

69 Lake - 2D1N

Overview

This unique experience offers a special way to visit Laguna 69 while admiring the majestic peaks of the Cordillera Blanca, including Huascarán, the highest tropical mountain in the world.

Laguna 69 is a breathtaking glacial lake of deep turquoise color, located at 4,605 m (15,108 ft), beneath the towering peaks of Chacraraju and Pisco. The final approach rewards you with an unforgettable panorama—crystal-clear waters surrounded by snow-capped mountains, rugged rock formations, and cascading waterfalls.

Without a doubt, this is one of the most spectacular day hikes in the Cordillera Blanca and among the finest in South America. The sheer beauty of this landscape is truly unforgettable and will stay with you long after the journey ends.

Highlights

Detailed itinerary:

Day 01: Drive to Llanganuco Valley and enjoy a scenic warm up hike

Start your day with a private transfer from Huaraz, passing through the charming town of Carhuaz, known for its rich Andean culture and traditional markets. Along the way, visit the historic Campo Santo of Yungay—a place of remembrance where more than 25,000 people lost their lives during the devastating 1970 earthquake. Today, it stands as a powerful symbol of memory, resilience, and reflection.

Continue into the stunning Llanganuco Valley, home to the famous Chinancocha and Orconcocha lakes, where vivid turquoise waters contrast beautifully with towering snow-capped peaks. Upon arrival, we settle into camp and enjoy a delicious lunch surrounded by the tranquility of nature and breathtaking scenery.

In the afternoon, we reach Portachuelo de Llanganuco (4,750m./15,583ft.), a spectacular viewpoint offering panoramic views of iconic peaks such as Huascarán, Huandoy, Pisco, Chacraraju, and Chopicalqui mountains.

The day concludes with a gentle two-hour hike along an ancient Inca trail, immersed in pristine Andean landscapes, diverse flora, and crisp mountain air.

(L / D)

Trekking distance: 2.3 km (1.4 mi) – Time: 2 hours

Bus ride: 102.7 km (63.8 mi) – Time: 4 hours

Day 02: Huishcash – 69 Lake – Cebollapampa – Huaraz

After breakfast, we take a short drive (just 20 minutes) to Kilometer 42 of the Yungay–Yanama road, the starting point of our trek.

We begin hiking along a narrow trail that follows the moraine of Yanapaccha Mountain, reaching a stunning viewpoint at 4,645m./ 15,239ft. beneath its towering slopes. This first section takes about an hour and offers spectacular views of peaks such as Chopicalqui, Huascarán, Huandoy, Pisco, Chacraraju, and Yanapaccha mountains. From here, we can also admire the turquoise waters of Chinancocha and Orconcocha in the Llanganuco Valley.

We then descend a steep section into the Demanda Valley, passing through a beautiful Polylepis (Quenual) forest with impressive panoramic views. Joining the main trail to Laguna 69, we continue across an open plain and pass a small seasonal lake, with uninterrupted views of the twin summits of the Huascaran Massif, the highest tropical mountain range in the world.

After passing a few old structures, we tackle the final switchbacks before arriving at the breathtaking Laguna 69, nestled beneath the towering peaks of Chacaraju and Pisco.

After a well-deserved rest, we descend to Cebollapampa (3,900m./ 12,795ft.) along the Demanda Valley, where our private transportation will be waiting to return us to Huaraz.

(B / L)

Trekking distance: 12.9 km (8 mi) – Time: 8-9 hours

Bus ride: 88.2 km (54.8 mi) – Time: 4 hours.

End of services

B- Breakfast / BL- Box Lunch / L- Lunch / D- Dinner

Included:

- Transportation
- Professional bilingual guide
- Double occupancy tents with Thermarest sleeping pads
- All meals during trek
- Non-alcoholic drinks
- Kitchen and dining tents
- Cook and field staff
- Horses and drivers
- Entrance tickets
- Solar energy lamps
- Eco toilets
- Adequate garbage disposal
- First aid kit and oxygen tank

Not included:

- Personal travel insurance
- Laundry service
- Airline tickets
- Sleeping bags (rent available)
- Personal gear
- Alcoholic beverages
- Additional services
- Tips
- Extras

What to take:

- Regular and long wicking first layer for cold weather, like polyester, nylon, or merino wool
- Short-sleeved shirts or t-shirts, breathable fabrics, like nylon and polyester
- Light-colored long-sleeved shirts or t-shirts

- QuickDry Pants, trekking pants, and shorts
- Insulated long-sleeve jacket (fleece, synthetic, down, merino wool)
- Liner gloves
- Light cap and beany
- Rain jacket (in the rainy season, bring rain pants)
- Breathable sports socks or hiking socks
- Warm socks for nights
- Multifunctional headwear (e.g. Buff)
- Waterproof and breathable hiking boots
- Comfortable and lightweight shoes for campsite
- Sleeping Bag (0°/32° to -15°/ 5°) (rent available)
- Day Pack (preferably with rain cover)
- Trekking Poles (available to rent)
- Waterproof duffle bag
- Sunglasses
- Headlamp
- Microfiber towel
- Sunblock, lip balm, and insect repellent
- Reusable water bottle or vacuum bottle
- Portable Power Bank (to charge lamps, etc)
- Personal First Aid Kit (recommended)

On each trip we carry a medical kit, but we suggest you bring a small personal First-Aid Kit for bruises and blisters. Knee and ankle braces are sometimes useful especially if you suffer from weak knees or ankles. Include any special medication your doctor might suggest for you.