

“TREK TO CHOQUEQUIRAO”

Group Tour



Cusco – Cachora – Santa Rosa – Choquequirao- Santa Rosa - Cusco

(4 Days / 3 Nights)

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1 CUSCO - CACHORA - SANTA ROSA

Our first day starts out from the village of Cachora, a 4 hour drive from Cusco. Leaving Cachora the path works it's way down in to the Apurimac Valley and we will have fantastic views of snow-capped peaks in the distance and the Apurimac Valley spread out before us throughout the day, also after a few hours walking we'll get to have our first views of Choquequirao sat on the far side of the valley. The area around Choquequirao is rich in life and we will see a wide variety of flora and fauna as we make our way down in to the valley.



Our campsite for the night is at Santa Rosa (2200m / 7215ft.) which is on the other side of the Apurimac River. As the campsite is a little further along the trail than most groups go it is one of the quietest places to camp on the whole trek so we can enjoy the beautiful scenery around us without distraction.

DAY 2: SANTA ROSA - CHOQUEQUIRAO



Today is probably the hardest day of the trek. To get to Choquequirao we need to make our way back up the opposite side of the Apurimac Valley which involves ascending about 800m / 2624ft. over a distance of 14km / 8.7 miles through hot and humid conditions. It's quite tough going but the views we get today mixed with the wide variety of flora and fauna you find on this side of the valley make it worth it.

Throughout the day we will see a wide variety of bromeliads, orchids and stands of bamboo; we'll also hopefully see birds such as Quetzals, Toucans and a variety of hummingbirds. After about a 5 hour walk we'll arrive to our campsite close to Choquequirao (3050m / 10,005ft.)

and settle in for the night - if the weather is clear the views of the sunsetting from here are amazing and we may be lucky enough to spot Condors soaring over the valley below.

DAY 3: CHOQUEQUIRAO - CHIQUISKA

Today's focus is on exploring Choquequirao. Waking up early you'll head off on a guided tour of the site during which you'll be shown the most important and interesting sections of the city and get to learn about the Inca culture and the close relation between Choquequirao and Machu Picchu.

Compared to Machu Picchu little is known about Choquequirao even though it has been known about for much longer. Originally discovered in the 17th century by the Spanish it lay abandoned and forgotten until recent years when tourism raised the profile of the city and exploration began. Even with this increased interest only 25% of the city has been explored and many of its secrets still wait to be discovered.



After your tour you'll begin the trek back to Cachora along the route we came. Our campsite for tonight is Chiquiska (1800m / 5905ft.) in the base of the valley by the Apurimac River.

DAY 4: CHIQUISKA - CACHORA - CUSCO

Today is the final stretch of the trek as we make our way back to Cachora. Winding our way back up the side of the valley we'll have our final views of Choquequirao in the distance before arriving to Cachora in the late afternoon and travelling by bus back to Cusco.

End of or service

MORE INFORMATION

TRIP CONSIDERATIONS

Walking: The walking effort is moderate to Challenge

Climate: Rather variable. Sunny, though on other days it can be cool and overcast. At high altitudes conditions range from cool to decidedly cold in the early morning.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

- Original passport (and *International Student card (ISIC) if applicable)
- Sleeping bag (can be hired from us)

- Walking boots (with ankle protectors)
- Waterproof jacket/rain poncho.
- Warm jacket, hat and gloves
- T-shirts
- Shorts Comfortable trousers
- Sun protection cream
- Insect repellent
- Toiletries
- Personal medication
- Camera and film
- Torch with spare batteries
- Any other optional items to take:
- Walking poles (with rubber tip, can also be hired from us)
- Plasters and bandages