

What to Pack for Machu Picchu and Cusco

A checklist to tick before you leave, with what the Machu Picchu rules require, what PromPerú and the Peruvian Ministry of Health (MINSA) recommend, and what our tours ask you to bring.

Data as of 24 October 2026.



Documents and money

- ☐ Original passport or ID: you buy and show your Machu Picchu ticket with it, and the Cusco Tourist Ticket is also issued in your name.
- ☐ Machu Picchu ticket and train ticket, printed or on your phone.
- ☐ Valid student card or ISIC card, if you use the student fare.
- ☐ Cash in soles for the fees paid on site: Tourist Ticket, Maras Salt Mines, Humantay Lake or Rainbow Mountain.

Clothes and shoes

- ☐ Comfortable walking shoes. High heels and hard-soled shoes are not allowed in Machu Picchu.
- ☐ Layers: a long-sleeved shirt and a windbreaker.
- ☐ Cap or hat, sunglasses and sunscreen.

By season

- ☐ December to March (rainy season): rain poncho or waterproof jacket. Umbrellas are not allowed in Machu Picchu.
- ☐ May to August (dry season): a warm coat for nights and early mornings in Cusco and the Sacred Valley; in June and July the average minimum temperature in Cusco drops below 0 °C (32 °F).

To enter Machu Picchu

- ☐ Small backpack: up to 40 x 35 x 20 cm.
- ☐ Water bottle.
- ☐ Do not bring: food, walking sticks, umbrellas, parasols, portable seats, tripods or camera extensions, drones, strollers, musical instruments, speakers, alcohol or aerosols.

For Humantay Lake and Rainbow Mountain

- ☐ Hiking shoes, a sweater and gloves for the cold.
- ☐ Raincoat or poncho, cap, sunglasses and sunscreen.
- ☐ 1 liter of water and a standard backpack.
- ☐ Cash in soles for the entrance fee and, if you wish, a horse.
- ☐ The tour includes trekking poles, a first-aid kit and an oxygen tank.

Health and altitude

- ☐ Rest for the first few hours after arriving in Cusco and avoid strenuous effort (MINSA).
- ☐ Drink plenty of fluids and eat light (MINSA). Avoid alcohol for the first 48 hours (CDC).
- ☐ Do not self-medicate: see your doctor before the trip. If you have high blood pressure or arrhythmia, bring all your medication (MINSA).

All set for your tour

Choose your tour to Machu Picchu, the Sacred Valley or the rainbow mountains: scan the code to see all our tours from Cusco.

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machupicchucataleya.com/tours/



Sources: Machu Picchu visit rules (Ministry of Culture, machupicchu.gob.pe), PromPerú (peru.travel), SENAMHI (climate normals 1991–2020, Cusco), MINSA and CDC (altitude sickness), and each tour page.