

Machu Picchu

Where Is Machu Picchu?

Machu Picchu sits on top of the Andes mountain range in Peru. It is 8000 feet above sea level.



Why Was It Built?

Machu Picchu was built as an estate for Pachacuti, the King of the Incas at the time. There are many theories as to why he built it. Some people believe it was a sacred religious site whilst others thought it was built as a holiday location. Only native locals knew about Machu Picchu until 1911 when a historian rediscovered it and told the world about it.

Interesting Facts

- Machu Picchu is a ruined historical settlement.
- It was built by the Incas in 1450.
- Since it was rediscovered, a lot of Machu Picchu has been reconstructed to show what it would have once looked like.
- Trekking up to Machu Picchu can take around two to five days along the Inca Trail.
- It is made of stone, which was shaped perfectly so that mortar was not needed.
- It is a brilliant example of engineering; featuring a 1km long water system.
- It was abandoned in 1572 as a result of the Spanish conquest. It remained isolated, deserted and secret for most of its history.