Leave No Trace on the Inca Trail

The official rules (RM 069-2017-MC) and the 7 principles · keep it in your daypack

TERRA QUECHUA PERU
Real Adventure Awaits...
TREKKING · BIKING & JUNGLE SPECIALIST

4 colored bags
for waste on every trek, registered at the control points

0 campfires
banned along the whole Inca Road Network

Km 106.5
where bags are checked before the waste leaves the sanctuary

Not allowed on the trail

✗ **Metal-tipped poles**
Uncovered tips damage the Inca stones; use rubber tips. Native-wood sticks are banned too.

✗ **Glass**
Bottles and containers break and stay in the forest for centuries.

✗ **Alcohol and drugs**
Banned as items, and walking or working under their influence.

✗ **Speakers and instruments**
The rules protect the quiet of the trail and its wildlife.

✗ **Drones**
Flying or professional filming needs prior authorization from the Ministry and SERNANP.

✗ **Pets, bikes, fuel, large knives**
Part of the same list of banned items.

Also prohibited: lighting fires, camping outside your assigned campsite, climbing Inca walls, scratching or writing on stones, graffiti, disturbing plants and animals, eating inside the archaeological sites, and walking on the railway or unauthorized routes.

Summary of articles 26 and 27 of the Reglamento de Uso Turístico Sostenible de la Red de Caminos Inka del Santuario Histórico de Machupicchu (RM 069-2017-MC).

Where the waste goes: 4 bags

Red
Metal, paper, cardboard, Tetra Pak, styrofoam

White
Plastic bags, bottles and containers

Black
Toilet paper and biodegradable collection bags

Green
Organic waste

The agency must sort, carry and take all its group's waste out of the sanctuary (article 28). Keep your wrappers and hand them in at camp: nothing stays on the trail.

The 7 Leave No Trace principles, on this trail

1 Plan ahead
Rubber tips, no glass, reusable bottle, rechargeable batteries, biodegradable soap.

2 Durable surfaces
Stay on the stone path and your assigned camp; don't cut the zigzags.

3 Dispose of waste
Keep every wrapper; used toilet paper goes in a bag, never under a stone.

4 Leave what you find
No stones, plants or seeds; don't climb or touch the Inca walls.

5 No campfires
None at all on this trail; our cooks use gas stoves.

6 Respect wildlife
Watch birds and spectacled bears from a distance; never feed animals.

7 Others first
No music, low voices at camp; step to the inside when porters pass.

The stone path has been here for more than 500 years, and it should look the same after us.

Pack for the rules

- [ ] Rubber tips on your trekking poles (our rental poles have them)
- [ ] Reusable water bottle: we refill it with filtered boiled water
- [ ] Power bank and rechargeable batteries for your headlamp
- [ ] Biodegradable soap and shampoo
- [ ] A small bag for your wrappers and used toilet paper
- [ ] No glass, no speakers, no drone

What we do on our treks

- ✓ A cloth snack bag for each hiker, no plastic bags
- ✓ Biodegradable soap and detergent at camp
- ✓ A portable toilet tent at no extra cost
- ✓ Filtered boiled water instead of plastic bottles
- ✓ Waste sorted and carried out of the sanctuary
- ✓ Once a year our team helps maintain the trail

→ Leave No Trace on the Inca Trail
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→ Inca Trail packing list
terraquechuaperu.com/blog/inca-trail-packing-list/

→ How we care for the Inca Trail
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Terra Quechua Peru · WhatsApp +51 932 213 973 · reservation@terraquechuaperu.com · Calle Garcilaso 210, Of. 204, Cusco