

A World Away Travels

adventure travel's complete experience...

PO Box 596 ~ South Fork, CO 81154 ~ USA
Phone 1-888-438-3612 ~ Fax 1-707-516-7651 ~ email info@aworldawaytravels.com
www.aworldawaytravels.com

Auzangate Circuit July 13-25, 2001

From the Inca capitol of Cusco, nestled high in the heart of the Andes, we travel to the Peruvian highland village of Tinquí. Passing stunning scenery and climbing high mountain passes through the jagged Andes we reach the beginning of our trek around the sacred summit of Auzungate (20,945 feet). Our six-day hike around the peak encounters colorful blue lakes and fluted glacier covered peaks. Above our path condors float in the thin Andean air and herds of alpacas and llamas fill the lush alpine pastures below. Our camps beside mountain hot springs and turquoise ponds offer us a chance to meet local Quechuan Indian and hear colorful tales of their culture and great legends about their mountain spirit, Auzungate. Returning to Cusco we visit the ruins of Machu Picchu to discover the lost city of the Incas; completing this journey into the heart of Peru. *rigorous trekking*

Day 1-2 Travel to Cusco Peru

Departing from the United States late in the evening you will arrive in Lima early the next morning and catch a connecting flight to Cusco. Our flight will take us over amazing views of snow capped mountains, glaciers and blue mountain lakes, and after just 50 minutes we will arrive in Cusco, a small colonial city nestled high in the Andes. Arriving in the morning we will transfer to the Monasterio, Cusco's finest hotel. Acclimatizing to the higher altitudes we will relax with a *Mate de Coca*, a traditional local herbal drink that is known to combat the effects of altitude sickness. The remainder of the morning is free to relax before we meet for lunch on the Plaza de Armas and spend a pleasant afternoon touring the sights of the city. At lunch we will go over the details of our trip with our guide. Cusco is considered the archaeological capitol of the Americas. Our insightful walking tour through the Cusco's narrow winding roads explores the city's Inca and colonial past. We will visit the Coricancha, Limacpampa (the site of the harvest festival), the central cathedral with its colonial art, and the Inca Temple of the Sun. In the evening we will have a welcome dinner at Tunapa listening to the sounds of local musicians playing traditional Sierra music. The perfect first night in the Andes. Accommodations: Monasterio. *Day 1 no meals included while traveling, Day 2 Dinner.*

Day 3 -4 Urubamba-Sacred Valley of the Incas

For the next two days we will explore the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Our first day in the valley we visit the historical Inca ruins of Pisac, with their fascinating layout on the high side of a mountain. We will have a chance to see how the locals weave their beautiful *Mantas* (shawls) and also to sample the local brew *Chicha* that is made from maize. The Sacred Valley is one of the world's largest maize producing regions. En route to the spectacular ruins at Ollantaytambo, we will eat lunch at an inn and try the local Peruvian specialty of fresh trout from neighboring mountain lakes. Touring Ollantaytambo in the afternoon we will discover the romantic tales of the Inca's history as well as the region's legends. Ollantaytambo was a major Inca fortress and one of the few places where the Spanish Conquistadors recorded a lost battle with the Incas. In the evening we will transfer to our beautiful hotel, the Posada del Inca, an old converted monastery with gorgeous flower gardens all around. The following day we will take a wonderful day hike through the mountains to help acclimatize for the trek. Day 3 Accommodations: Posada Del Inca *B,L*
Day 4 Accommodations: Monasterio *B,L*

Day 5-10 *Auzungate Circuit*

With all of our gear loaded onto packhorses and llamas, we begin our trek carrying only light daypacks with our daily necessities. Our route around Auzungate consists of six strenuous days of walking with several high mountain passes (16,500 feet) to cross. A typical day on the trail includes six hours of hiking with incredible scenery and views of Auzungate and several other snow capped peaks nearby.

Our six-day hike around the peak encounters colorful blue lakes and fluted glacier covered peaks. Above our path condors float in the thin Andean air and herds of alpacas and llamas fill the lush alpine pastures below. Our camps beside mountain hot springs and turquoise ponds offer us a chance to meet local Quechuan Indian and hear colorful tales of their culture and great legends about their mountain spirit, Auzungate. The locals rarely meet foreigners and they will be excited to learn about us as well. And on one evening our *arriero*, horsman, will buy a lamb that will be cooked for us in a *PACHAMANCA*. This is the local way of preparing a lamb in a dug out stone oven. The locals will come and share it with us, making it a night to remember!

Spending our last evening at a camp set beside hot springs sipping on a beer to celebrate our journey, our final day ends after an easy 2 hour hike back to Tinquí. Completing our circuit around Auzungate we travel back to Cusco in our private bus enjoying the Andean landscape and again stopping in local villages en route. Accommodations: Monesterio *B,L,D Dinner on your own on July 21*

Day 11 *Machu Picchu-Cusco*

We will return to Machu Picchu before the train arrives carrying the daily crowds of tourist and have the opportunity to climb Huayna Picchu (Young Peak- the rise behind Machu Picchu), hike to an old Incan bridge, or maybe just breathe in the calm and tranquility that makes this place so magical. In the late afternoon you will return to Cusco by train enjoying a fabulous view of the valley. Arriving in Cusco we check into the Libertador. The evening is free to explore Cusco on your own. Accommodations: Monesterio *B*

Day 12 *Cusco-Lima*

Morning flight to Lima. After lunch we will take a tour of Lima's Gold Museum with its enormous collection of Pre Incan and Incan artifact, gold treasures and other Peruvian wonders. There will be day rooms available for people who would prefer an afternoon resting before the flight back home. In the evening we will transfer to the airport for our flight. *B*

Day 13 *Arrive Home*

Trip Cost: \$2300 (6-8 participants) \$2500 (3-5 participants) **Single Supplement:** \$400

Internal Peru Flights: \$200

All of our treks are limited to eight participants and fully supported with teams of guides, cooks, porters and a Trip Leader making them safe, comfortable and unforgettable adventures. We also limit the size of our treks to insure you will have the best experience possible. Unlike other company's that advertise small treks (16 people) ours really are small. It's a small group that will allow us to meet and interact with local people- not possible in larger groups. Guided by superb trip leaders with extensive backgrounds living and working with Peruvian people and traveling through out the country this trip is an incredible opportunity you could not receive with another company.

The cost of the trip will include everything while you are in Peru (unless note in the itinerary). This includes all trekking equipment, guides, pack animals, tours, lectures, accommodations in first-class hotels and top quality tents (4 nights Monesterio, 2 night Posada del Inca, 1 night Local Inn, 5 nights camping), meals noted in the itinerary, permits, entrance fees, and ground transportation. The price does not include international air fares, visa fees, airport tax and personal expenses.