This is a picture of the altar near the top of Machu Picchu. Its corners are oriented to the four directions. Notice the clouds hanging over the mountain tops in the background. They are about the same elevation as we are in this picture. This was taken just after the sun decided to appear for us at around 11am that morning.
Here is a picture of the clouds in the valley across from Machu Picchu taken through one of the trapezoidal windows of a house. Notice Dr. Luna has his head in the clouds in this picture. :o)
This is a picture of Machu Picchu from very near the top of WaynaPicchu. I love the way the clouds are lower than I was when taking this one. Also notice the little finch sitting on the tip of the outcrop that I’m standing on. He landed very near my feet and hopped around for a bit before resting on this point for me, as if to say “go ahead...get one of me with Machu Picchu in the background.”
This was my attempt to capture the snow covered top of a far away mountain. The clouds in between it and us made it a bit hard to make out unfortunately. Some suggested that this was a glacier, but I have not had that confirmed by a reputable source.
Here is a picture of Nilo, one of our tour guides for our stay in Peru, and one of the several llamas that were roaming around the Machu Picchu ruins. A little wisp of a cloud lingers in the valley below.
Here’s a cool look at Machu Picchu from the top of Waynapicchu. It was really incredible to see how small Machu Picchu looked after climbing all the way up to the top of Waynapicchu.
Here’s me appearing to hang on to a cliff face in front of a cloud bank. It wasn’t as dangerous as it appears, as there were 4 or 5 foot of flat outcrop behind me, but don’t tell anyone.
Here’s a nice shot of Machu Picchu and some very interesting looking clouds, as the sun was just about to start peeking out from behind them. I was fascinated by all of the clouds that were hanging around at our elevation or lower. They were among my favorite things to look at during our adventure.
I was taken aback by this bright red plant near the top of Machu Picchu. The sun was finally shining on our morning there and it seemed to light this little red plant ablaze against the cloud drenched mountains in the background.
A few wispy clouds hang low over the narrow switchback road that leads from Aguas Calientes to the Machu Picchu Inn. The road was so narrow that we had to frequently stop and back up to a wider spot so that our bus and another could pass each other on the way to the top and back.
This is a shot of the Temple of the Sun at Machu Picchu. It was taken from the bottom of the temple, near the Temple of the Condor.
This is me with several of the houses of Machu Picchu behind me. A lone wispy cloud hangs in front of Waynapicchu in the background. When taking the “tiny” pictures of Machu Picchu. I was on top of that mountain in the background. It’s a very hard climb on less than ideal stairs to get to the top. Make sure you’re in pretty good shape before attempting the climb to the top of Waynapicchu. I found out that I wasn’t in as good of shape as I thought, as the climb really took the wind out of me.