

# A World Away Travels

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## **Huayhuash Trek** **June 8-28, 2001** **July 14-August 3, 2001**

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Rising abruptly from the valley floors are the summits of the Huayhuash., the second highest of Peru's mountain ranges. This compact massif is dotted with sparkling alpine lakes and rugged mountain spires. To many the prettiest range in the Andes, the Huayhuash offers spectacular trekking through remote Quechuan villages that few travelers visit, places where Andean traditions are preserved. During our 15 days of rigorous trekking we wrap around these breath taking mountains, camping next to lakes overflowing with trout and viewing high Andean wildlife. *rigorous trekking*

### **Day 1 Travel to Lima, Peru**

Arriving in Lima you will transfer from the airport to the Posada del Inca Hotel located in Miraflores. After resting in the hotel you will visit the Museo de la Nacion with its enormous collection of Pre Incan, and Inca artifacts, gold treasures and other Peruvian wonders before heading into the bustling streets of Lima for a dinner. This evening you will have a chance to sample the traditional Peruvian dish *Ceviche*, a tasty dish of fresh seafood marinated in tangy lemon juice that is slightly spicy. From the busy streets we will soon find a quiet area to relax and enjoy the very best that this city has to offer. Our hotel is in Miraflores situated next to the Pacific Coast. Filled with excellent restaurants, city parks and interesting architecture, Miraflores is the perfect location to spend your first night in Peru. Accommodations: Posada del Inca  
*Dinner*

### **Day 2 Lima-Huaraz**

We get an early start along the Pan American Highway as it winds along Peru's Pacific coast. After lunch our path heads inland as we follow the Fortaleza River to the top of Conococha Pass (13,120') for our first view of the stunning Cordillera Blanca mountain range. The rest of the drive to Huaraz is dominated by farm land and small villages settled in beautiful alpine meadows. Accommodations: Hotel Andino *B,L,D*

### **Day 3-4 Huaraz**

We will spend two days in Huaraz (10,200') acclimatizing with moderate hikes, relaxing and enjoying the activities of the town. Nestled between the Cordillera Negra and Cordillera Blanca mountain ranges the stunning views from town make it evident that Huaraz is a trekker's paradise. One hike will take us from the pass at Punta Cayan on the Cordillera Negra back into Huaraz. The scenery on this 4 hour hike will leave you breathless even during the downhill portions. The next day we will go on a half-day hike to Willcawain, a fascinating site of pre-Inca ruins on the outskirts of Huaraz. Accommodations: Hotel Andino *B,L,D*

### **Day 5 Chiquian**

Leaving plenty of time for exploration along the way, we drive 70 miles to the remote town of Chiquian, our gateway to treks in the Cordillera Huayhuash. Camping *B, L, D*

## **Days 6-18 Huayhuash Trek**

### *Day 6 Llamac*

Our first day begins hiking up the valley of the Rio Achin, and branching into the Rio Llamac valley to continue our steady ascent. Our camp near the village of Llamac yields a magnificent view of Nevado Rondoy peak (19, 289'). *B, L, D*

### *Day 7-8 Quebrada Rondoy and Laguna Mitacocha*

These two days provide amazing gratification that can only be achieved on a trek. We gain elevation dramatically, crossing a pass at 15, 500' to reach the eastern side of the Cordillera Huayhuash. The views are no longer panoramic as the mountainous presence becomes ubiquitous with Jirishanca (19, 994'), Rasac (19, 742') and Yerupaja (21, 766' the second highest peak in Peru) jutting dramatically above us. Camp on day 7 is near Quebrada Rondoy at the base of the pass, and on day 8 we will camp at Laguna Mitacocha with the peaks of Rondoy and Ninashanca framing our view of the stars after dinner. *B, L, D*

### *Days 9-10 Carhuacocha*

Our path now follows the old Inca route to the immense lake of Laguna Carhuacocha which was formed as the glaciers receded up the surrounding peaks of Yerupaja, Jirishanca, and Sarapo. Day 10 is designated as a day to rest and explore this unique area. The vibrant green lake has superb trout fishing, there are numerous day-hiking options, or you may choose to spend a day relaxing in the comfort of camp. Camp will remain established at the same location along Laguna Carhuacocha for both nights. *B, L, D*

### *Days 11-12 Laguna Viconga*

Carnicero peak (19, 555') dramatically comes into view as we climb over Carnicero Pass (15, 100'). Continuing past the twin lakes of Atocshaico we venture through the tiny Andean village of Huayhuash where traditions have remained intact for hundreds of years. **We will camp near town allowing us to gain insight into the unique lives of Andean villagers.** In the morning we begin the ascent of Portachuelo de Huayhuash Pass (15, 600') from which the view extends into the Cordillera Raura, an isolated range to the Southeast. We descend to beautiful Laguna Viconga (14, 760') for an evening of relaxing in our camp by the lake. *B, L, D*

### *Day 13 Punta Cuyoc*

We reach the highest point on the trail at Punta Cuyoc pass (16, 400') which is formed in a saddle between two glacial covered peaks. We camp in the Guanactapay valley after descending from the pass. The ice capped peaks we crossed between will illuminate a soft pink as the sun sets during dinner tonight. *B, L, D*

### *Day 14-15 Laguna Jurau*

We follow the valley carved by the Rio Huayllapa to Laguna Jurau, which is dramatically situated at 14, 270' in an amphitheater formed by the peaks of Carnicero and Sarapo. We spend two nights at this camp and the day can be spent hiking or resting at camp. *B, L, D*

### *Day 16-17 Jahuacocha*

Two days hiking in the Huayhuash range brings us to Laguna Jahuacocha, the stage for arguably the most stunning scenery on this entire beautiful trek. We are likely to meet local fisherman who frequent the lake. *B, L, D*

### *Day 18 Rio Achin*

We find ourselves on familiar ground again as descend into the Rio Achin valley. With the Huayhuash circuit completed we enjoy one last night of camping. *B, L, D*

**Day 19 Huaraz**

We begin the drive back to Huaraz in the morning and check into the Hotel Andino. A festive farewell dinner celebrates a wonderful trek. *B, L, D*

**Days 20-21 Travel to Lima/Depart Peru**

We after we drive back to Lima you may relax in your own room, or tour points of interest before departing for the United States in the evening. *B, L on day 20*

**Trip Cost:** (6-8 participants) \$3200 (3-5 participants) \$2900 **Single Supplement:** \$300

All of our treks are limited to eight participants and fully supported with teams of guides, cooks, porters and a Trip Leader making them safe, comfortable and unforgettable adventures. We also limit the size of our treks to insure you will have the best experience possible. Unlike other company's that advertise small treks (16 people) ours really are small. It's a small group that will allow us to meet and interact with local people- not possible in larger groups. Guided by superb trip leaders with extensive backgrounds living and working with Peruvian people and traveling through out the country this trip is an incredible opportunity you could not receive with another company.

The cost of the trip will include everything while you are in Peru (unless noted in the itinerary). This includes all trekking equipment, guides, pack animals, tours, lectures, accommodations in first-class hotels and top quality tents (1 night Posada del Inca, 3 nights Hotel Andino, 14 nights camping) food, permits, entrance fees, and ground transportation. The price does not include international air fares, visa fees, airport tax and personal expenses.