PERU HIKE
Travel & Expeditions
CHOQUEQUIRAO TREK 5 DAYS
EXPLORE AND LIVE UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

DESCRIPTION

The Choquequirao Trek 5 Days is one of the most authentic and adventurous hiking experiences in Peru — a perfect blend of breathtaking scenery, Inca history, and cultural discovery. This unforgettable Choquequirao Trek allows you to explore the sacred site known as the “Cradle of Gold,” surrounded by snow-capped Andean peaks, deep valleys, and the dramatic Apurímac Canyon. For travelers looking for a quieter and more spiritual alternative to the classic Inca Trail, this Choquequirao Hike is the ultimate adventure.

The word Choquequirao comes from the Quechua language and means “Cradle of Gold.” This magnificent archaeological complex sits high above the roaring Apurímac River and is protected by stunning mountains such as Padreyoc and Qoriwayrachina. While Choquequirao Peru remains less visited than Machu Picchu, it is believed to be three times larger and equally impressive in its engineering and spiritual design. It served as one of the last refuges of the Inca resistance against the Spanish conquest before it was reclaimed by the jungle for centuries.

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FULL ITINERARY

CHOQUEQUIRAO TREK 5 DAYS

Why take the Choquequirao Trek 5 Days?

- ✓ Enjoy a peaceful and authentic Choquequirao Trek with far fewer crowds than the classic Inca Trail.
- ✓ Experience incredible variation in landscapes — from high snowy mountains to lush green valleys and cloud forests.
- ✓ Get off the beaten path and explore the mystical ruins of Choquequirao Peru, the “Cradle of Gold.”
- ✓ Immerse yourself in the fascinating history of the final days of the Inca Empire and their hidden refuge.
- ✓ Hike into the magnificent Apurímac Canyon, one of the deepest canyons in the Americas.
- ✓ Ideal for trekkers seeking an adventure full of nature, solitude, and ancient Andean spirituality.

Cusco To Chiquisca Camp

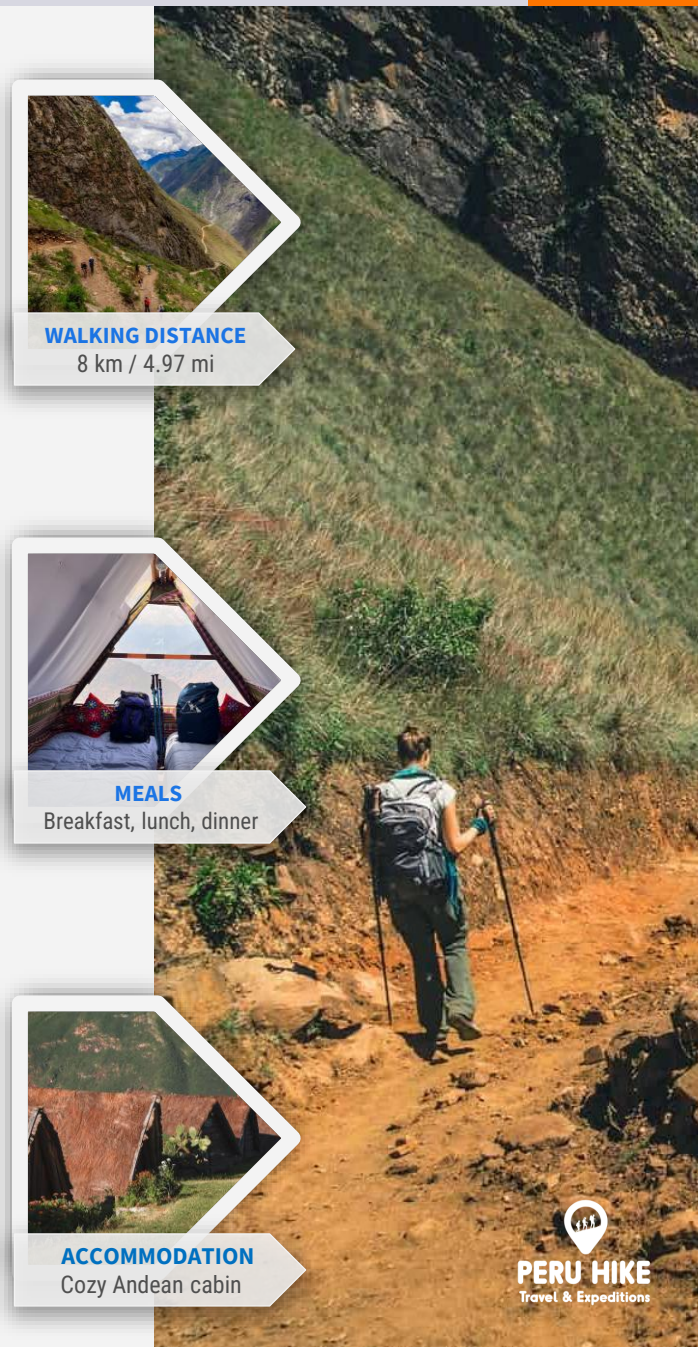
Our adventure begins before the sun even rises. At 4:30 am, our team will pick you up from your hotel in Cusco, and we'll set off in private transportation towards the small Andean town of Cachora. The journey is breathtaking right from the start — as dawn approaches, the first golden rays of sunlight illuminate the towering Salkantay and Humantay glaciers in the distance, painting the mountains in shades of gold and silver.

Upon arriving in Cachora, we'll stroll through its charming streets lined with adobe houses, colorful gardens, and locals dressed in traditional clothing. You'll enjoy a fresh, nutritious Andean breakfast, full of local flavors to give you the energy you'll need for the day ahead. After breakfast, we'll continue by road to Capuliyoc (2,890 m / 9,482 ft), where our muleteers and cooks — the heart of our support team — will be waiting for us. Here, we'll check all details, load our equipment, and begin our descent into the Apurímac Canyon.

The trail starts gently before plunging into a zigzagging descent that lasts around three hours. Along the way, the scenery is truly epic: sheer cliffs, deep valleys carved by the force of the Apurímac River, and, if we are lucky, the majestic silhouette of the Andean condor gliding effortlessly overhead. In the distance, the snowy peaks of Padreyoc and Qoriwayrachina stand like silent guardians of the canyon.

As we lose altitude, the temperature rises noticeably, and the air becomes scented with the aroma of tropical plants. You'll hear the murmur of streams, the rustling of leaves, and finally, the roar of the Apurímac River itself. We'll cross the Rosalina Bridge, a gateway between the high Andes and the warmer, greener lower valley, before reaching Chiquisca (1,900 m / 6,234 ft).

Tonight, instead of sleeping in a tent, you'll be welcomed into authentic Andean cabins — rustic yet comfortable, built with local materials, and equipped with cozy beds and warm blankets. The soft glow of the lamps and the gentle sounds of the valley create the perfect atmosphere for a peaceful night. After a hearty Andean dinner, you can step outside to admire a sky filled with stars before retreating to your cabin for a well-earned rest.



WALKING DISTANCE
8 km / 4.97 mi

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, dinner

ACCOMMODATION
Cozy Andean cabin

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Chiquisca To Marampata Camp

After waking up to the sound of birdsong and the soft light of dawn over the valley, you'll enjoy a breakfast prepared with fresh, local ingredients in the cozy dining area of your Andean cabin. Today's hike will be one of the most challenging but also one of the most rewarding of the entire trek.

We begin with a descent of just over an hour to Playa Rosalina (1,500 m / 4,921 ft), where the mighty Apurímac River flows between steep canyon walls. After crossing the pedestrian bridge, we'll face a steady and demanding ascent. Our path winds upwards through a landscape that changes with every step — from dry slopes dotted with cacti to lush, green patches filled with fruit trees.

We'll take a well-deserved break in Santa Rosa (1,970 m / 6,463 ft), where our cooks will serve a hot, delicious lunch that will restore your strength. Then, we continue the climb for about three hours until we reach Marampata (2,900 m / 9,514 ft), a high plateau with astonishing views of the Apurímac Canyon and the snow-capped peaks surrounding it.

Here, in this peaceful location, you'll settle into your comfortable Andean cabin for the night. From your doorstep, you can watch the sun set behind the mountains, bathing the landscape in warm orange and pink hues. As darkness falls, the sky transforms into a sparkling sea of stars, making this one of the most magical nights of the trek.

WALKING DISTANCE
11 km / 6.82 mi

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, dinner

ACCOMMODATION
Cozy Andean cabin

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Marampata Tour in Choquequirao - Marampata Camp

After a hearty breakfast, we'll set out for Choquequirao (3,050 m / 10,007 ft), one of the most remarkable archaeological sites in Peru and often called Machu Picchu's "sister city." Unlike Machu Picchu, Choquequirao remains largely untouched by mass tourism, which means you can explore its plazas, temples, agricultural terraces, and ceremonial areas in a peaceful and intimate atmosphere.

Our guide will share fascinating stories about its history, architecture, and the mysteries still hidden beneath the jungle-covered slopes. You'll see the famous white stone llamas carved into the terraces, perfectly aligned with the sacred Apu Qoriwayrachina mountain.

We'll enjoy a picnic lunch inside the site, surrounded by breathtaking views of the canyon and distant snow peaks. By late afternoon, we'll return to Marampata for a second night in your cozy Andean cabin, where you can relax and reflect on the incredible day you've just experienced.

WALKING DISTANCE
6 km / 3.73 mi

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, dinner

ACCOMMODATION
Cozy Andean cabin

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Marampata Chiquisca Camp

We begin the day with the smell of freshly brewed coffee and the soft mountain breeze drifting through the window of your Andean cabin. After a hearty breakfast, we take a moment to enjoy one last panoramic view from Marampata — the Apurímac Canyon stretches endlessly beneath us, the clouds slowly lifting to reveal the snow-capped peaks in the distance.

Our descent begins gently, but soon the path becomes steeper, winding down along ancient Inca trails lined with native shrubs and wildflowers. The higher you go, the cooler the air feels, but as we approach the canyon floor, the warmth of the lower altitude embraces us once again. Along the way, you might hear the cheerful call of birds or spot the vibrant flash of a hummingbird darting among the blossoms.

After two hours, we reach Santa Rosa, where our cooks greet us with the tempting aroma of a freshly prepared lunch. Under the shade of fruit trees, you'll savor traditional Andean dishes while the distant sound of the river reminds you how close we are to its refreshing waters.

Once rested, we continue descending to Playa Rosalina, where the Apurímac River flows in powerful swirls of blue and green. Many travelers choose to dip their hands or feet in its icy current — a small but invigorating ritual after days of trekking.

From here, our final climb of the day takes us back to Chiquisca (1,900 m / 6,234 ft). As you approach, the sight of the rustic wooden cabins nestled among fruit orchards instantly brings a sense of comfort. Inside, your Andean cabin awaits with fresh linens, warm blankets, and that cozy feeling only natural wood can provide.

Dinner is served family-style, with everyone sharing stories and laughter under the soft glow of lantern light. Outside, the valley rests in silence, except for the gentle rustle of leaves and the distant hum of the river — the perfect lullaby for a deep, restorative sleep.

WALKING DISTANCE
11 km / 6.82 mi

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, dinner

ACCOMMODATION
Cozy Andean cabin

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Chiquisca to your hotel in Cusco

Your last morning on the trail begins with the tranquil atmosphere of Chiquisca — the sun rises slowly over the canyon, painting the cliffs in shades of gold, while roosters crow in the distance. The aroma of freshly baked bread and herbal tea fills the dining area of your Andean cabin, inviting you to enjoy one final breakfast in this peaceful retreat.

We start our hike early to make the most of the cool morning air. The climb to Capuliyoc (2,890 m / 9,482 ft) is steady, and as we gain altitude, the view of the Apurímac Canyon becomes even more breathtaking. Each pause in the ascent offers a perfect excuse to take photos of the vast, rugged landscape — a reminder of the powerful forces that shaped this land.

Upon reaching Capuliyoc, we bid farewell to our muleteers and trekking staff, sharing heartfelt thanks for their care and companionship over the last days. Then, our private transport whisks us away to one of the most intriguing archaeological sites in the region: the Saywite Monolith. This massive carved rock, covered with over 200 geometric and animal figures, is believed to represent an Inca water cult and the cosmic vision of their world. Our guide will reveal the fascinating theories and mysteries surrounding this sacred site.

From Saywite, we continue to the Conoc Hot Springs, a true gift for tired legs. Here, you can immerse yourself in pools of naturally warm, mineral-rich water while gazing at the green hills that frame the valley. The soothing heat melts away any muscle tension, leaving you completely relaxed and content.

Lunch will be served nearby, featuring fresh, locally sourced ingredients — a final taste of the Andean flavors that have accompanied you throughout the journey. Afterward, we begin our drive back to Cusco. Along the way, the snow-capped peaks that have been your companions for the last five days seem to wave goodbye as the sun dips behind them.

By around 6:00 p.m., we arrive in Cusco and drop you off at the door of your hotel. You carry with you not just photographs, but the deep satisfaction of having walked through history, nature, and living culture — and the memory of cozy nights in authentic Andean cabins that made this trek uniquely comfortable.

WALKING DISTANCE
8 km / 4.97 mi

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, dinner

RETURN
Returned to cusco

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INCLUSIONS

INCLUDED / NOT INCLUDED

At Peru Hike company, we specify the included and non-included services under all the tour ineraries listed on our website. We take care of all the logiscs, but please pay aenon to the details to avoid missing anything. Some items may be different for specific programs, so please read carefully before booking with us.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

High Quality Service & Safety
- ✓ Pre-departure briefing
- ✓ Experienced Guide speaks English and Spanish
- ✓ A professional cook only for our group
- ✓ Motorola Talkabout Radio, for communication
- ✓ Medical Kit – First Aid Kit
- ✓ One duffle bag per person
- ✓ Customer Service 24/7
- ✓ Extra oxygen

Private Camping Equipment
- ✓ In our campsites, you'll find showers, bathrooms, and a green area where you can relax and enjoy the view

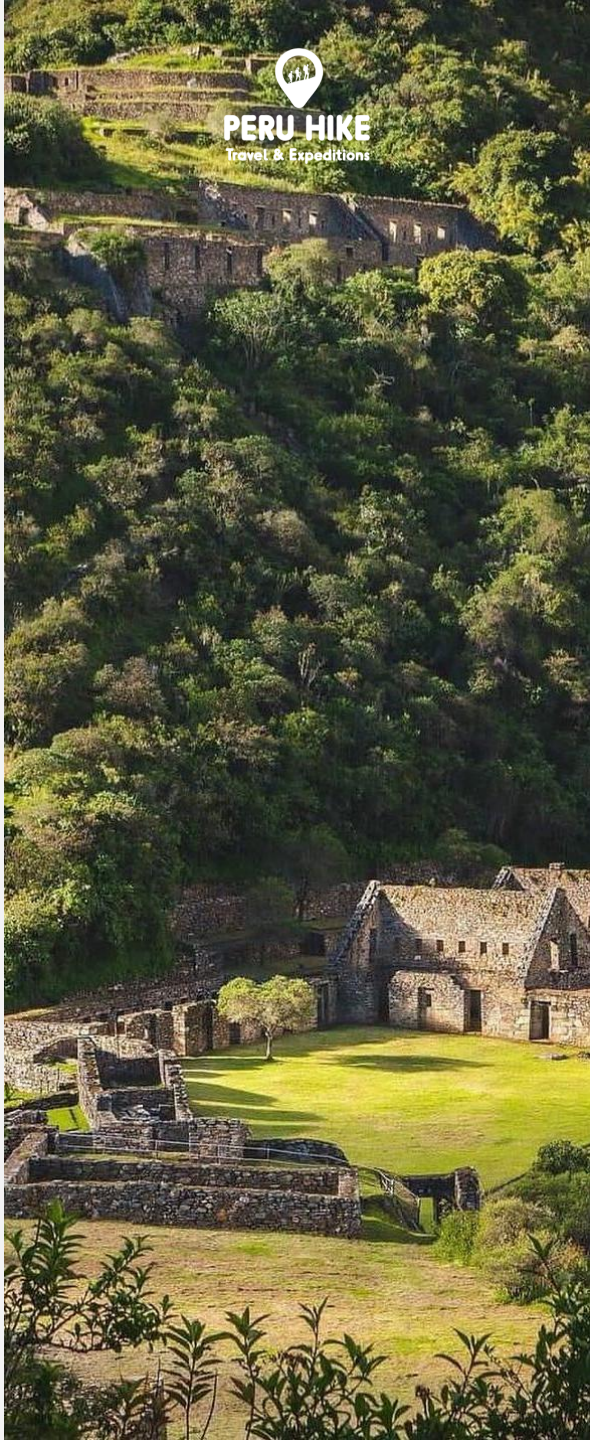
Permits & Entrance Tickets
- ✓ Entrance Ticket to Choquequirao Archaeological Site.

Transportation
- ✓ Private transportation from your hotel in Cusco to the start of the trek.
- ✓ Horses, and muleteers horses carry your 8-kg / 16-pound personal items.
- ✓ Private transportation from the end of the trek to Cusco to your hotel.

Meals
- ✓ Meals: 5 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, and 4 Dinners
- ✓ Meals: vegetarian and vegan
- ✓ Water to drink on the trail every day
- ✓ Wake up tea, every morning
- ✓ Tea Time or Happy Hour, every afternoon
- ✓ Snacks on the trail daily
- ✓ Products for hygiene

Accommodation
- ✓ Personal Accommodation in Private Campsites
- ✓ Shared cabin for 2 travelers, cozy and comfortable.
- ✓ Cozy Andean cabin featuring comfortable beds with soft, warm duvets, ensuring a restful and cozy night's sleep in the heart of the Andes.

Additional Inclusions
- ✓ Trekking Poles



WHICH IS NOT INCLUDED?

What Is Not Included?

- Travel Insurance
- Tips for our staff

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BEFORE YOU GO

Is it for me?

We want to make your trip to Peru as memorable and as carefree as possible. In this secon, you'll find the answers to all the quesons you have about traveling with Peru Hike Company in one place. Please read the following informaon carefully – it will help you with any quesons about our services.

How many days do I need to acclimate in Cusco before the Trek?

It’s very important to be well acclimated to the altude before exerng yourself on a trek. We recommend that you arrive in Cusco at least 2 or 3 days before the trek starts to help you adjust and avoid possible problems with altude sickness while on the trek. You might have already been in another area of Peru at a high altude before arriving in Cusco. In that case, we sll recommend you have a whole day in Cusco to rest, recover from your travel, and enjoy the sights and sounds of Cusco before deparng for the trek. Here some suggesons for acvies to do in the Cusco vicinity before starng your adventure trek:

City Tour and **Sacred Valley**

City Tour

Sacred Valley

Briefing or Informave Meeng

All informaon meengs and briefings are held in our main office in Cusco (or your hotel) at 6:00 pm, one night before the tour begins. These meengs last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. If you’re unable to aend, you must coordinate another me by email, by phone or at the Peru Hike Company office.

Trek Balance Payment (in Cusco)

The trek has to be paid for in full at most 6.30 pm one day before your departure (generally aer the briefing). It would be much appreciated if you pay the trek balance in cash US dollars or local currency at our office in Cusco.

You can withdraw some money from several ATMs along Avenida Sol (either in US dollars or local Peruvian Soles). You can pay by credit card or PAYPAL online, but you will have to pay an charge, charged by VISA and PAYPAL. We do not accept bank checks or payment of the balance by traveler’s checks.

Group tours

Group tours are made up of different types of people, then physical condions and ages can vary. By agreeing to be part of a group tour, you also accept that some people may be faster or slower than you. Therefore, each person can go at their own pace on the route. It may be the case that a group wishes to modify the tour; however, the guide will be the one who decides, aer consulng with all the parcipants, if such modificaons are possible.

Duffel Bag or Canvas Case

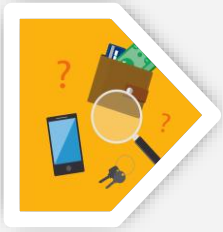
You'll receive a canvas case or duffel bag during your briefing. Our horses will carry them, and the horsemen will hand them to you when you get to each camp. They measure 60 x 24 x 22 cm (23.6 x 9.45 x 8.66 in). A maximum of 8 kg / 17 lb is allowed for each duffel bag, including the weight of your sleeping bag, sleeping mat, clothes, and other personal items.

Strikes and demonstraons

Strikes and demonstraons are usually common in Peru, and this may interrupt some of our tours. Roads can be blocked, and train tracks can be taken over. However, we will try to keep your trip as originally planned, even if it means leaving the night before the scheduled date. Under these circumstances, tours may also be canceled. In case of changes or cancellaons, everything will be coordinated with you by our operaons department. Your safety is our highest priority, and our decisions will be made to protect it.

Can I store my luggage at your office?

Of course! During the trip, your main luggage can be stored at our office (you can organize it with us on the briefing day or by email) or at your hotel, both free of charge. Any equipment that you won't need on the trek can be stored safely in your hotel. Nearly every hotel will provide this service. Don't leave items of value with your bags; put them in the hotel safe and obtain an itemized receipt (in the unlikely case of the, many insurance companies require that you have a copy of the receipt itemizing everything). It's best to put items such as credit cards inside a sealed, signed envelope for extra peace of mind.



Lost Objects

Please pay aenon to where you leave your things and remember to take everything once you leave our transport, tents, or restaurants. You're the only one responsible for your objects during the tour

Pick up of guests

Peru Hike Companycan pick you up from your hotel, as long as it's in the Historical Center of Cusco. Your guide will coordinate the pickup me in the briefing session, but please keep in mind that the me may vary between 30 and 45 minutes due to traffic. Cusco is an old city, meaning it has many narrow cobbled streets. Some hotels and Airbnbs may be located on streets without access to cars or on long, steep slopes, making it difficult to transport luggage. We strongly recommend that you book accommodaon with good access.

THANHS!

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

24 HRS. EMERGENCY
CALL: +51 917815987
[Opening hours – 7:30 am to 19:30 pm]

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Location:
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