



TRIP ITINERARY  
PERU: INCA DH  
TYPE: DH

**QUITE POSSIBLY THE BEST DH MOUNTAIN BIKE TRIP ON THE PLANET – 10 NIGHTS, 11 DAYS**

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#### TRIP DETAILS

Unforgettable rides, massive descents, endless fast flowy singletrack, challenging technical trails, spectacular scenery, unique terrain and topography, majestic Andean peaks, magnificent ancient Inca sites and ruins, day trek excursion to Machu Picchu, delicious food, amazing hospitality and the warmest friendliest people imaginable – simple!

#### 2010 DATES

*Private trips only in 2010.*

#### 2010 LAND COST

*\$2395 USD*

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$225 USD**

**JOINING IN:** *Lima, Peru*

*(The last day of the trip is in Cusco. We have left this open in case you wish to make additional holiday plans in the Sacred Valley after the bike tour)*

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#### What sets us apart in Peru?

**Our guides and shuttle drivers are skilled professionals.** Former national Peruvian DH and XC champions, dedicated trail builders and developers, expert mechanics and passionate riders. They are caring, fun, easygoing and helpful. They are fluent in English and Spanish. Our guides treat our travelers like friends, showing visitors both the major highlights and the local treasures.

**We are pioneers in Peru.** We are proud to say that our Peruvian partners are first to explore and develop the best singletrack descents in the Andes, the world's longest mountain range.

**We know good singletrack and terrain.** We design our trips with the ultimate riding experience in mind. You'll never get tired of the same runs or ever have to wait in a lift line with 50 other people at a bike park. The terrain and trails in Peru are amazing and varied. Some of the most sustained stretches of super fast flowy singletrack you will ever experience, and some exceptionally technical rocky sections. You'll ride a stretch of "huayco" - quite possibly the most unique and incredible "trail" anywhere. The bottom of a dried riverbed - eroded so that 10-15 foot walls on either side, gradual descending grade, fast hard packed dried mud, and about 1,000 natural booters along the way. One of our rides will descend for just over 30 miles. Miles. 30. You'll start at around 11,300 feet above sea level – and end at the ocean. Many of the rides pass through remote Andean villages which are only accessible by trails. Frequently, kids will line the narrow streets - high-fiving or chasing after us as we pass through. You'll ride a section of the Inca Trail - built over 500 years ago. Pass countless ruins and

monuments that are as impressive as Machu Picchu; probably more so because you'll get to enjoy it all to yourself. You'll ride the famous Megavalanche race course. You'll "shuttle" a ride using horses and porters to get to the start. Pretty much everyday is an unforgettable adventure.

**We take care of the little things.** There is almost nothing that we won't do to make sure that your trip runs smoothly.

## **ITINERARY**

The following is a general outline for the Inca DH trip.

*Big Mountain reserves the right to make alterations and substitutions to the itinerary as weather or terrain conditions dictate or as necessary to improve the trip quality or to accommodate the comfort, convenience, and well-being of our guests.*

### **DAY 1 – ARRIVE IN LIMA**

Upon arrival in Lima Peru, you'll be greeted by your Big Mountain guides and meet the rest of your group. Tonight we stay in the Miraflores, a beach front neighborhood in Lima featuring great restaurants, shops and other attractions.

### **DAY 2 – PACHACAMAC DH**

Today we'll set up our bikes, review riding skills and go for a short warm-up laps on some singletrack with jumps and man-made stunts about an hour outside of Lima. Tonight we return to our Miraflores hotel.

### **DAY 3 – OLLEROS DH**

We will pick you up from the hotel at 6:30 am and proceed towards the trailhead in the village of Buena Vista, about 230 kms east of Lima. This is a full day ride and includes a traverse through a dried mud avalanche / river bed, quite possibly one of the most unique and ridiculously fun sections of terrain you will ever experience. The descent ends at the beach. After a refreshing swim, some seafood ceviche and cervezas, we will return to Miraflores.

### **DAY 4 – MARCAHUASI STONE FOREST DH**

We will drive approximately 2 hrs to the town of San Pedro de Casta (3,150 masl / 10,355 ft.). We will then continue with a 2 hour horseback "shuttle" to the Marcahuasi plateau. After visiting the pre-Inca graves, the fortress, the lake and all the rock formations at the top of the mountain, we start with the downhill trail. This trail has a vertical descent of almost 3,000 m (9,842 ft.) and will take us 5 hours to complete. We will return to our Miraflores hotel for a final night.

### **DAY 5 – FLY TO CUSCO. SAN BLAS DH**

Early this morning, we will take the one hour flight to Cusco, located at 3,350 masl (10,991 ft.). After a morning spent relaxing and re-assembling our bikes, we will ride the San Blas DH trail that starts near the top of the mountains above Cusco and finishes with an urban descent down narrow cobbled streets and alleyways of the city back to our hotel.

### **DAY 6 – CHINCHERO, MARAS AND MORAY DH**

Today we will rip three different trails surrounded by fascinating landscapes and amazing Inca sites and attractions. At the end of the day we will proceed to Ollantaytambo - where we will stay for the next few days.

### **DAY 7 – OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

After the past intensive week, we will take a break from the bikes. But there's too much to do and see to rest. Private guided tour of Machu Picchu, recently designated as one of the New Seven Wonders of

the World ? Rent dirt bikes and explore the surrounding Vilcanota Mountain Range ? Visit the artisan market in Pisac ? Soak in the hot springs in Calca ?

### **DAY 8 – MEGAVALANCHE DH X 2**

Two laps on the Megavalanche downhill course, where top ranked racers like Steve Peat, Cedric Gracia and Brian Lopes have competed in this famously chaotic mass start 15km enduro downhill race. And, by the way - in case you were inclined to challenge the 2009 winning time posted by Cannondale pro rider Chris VanDine.

### **DAY 9 – PUMAMARCA DH X 2**

Today we will lap this super fun and narrow singletrack that starts in the mountains just above Ollantaytambo, twice.

### **DAY 10 – LARES INCA TRAIL DH**

This is one of the best mountain biking descents in the Andes. This epic trail starts at an altitude of 4,350 masl (14,271 ft.). We will pass different ecological zones and through a narrow canyon, and have great views of the Sacred Valley. We will find this trail just as the Incas left it. Tonight we return to Cusco for our last night together.

### **DAY 11 – ADIOS!**

This morning we'll drive you to the airport for your flight home.

## **DETAILS**

**MIN GROUP SIZE: 6**

**MAX GROUP SIZE: 10**

### **WHAT'S INCLUDED?**

- Expert Leadership
- Hotel accommodation
- All meals except lunches and two dinners
- Airport pick-up/drop-off
- All transportation including: shuttles, lifts and trains
- Detailed pre-departure information and trip extension assistance
- Big Mountain t-shirt

### **WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?**

International airfare; return flight from Cusco; personal travel and medical insurance; airport taxes and excess baggage charges; your bike and related equipment needed to ride; dinners and alcoholic beverages, personal items and expenses, optional excursions on Day 7, tipping to leaders and local staff. We recommend \$20-25 USD per day for dinners and extras.

### **ACTIVITY LEVEL**

The **technical ability** required for Peru is rated as 'advanced and expert.' In other words, the descents are long and have some very technically challenging sections with significant exposure. For **fitness level**, participants must be very fit. All participants must train accordingly to fully enjoy this trip. Even though we will be shuttling the rides and stopping quite often (to enjoy the view, take photos, eat and drink, wait for others, repair our bikes etc) – the altitude, jet lag recovery and accumulation of multiple, long days of riding will add up. This trip is a true adventure - the rewards are FANTASTIC.

### **BIKE AND EQUIPMENT**

The perfect bike for this trip is a 7 or 8 inch travel freeride or DH bike. Being able to pedal your bike is helpful and useful as we'll have to traverse short sections. **Full-face helmets and body armor are strongly recommended.** All participants are required to have their **bikes in excellent working order** before the trip begins. We will send you a detailed list of required equipment and clothing before departure.

### **LODGING AND FOOD**

We stay in small locally owned hotels in Lima, Cusco and Ollantaytambo. All of our Peru hotels have and clean, comfortable rooms, private baths and hot water. We have tried to balance flexibility and convenience regarding meal options. For this reason, we include lunches as we are often traveling off the beaten path where restaurant choices are limited. In the cities and towns, there are a wide variety of restaurants – so we do not include dinners to allow our travelers the flexibility of choosing their own food preferences. Your guides will always recommend some great restaurant options and will usually offer to join any group members who would like to go out to eat together. Staple foods in the Andes include potatoes, corn, rice, and meat dishes, often with a spicy sauce. Please let us know if you have any dietary needs.

### **CLIMATE**

As the equator runs through Peru, temperatures are quite warm. Altitude, however, will drop the temperature considerably. Expect temperatures of 25-30 degrees Celsius (78-86 Fahrenheit) in the towns and valleys, and temperatures of 5-15 degrees Celsius (41-59 Fahrenheit) at the highest altitudes. Temperatures can (infrequently) drop below 0 Celsius (32 Fahrenheit) at night in Cusco and Ollantaytambo.

### **YOUR SAFETY**

Our trips take place in remote to very remote regions with limited evacuation options available and there are always risks and hazards on the trails that we ride. If you choose to participate in our trips, it is up to you to ride well within your limits, to ride conservatively and to be safe as mountain biking is a dangerous sport. Participants must keep their bikes in good working condition, they must be hydrated and rested and alcohol and drugs are not permitted while riding. Our guides have basic first aid training and if a serious injury is suspected they will call helicopter search and rescue at the cost of the participant. Personal medical travel insurance is mandatory.

**THE NEXT STEP**

Call us toll free at 1-866-894-0220, or email at [info@ridebig.com](mailto:info@ridebig.com) to confirm that there is space on this trip. Then, fill out our secure online registration form on our website. Make sure that you have read and understand our Terms and Conditions and Waiver. Upon booking, we will send you detailed pre-departure information to make sure that you are well prepared for the adventure ahead.

**WHY BIG MOUNTAIN IS YOUR CHOICE**

Big Mountain Bike Adventures is the pioneer for performance XC, all-mountain, DH and freeride mountain biking adventures. We know that to find the very best trails, you have to ride with locals. We aim to provide safe, quality trips and the best customer service to our participants.

**REFERENCES**

We'll be happy to provide you with references of satisfied past travellers.

**QUESTIONS**

Feel free to call us at 1.866.894.0220 or email [info@ridebig.com](mailto:info@ridebig.com) if you have any questions. We are here to help!

**CONTACT Us**

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