



## Landmark #16 **Machu Picchu** Peru



Machu Picchu is a **15th-century Inca citadel** located **2,430m** above sea level in the **Cuzco Region** (Peru). Most archaeologists believe that Machu Picchu was built in fairly recent times, as it was probably commissioned by the Inca emperor **Pachacuti (1438–1472)**. However, it is often mistakenly referred to as the 'Lost City of the Incas' because it was abandoned roughly a century after its construction on account of the **Spanish Conquest**. Although popular locally, Spanish conquistadores didn't know of its existence, so it remained unknown to the outside world until American historian **Hiram Bingham** brought it to international attention as late as **1911**. Machu Picchu was built in the **classical Inca style**, with polished dry-stone walls. Its three primary structures are the **Inti Watana**, the **Temple of the Sun**, and the **Room of the Three Windows**. Most of the outlying buildings have been reconstructed in order to give tourists a better idea of how they originally appeared – and the **restoration** is not over yet.

Click on the Pictures for two **VIDEOS** on Machu Picchu