

1-Day Hiking Cotopaxi



Enjoy an incredible full-day tour visiting the **highest active volcano in the Andes**. An impressive **snow-capped Cotopaxi volcano** in Ecuador. Incredible views of the volcano are in every time of our visit. A hundred plants can be known as the famous **Chukirawa**, the plant that cures altitude sickness. If you are lucky you will be able to see the **South American fox** roaming through the park's natural trails. Glimpse the famous **Andean Condor** pass elegantly over the heights.

Itinerary:

Departure from Quito city:

Average altitude: 2,800 msl / 9,000 feet

Average temperature: 8°C / 46°F

Our Certified Guide will pick you up from your location. Head out to the south-east of Quito. After one hour and a half, we get in the Cotopaxi National Park. After leaving the main road we can see llamas, animals that have lived in the Andes for millennia. We will carry out the respective registration for our entry to the park.

Heading to the Jose Rivas mountaineer refuge:

Average altitude: 4,800 msl / 15,748 feet

The walk will start from the parking lot to the shelter. We will go along a volcanic sand-path. It takes 45 minutes or depends on your fitness level. Enter the Cotopaxi National Park and visit the interpretation center. Upon reaching the shelter the fatigue would be great but the joy would be immense. We will rest for several minutes or perhaps we would like a hot chocolate to warm our body. If we bring our passport you can stamp it with the official seal of the Cotopaxi National Park.

**Hiking down and some birding around the Limpiopungo Lagoon:
Average altitude: 3,800 msl / 12,467 feet.**

Stroll along the lakeside boardwalk as part of the guided tour around this glacial lake at the foot of Cotopaxi. A stunning setting in which to admire the local landscape and nature.

The lagoon that is fed by another volcano, The Rumiñahui. And it will give you the opportunity to learn more about plants such as sigse, deer chub, sisan, Valeriana pilosa, Mosses, Lichens, among others. Which since ancient times have been used as natural medicine.

At lunch time, we will recommend a restaurant in the area so you can enjoy a hot soup that will go very well with the freezing climate of Cotopaxi. After our adventure, we returned to Quito.

The tour includes:

Guide/driver (English or Spanish-speaking)
Comfortable transportation
Activities according to the program

The tour does not include:

Travel insurance
Entrance fees
Lunch and tips

What to bring?

To enjoy the tour, it is important to bring warm clothing, hiking shoes, a hat, gloves, sunscreen, sun glasses and cash for your entrance fees for your personal expenses.