





sacred by Andean communities, who revere it as a powerful "Apu" or protective spirit. The

hike to its viewpoint offers breathtaking views of Mount Ausangate, grazing alpacas, and

Andean valleys. Today, it's one of Peru's most photographed destinations.

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# RAINBOW MOUNTAIN

#### **ITINERARY:**

Our adventure to the Rainbow Mountain begins very early, between 4:00 and 4:30 a.m. We will pick you up from your hotel in Cusco and start our journey in a comfortable tourist vehicle, traveling through beautiful valleys and Andean mountains until we reach the village of Cusipata, where we will enjoy a delicious breakfast and a warm local atmosphere. Then we will continue along a dirt road to the starting point of the hike, surrounded by fresh air and breathtaking scenery.

The hike to the summit takes about two to two and a half hours, and along the way you will admire stunning mountain views, herds of alpacas, and the majestic Ausangate snow-capped peak, considered a sacred place by locals. The weather in this area can change quickly, so it is recommended to dress in layers, wear sunscreen, and cover your hands to protect yourself from the cold or strong sunlight.

When you reach the top, the Rainbow Mountain (Vinicunca) will amaze you with its natural stripes of red, yellow, green, and purple, creating a truly unique landscape. After enjoying the view and taking photos, we will return to Cusipata for a well-deserved lunch before heading back to Cusco, with your heart full of joy and unforgettable memories.







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### **INCLUDED:**

- Tourist transportation.
- Professional bilingual guide (Spanish / English).
- Tradictional breakfast and lunch.
- Entrance ticket to the Rainbow Mountain.
- First aid kit.
- Permanent assistance during the tour.

#### **NOT INCLUDED:**

- Support horse (optional, with an additional cost)
- Trekking poles (optional)
- Additional snacks and drinks
- Tips for the guide or driver
- Travel insurance

#### **PACKING LIST:**

- Wear comfortable and warm clothing.
- Bring a hat, sunscreen, and water.
- Raincoat or poncho for rain.
- Comfortable and resistant trekking shoes.
- Small backpack for personal items.
- Water and energy snacks (nuts, chocolate, cereal bars).
- Trekking poles (recommended).
- Camera or phone with good battery life.
- ID card or passport.
- Cash in soles (for additional expenses).

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Acclimatize in Cusco at least 1 or 2 days before the tour as the hike takes place above 5,200 meters (17,060 ft).
- Get a good night's rest before the tour and avoid alcoholic drinks.
- Walk at your own pace, but keep track of the group's timing.
- Stay well hydrated throughout the route.
- Bring coca leaves or coca candies to help with the effects of the altitude.
- Do not throw trash or remove plants or stones, respect the natural environment.
- If you're not used to long hikes, consider hiring a support horse.



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## **Chillihuani Andean Community**

Chillihuani is a small Andean community located high in the district of Cusipata, at about 4,400 meters above sea level, surrounded by mountains and breathtaking landscapes. Its inhabitants, of Quechua origin, keep their traditions, language, and deep respect for Pachamama (Mother Earth) alive. The main activity is alpaca and llama herding, although community-based tourism has become an important source of income thanks to its proximity to the Rainbow Mountain (Vinicunca). The locals offer horses, food, and handicrafts, providing visitors with a warm, cultural, and authentically Andean experience.





The high-Andean fauna in the Chillihuani community, near the Rainbow Mountain (Vinicunca), reflects the vibrant life of the Andes. In this high-altitude environment live alpacas, llamas, and vicuñas, symbols of Andean identity and vital to the local way of life. You may also spot vizcachas, Andean foxes, and, with some luck, the majestic Andean condor gliding across the sky. Various bird species, such as the Andean ibis and yanavico, complete this unique ecosystem. Each creature contributes to the delicate balance that shapes the natural beauty and cultural essence of Chillihuani.

**ANDEXPERIENCE** 





