



In this remote and spectacular trek in the Cordillera Vilcanota, you'll spend 4 nights/5 days in close proximity to Nevado Ausangate (6,384 m / 20,945 ft), the highest sacred mountain in the Andes of southern Peru. The "apu" is the bearer of life and the guardian of one of the most pristine mountain ecosystems in the world. Our treks will be accompanied by llamas and horses that carry our gear, which that are owned by the shepherds of the Chillca community whom are proud to share with us their land and the spirit of this inspiring world. On our hikes and in our unique "Tambos" or Andean Lodges, daily meals will be prepared by experienced chefs, introducing you to a great variety of delicious Peruvian cuisine and produce. As for entertainment, authentic, vernacular music from members of the communities will accompany some of our nights in the "tambos"

Due to the high elevations on this route, we recommend at least 3 nights in Cuzco prior to the trek. Need help with finding a place to stay? Just let us know and we can help.



Day 01: To Chillca

We depart from Cuzco with an interesting bus-ride along the valley of the Vilcanota River. After a visit to the beautiful colonial church at Checacupe, we ascend the Pitumarka River valley, past the community of Osefina, to Chillca. We have lunch at 14,077 ft. by the ruins of an old mill built by a rushing mountain stream, then begin our trek following the stream up through a ravine and out onto the beautiful pastures of Chillca community. From here it's a 30 minute walk to the Chillca Tambo (4,368 m / 14,327 ft.). After settling in, you have time to explore the surroundings or just to relax and enjoying the beautiful views. In the evening people from the village entertain our groups with traditional music.

Day 02: Chillca - Machuracay

Our hike begins in the wide valley of Upis where impressive glaciated mountains loom above the valley offering majestic views. The trail narrows as we make our way towards the waterfalls descending from the Santa Catalina mountain. This path is mostly used by the wandering llamas of the area. Once we reach the small Paloma lagoon the countryside is dotted with these animals, and also a large number of alpacas. After hiking along a second lagoon and crossing a long series of moraines, we will reach the Machuracay Tambo (4,805 m/15,760 ft) located at the base of Apu Ausangate.

Day 03: Machurcay - Anantapata

After a demanding ascent of the Palomani pass at an elevation of 5,150 m. / 16,892 ft., we descend to Ausangatecocha. Tremendous views of the glaciated south face of the "apu" will inspire us as we continue towards the red sandstone formations of the "Nevado del Inca". Overnight stay in the Anantapata Tambo (4,700 m/15,416 ft.).



Day 04: Anantapata - Huampococha

A spectacular part of the trail finds us hiking in the middle of mountains with red, ochre, and blue strata. This section offers a glimpse of marvelous geological wonder and natural beauty. Also, be on the lookout for groups of gracious vicunas, as they are frequently spotted in this isolated area. We will sleep that night in the Huampococha Tambo (4,818 m/15,803 ft.) in the heart of large rock formations near a lagoon where "huallatas" (Andean geese) make their nests. 11.6 km.

Day 05: Huampococha - Cuzco

After a last climb over the Anta pass (4,908 m/16,098 ft.), we gradually make our descent. In this section the first crops and houses come into view. The landscape changes quickly as the red sandstone formations are followed by the Carsten erosion of limestone, forming a one of a kind stone forest, and a perfect habitat for "vizcacha" (members of the chinchilla family). By the time we get down the valley to Congomire (3,886 m/12,746 ft.), our bus will be waiting for the return trip to Cusco.

INCLUDED:

- Expert leadership on the entire trek package
- Private transport to Chillca and back to Cusco.
- Lodging with double occupancy rooms, private bathrooms for each room (running cold and hot water).
- Duffle bag (for the luggage carried by horses),.
- Walking sticks,
- All meals on the trek,
- Including a hearty breakfast,
- Picnic style lunch and a 3-course dinners served with wine.
- First Aid.
- Oxygen.



EXCLUDED:

- Tips to staff.
- Personal equipment and items of a personal nature.
- Insurance.
- Laundry.

NOTE: rate based on 4 trekkers. Check with us to see if we have others on-board.

