

# Itinerary 4

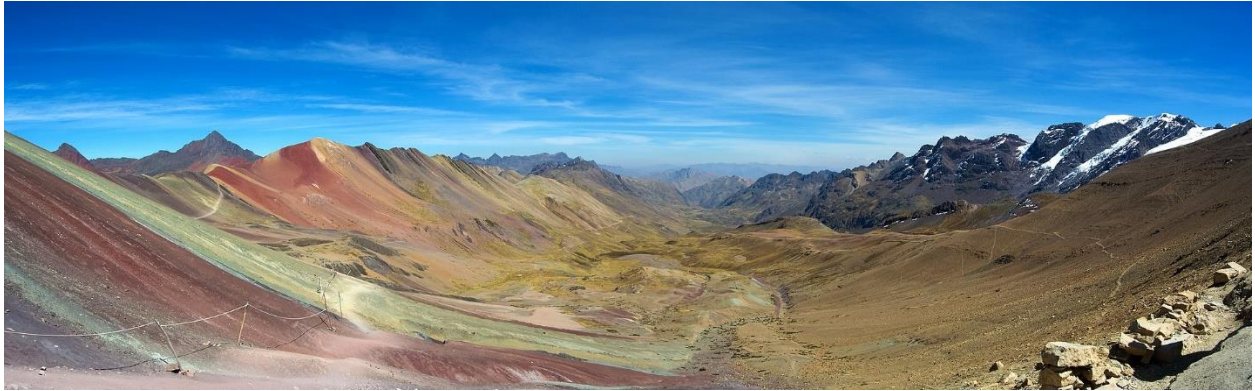
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These are things that are farther away and apart.

Saqsaywaman and Q'enco Archaeological Complex are close together so they may be a cool visit. Saqsaywaman cost \$32 and Q'enco looks like it has a fee as well so that needs to be considered.

# Rainbow Mountain

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**Vinicunca**, or **Winikunka**, also called **Montaña de Siete Colores**, **Montaña de Colores** or **Rainbow Mountain**, is a mountain in the [Andes](#) of [Peru](#) with an altitude of 5,200 metres (17,100 ft) above sea level.<sup>[1][2]</sup> It is located on the road to the [Ausangate](#) mountain, in the [Cusco region](#), between the districts of [Cusipata](#), province of [Quispicanchi](#), [Pitumarca](#), and the province of [Canchis](#).<sup>[3]</sup>

Tourist access requires a two-hour drive from [Cusco](#) and a walk of about 5 kilometers (3.1 mi), or a three-and-a-half-hour drive through Pitumarca and a one-half-kilometre (0.31 mi) steep walk (1–1.5 hours) to the hill. As of 2019, no robust methods of transportation to Vinicunca have been developed to accommodate travelers, as it requires passage through a valley.<sup>[4]</sup>

In the middle of the 2010s, mass tourism came, attracted by the mountain's series of stripes of various colors<sup>[5]</sup> due to its [mineralogical](#) composition on the slopes and summits.<sup>[6]</sup> The mountain used to be covered by glacier caps, but these have melted due to [global warming](#).<sup>[7]</sup>

# Muyu Urqu

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**Muyu Urqu** ([Quechua](#) *muyu* [circle](#), *urqu* mountain,<sup>[2]</sup> "circle mountain", Hispanicized spellings *Muyuorco*, *Muyuorcco*, *Muyu Orcco*, *Muyu Orco*, also Muyu Orqo, Muyuorqo, Muyu Urqo) is an archaeological site and a prominent hill in [Peru](#).<sup>[1][3]</sup> It is situated in the [Cusco Region](#), [Cusco Province](#), [Santiago District](#),<sup>[4]</sup> east of the mountain [Araway Qhata](#), at the right bank of Watanay River. The mountain with the archaeological remains is about 3,400 metres (11,155 ft) high.



# Saqsaywaman

7:00 AM - 5:30 PM



## Cost - \$32.

**Sacsayhuamán**, which can be spelled many different ways<sup>[1][2][3]</sup> (possibly from [Quechua language](#), *waman* [falcon](#)<sup>[4]</sup> or [variable hawk](#)),<sup>[5]</sup> is a [citadel](#) on the northern outskirts of the city of [Cusco](#), Peru, the historic capital of the [Inca Empire](#).

The complex was built by the Inca in the 15th century, particularly under [Pachacuti](#) and successors.<sup>[6]</sup> They built [dry stone](#) walls constructed of huge stones. The workers carefully cut the boulders to fit them together tightly without [mortar](#). The site is at an altitude of 3,701 m (12,142 ft).

In 1983, Cusco and Sacsayhuamán together were designated as sites on the [UNESCO World Heritage List](#), for international recognition and protection.<sup>[7]</sup>

# Q'enco Archaeological Complex



Q'enco was possibly used by the Incas as a worship center; its passages, that resemble a labyrinth, have in their flanks several channels in the form of Amarus (snakes), through which ran the blood of animal sacrifices- that were usually the most beautiful and unique; maybe this was the reason that the black animals were the chosen ones. Some chroniclers like Juan de Betanzos describe it as “a savage act committed by the Incas to sacrifice not only animals, but also newborns that possessed special beauty; according to the Incas, these beings were born beautiful in order to join the gods”.

Q'enco has a sacrifice room in one of its underground chambers, where a large rock stands out, that according to chroniclers, was covered in gold. In the upper part of the chamber you can see a hole, which was exactly above the said rock. The light of the moon penetrated through this hole, radiating through the golden layer, illuminating the whole place. Some historians claimed that in Q'enco lies the tomb of the Inca Pachacutec, the most important of all.

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Q'enco+Archaeological+Complex,+Cusco,+Peru/Saqsaywaman,+Cusco+08002,+Peru/Muyu+Urqu,+Peru/@-13.5222169,->

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