simplicity. The decoration is sober.

**Symmetry**

The elements that constitute the buildings maintain surprising proportionality.

**Solidity**

The use of large stones is evidence of the strong inka constructions.

**Simplicity**

The llaqta on Machupicchu was built on irregularly shaped land and in perfect harmony with the surroundings.

1. The Main Gate
2. The Temple of the Sun
3. The House of the Inka
4. Ceremonial Water Fountains
5. The Quarry
6. The Sacred Plaza
7. The Intiwatana Pyramid
8. The Sacred Rock
9. The Three Gates
10. Water Mirrors
11. The Temple of the Condor
12. The Temple of the Inkas
13. The Sacred Rock
14. The Kancha

For agriculture, the Inkas created platforms since planting requires horizontal space.

- **Construction of llaqta begins.**
- **1400**
- **1540**
- **War between the Spanish and the Inkas leaves the inka city abandoned.**
- **1911**
- **1913**
- **1983**
- **Machupicchu is inscribed on UNESCO's list as a World Heritage Site.**
- **2007**
- **On July 24, 1911, Hiram Bingham rediscovers the inka city.**
- **National Geographic magazine devotes its April edition to Peru and Machupicchu.**
- **Machupicchu is chosen as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.**