



The Cordillera Huayhuash Day by day description

Day 1 HUARAZ/PACHACOTO/CUARTELWAIN (Sunday)

Back-tracking from Huaraz we take the side road at Quebrada Carpa, passing Pachacoto where we will observe the famous Puya Raymondi, the largest flowering cactus. On the way beautiful views of the peaks of the Cordillera Blanca, part of the Huascarán National Park. We drive over the Huarapasca pass 4,780 m.a.s.l. (15,678 ft), before reaching a second pass at Yanashallash 4,680 m.a.s.l. (15,350 ft) we will get views of the Cordillera Blanca, Huayhuash and Huallanca. The road descends to the Huallanca community, then follow the San Juan river until we cross the pass of Cuncush 4,750 m.a.s.l. (15,580 ft) finally descending to camp at Cuartelwain. Lunch on route, overnight at camp at 4,000 m.

Day 2 CUARTELWAIN/MITUCOCHA (Monday)

The trail winds slowly over the pass of Cacanapunta 4,700 m.a.s.l. (15,416 ft) with incredible views of the surrounding countryside giving us a view of the peaks that will surround our campsite. The pass is the watershed of the waters flowing into the Amazon to the east, and the Pacific to the west. We arrive at camp below the peaks of Jirishanca Chico y Grande, Rondoy and Ninashanca at the edge of the Mitucocha lake. (Time: 6 hrs. Distance: 8 kms).

Day 3 MITUCOCHA/CARHUACOCHA (Tuesday)

Over the Carhuacocha pass at 4,600 m.a.s.l. (15,088 ft) with views of Jirishanca Chico and the peaks of Siula, Yerupaja, Sarapo and Toro. Highland savannah known as puna surrounds the campsite and the countryside. Located at another lake we have fantastic views of those snow-capped peaks, that surround the western side of Carhuacocha. (Time: 7-8 hrs. Distance: 8 kms).

Day 4 CARHUACOCHA/CARNICERO (Wednesday)

As we ascend to the narrow pass at Carnicero 4,750 m.a.s.l. (15,580 ft) the peaks of the Huayhuash to our right, we will pass a series of lakes. Descending we reach our campsite below Jurau with views of the valley of Huayhuash, a small community of herders. Views of the peaks of Trapecio, Carnicero and Jurau. (Time: 8 hrs. Distance: 9 kms.)

Day 5 CARNICERO/VICONGA (Thursday)

Passing by the seasonal community of Huayhuash we start our ascent to the pass of Huayhuash (4,580 m) with views of the Cordillera Raura to the south as we leave the jagged peaks of the Huayhuash slowly behind. We will view Mt. Leon Huacanan and Quesillojanca, as well as Puscanturpa. Descend and camp at Lake Viconga. (Time: 7-8 hrs. Distance: 8 kms.)



Day 6 VICONGA/SURASACA (Friday)

Over the last pass of Surasaca 4,800 m.a.s.l. (15,744 ft). following the lake's shores for about an hour. The trail passes along the back of the Cordillera Raura with views of Mt. Leon Huacanan and the ever-present herds of sheep, llamas and alpacas. Camp and overnight. (Time: 8 hours, Distance: 13 km).

Day 7 SURASACA/LIMA (Saturday)

Departure by vehicle to Lima as we head down the Oyon and Churin valley. We join the Panamerican Highway at Huaura and drive back to Lima. (Hotel and meals not included).

SERVICES INCLUDED: Transportation by vehicle to start and from the end of trek to your city of departure, two-man tents including sleeping pads, pack animals, kitchen crew and commissary gear with all meals included as well as a bilingual guide on the trek, who will handle the 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 other personal gear.