

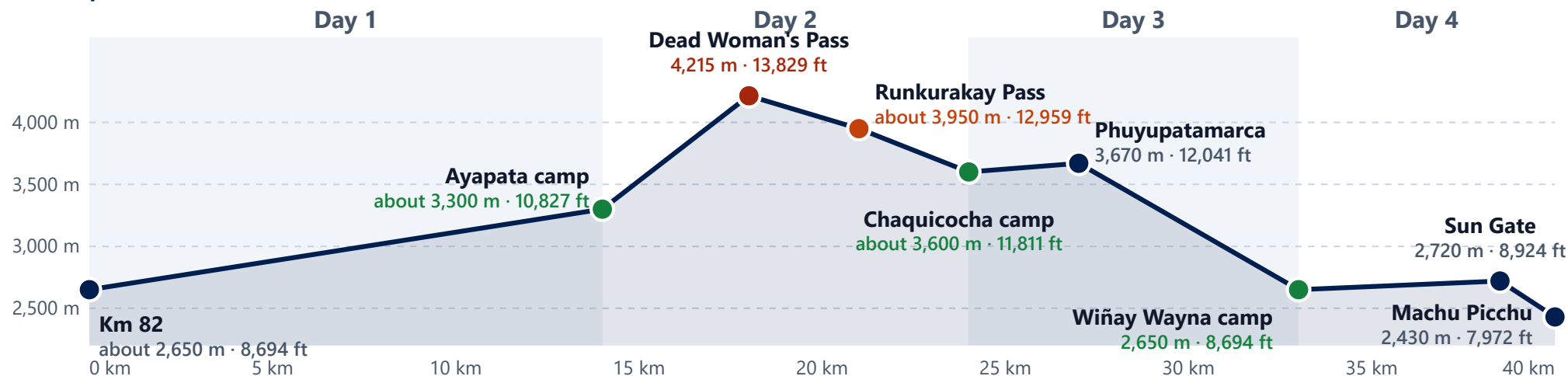
Classic Inca Trail map and elevation profile

Route 01, Km 82 – Machu Picchu · 4 days, 3 nights · about 40 km · highest point 4,215 m (13,829 ft)

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Data checked on 14 October 2026

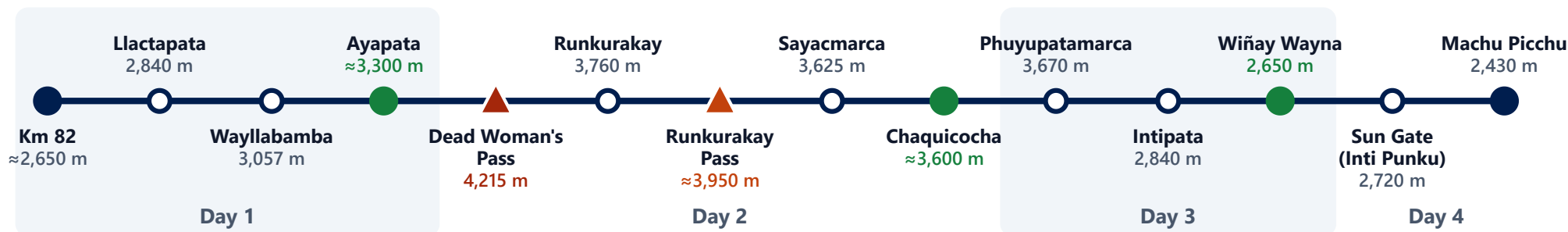
Elevation profile



Km and campsites from our own route profile (MINCETUR gives 42–43 km). Ayapata, Runkurakay Pass and Chaquicocha altitudes are from our profile: no official source publishes them.

Route map: stops in order (not to scale)

● Campsite ● Highest point ● Pass ○ Inca site or landmark ● Start / finish



Day 1 km 0–14

Km 82 – Llactapata – Ayapata

A gradual climb along the Cusichaca valley.

Camp: Ayapata (about 3,300 m)

Day 2 km 14–24

Ayapata – Dead Woman's Pass – Runkurakay – Sayacmarca – Chaquicocha

The hardest day: about 900 m of climbing to the pass before lunch, then a second pass.

Camp: Chaquicocha (about 3,600 m)

Day 3 km 24–33

Chaquicocha – Phuyupatamarca – Intipata – Wiñay Wayna

A descent of more than 1,000 m on Inca stairs through cloud forest.

Camp: Wiñay Wayna (2,650 m)

Day 4 km 33–40

Wiñay Wayna – Sun Gate – Machu Picchu

Early start to reach the Sun Gate around sunrise, then a guided tour of the citadel (circuit 3-B).

Train back from Aguas Calientes

The Ministry of Culture assigns the campsites with the permits. Route 01 allows three sequences; our groups use Ayapata – Chaquicocha – Wiñay Wayna.

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Altitudes along the trail

Point	Metres	Feet	Source
Km 82, Piscacucho (start)	about 2,650	about 8,694	MINCETUR
Llactapata (Inca site)	2,840	9,318	Andina
Wayllabamba	3,057	10,030	Andina
Dead Woman's Pass (Warmiwañusqa)	4,215	13,829	Andina
Runkurakay (Inca site)	3,760	12,336	Andina
Sayacmarca (Inca site)	3,625	11,893	Andina
Phuyupatamarca (Inca site)	3,670	12,041	Andina
Intipata (Inca site)	2,840	9,318	Andina
Wiñay Wayna (Inca site)	2,650	8,694	Andina
Sun Gate (Inti Punku)	2,720	8,924	Andina
Machu Picchu	2,430	7,972	UNESCO

MINCETUR rounds Dead Woman's Pass to 4,200 m.

Altitude: you sleep at about 3,300 m and 3,600 m on the first two nights. Arrive in Cusco or the Sacred Valley a few days before.

When to go

- **Closed every February** for maintenance.
- **Dry season** April–August; January–March are the rainiest months.
- **Busiest months** in 2025: April, September and October.
- Heavy rain can close the trail at short notice (18–19 August to 6 September 2026).

Official rules

- **No independent hikers:** only with a registered agency and an official guide.
- **Permits are personal**, with your name and passport number. Agencies buy them through TuBoleto.
- **500 people a day** on the main routes, including guides, porters and cooks.
- **Hours:** entry from 05:00 to 14:00; no walking between 18:00 and 05:00.
- **Not allowed:** fires, glass, alcohol, drones, pets, musical instruments, knives over 7 cm. Walking poles need rubber tips.
- **Porters (Law 31614):** at most 20 kg for men and 15 kg for women; at least 18 years old.
- **Age:** no official minimum or maximum.

Permit fee, Route 01

S/ 292 general · S/ 147 students in higher education · S/ 135 minors aged 3–17 (Ministry of Culture fee schedule, in force since 2025).

Full guide and booking

[Classic Inca Trail guide](#) [Classic Inca Trail 4-day tour](#) [WhatsApp +51 961 231 767](#)

Sources

Ministry of Culture (RM 069-2017-MC and amendments RM 294-2025-MC and RM 333-2026-MC, fee schedule, DDC Cusco notices), MINCETUR, Andina, El Peruano, Machu Picchu Sanctuary master plan, Law 31614, US CDC, UNESCO.