



“Integrating Culture and Tourism since 1994”

CRATER CUICOCHA LAGUNA MOJANDA & INDIAN MARKET OTAVALO

TWO DAY TRIP

***Panoramic Volcano Crater and Lake Views – Nature Hiking
Animal Market – Indian Crafts & Leather Work Shopping***

DAY ONE :

We leave Quito at 06h00 to drive along the North-Panamericana highway towards Otavalo. On the way, we pass the towns of Calderon (where we can see **roasted pigs** for sale) and Guallabamba. After a quick stop on the **equator line** in Cayambe (at Latitude 0), we continue north to Otavalo, passing scenic views of **Imbabura Volcano** (4600 m) and the lovely **San Pablo Lake**.

We arrive at Otavalo at 08h00 to visit the **Animal Market**, where the indigenous are usually dressed in their **traditional costumes**.

Surrounded by beautiful mountain peaks and lakes, we drive to **Laguna Mojanda**, where we **hike around the lagoon** for about 3 hours, at an altitude of 3800 m. After this walk, we take a well deserved break and enjoy a picnic close to the lake.

In the afternoon, we return to Otavalo to visit its market which is one of the largest Indian markets in Ecuador where you can find **textile, food, handicrafts** and a **great deal of souvenirs!** World-famous for their 4000 year of **traditional weaving** techniques, the Otavaleños Indians also sell other nice crafts, such as pottery, woodcarvings, and let’s not forget to visit the popular **Plaza de Poncho**.

Afterwards we head to the small town of Peguche, where we visit a home of a Otavaleño family and enjoy **learning about their traditional process of textile weaving**.

In the evening, after dinner we stay at a hostel. If you wish you can spend an evening at a **Peña** with live folkloric music.

DAY TWO :

After breakfast, we depart to the **Volcano Crater Cuicocha**, which is one of the most beautiful crater lakes in Ecuador. The volcano is located at the foot of Cotacachi. Its height is 4939 m above sea level and the crater lies on an altitude of 3100 m. You will be especially impressed with the lake’s **lava dome islands**.



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During a 4-hour hike along the crater’s rim, there will be lots of opportunities for taking pictures of the **panoramic view** of this 200m deep lake and of the **flora and fauna**, which your guide will help you to identify.

Our last stop is at the village of Cotacachi which is **famous for its leather work**. We can have a look at the shops for a little while and then enjoy a typical lunch from this region.

Arrival at Quito at about 18h00.

Price per person:

3 pax US\$160 p.p. 4-5 pax US\$130 p.p. 6 pax US\$100 p.p.

Includes:	Private transportation, bilingual guide, box lunch, breakfast, overnight
What to bring:	Trekking shoes, raincoat and warm jacket, sunglasses, sun cream, hat and camera

