Destino Perú
EL MUNDO ES TUYO

PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

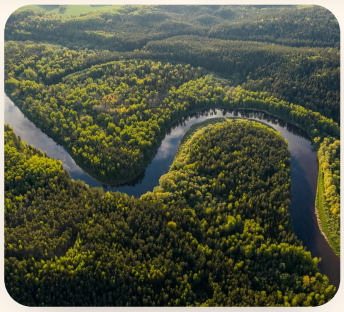
What to pack for Peru & Machu Picchu

Pack in layers, pack light, and tick it off as you go

One trip to Peru can take you from the desert coast to 4,000 m in the Andes and on into the Amazon. You don't need a huge suitcase for that, just the right layers. These checklists cover clothes, the Machu Picchu entry rules, trek, jungle and coast extras, papers, money and a small health kit.

Layers, not bulk | Dry & rainy season | Machu Picchu rules 2026 | Trek · jungle · coast






CLOTHES

Dress like an onion: three layers

In Cusco a sunny noon can feel like summer and the same night drop close to freezing. Instead of heavy jumpers, bring thin layers you add and remove through the day.

1 · Base

- 3–4 T-shirts that dry fast (no cotton for treks)
- 1–2 long-sleeve thermal tops
- Thermal leggings for cold nights
- Hiking socks, 1 pair per day

2 · Warm

- Fleece or light wool jumper
- Packable down or synthetic jacket
- Warm hat, gloves, buff or scarf
- Comfortable trousers (2 pairs)

3 · Shell

- Breathable waterproof jacket with hood
- Light poncho (useful at Machu Picchu)
- Sun hat with a brim
- Sunglasses (UV is strong at altitude)

Dry season · May to September

- Clear, sunny days; cold nights in the Andes
- Pack the warmest layer and thermals
- Lip balm and moisturiser: the air is very dry
- Lima is grey and cool in these months: bring a jumper

Rainy season · November to March

- Showers most afternoons in the highlands
- Waterproof jacket and poncho are a must
- Quick-dry trousers; skip jeans
- Dry bags or zip bags for phone and papers

Shoes

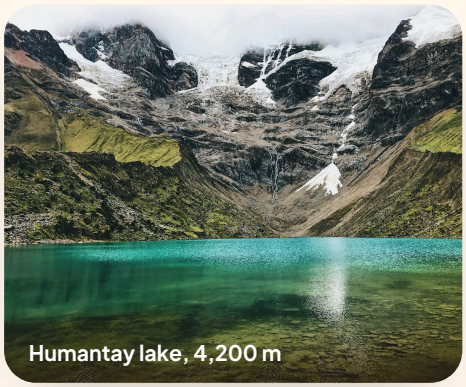
Broken-in walking shoes or light boots with good grip, plus trainers or sandals for town. Machu Picchu's stone steps are uneven and slippery when wet.

Luggage

One suitcase or duffel plus a small day pack. Train baggage to Machu Picchu is limited, so your hotel in Cusco or the Sacred Valley can usually keep the big bag for you.



Cusco: warm at noon, cold at night



Humantay lake, 4,200 m



Rainbow Mountain, 5,000 m+

MACHU PICCHU

What you can and can't take in

The citadel has a strict code of conduct and guards check bags at the gate. Breaking it can mean being asked to leave without a refund. These are the rules that affect your packing.

Take with you

- **Your original passport**: the name and number must match your ticket. A photo or copy is not enough
- Your ticket (printed or on your phone) and train ticket
- A small bag, **max. 40 × 35 × 20 cm**
- A reusable water bottle
- Rain jacket or poncho, sun hat, sunscreen
- Flat shoes with grip

Leave behind

- Bags bigger than 40 × 35 × 20 cm (store them at the entrance)
- Umbrellas, tripods, monopods, selfie sticks, folding chairs
- Walking sticks (see note below)
- Drones, speakers, musical instruments
- Food, thermoses, cutlery; alcohol; aerosols
- Single-use plastic (bags, straws, disposable bottles)
- High heels or hard-soled shoes; strollers

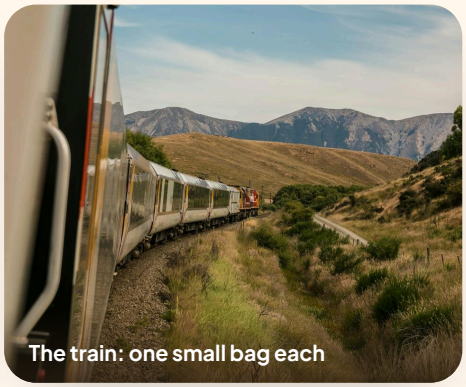
Rules as of 2026, check before you go. Walking sticks are on the official banned list. If you need one to walk, tell us when you book and we'll confirm with the site what is allowed. Toilets and the café are outside the gate, so go before you enter.

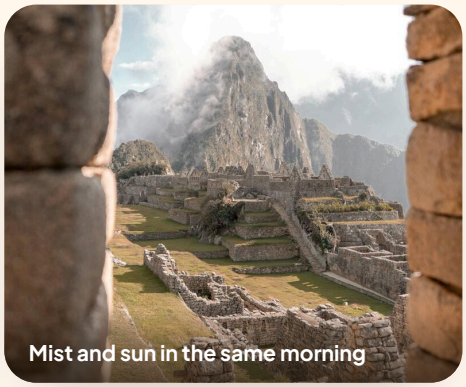
DAY PACK

Your Machu Picchu day, ticked off

- Passport (original) + tickets
- Some soles in cash for the bus, toilets and lockers
- Water bottle, filled before the gate
- Sunscreen SPF 50 and insect repellent
- Poncho or rain jacket
- Layer for the cool early morning
- Phone or camera, charged; small power bank
- Tissues and hand gel


Stone steps: wear shoes with grip


The train: one small bag each


Mist and sun in the same morning

ADD-ONS

Trek, jungle or coast: what to add

Your base list stays the same. Add the column that matches your trip.

Inca Trail · Salkantay

- Duffel for the porters or horses: usually **6–7 kg** including sleeping bag; your operator confirms
- Sleeping bag rated to about −5 °C (can often be rented)
- Head torch and spare batteries
- Day pack 25–35 L with rain cover
- Trekking poles with rubber tips (required on the Inca Trail)
- Broken-in boots, blister plasters
- Water purifying tablets or filter bottle
- Snacks, toilet paper, small rubbish bag
- Cash for tipping the crew

Amazon

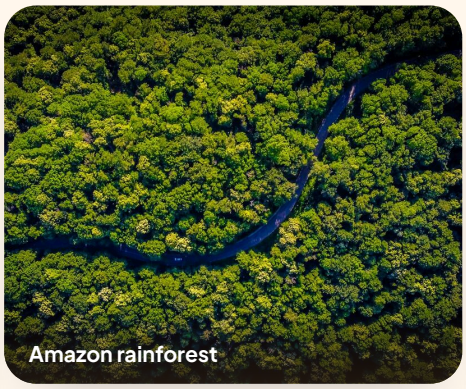
- Light long sleeves and long trousers in pale colours
- Strong repellent (DEET or picaridin)
- Head torch: lodges switch off the generator at night
- Rain jacket or poncho
- Rubber boots: most lodges lend them, ask your size
- Swimsuit and quick-dry towel
- Binoculars and dry bags
- Yellow fever vaccine: recommended, ask your doctor

Coast · desert

- Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat: the desert sun is fierce
- Light scarf or buff against sand and wind (Paracas, Huacachina)
- Windproof layer for the Ballestas boat
- Swimsuit, flip-flops
- Zip bag for the phone on the dune buggy
- Jumper for grey Lima evenings, June to October



On the Inca Trail



Amazon rainforest



Huacachina dunes

PAPERS & MONEY

The things you can't buy there

Documents

- Passport valid for **6 months** beyond your entry date
- The same passport you used to buy Machu Picchu and Inca Trail tickets
- Travel insurance that covers trekking at altitude
- Copies of passport and insurance: on paper and in your email
- Flight, train and hotel bookings, also offline
- Driving licence if you plan to rent a car

Money

- Two cards from different banks; tell your bank you're travelling
- Peruvian soles in small notes for markets, taxis and tips
- Some US dollars as backup, in perfect condition: torn or marked notes get refused
- Use ATMs inside banks or shopping centres
- A money belt or inside pocket for cash and passport

HEALTH KIT

Small, but it saves a day

Altitude

- Ask your doctor about altitude medicine before you go
- Painkillers for headaches
- Reusable bottle: drink plenty of water
- Coca tea is offered everywhere in Cusco

Sun & bites

- Sunscreen SPF 50, also for cloudy days
- Lip balm with SPF
- Insect repellent and after-bite cream
- After-sun or aloe gel

Basics

- Your own prescription medicines, in original packs
- Anti-diarrhoea tablets and oral rehydration salts
- Plasters, blister pads, hand gel
- Travel-sickness pills for mountain roads

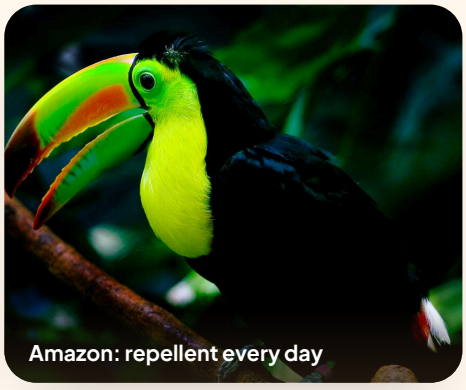
Don't drink tap water in Peru. Refill your bottle with filtered water at hotels, or use a filter bottle.



Pisac market: cash in small notes



Cusco, 3,400 m: take it slowly



Amazon: repellent every day

LEAVE AT HOME

What not to bring

- A big suitcase for the train: on the trains to Machu Picchu you carry one small bag
- Jeans and heavy cotton: slow to dry, cold when wet
- Brand-new boots you haven't walked in
- A drone: banned at Machu Picchu and many other sites
- Expensive jewellery and anything you'd hate to lose
- Too many clothes: laundry in Cusco and Lima is cheap and quick

Plugs

Peru uses 220 V. Sockets take two flat pins (type A) and two round pins (type C), so European plugs usually fit; a universal adapter covers the rest.

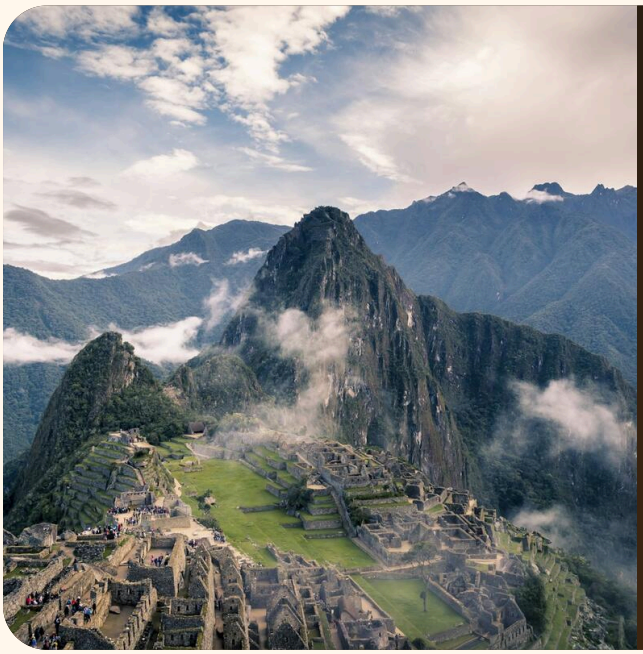
Room to bring things home

Alpaca jumpers, textiles and coffee from the markets add up fast. Leave space, or a foldable bag.

LAST CHECK

Before you zip the bag

- Passport, the original
- Insurance details and copies
- Cards + soles + a few clean dollars
- Warm layer and rain layer
- Walking shoes, already broken in
- Day pack under 40 × 35 × 20 cm
- Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat
- Medicines and health kit
- Reusable water bottle
- Charger, adapter, power bank



Not sure what your trip needs?

Tell us your dates and route. We'll send you a packing list made for your itinerary, and sort the tickets, trains and treks for you.

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destinoperu.net/travel-guide/packing-list/

Machu Picchu rules: official code of conduct, machupicchu.gob.pe (checked October 2026). Rules change: confirm before you travel.