

The Story of Machu Picchu



<http://famouswonders.com/wp-content/gallery/machu-picchu/machu-picchu-wider-view.jpg>

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Introduction

Have you ever heard of a mystical city in the clouds? Well you will learn who built it, how it was built it, who rediscovered it and what this interesting place called Machu Picchu was like. Lets start the adventure about Machu Picchu..

Building Machu Picchu

By Zoe

Have you ever wondered how Machu Picchu was built? This is how. Incas (the people who lived on Machu Picchu) were great builders and great engineers the talents made it easier to build Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu was built so well that after 500 years you could not even slide a blade between the stones isn't that cool?! That is why Machu Picchu still stands today. Chips left from carving stones were put far under the ground so when it rains the chips help drain the water away from Machu Picchu what a great idea the Incas had! That's also why Machu Picchu still stands today! There is a temple the Unfinished temple that has a ramp which leads to where the Incas worked. The Incas mostly used ramps to move large boulders. As well the Incas built temples, palaces and bridges, they dug canals and irrigation ditches. Incas built canals to carry water from a spring on Machu

Picchu. Also the staircases and terraces were so strong that if an earth quack hit Machu Picchu they would still stand straight and strong that is why people can still explore and travel on Machu Picchu. I hope you liked the info about how Machu Picchu was built.



<http://www.incatrails.org/23-inca-terracing-andes-peru-sm.jpg>

This is what irrigation ditches look like..

Machu Picchu

By Ori

Have you ever seen what Machu Picchu is like? This amazing piece of land high in the Andes Mountains is a deserted site built by the Incas. Machu Picchu was a small city built around 1450. It was remote but it had an organized society with goods and services, taxes, and military. It was on a flat stretch of land 8,000 feet above sea level between two peaks of the Andes Mountain Range. Machu Picchu is known as "the city in the clouds." There were over 150 buildings including temples, homes, and palaces.



<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=machu+picchu&FORM=HDRSC2&adlt=strict#view=detail&id=822288133179CD754D6AF8E7CC98E36962B6E962&selectedIndex=5>

Machu Picchu was a small city with not a lot of people. but it was organized.

Incredible Incas!

By Maya

Have you ever wondered who the Incas are, well then let's learn about the Incas secrets and a handful of fun facts too. First the Incas did not always live in Machu Picchu (which is in Peru) but they always have lived in South America as thieves. The emperor of the Incas was considered to be a descendant of the sun god, who was the most imported god to their religion, their emperor is also very imported that is why they thought he was a descendant of the sun god, (only boys can be emperor)!!! The Incas did not have money but still had goods and gold they kept 1/3 of their goods for their families, 1/3 for the government in case of poor crops, and 1/3 went to temples, sacrifices, and feasts. Men also paid tax with physical labor, but men were required to work for at least 2 weeks each year on building temples, palaces, and bridges, but that did not count for the physical labor tax. The Incas had no written language so they couldn't write. Instead they tied knots in a row of

strings connected to a loop in the middle. The whole thing is called a Quipus. Quipus are used for writing down everyday information and to record history. Also



http://bio.sunyorange.edu/updated2/ideas/1/latin_amer/lee/barry_files/image023.jpg

Inca masons were so talented that even now 500 years later you can't fit a blade of a knife between the stones!

knot and string. In Machu Picchu the air is thin and there is less oxygen so Incas got sick and it was hard for their bodies to function properly. It was even harder because Incas did not know about wheels and did not use large animals but still managed to get all of

Machu Picchu now (by hand) 15,000 miles. When the Spanish invaded they found the Incas but luckily not the Incas' secrets, including that Machu Picchu was found centuries later by the emperor Hiram Bingham. It was not found because Machu Picchu was cleverly hidden on a mountain with a large rock blocking the view. Hope you had fun being an Inca and a learned a little too!

Rediscovering Machu Picchu

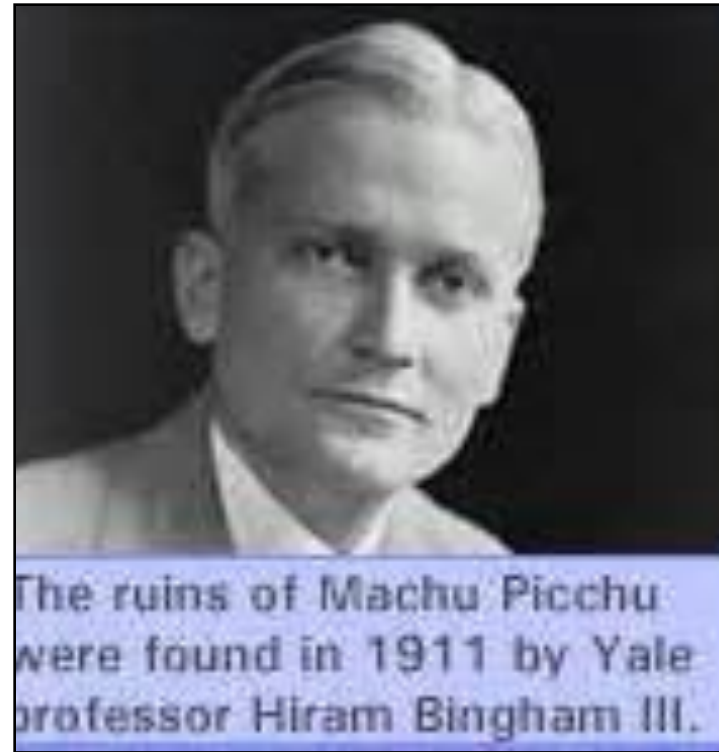
By Liam

Have you ever heard of a place called Machu Picchu? Well no one else had until 1911. Hiram Bingham was a Yale professor that explored hidden lands. He went to Peru to look for a place called Vilcapampa. He went door to door in search of Vilcapampa but no one had ever heard of it. Then as he went on he met a man named Arteaga and asked him if there were any ruins nearby. The man explained there are ruins on top of a mountain called Machu Picchu.

Arteaga wouldn't take him because there were too many snakes. Bingham tried to persuade him with coins and Arteaga yes. They walked and walked higher and higher. Then they saw a boy. Bingham asked if there were any ruins nearby. The boy started walking and Bingham followed. They came to some Inca stones and then to a grand stone staircase.

When they got to the top of the staircase they

saw a stone temple. The stone temple amazed him.



http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/images/july-dec07/hiram_1114.jpg

Then they went to another temple. It was as magnificent. He was carrying a black box that unfolded into a camera. Hiram wanted his first picture to be of the boy. In the distance Bingham saw some

vines. He thought he was at Vilcapampa. But when he removed the vines he realized he wasn't. He had stumbled upon a place even more amazing. Machu Picchu!

References

Reference 1 [www.kidsdiscover.com/dlog/spotlight/Machu Picchu](http://www.kidsdiscover.com/dlog/spotlight/MachuPicchu)

Reference 2 The Inca Ruins of Machu Picchu By Jennifer Silate

Reference 3 Machu Picchu the City in the Clouds By Babara A. Somervill

Reference 4 Lost City The Discovery of Machu Picchu By Ted Lewin

Reference 5 www.wisegeek.org/who-are-the-Incas.htm