



The Peruvian Paso is a unique breed, characterised by its velvety and lilted gait.

## MORAY MARAS AND SALINERAS

After a brief orientation at the ranch, we depart towards Taramamba community; riding on a narrow path that winds between small farms of the community of Rumichaca. This is an ideal route to travel by horseback, peaceful, traffic-free, which gives us plenty of time to get to know our horses.

From Tarabamba till the Paucarbamba Bridge the views along this route are stunning, crossing the town of Yanahuara until we reach the Paucarbamba suspension bridge we continue ascending to the gorge of the same name.



Our eyes adjusting to spot the glaciers on the eastern cordillera of the Andes, after a few minutes, we find ourselves in an area used only by the few farmers. We continue towards the summit, encountering some steep mountain flanks which require some expertise and skill, but the challenge is well-worth it. At the summit, we once again find paths of the farmers who cultivated different grains on this plateau. We're now at the highest point of our route only a few minutes from Moray. It's about 1 pm when we arrive.

Time to have lunch, rest and visit Moray, a fascinating archaeological site, crisscrossed with natural depressions that successive cultures adapted into levels of agricultural terraces that served for more than 1000 years of as an experimental agricultural station for the development of different strain of crops. From Moray we continue riding for about an hour along an ancient mule track to Maras, a colonial town, known for its centuries-old customs, and its houses, once occupied by Spanish colonials whose coat of arms can still be seen, carved in grand stone doorways. A visit to the church, San Francisco de Maras, will attest to this town's importance in the Colonial era; its features excellent Cusco school paintings and beautiful architecture.

We descend towards Salineras. The ground descends almost 800 meters to the valley. We make our way down by an old path, used for





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