

AMAZON TRAILS PERU



Trek to Choquequirao ruins - 5 days

This trek takes you to one of the last retreats of the Incas: Choquequirao (3,033 m), it's an archaeological complex where investigation is still in progress. It is situated close to the holy Salcantay mountain (6.271 m) and above the impressive Rio Apurimac Canyon. You hike through spectacular andean scenery and see flora and fauna of the cloud forest. **This trek gives you a full day to explore the Inca site.**

Highest point: 3033 m.

Day 1 : CUSCO - CACHORA - PLAYA ROSALINA (or CHIQUISCA): 4:30 am pick up from your hotel and travel to Cachora (3100m, aprox. 4 hours by private van). While we are having breakfast the crew packs the horses for the trek. On this day we walk 22 km, first going down, then a little uphill, passing Abra Capuliyoc, from where we have a great view of the Apurimac Canyon. Then we have a flat part near Coca Masana (2250m) to finally descend to playa Rosalina on the banks of the Apurimac River, the main tributary of the Amazon River. Campsite at 1550 m. (In some occasions we may spend the first night in Chiquisca (1900m)).

Day 2 : PLAYA ROSALINA (or CHIQUISCA) TO CHOQUEQUIRAO RUINS : After an early breakfast we start walking. After crossing the bridge over the Rio Apurimac the trail climbs up on the opposite mountain, first through Opuntia plantations and later through cloud forest. The trail is steep but with great views, we arrive to the camp around 3 pm. The ruins are close to the camp so we start exploring them after arriving. There are several terraces at the beginning and houses in the central part. The view of the canyon is spectacular and with a little luck it is also possible to see Andean Condors soaring in the mountains. Campsite at Choquequirao, 3033 m (2 nights).

Day 3 : EXPLORING CHOQUEKIRAO AND SURROUNDINGS: Today we have a full day to explore the archaeological site as well as the nearby stone terraces with lamas. The site has still been under exploration, so new things may be seen. We also hike through the cloud forest that surrounds the ruins, so we can learn about the flora and fauna of the area. Also keep an eye open for condors, if the weather is good we may see some over the Apurimac Canyon.

Day 4 : CHOQUEQUIRAO – PLAYA ROSALINA - CHIQUISCA : In the morning, after breakfast, we begin our way back down towards Santa Rosa, and then further on to Playa Rosalina. If the river situation is appropriate we can enjoy a refreshing bath in the turbulent waters of the Apurimac River. In the afternoon we hike further up to our camp in Chiquisca (1900m).

Day 5 : CHIQUISCA - CACHORA - CUSCO : After an early breakfast we start climbing back up to Coca Masana and then further on to Cachora. During the hike we have a great view of the Padrejoc mountain and of the Apurimac Canyon. In Cachora we have lunch and take our van back to Cusco. Arrival in the afternoon and transfer to your hotel.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- private minibus transport Cusco - Cachora - Cusco
- English speaking, professional guide
- double - tents and mats, dining tent, tables and chairs
- cook and cooking equipment & all meals during the trek, drinking water
- horsemen and horses (to carry tents, food & cooking equipment & 5 kg luggage p.person)
- emergency horse (with saddle)
- entrance to Choquekirao archaeological site
- First Aid Kit

NOT INCLUDED:

- sleeping bag (for rent at our office)
- hiking poles (optional)
- extra drinking water (or purifying tablets, if you need very much water)
- extra horse for personal luggage

group size: 2 - 6 persons



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