



Trek to Colca Canyon Day by day description

Day 1- CUSCO/SICUANI/TUTI (Sunday)

Leaving Cusco or Arequipa a full day drive south on the road to Puno visiting the ruins of Pikillacta and the colonial church at Andahuaylillas. In the main Vilcanota valley we will visit Raqchi, ruins of the Wari culture. At Sicuani a dirt road ascends leaving the valley behind and crossing the “altiplano” or “puna” area for a dusty ride over the Condoroma pass, to the side road leading to Cailloma. We set up camp below Mt. Mismi, near the villages of Tuti at 3,840 m.a.s.l. / 12,595 ft.

Day 2- TUTI/MISMI/CARHUACOCHA (Monday)

The vehicle will bring us to the roadhead, passing the community of Ran Ran, and continuing to Aquenta. Leaving the village behind a short hike across highland savannah desert, past corrals used for herding alpacas, we reach the springs which are the source of the Amazon. The terrain will be rocky at first but then will become a clear trail. Camp and Overnight.

Day 3 CARHUACOCHA/ CARHUASANTA (Tuesday)

We continue towards the Pass of La Luna (or Aquenta) at 5,010 m.a.s.l. / 16,433ft with fantastic views of Mts. Shila and Coropuna to the west and later we descend slowly into Carhuasanta at 4,700 m.a.s.l. / 15,416ft. Here we set up camp. The area is a highland pasture used as such only at certain times of the year (Time: 6 hours. Distance: 6 Kms.)

Day 4- CARHUASANTA / QOLPA (Wednesday)

We continue to the pass of Quewishsa, at 5,100 m.a.s.l./ 16,728ft. We will again appreciate the astounding peaks and the Colca Canyon below. Our path now takes us down to 4,000 mts /13,120 ft. at Qolpa. We enter an upper canyonlands terrain near our campsite at Qolpa. (Time: 7 hours. Distance: 8Kms.)

Day 5- QOLPA / LARI / YANQUE (Thursday)

This morning we descend further into the gorge of the Colca, passing old Inca terraces and canals into warmer weather. We begin to evidence patchwork agriculture and a chance to see agricultural activities close at hand as we approach Lari. From here we will be picked up and taken to a hotel at Yanque, Dinner on your own. (Time: 4 hours. Distance: 3.5 Kms.).

Day 6- CRUZ DEL CONDOR/AREQUIPA (or Puno) (Friday)

Early start-up by bus to visit Cruz del Condor a unique opportunity to see Condors with the Canyon backdrop at its deepest point – an impressive view. A morning visit to the villages of Yanque, Cabanaconde and others with a chance to rest. In the afternoon return by vehicle to Arequipa or connect to Puno, arrival at hotel, dinner on your own.

Note : Two full days of acclimatization in Cusco are mandatory. This trip can also be done in conjunction with our Inca Trail fixed departure or as an add-on to any program ending in the Cusco area.



SERVICES INCLUDED: Transportation by vehicle to start and from the end of trek to your city of departure or arrival, hotel night at the beginning and end, two-man tents including sleeping pads, pack animals or porters, kitchen crew and commissary gear with all meals included as well as a bilingual guide on the trek, who handles a first-aid kit.

SERVICES NOT INCLUDED: Meals in the cities, alcoholic beverages, extras, tips, taxes, laundry service, additional tours, insurance and airline tickets (where applicable), sleeping bags, hiking boots and personal clothing and equipment.