



“Integrating Culture and Tourism since 1994”

COTOPAXI NATIONAL PARK & QUILOTOA VOLCANO CRATER LAKE

TWO DAY TRIP

***Panoramic Views of Quito, Cotopaxi and Quilotoa Lake – Hiking
Paramo Highland Vegetation – Indian Markets – Lava Fields***

DAY 1:

We leave Quito at 07h00 and take the Panamericana highway south along the famous **AVENIDA DE LOS VOLCANES (Avenue of the Volcanoes)**.

Then we head east along a countryside road where we begin our ascent by car (4x4) into the **Cotopaxi National Park (3800 m)**.

We continue our journey to reach an altitude of 4500 m, where we will leave the vehicle and proceed to **climb the awe-inspiring snow-capped Cotopaxi (5897 m)**, one of the world’s highest volcanoes. It is a 45 minute **walk to the Refuge (4800 m)** and an additional 25 minutes to reach the **glacier**, from where we have a stunning view of the National Park.

After our descent from the refuge and the glacier, our hike continues through the **paramo highland vegetation** towards **LAGUNA LIMPIOPUNGO**, a small picturesque lake, where we will stop for a picnic lunch.

There is an optional 30 minute walk around the lake, which is a great place to spot some of the Park’s **abundant birdlife**.



After passing Pujili which is another traditional Indian village, we continue to the highlands up to 3800 m through an amazing and multicoloured landscape, where you will see the **“choza” mud huts** typical of the indigenous villages and farms of the region.



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In the evening, we have a typical dinner at the lovely and small village called **CHUGCHILAN**, where we also spend the night.

DAY 2 :

On Sunday, we set off after breakfast to visit the impressive **QUILOTOA CRATER**, an extinct volcano of which crater holds a beautiful lake.

From here there are the following options available:

- 1) **A 30 minute walk down to the lake**, with a steep 1 ½ hour return climb (The “ecological taxi” option (**ascent by mule**) is also available).
- 2) **A 5 hour walk around the edge of the crater and a small boat trip on the crater lake of about 30 to 45 minutes.**

After the walk, we will have lunch in Quilotoa or on our way back to Quito.



Then we drive to the small village **PUJILI to visit its Sunday market**. Later in the afternoon we will return to Quito and will arrive at about 19h00.

Price per person:

3 pax US\$175 p.p. 4-5 pax US\$130 p.p. 6 pax US\$110 p.p.

Includes	Private transportation, bilingual guide, all meals , overnight, entrance fee to the National Park Cotopaxi (\$ 10.--) and to the Crater Quilotoa
Does not include	Horse rental
What to bring	Trekking shoes, raincoat and warm jacket, sunglasses, sun cream, hat and camera