

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF CHAVIN

About this tour

Start: Huaraz
End: Huaraz
Duration: 10 hrs.

Overview

This all-day tour brings you to the Chavín Archeological Monument, which is one of the oldest sites in the Americas — construction began around 1500 BC. People came to this center to consult the oracle and to make offerings to the gods. The exterior walls are decorated with a series of zoomorphic (part animal) faces. Other highlights of the complex include the Tello Pyramid, the Circular Plaza, the Rectangular Plaza, the New Temple, and the Old Temple. In the village of Chavín de Huantar, just a few minutes from the complex, the museum exhibits archaeological artifacts found in the complex.

Our Itinerary

Join us for a visit to an off-the-beaten-path destination, Chavín de Huantar. With an early pick up from your hotel, we will begin driving south along the Callejon de Huaylas, in the northern Andes district of Ancash. We will observe breathtaking, panoramic mountain vistas along the route to Catac. Once at Catac, we will take a detour east and pass through the Cordillera Blanca, enjoying the serene reflective waters of Querococha Lake in passing. Traveling through the Kawish Tunnel, located at 4,550m. (14,927ft.), the view opens on the other side to the spectacular Callejon de Conchucos.

We'll pass through the colorful Andean villages of Tambillos and Machaq. After another hour of driving, we will arrive at the village of Chavín, where we will find the intriguing Temple of Chavín. This extremely ancient archaeological site was first inhabited as early as 3000 BCE! The pyramidal Temple of Chavín was a gathering place for worshippers from around the region. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1985, this ruin contains a recently uncovered labyrinth of underground tunnels and caves inside the mound overlooking the ceremonial plaza. We will be able to explore these dark and spooky passages during our trip.

The site holds fascinating ancient carvings and architecture, remnants of the long-dead Chavín civilization. At the village museum located on the outskirts of the area, get a glimpse into the lives of the people that lived here, as we observe grotesquely carved stone figurines, musical instruments, intricately carved stone columns and other relics of this ancient culture. After traversing the site and marveling at these ancient mysteries, we'll enjoy lunch and then return to the town of Huaraz.

Included:

- Transportation
- Professional bilingual guide
- Lunch
- Entrance tickets

Not included:

- Personal travel insurance

- Additional services
- Tips
- Extras

What to take:

- Wind / rain jacket
- Light cap
- Day Pack (preferably with rain cover)
- Reusable water bottle or vacuum bottle
- Sunglasses, sun block, lip balm
- Good walking shoes