



PERU

CULTURAL JOURNEYS

Gently walking on ancient pathways

Travel Itinerary
Authentic Andean

9 days / 8 nights





THE SACRED VALLEY, CUSCO & MACHU PICCHU

Our Signature Journey - Sample Itinerary

The essential (authentic) Andean experience – combining classic destinations while offering the sophisticated traveler the opportunity to experience and authentically engage in a cultured Indigenous point-of-view.

Savor the ambiance of the Sacred Valley, find yourself surrounded by breathtaking scenery, and begin your exploration of the Inca legacy through their Quechua descendants. Immerse yourself in the spirit of this Inca land. Discover the profoundly elegant simplicity of Andean people and celebrate their customs, cuisine, music and dance. Admire their arts. Delve into their philosophy; understand their history and way of life.



DAY ONE ~ THURSDAY

Arrival Sacred Valley

Take a spectacular morning flight to Cusco, “the navel of the world”, land in the heart of the Andes and be greeted at the Cusco airport to begin your exclusive journey. Enjoy a stunning 45-minute scenic drive to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Revel in the striking beauty of the snow topped peaks, mountainsides delineated by Inca terraces, and fields that cover the valley floor. Arrive to Pisac with lower altitude and small town charm. Settle into your room at [Pisac Inn](#), meet the staff and enjoy a cup of coca tea to help you acclimate. Savor your first in a series of delicious meals spun into a select set menu prepared by the Inn’s Restaurant, [Cuchara de Palo](#) so you may explore the diversity and richness of Peruvian Cuisine. Take the afternoon to rest or explore the cobblestone streets of Pisac on your own.

Gather for an orientation reception with a welcoming Pisco Sour followed by a fireside dinner.

Hotel: Pisac Inn **Meals:** L, D



DAY TWO ~ FRIDAY

Cusco Archeological Sites

After breakfast enjoy a 30-minute scenic drive to explore pre-Columbian sites outside of Cusco including the sacred spring of Tambomachay, the lunar and solar observatories of Kenko, and megalithic Sacsayhuaman. You will be captivated by the introduction to Andean astronomy and sacred geometry, the foundation of Andean culture that will be expanded on each day of your journey. Enjoy lunch at one of Cusco's fine restaurant recommended by your guide.

Upon return to Pisac Inn relax before dinner or enjoy a treatment at [*Unucha Spa](#). You can make an appointment ahead of time for any afternoon after your excursion.

Hotel: Pisac Inn **Meals:** B, D (lunch not included)

Considerations: *Wear comfortable clothes for high altitude, open-air walking in the countryside, and in the city. Bring a daypack with layers for drastic temperature changes; be prepared for sun, cold and possible rain. Comfortable walking shoes are suggested; hiking boots are not necessary. Bring camera, sunblock and sunhat, and plenty of drinking water. You can leave any personal belongings in the car. Bring money for lunch, photos and souvenirs.*



DAY THREE ~ SATURDAY

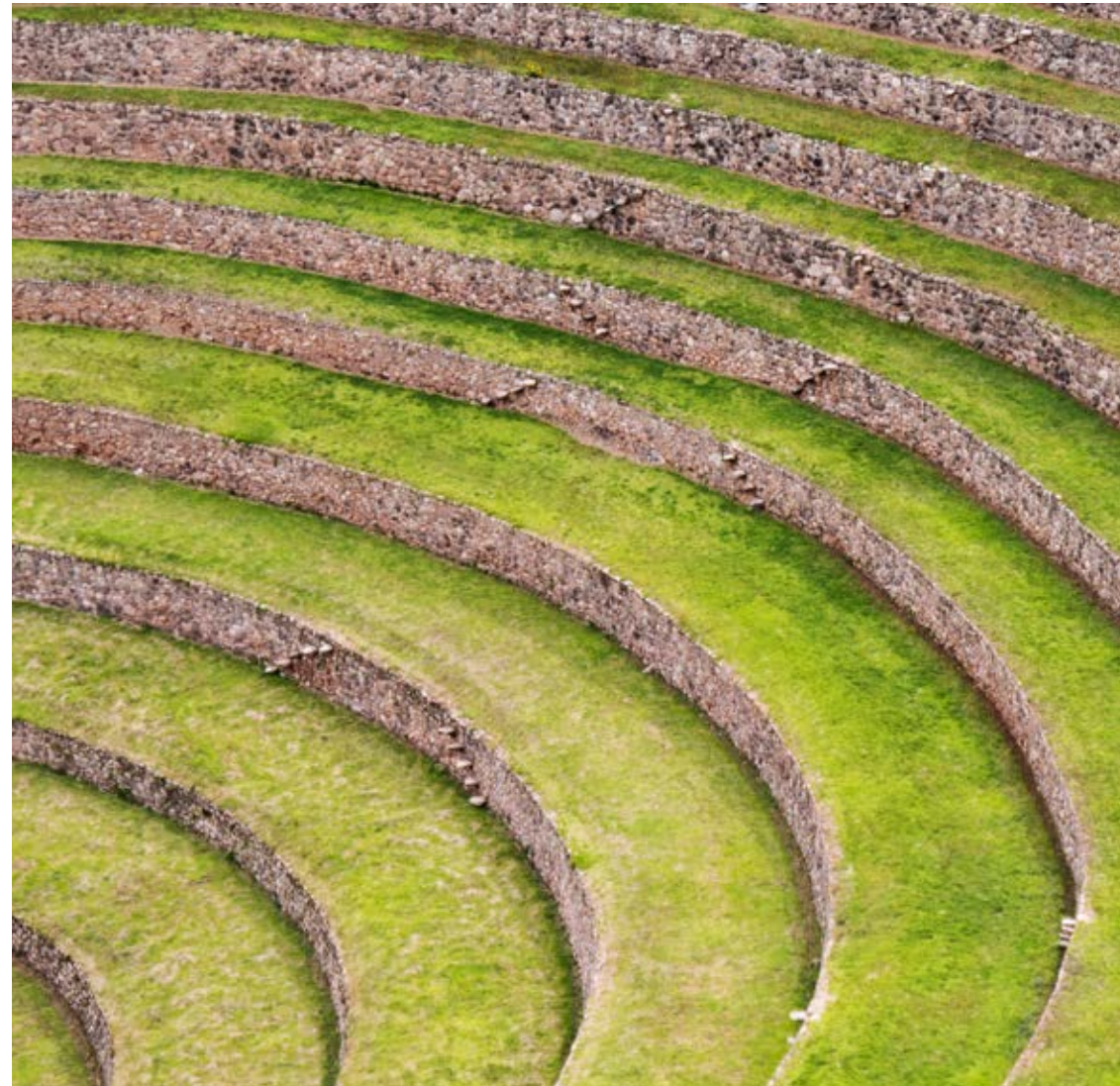
Moray & Salineras Salt Mines

Embark on a scenic drive through the Sacred Valley and up to highlands of Moray; delight in the patchwork fields and awe-inspiring vistas. The advanced Inca astronomical knowledge tied into agrarian feats are seen in Moray's astounding circular terraces. Following a picnic lunch surrounded by an expansive natural beauty, continue to the Inca Salt Mines still in use today. Hundreds of scintillating pools provoke a sense of peaceful timelessness. After a full day of exploring, your return to Pisac Inn feels like coming home. Wander through Pisac as the market is broken down before another memorable meal in Peru.

Dinner followed by festive traditional music and dance with Wiñay Taki Ayllu, a local group of musicians, artists and visionaries who have dedicated their lives to preserving their Andean culture. This is a special opportunity to meet some of the founding families of the [Kusi Kawsay Andean School](#), as well as teachers and students who participate in this remarkable presentation that follows the Andean Agrarian Ritual calendar celebrated at Kusi Kawsay. Enjoy this evening full of music, dance, in depth explanations, the sharing of stories; and connect to the natural cosmic cycles of the Andes.

Hotel: Pisac Inn **Meals:** B, Picnic, D

Considerations: Wear comfortable clothes for high altitude, open-air hiking, and a picnic in the countryside. Bring a daypack with layers for drastic temperature changes; be prepared for sun, cold and possible rain. Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots are suggested. Bring camera, sunblock and sunhat, and plenty of drinking water. You can leave any personal belongings in the car. Bring small change for photos and souvenirs.



DAY FOUR ~ SUNDAY

Pisac Archeological Site & Market

Hike to the Pisac archeological site where the staggering agricultural terrace work is among the most extensive in the area following the shape of the mountainsides in entrancing concave and convex forms. The central astronomic and ceremonial area is widely acclaimed as some of the finest stonework, comparable to that of Machu Picchu. This expansive site provides an ideal setting for a picnic lunch with magnificent vistas up and down the valley. Embark upon a breathtaking walk down to Pisac and enjoy the afternoon exploring Pisac's colorful Traditional Indian Market. Visit the traditional food section where locals buy and trade their produce and admire the beautiful faces and calm excitement that transforms Pisac on Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity to buy gifts to take home with you.

Enjoy a sunset stroll along the cornfields or simply relax with a Pisco Sour as you people watch either at the sidewalk café or on the balcony before dinner.

Hotel: Pisac Inn **Meals:** B, Picnic, D

Considerations: *Wear comfortable clothes for high altitude, open- air hiking and a picnic in the countryside. Bring a daypack with layers for drastic temperature changes; be prepared for extreme sun, cold and possible rain. Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots are suggested; this one of the big hikes of the trip. Bring camera, sunblock and sunhat, and plenty of drinking water. Consider bringing chocolate or nuts for energy. This day you must carry everything you need in your daypack, including the provided picnic bag lunch. You do not need your passport. Bring small change for photos and souvenirs.*



DAY FIVE ~ MONDAY

Community of Amaru

Delight in a 45-minute drive into the majestic high Andes and walk through the patchwork fields replete with potatoes, fava beans and corn to the traditional highland community of Amaru, where a genuinely authentic way of life is still practiced to this day. You will be welcomed with an endearing sweetness rarely felt in this day and age by this community that is consciously preserving and practicing their ancestral heritage. Through participation in a communal workday a beautiful cultural exchange unravels as you experience this incredible opportunity to step back in time and appreciate a quality of life with an admirable simplicity that is strikingly moving and profound. Enjoy a traditional lunch prepared with their prized agrarian products as the women begin to spin their naturally dyed wool. Others meditatively set up their back strap looms to share their ancestral weaving skills with us. This wonderful opportunity to purchase textiles directly from the weavers is not to be missed. Return to Pisac and enjoy a quite evening with dinner.

Hotel: Pisac Inn **Meals:** B, L, D

Considerations: Wear comfortable clothes for very high altitude, open-air walking and working in the fields. Wear cloths and shoes you don't mind getting dirty! Bring your hand wipes and Purell this day, and be prepared for rustic conditions. Bring a daypack with layers for drastic temperature changes; be prepared for extreme sun, extreme cold and possible rain. Comfortable walking shoes are suggested; hiking boots are not necessary. Bring camera, sunblock and sunhat, and plenty of drinking water. You can leave any personal

belongings in the car, but the car will drop you off and you will walk up, so the car will not be nearby. You do not need your passport. Bring cash to purchase textiles; they are hand made and one of kind pieces. You can take as many photos as you would like; please do not give change for photos in Amaru. They always appreciate prints of photos that you can send later.

Be prepared for authentic cultural immersion at its height, and come with respect, honor and open mindedness as guests invited into a sacred ancestral culture.



Photo by Matt Dayka

DAY SIX ~ TUESDAY

Ollantaytambo

Begin your day with a breathtaking one-hour drive through the heart of the Sacred Valley to the Inca town Ollantaytambo. Visit Ollantaytambo's magnificent archeological site with an impressive astronomical observatory, irrigation waterways and ceremonial site. Learn about the Llama constellation and explore the quaint town that was built in the shape of a corn cob. After lunch enjoy a spectacular train ride to Aguas Calientes, where you will have a nice dinner out and spend the night in preparation for an early start to Machu Picchu the following morning.

Hotel: La Cabaña Boutique Hotel **Meals:** B, Picnic (dinner not included)

You must bring your passport and TAM card!!! You can not ride the train or enter Machu Picchu without!

For Ollantaytambo outing: *Wear comfortable clothes for high altitude, open-air hiking and a picnic in the countryside. Bring a daypack with layers for drastic temperature changes; be prepared for sun, cold and possible rain. Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots are suggested. Bring camera, sunblock and sunhat, and plenty of drinking water. You can leave any personal belongings in the car. Bring small change for photos and souvenirs.*

For the overnight in Aguas Calientes: *Pack your overnight bag, and a separate daypack. Bring your bathing suit if you may want to go to the hot springs. Don't forget your insect repellent. Bring money for dinner in Aguas Calientes and lunch out the following day at Machu Picchu.*

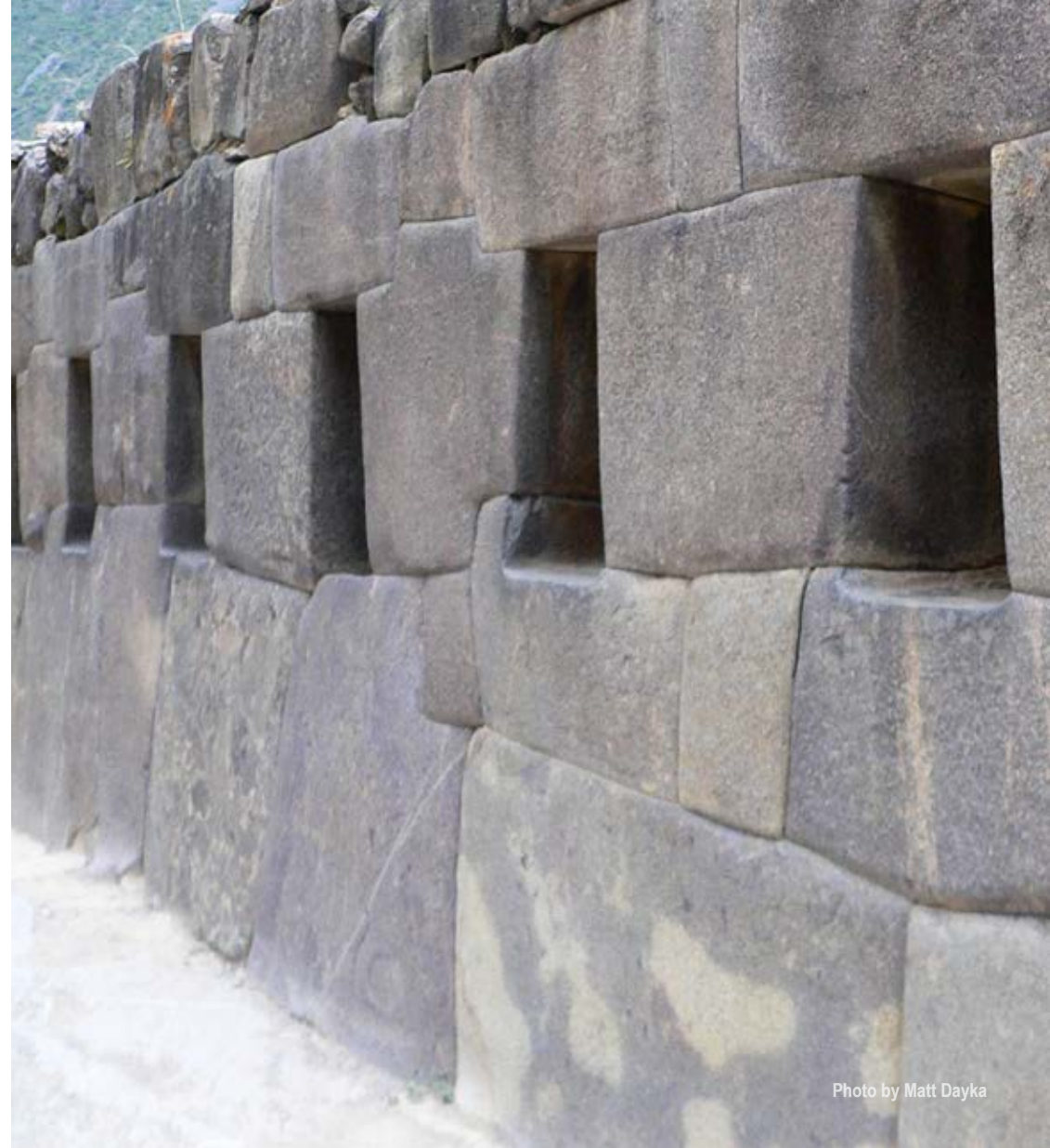


Photo by Matt Dayka

DAY SEVEN ~ WEDNESDAY

Machu Picchu

Get an early start to take the 20-minute bus ride up steep slopes to magnificent Machu Picchu, renown as a wonder of the world. Isolated among mountain peaks, this awe-inspiring site carries sacred mathematical and scientific wisdom yet to be fully discovered. Explore the important sectors full of astronomic explanations, and revel in the beautiful natural setting and ancient ruins. Take bus down to Aguas Calientes to catch the afternoon train to Ollantaytambo and drive back to Pisac. Enjoy dinner upon your return to Pisac Inn.

Hotel: Pisac Inn **Meals:** B, D (lunch not included)

Considerations: *Wear comfortable clothes for open-air hiking. You can leave your overnight bag at the hotel in Aguas Calientes, and we will make arrangements for the hotel to take luggage to the train station in the afternoon. Bring a daypack with layers for temperature changes; be prepared for sun, cold and very possible rain. Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots are suggested. Bring camera, sunblock, sunhat, repellent, and plenty of drinking water. You will have to carry your day pack at all times, unless you check it in a day locker up at Machu Picchu at your own expense. You must have your passport. Bring money for lunch and souvenirs.*

Please let us know if you want to hike [Huayna Picchu](#), as this requires a separate entrance ticket with entrance fee, and is not included. Spaces are very limited, and gets fully booked months ahead of time.



Photo by Matt Dayka

DAY EIGHT ~ THURSDAY

Cusco City

Visit [Kusi Kawsay Andean School](#) and the school's organic farm, [Kusi Ñan](#). Learn about this exceptional educational project and unique vision that combines elements of Waldorf Pedagogy with Andean tradition. Delight in the beautiful school grounds, dedicated teachers and smiling students. Your day continues to unfold with a city day in Cusco. Stroll through the streets of Cusco, admire the Inca walls, and visit the Plaza de Armas and the main pre-Colombian Inca Temple, Coricancha. Have a relaxing lunch out on the town in a fine restaurant recommended by your guide. Shop at boutiques that feature high quality alpaca in contemporary designs, or visit the Chocolate Museum, ChocoMuseo. Upon return to Pisac enjoy a special farewell dinner.

Hotel: Pisac Inn **Meals:** B, D (lunch not included)

Considerations: *Wear comfortable clothes for a day exploring the city. Bring a daypack with layers for drastic temperature changes; be prepared for sun, cold and possible rain. Comfortable walking shoes are suggested. Bring camera, sunblock and sunhat, and plenty of drinking water. You can leave any personal belongings in the car. Bring money for lunch and shopping.*



Photo by Matt Dayka



DAY NINE ~ FRIDAY

Departure

Enjoy breakfast before leaving for the Cusco airport.

Meals: B

URPILLAY SONQOLLAY

¡Hasta Luego!



AUTHENTIC ANDEAN TRAVEL INFORMATION

PRICE:

- Starting from \$2,100 US dollars per person
- Customized & private pricing upon request

INCLUDED:

- All ground transportation upon arrival to Cusco airport in a private tourist level vehicle
- Private, specialized, professional, English speaking native guides on excursion and special events
- Fresh, organic meals celebrating Peruvian cuisine in special set menus as on program
- Charming accommodations at Pisac Inn 7 nights, standard double occupancy
- Entrance fees to all historical sites on daily excursions
- Cultural events with local Andean specialists
- Visit Cultural Projects: The Kusi Kawsay Andean School, The Kusi Ñan Organic Farm, and The Apu Runawana in the traditional community of Amaru
- Tourist class train from Ollantaytambo - Aguas Calientes - Ollantaytambo
- Bus from Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes
- Entrance fee to Machu Picchu
- Overnight in Aguas Calientes at la Cabaña Boutique Hotel 1 night, standard double occupancy

Not Included: Airfare, travel insurance, personal expenses, special events not included in program, spa treatments, any tips or donations, meals eaten out as indicated on program, and any snacks or beverages not included at mealtime.

- The order of your itinerary will change depending on the day you arrive.
- You can customize your trip with hotel upgrades, [add on Special events, and extensions.](#)
- *Book a treatment at [Unucha Spa](#); we recommend the herbal bath and massage combo. Reservations are required and treatments are not included. [Contact Us](#) to make an appointment. Change this link to reservations at Pisac Inn for spa reservations
- The cost of our tour is in U.S. dollars per person.
- Our small group sizes are minimum 3 & maximum 12 passengers, and private groups can be any size.
- Journeys for one or two are possible and will be priced accordingly.
- Prices per person based on double occupancy - single supplement available.
- Taxes may apply.
- Programs and prices are subject to change and availability, and may not be applicable on some dates and holiday seasons.

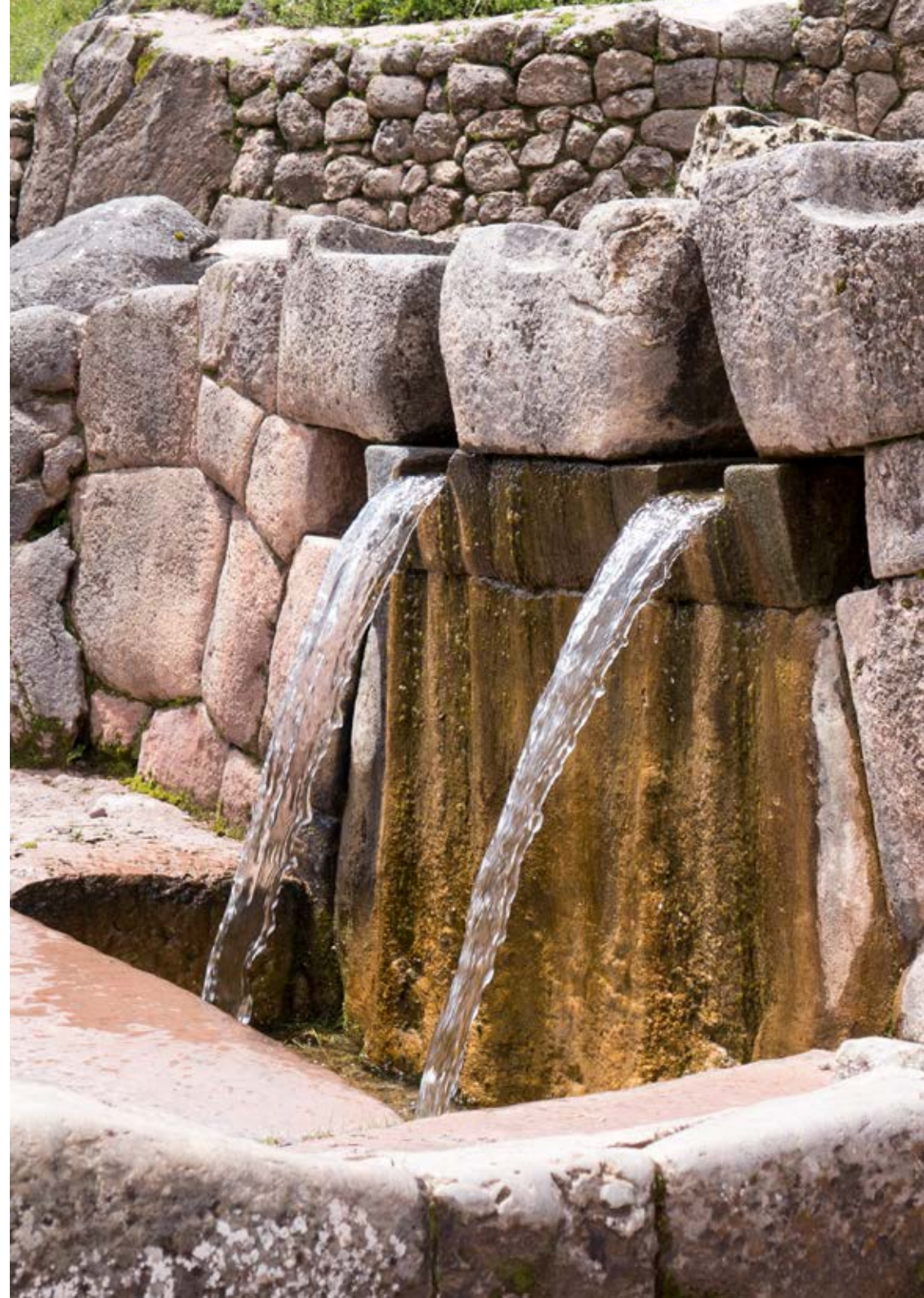
Dates: We specialize in weaving our journeys for travelers; therefore we do not have set dates unless it is an organized small group trip. Please [contact us](#) directly to check availability and coordinate dates

Accommodations: This trip is based out of [Pisac Inn](#). Small and comfortable, this boutique hotel is charming, full of artistic details and old world flair that celebrate the depth and richness of local Andean heritage.

- A hotel upgrade is possible for part of the trip or for the whole trip

Meals: This trip includes meals with exclusive daily set menus that are creatively designed and prepared by our chef at the hotel's restaurant, Cuchara de Palo, The Wooden Spoon. We use the finest local products with the clear intention of exploring the richness of Peruvian cuisine, and celebrate the diversity of legendary and nutritious ingredients that are fresh, organic and native of Peru.

If you are interested in our Andean Immersion Series, Special Interest Series, or Treks, please ask us for sample itineraries and we will be happy to send them to you. These trips are a variation on the theme of our Authentic Andean Journey including extra events and activities with specialists.





*Authentic cultural travel broadens horizons and enriches the spirit,
affording a deeper understanding of the world in which we live.*

