



Adventure tours that delve deeper

Much Better Adventures

TRIP LENGTH: 8 days
STARTS AND ENDS: Cusco

Day 1 Welcome to Cusco

We'll pick you up from the airport and take you to your accommodation in the heart of Cusco, the longest-inhabited city in the Americas and its acknowledged archaeological capital.

The earlier you land, the more time you'll have to wander around Cusco's stunning historic centre where you'll enjoy spectacular mountain views, traditionally dressed locals, colonial buildings on Inca foundations, and a whole lot more! Please take it easy and drink plenty of water today to aid acclimatisation – you're at 3,300m above sea level!

At 6pm your trip guides will meet you and you'll all head out for your first dinner together, and a full briefing on what tomorrow and the rest of the week holds!

Accommodation: Llipimpaq Guesthouse
Meals: Dinner included

Day 2 Chinchero and Moray

Today starts with Chinchero, where we'll meet local artesans in their outdoor weaving cooperatives, and explore an Inca ruin with extensive terracing with incredible views. Next we'll explore Moray – a mysterious complex of massive amphitheatres of incredible engineering precision and stern, magnificent beauty, said to have been the Incas' crop laboratory.

In between we'll get used to our bikes with scenic, easy riding through rolling countryside, past lakes and farms and through rural villages, all set against the insanely scenic backdrop of the dividing ridge of the Andes.

Accommodation: Llipimpaq Guesthouse
Meals: All meals included

Day 3 Into the Sacred Valley

Today we'll ride from the South Valley, beginning in the outskirts of Cusco, to the famed Sacred Valley of the Incas.

One food speciality per town is the rule in the South Valley, which is home to Oropesa (bread) Tipón (cuy – guinea pig), Saylla (chicharrones – pork with mint) and Lucre (pato – duck). So there's plenty of nourishment to keep us going as we cycle into the famously beautiful, eternally springlike Sacred Valley where we'll ride along

info@aspiringadventures.com | www.aspiringadventures.com

South America HQ: Apartado 611, Cusco, Peru | Pacific HQ: 13 Wickliffe St, Mosgiel 9024, New Zealand

Free Call: 1800 ASPIRING (Australia) | 0508 ASPIRING (New Zealand) | 1 877 438 1354 (US & Canada) | +64 3 489 7474 (Worldwide)

the Urubamba River to where we'll spend the night in Lamay, a sleepy little farming village whose one funky little bar with local microbrews on tap we will be sure to check out!

Accommodation: El Tambo del Chasqui

Meals: All meals included

Day 4 Pisac to Lares

This morning we'll drive the very short distance to the Inca fortress of Pisac, where our guides will show us around the bristling battlements and amazing terracing that defended the Inca Empire from invasion from the jungle. Then we'll saddle up and ride to Calca, the bustling town that's the commercial centre of the Sacred Valley. A tour of the market here gives us a great taste of local life and the amazing produce that fuels it!

From here we'll drive up to a high pass, then bike downhill to the Lares Hot Springs, where we'll camp right next to these amazing mineral springs, beside to a raging river in a dramatic gorge.

Accommodation: Camping at Lares Hot Springs

Meals: All meals included

Day 5 From high pass to high jungle!

Today we cross the watershed from the Pacific to the Atlantic side of the Andes – into the steamy Amazon basin! If you enjoy biking downhill through stunning scenery on perfect dirt road, today will probably be the greatest day of your life. We'll drive up to a 4425m pass, then sit on our bikes and roll all the way down to the high jungle, losing more than 2000m of altitude along the way! Sit back and watch the scenery change, from glacial plains above the treeline, through hardy highland trees, all the way down into the high jungle. We end up riding along a river through dense green jungle, past orchids, bromeliads, and ferns... the contrast is incredible and the riding even more so!

Accommodation: Camping in the remote high jungle

Meals: All meals included

Day 6 The final descent

This morning we'll descend all the way to the Yanatile valley floor on dirt road, through banana, papaya and coffee plantations. We'll enjoy a traditional lunch at a *quinta* (a breezy outdoor restaurant serving traditional Peruvian meals), wave goodbye to our bikes and drive along a narrow country backroad to Santa Teresa where we'll spend the night in a funky eco-lodge. In the evening we'll visit the Cocalmayo Hot Springs – the perfect way to ease the aches of all that riding, and prepare for a big day at Machu Picchu tomorrow!

Accommodation: Camping at Cocalmayo Hot Springs

Meals: All meals included

Day 7 Machu Picchu

An early start rewards us with the one and only Machu Picchu. A spectacular stone city surrounded by incredibly steep, incredibly green mountains, Machu Picchu needs no introduction and is deservedly one of the

new Seven Wonders of the World. Your guide will give you a tour of the massive site, and then there's some time to wander around and soak it all in, before we catch the train back to Cusco for our last night together.

Accommodation: Llipimpac Guesthouse

Meals: All meals included

Day 8 Departure day

You can book your flight out for any time you like today.

Meals: Breakfast included

What's included:

- All accommodation including all camping gear (based on twin share. Single Supplement available for US\$195)
- Transfers in and out if taken on days 1 and 8
- All activities specified in itinerary
- Dedicated Aspiring Adventures guides and mechanics throughout the trip
- Luggage/SAG van throughout all rides
- Entrance to all attractions specified in itinerary
- Extra permit to climb Huayna Picchu at Machu Picchu (if available at time of booking)
- All meals as specified in itinerary
- Drinking water
- Bike and helmet

What's not included:

- Tips for your guides and cooks
- Riding gloves – we HIGHLY recommend you bring your own!
- Transfers in and out unless taken on days 1 and 8
- Drinks other than water