



“Integrating Culture and Tourism since 1994”

Volcano Guagua Pichincha

ONE DAY TRIP

Panoramic Volcano & Crater Views – Nature Hiking Discover Paramo Highland Vegetation – Lava Landscapes

Located about 30 km west of Quito, the VOLCAN PICHINCHA provides an enjoyable **acclimatization hike** with **great panoramic views** of the valley beneath and of Quito.

At a height of 4781 m, **GUAGUA PICHINCHA** is the tallest of the two peak volcanoes. GUAGUA PICHINCHA has been in a state of renewed volcanic activity since 1998 – This means we may be able to **see smoke rising from the crater**.

Our tour leaves Quito at 08h00, usually when the weather is at its best (to avoid those afternoon clouds!). We drive southwest through the **countryside** passing farms (haciendas) towards the **small village of LLOA**, situated at the foot of the volcano.

From LLOA, we begin our ascent up the volcano by four wheel drive car (1 hour). At this point, we begin to notice a **change in climate and vegetation**. We will also be able to admire incredible **views overlooking the Andes Mountain Ranges!**

At about 4000 m, we leave our car and begin our ascent on foot. **This hike lasts for 1 ½ hours** to the refuge which is situated at 4500 m. Here we will see a variety of **paramo plants**, such as the **Chuquirahua**, which provides medicinal benefits as a tea for stomach aches.

From the refuge it is a short hike to the crater’s rim, where you can **look inside the smoking volcano** and appreciate the immense crater in all its beauty. The walk continues around the crater’s edge and up to the peak of GUAGUA PICHINCHA, which, at the height of 4781 m, provides you a stunning view of the Guagua crater and the volcano’s second peak. From the top of the crater, it is often possible to **see up to 9 close volcanoes**, such as Cayambe, Antisana, Sincholagua, Cotopaxi etc.

To enjoy the volcano’s **desert landscape (a mixture of lava and sand)**, we take a different route to walk back. This allows us to observe more of the highland’s vegetation that is typical of this region.

After about **4 ½ hours of trekking** we will finish the day with a nice relaxing picnic lunch.



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Price per person:

3 pax US\$53 p.p. 4-5 pax US\$49 p.p. 6 pax US\$45 p.p.

Includes:	Private transportation, bilingual guide, box lunch, entrance fee to the refuge Guagua Pichincha
What to bring:	Trekking shoes, raincoat and warm jacket, sunglasses, sun cream, hat and camera

