

# GREAT INCA TRAIL TO VITCOS 4D/3N



## apumayo

expediciones

Tourism with a purpose



**Level** : Moderate difficult hiking - No need experience



**Duration** : 4 days ☀️ / 3 nights 🌙

**Location** : Vilcabamba Valley

**Season** : March – December

**Departures** : Every day, upon request

N° Pasajeros	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Net price per person in US\$	2,970	1,579	1,200	947	899	829	817	804	785	764	761	720	712	698	665

**Single supplement: US\$50.00**

### ITINERARY DESCRIPTION

#### Day 1: AGUAS CALIENTES TO YANAMA

Now you have ticked Machu Picchu off the bucket list, it is time to experience, first-hand, another of the Incas' greatest engineering feats. After a short train ride down the Urubamba River Valley, you will venture well off the beaten path on a 4-hour land transfer to the town of Yanama (3569 m.a.s.l. / 11709 feet); a remote outpost of about 60 families. This will be your camp for tonight, and your first taste of Vilcabamba: The Last Refuge of the Incas. Enjoy the afternoon getting accustomed to camp life, and the evening marveling at the symphony of stars out here on the perimeter.

#### Distances:

**Distance from Machupicchu (Aguas Calientes town) - Hydroelectric:** 10 km (On train)

**Distance from Hydroelectric – Santa Teresa:** 10 km (On vehicle)

**Distance from Santa Teresa - Yanama:** 70 km (On vehicle)

**Lowest elevation:** Machupicchu (Aguas Calientes town) 2040 m.a.s.l. / 6693 feet

**Highest elevation:** Yanama 3569 m.a.s.l. / 11709 feet

**Distance to walk:** 10 km

**Average on train Time:** 31 min.

**Average on vehicle Time:** 4hrs. (Lunch/ dinner)

#### Day 2: YANAMA TO QUELCAMACHAY

Wake early for a hot and hearty breakfast, followed closely by your first experience of the Great Inca Trail. The trail from the Yanama River ascends 3,000 feet up the Choquetacarpo Valley, transporting you into an Andean wonderland. Once you rise above 11,000 feet, you'll walk on pristine Inca Road, passing Inca tambos (way stations) and water temples (one, called Unusaminchana, features canals and a two-sided bath beneath a natural spring) along the way. After walking for most of the day, you will arrive at your camp for the night: a place called Qelqamachay (3907 m.a.s.l./12818 feet) that is surrounded by native Quenua forest, which creeps up into the seams of the cliffs. Be sure to get some rest, because tomorrow you will be summiting the 15,000-foot Choquetacarpo Pass.

#### Distances:

**Distance from Yanama – Abra LLutupampa:** 6.16 km

**Distance from Abra LLutupampa - Quelcamachay:** 7.98 km

**Lowest elevation:** Yanama 3569 m.a.s.l. / 11709 feet

**Highest elevation:** Quelcamachay 3907 m.a.s.l. / 12818 feet

**Distance to walk:** 14.14 km

**Average walking Time:** 6hrs. to 7hrs. (Breakfast/ Lunch/ dinner)

#### Day 3: QUELCAMACHAY TO HUANCACALLE

Make sure you have a good breakfast: today's 5-hour hike traverses some of most spectacular Inca road (not to mention rugged terrain) on the planet. From the outset, you will hike on Inca steps towards the snowy 15,000-foot pass, the curves of the Inca Road softening the intensity of the ascent. After walking up and down the Choquetacarpo Pass on thousands of Inca steps that cover more than 2,000 feet of elevation on each side, you will make your way to Huancacalle – a 500-person town that is your camp for the night – right below the Inca citadel of Vitcos. This is the end of your time on the Great Inca Trail...and the beginning of an archeological adventure that very few human beings ever get to experience.

#### Distances:

**Distance from Quelcamachay – Abra Choquetacarpo:** 4.65 km

**Distance from Choquetacarpo – Kollpa:** 3.75 km

**Distance from Kollpa – Huancacalle:** 11.4 km (on vehicle)

**Lowest elevation:** Huancacalle 2951 m.a.s.l. / 9682 feet

**Highest elevation:** Abra choquetacarpu 4793 m.a.s.l./15725 feet

**Distance to walk:** 8.4 km

**Average walking Time:** 6 hrs. to 7hrs. (Breakfast/ Lunch/ dinner)

#### Day 4: HUANCACALLE -VITCOS & RETURN TO CUZCO

Passing between the massive polished stones, which mark the site's most important entryways, you will visit Vitcos (3003 m.a.s.l. / 9852 feet), the center of the exiled neo-Inca state in Vilcabamba and a place very few outsiders ever visit. On a guided tour of the city, which served as the Inca capital for seven years from 1537 onwards, you will explore the important religious temple of Yuraq Rumi, a massive carved rock from which a spring emanates, not to mention a series of Inca terraces and a main plaza, which looks down upon the breathtaking Vilcabamba River. After your tour of Vitcos, you will embark on the drive back to Cuzco, where a proper bed and a hot shower await.

#### Distances:

**Distance from Huancacalle – Ñustahispana:** 1.5 km

**Distance from Ñustahispana – Vitcos:** 1.6 km

**Distance from Vitcos – Huancacalle:** 2.43 km

**Distance from Huancacalle – Cusco:** 251 km (on vehicle)

**Lowest elevation:** Huancacalle 2951 m.a.s.l. / 9682 feet

**Highest elevation:** Vitcos 3003 m.a.s.l./9852 feet

**Distance to walk:** 5.53 km

**Average walking Time:** 3 hrs. to 4hrs. (Breakfast/ Lunch)

### CHECK OUR MAP HERE

**Included:**

- Orientation meeting or phone call a day before to departure date.
- Private Transportation: Hidroelectrica - Yanama.
- Local Transportation: Kollpa - Huancacalle.
- Private transportation: Huancacalle – Cusco.
- Professional bilingual guide (English - Spanish).
- 1 assistant guide for groups over 9 people.
- All balanced meals during the trekking (from snack on day 1 to lunch on day 4), preparing by our expert cooking team, using organic and Andean superfood products ( optional diets for vegans, vegetarians and so on upon request).
- Filtered and boiled water recharges available every day at breakfast and lunchtime.
- Vitcos entrance fee.
- Horses, mules and muleteers for the completely camping equipment including 7 kilograms for passenger's personal luggage (duffle bag with clothes, sleeping bag and personal items).
- Saddle horses.
- All common camping gear: Two men mountain tent, inflatable mattress, kitchen dishes, kitchen tent, dinner tent, toilet tent, table, chairs.
- First aid kit with oxygen bottle.
- Short wave radios.
- Sanitation care (disinfected dishes, filtered water, etc.).
- Environmental care (all the garbage goes back to Cusco, portable toilet treatment).
- Train service: Aguas Calientes - Hidroelectrica (1st day)

**Not included:**

- Hotel in Aguas Calientes.
- Hotel in Cusco.
- Meals or services in Aguas Calientes.
- Extra services not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Tips and extra expenses.
- Single supplement US\$50.00.
- Extra Saddle horse US\$105.00
- Sleeping bag US\$30.00
- A pair of walking sticks US\$25.00

