



The Monasterio Ride

3D/2N, Private ride.

The Monasterio Ride is a compact yet complete horseback journey through the Sacred Valley, unfolding over three consecutive days of riding in the Andes with forward-going, well-trained Peruvian Paso horses.

The programme begins with a carefully structured first day dedicated to introducing riders to the Peruvian Paso horse, traditional tack, and riding style. Time is taken to assess each rider's experience and preferences, ensuring an appropriate match between horse and rider. A short afternoon ride allows both to settle in before the longer and more demanding routes that follow.

On the second and third days, the ride opens into the wider Andean landscape: high-altitude altiplano terrain near Maras and Chinchero, open agricultural plateaus, and a gradual descent into the Sacred Valley, finishing near Urquillos along the Vilcanota River. Along the way, riders

encounter rural communities, cultivated fields, and ancient pathways that continue to shape daily life in the Andes.

Based at a former 18th-century monastery in the Sacred Valley, the Monasterio Ride combines serious riding with comfort and continuity. For those who wish, a visit to Machu Picchu may be added as a natural extension after the riding programme.

Itinerary

Day 1 – Introduction to the Peruvian Paso

After breakfast, you will be picked up at 9:00 AM from your hotel in Cusco or the Sacred Valley and transferred to Hotel Sonesta Posadas del Inca, a historic Andean property built around an 18th-century colonial monastery, where you may leave your luggage.

(Official check-in time is 2:00 PM.) We recommend wearing your riding attire at pick-up.

A short drive brings us to the historic Hacienda Huayoccari, owned by the Lámbarri Orihuela family for over a century. The hacienda houses an exceptional private collection of pre-Hispanic ceramics, colonial religious art, and traditional Andean folk art—carefully preserved and expanded across generations.

Here begins your introduction to the Peruvian Paso horse, admired for its natural four-beat lateral gait (Paso Llano) and remarkable smoothness. Your trail guide will explain the traditional Peruvian riding style and tack before assessing your riding experience and preferences. This personalised evaluation ensures an optimal match between rider and horse, as each mount has its own temperament and character.

Lunch is served at the hacienda, with panoramic views over the Sacred Valley. In the afternoon, we set out on a gentle two-hour introductory ride through the surrounding countryside—an ideal opportunity to become familiar with your horse and riding style before the expedition begins.

We return to the hotel around 5:00 PM, leaving time to rest and prepare for the days ahead. Dinner is at your leisure this evening. The hotel offers both Peruvian and Italian cuisine, and the onsite café La Placita del Café is ideal for coffee and desserts.

Riding time: approx. 2 hours

Altitude: 2,800 m / 9,190 ft

Day 2 – The Andean Altiplano

After a restful night, you will be picked up at 9:15 AM and transferred to the stables near the village of Maras, where the horses await.

Today's route follows historic pathways across the Andean altiplano, offering expansive landscapes and a deep immersion into the region's natural beauty and cultural heritage. Wide highland valleys unfold beneath snow-capped peaks, dotted with grazing livestock and high-altitude lagoons. Along the way, you may encounter Quechua families tending sheep or cattle, or farmers working the land with traditional ox-drawn ploughs—timeless scenes of rural Andean life.

Before reaching Chinchero, our support team welcomes you with a picnic lunch overlooking Lake Huaypo. On clear days, the panorama stretches across the altiplano toward the peaks of the Cordillera Vilcabamba.

After lunch, we continue riding through open agricultural landscapes and past small highland lakes. Parts of the afternoon route overlap with terrain ridden earlier in the journey; however, the changing direction and vantage points offer an entirely different perspective. The final stretch brings us to the village of Huatata, located in the highlands just outside Chinchero. Here, at a family farm, the horses stay overnight under the care of our grooms. You are then transferred back to your hotel in the Sacred Valley. Dinner this evening is enjoyed at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Hotel Sonesta Posadas del Inca, Sacred Valley

Riding time: approx. 4.5–5 hours

Altitude: 3,550–3,800 m / 11,650–12,470 ft

Day 3 – Descent into the Sacred Valley

After breakfast, we prepare for our final day on horseback. Returning to Huatata, where the horses spent the night, we begin a scenic ride along trails high above the Sacred Valley. The morning route passes through farmland and rural communities, offering a final glimpse into daily Andean life.

As we descend toward the valley floor, sweeping views open below. Midway down the trail, our support team awaits with a picnic lunch in an open landscape.

In the afternoon, we continue toward the historic village of Urquillos, riding past cornfields and along the banks of the Vilcanota River. Crossing a traditional hanging bridge, we reach the

opposite side of the valley and complete the final stretch to our stables in Huayllabamba, arriving around 4:00 PM.

This evening, we gather for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant—a final celebration of a remarkable journey shared with extraordinary horses.

Riding time: approx. 4.5 hours

Altitude: 3,600 m down to 2,850 m / 11,850–9,350 ft

The itinerary maybe adjusted due to weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances.

Dates & Pricing

Price 3d/2n

US\$ 1.690,00 (Price per person, 2 or more participants)

US\$ 220,00 (Single supplement, if applicable)

Price includes:

- Two nights at the Hotel Sonesta Posada del Inca in Yucay (based on double occupancy) with breakfast.
- Lunch, on day 1, 2 and 3. Dinner on day 1 and 2 (alcoholic beverages at restaurants are not included)
- All land transfers, including to/from your hotel in the Sacred Valley before and after the ride.
- Experienced trail guide plus support team (grooms, driver)
- 4WD back-up vehicle.
- Saddlebags, poncho, snacks and water bottle
- Entrance fee to the salt mines

Price does not include:

- Single supplement (if applicable): US\$ 190.

The trip price is based on shared occupancy of the hotel room, the so called 'Double Room' (two persons). The single supplement fee covers the extra cost for a 'Single Room' (one person)

- Alcoholic beverages at restaurants

Dates and availability:

The 3-day Monasterio Ride is a 'private tour' and has no set departure dates. Please contact us for availability. Minimum group size: 2 riders.

Lodging

The Monasterio ride includes two nights hotel accommodation at the Hotel Sonesta Posada del Inca in Yucay.

The Hotel is only 5 miles from our stables, has comfortable rooms with private bathrooms and plenty of 'local colour'. The Hotel is a former 18th century colonial-style monastery and is surrounded by beautiful gardens.

Extension - Machu Picchu (3-days, 2 nights)

Day 3. Overnight at the Hotel Posadas del Inca in Yucay

Day 4 – Visit to Machu Picchu

After an early breakfast, you are transferred to the train station in Ollantaytambo for the scenic rail journey to Aguas Calientes, the gateway to Machu Picchu.

Upon arrival, a professional guide leads you through the citadel, exploring its temples, terraces, and extraordinary stonework – a masterpiece of Inca engineering and one of the world's most iconic archaeological sites.

In the afternoon, you return by train to the Sacred Valley and overnight at Sonesta Posadas del Inca, a historic Andean property built around an 18th-century colonial monastery. Lunch and dinner on your own account.

Day 5 – Return to Cusco

After a relaxed breakfast, a private transfer returns you to Cusco. The extension ends upon arrival at your hotel or at the airport, depending on your onward journey.

Price Machu Picchu Extension (3 Days / 2 Nights)

USD 850 per person

(Based on double occupancy · Single supplement: USD 220)

Important:

Due to strict national regulations and limited ticket allocations, Machu Picchu extension fees are **non-refundable once confirmed** and subject to availability at the time of booking.

Includes:

- Vistadome-class train journey
- Shuttle bus to the Machu Picchu entrance
- Timed entry with a registered local guide
- Return train service and private vehicle transfer
- Two additional nights at Hotel Sonesta Posadas del Inca, Yucay (shared double occupancy)
- All related private land transfers

Trip Details

Meeting Point

Clients will be met at their hotel in the Sacred Valley or Cusco. You will be taken to the Perol Chico ranch by private vehicle. At the end of the ride (day 3) our car will bring you back to your hotel in the Sacred Valley or Cusco.

Riders Requirements

Be comfortable in the saddle for four to five hours. Be comfortable at the walk, trot and short canters. Be able to ride up and down steep hills. Be physically able to hike at high altitudes (9,000 - 12,000 ft)

Weight Limit

There is a strict rider weight limit of 85 kg / 13,4st. / 187 pounds. There are scales at the stables and riders will be weighed prior to the ride setting off. Riders exceeding our weight limit may be excluded from the ride and no refund will be made.

Age Limit

16 or older.

Horses and Tack

The horses are locally bred Peruvian Pasos. This breed dates back to the colonial era of Peru and originates from the Spanish Andalusians. Peruvian Paso horses are bred for their grace, spirit, and intelligence and are a symbol of their historic and noble past. These horses like to amble, moving fore and hind limbs on the same side at the same time, unlike other equine races that typically move diagonal limbs at the same time. During the ride you will experience traveling on horseback at the smooth Paso Llano gait (4-beat lateral gait, between 8 to 10 Km. per hour). The horses are well cared for, strong, and even-tempered.

The tack utilised is very traditional and demonstrates refined Peruvian craftsmanship. The hardwood hex stirrup and the *guarnición*, or tailpiece, are unique elements of the Peruvian tack. The saddle is a box saddle and has a deep seat.

Responsibilities

All care will be taken, but we assume no responsibility for injury, loss or damage in any way. Guests are responsible for having an adequate, valid insurance policy including coverage for all the sporting activities that they are likely to participate in. Appropriate medical insurance is obligatory.

Guests will be required to sign a waiver of liability at the start of the tour.

Single supplement

The price for each ride is based on shared occupancy. If you are traveling solo and wish to share accommodation, we will make every effort to find a roommate (always of the same gender). If you are willing to share and no roommate materialises, then the customary single supplement will apply. A single supplement is always applicable for participants who specifically request single accommodation.

Suggested Packing List

You will be riding at elevations between 2800 and 3750 metres (9,200 and 12,300 feet) therefore lightweight, warm clothing worn in layers is highly recommended. Dinner is casual; there is no need to bring special attire.

- Comfortable riding trousers
- T- shirts
- Long sleeved cotton shirts.
- Wind-bloc Fleece or jacket (for cold evenings especially at these high altitudes).
- Hat. We recommend a hard hat for riding and something with a wide brim is advisable as

protection against the sun (baseball caps work well). Your hard hat must be secure on your head.

- Good sunglasses with a neck cord. Your eyes will become bloodshot if you do not wear sunglasses.
- Sunscreen and Lip Balm, essential because of the altitude and dry air. Suggest at least Factor 30, if not total block.
- Scarf/bandana, useful for protection against the sun.
- Leather saddlebags are provided for you. Each person has a set of saddlebags and carries what they need for the day. Jackets and ponchos can be tied behind the saddle so it is easy to put them on and take them off.