PISAC ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE

The Pisac archeological site is 3.5 km above the town of Pisac at 3,347 m above sea level.

The site is known for its extensive agrarian terraces that follow the shape of the mountains. It is also the largest ancestral burial ground in South America. The fine rockwork of the sector Intihuatana, "hitching post for the sun," is acclaimed as comparable to Machu Picchu. This astronomical observatory, along with all the ancestral sites, made exact calendars for this agrarian based culture. There are also baths, altars, water fountains and a ceremonial platform.

How to get there:

By taxi: A local taxi is approx. 25 soles (around \$US8) each way, and takes about 20 minutes. From there you will need to walk approx. 20 minutes along a narrow and at some points steep path to get to the central area.

If you want round trip the taxi will wait for an hour. You may consider taking a taxi up, and walking down following the signs to Pisac (takes around 45 minutes to walk down). The official taxi cooperative office is located just in front of the bridge on Avenida Amazonas in Pisac, or you can ask the front desk at Pisac Inn to arrange a taxi service.

Walking: You can hike up from the plaza and is an average walk of 1.5 to 2 hours depending on your level of fitness. This hike is intermediate to advanced, with steep steps and uphill sections.

We suggest allowing 3 - 4 hours for a complete visit of the site.

*You need to buy a "boleto turistico" tourist ticket at the entrance to the site if you don't already have one. The complete tourist ticket is S/. 130 (approx. US\$43) and is valid for ten days. The partial ticket is S/. 70 (approx. US\$25) and includes Pisac, Chinchero, Moray and Ollantaytambo sites, and is valid for 2 days. You will need soles, as dollars and credit cards are not be accepted.

*There may be local guides at the site to show you around, price ranges from 50 - 100 soles.

If you would like an Andean specialist guide please see <u>Pisac Inn's exclusive excursions</u>.