



# Peru Cordillera Blanca Trekking

14 Days



*The Adventure Company* | EST. 1969

**MT + SOBEK**<sup>TM</sup>  
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**  
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

# Peru Cordillera Blanca Trekking

Experience the extraordinary beauty of Peru's Cordillera Blanca on this high-altitude trek for experienced hikers. Experience the highest tropical mountain range in the world, with 27 peaks over 19,000 feet, linked by isolated valleys. Hike through a glacial wilderness of translucent turquoise lakes, hidden waterfalls, and striking pinnacles, and keep an eye out for vicunas and soaring condors. Drink in vistas of sharply ridged peaks, including the remarkable "perfect" pyramid of Alpamayo. Challenging? Yes, but a fantastic, bucket-list triumph for those who choose to undertake it.

## Details

Arrive:	Huaraz, Peru
Depart:	Huaraz, Peru
Duration:	14 Days
Group Size:	5-15 Guests
Minimum Age:	17 Years Old
Activity Level:	5

## Testimonials

*"The Cordillera Blanca is an epic trip of a lifetime. Beyond the personal physical challenge, it exposes one to an other worldly, almost magical realm where mountain peaks float at the top of the sky, condors are seen roaming and soaring up high, the local people are cast in a timeless tradition of living, and all of nature seems to be thriving far from the reaches of what we call civilization."*

Dave S.

*"Mt. Sobek runs a well oiled machine that does cater to the individual while being mindful of the group. I did the Cordillera Blanca trek. This is a 60 mile trek with significant climbs and descents with amazing vistas from the high passes, camp sites, villages and along the trek. Train for this but do it. One of the*

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1-800-974-0300

[info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)

## Why Take This Trip With Us?

### REASON #01

MT Sobek has been designing pioneering trekking adventures in the Andes since 1969. We scouted the Cordillera Blanca in 1988.

### REASON #02

This Ultimate Challenge adventure has been carefully designed to test your mettle in one of South America's most breathtaking mountain ranges.

### REASON #03

We work with expert local guiding teams who have over 40 years' experience leading groups through the Cordillera Blanca.

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## What to Expect



### ACTIVITIES

Hardcore, high-elevation hiking that rewards you with seldom-seen views of staggering mountain peaks.



### LODGING

Comfortable camps with three-person tents and sleeping pads, bookended by stays in the comfortable Andino Club Hotel.



### CLIMATE

The Cordillera Blanca Mountains are cold in the mornings and evenings, often below 30F. Around noon temperatures reach 70F at 13,123 feet.

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## Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Ian is a British-Peruvian guide and an outdoor enthusiast with many interests, including photography, archaeology, and trekking in the Andes. His spirit, enthusiasm, and knowledge make Ian an ideal guide for exploring the enchanting and ancient wonders of Peru. He will enrich your experience in one of the world's most interesting countries! Ian also speaks fluent English and Spanish.

### Ian Lewis

Manolo is one of Peru's most skilled adventure travel guides, with more than 30 years of experience leading treks and whitewater rafting trips. A resident of Cusco, Manolo is well versed in the rich history of the Andes and the classic trekking routes that trace the footsteps of the Inca trade paths. His knowledge of the region, people, and traditions immensely enrich the travel experience. He is fluent in English as well as Spanish, and conversant in Quechua—the historic language of the Incas—and he has a gift for instilling confidence in every trekker.

### Manolo Lazo

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# Itinerary

## DAY 1

### ARRIVE IN HUARAZ

Arrive at Huaraz-Anta airport and meet your MT Sobek guide for a private van transfer to the hotel in Huaraz. Rooms have been booked from the night before so you are able to check in immediately on arrival this morning and have a restful day to begin acclimating to the altitude (10,000'). This evening, meet up for a welcome dinner.

There is currently one daily flight that departs Lima at 7:00 am and arrives Huaraz at 8:10 am (subject to change). We recommend arriving Lima the previous day and overnighting at the convenient Wyndham Costa del Sol Airport Hotel before taking the morning flight to Huaraz. You are also welcome to book the flight from Lima to Huaraz for a day or more early, to allow more days to acclimate or explore on your own.

**Accommodation:** Andino Club Hotel, Huaraz

**Meals:** D

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## DAY 2

### DISCOVER THE ANCIENT CENTER OF CHAVIN DE HUANTAR

Continue your acclimatization with a day trip from Huaraz to the monumental site of Chavin de Huantar, one of the oldest archaeological sites you can visit in Peru - first inhabited as early as 1500 BC! Nestled at 10,500 feet, between the eastern and western ranges of the Andes, this complex of temples, terraces, and underground mazes belonged to the Chavin culture, who pre-dated the Inca by over 2,000 years. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1985, Chavin was a gathering place for worshipers from around the region. Admire the pyramidal temple and buildings of the ceremonial center, with outstanding examples of zoomorphic stone carvings. Step inside recently uncovered passages of underground tunnels, and visit the small on-site museum that houses artifacts found at the site including carved stone figurines and musical instruments.

**Accommodation:** Andino Club Hotel, Huaraz

**Activity:** 3-hour guided visit to archaeological site

**Meals:** B, L

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## DAY 3

### HIKE TO ARARCOCHA & HUILCACOCHA LAKES

Take in the breathtaking scenery of the Cordillera Blanca as you travel into the mountains by bus, then hike to two pristine Andean glacial lakes. This is a great acclimatization hike to help you adjust to the thinner air and prepare you for more challenging future hikes. From Rumichuco Bridge, ascend toward Ararcocha (12,116') and Huilcacocha (12,221') Lakes, boasting some of the best panorama views of the Cordillera Blanca range, including the highest peak in the Cordillera Blanca — Mount Huascarán - whose glacier-topped pinnacle sits at 22,204 feet! After a hearty lakeside lunch, meet your bus for the drive back to Huaraz.

**Accommodation:** Andino Club Hotel, Huaraz

**Activity:** 4 hours/3.5 miles hiking with 2746' elevation gain & 121' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 4

### JOURNEY TO HUASCARAN NATIONAL PARK

Check out of the hotel in Huaraz and depart by private vehicle, stopping in the charming town of Carhuaz for a visit to the local market. Visit Campo Santo, site of the single worst natural disaster in the Andes. Today, it's a peaceful cemetery, with spectacular views of Huascarán, flower-filled gardens, and monuments honoring the dead. Enter Huascarán National Park, stop for a box lunch, then cross a pass of about 15,580' with a stunning panorama of the northern Cordillera Blanca. Here you'll leave the Pacific side of the range and begin a descent on the Amazon side. From the trailhead, hike downhill to camp at Vaqueria (12,136') — a short and easy warm-up for the next nine days.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 1-1.5 hours/1.8 miles hiking with 1,627' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 5

### HIKE TO TUCTU PAMPA

Begin your trek in earnest with an all-day hike down Quebrada Vaqueria (10,824'), passing near Colcabamba, then up the Tuctu Valley, passing small settlements and farmland. Camp at Tuctu Pampa (13,451'), with views of Taulliraju and Rinrijirca looming at the head of the valley and the massive wall of Chacaraju's east peak — all over 19,000 feet.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 6-7 hours/9.5 miles hiking with 2,627' elevation gain and 1,247' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 6

### HIKE TO LAGUNA HUECROCOCHA

Continue up the Huaripampa Valley on pre-Inca trails, with views of Contrahierbas behind you. Cross Pucaraju Pass (15,252'). If it's clear, take in beautiful views of Piramide, Paron, Chacaraju, and Huascarán. Continue on to Laguna Huecrococha, a lake situated at about 13,000', then camp slightly below the lake, in the Tuctupampa Valley at 12,588'.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 7 hours/6 miles hiking with 1,788' elevation gain & 2,785' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 7

### HIKE TO THE JANCAPAMPA VALLEY

Hike up to the village of Tingopampa, crossing the Tupatupa, a grassy pass at 14,274', and camp at Jancapampa (11,640'), one of the most beautiful valleys on the trek, situated below the Pucajirca massif. In the afternoon and evening, we'll likely enjoy the company of curious children of Tingopampa in camp who might come to visit before getting a good night's sleep in our lowest-altitude camp.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 7–8 hours/7.5 miles hiking with 1,916' elevation gain & 2,805' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 8

### CLIMB TO HUILCA

From Jancapampa, climb with ever-changing views of the immense glaciers of the east face of Pucajirca (19,844'). Continue climbing steeply through woods, across grassy meadows, and over glacially polished cliffs while enjoying an array of spectacular wildflowers. Make a steep ascent to the narrow Yanajanca pass (15,134'), then head downhill on the Pacific side toward the small settlement of Huilca. Camp just below the pass at 13,123' with spectacular views of Pucajirca.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 8–9 hours/7.2 miles hiking with 3,786' elevation gain & 2,273' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 9

### HIKE TO MOYOBAMBA

Continue up Quebrada Tayapampa with beautiful views of the northeast face of Alpamayo (19,455') and the three peaks of Pucajirca in the distance. Ascend over a grassy pass at 14,553', crossing a ridge, and camp at Moyobamba at 14,783'.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 5–6 hours/5 miles hiking with 2,053' elevation gain and 397' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 10

### ENJOY VIEWS OF ALPAMAYO

Hike over Caracara Pass (15,800'), enjoying fantastic views of Alpamayo's cirque, the Santa Cruz Mountains, and the Cordillera Blanca stretching southwards. After lunch, those who wish can hike up to the moraine — about two hours roundtrip, over scree — and enjoy stunning views of Alpamayo's famed classic pyramid shape and the turquoise green lake below the peak. Camp at 13,599' and take in dazzling views of Alpamayo as the sun sets and rises.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 6 hours/4.7 miles hiking with 1,552' elevation gain and 2,297' elevation loss; optional side trip 2 hours/1.6 miles hiking with 508' elevation gain & loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 11

### HIKE TO OUR HIGHEST CAMPSITE

Begin a long ascent with about 50 vueltas (switchbacks) to arrive at Jatun Viento Pass (15,623'). Descend to camp at 14,947', our highest campsite, and a well-deserved rest.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 6-7 hours/6.1 miles hiking with 2,740' elevation gain and 1,627' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 12

### REACH HUISCHCASH

Hike 1.5 hours to your last and highest pass, Toro Pishtanan (15,977'). Descend to Cullicocha Lake, one of the most beautiful lakes in this area of the Andes, with its blue-green waters and view of the three peaks of the Santa Cruz Mountains in the background. Enjoy views of the Cordillera Negra, the snowless mountain range running parallel with the Cordillera Blanca to the west. Continue to Huischcash (13,100') and camp near a modern aqueduct that has replaced an old Inca one.

**Accommodation:** MT Sobek Camp

**Activity:** 7 hours/6 miles hiking with 1,549' elevation gain and 3,347' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 13

### DOWNHILL TO HUALACAYAN & BACK TO HUARAZ

Continue downhill to the ruins of Hualacayan and meet your van for the ride back to Huaraz. As you leave the mountains behind, see farmers working small plots of land overlooking the Huaylas Valley and the Cordillera Negra. After checking into the hotel in Huaraz, meet your group for a final farewell dinner in Huaraz.

**Accommodation:** Andino Club Hotel, Huaraz

**Activity:** 3 hours/3.8 miles hiking with 286' elevation gain and 3,061' elevation loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 14

### DEPART HUARAZ

Take an early morning group transfer back to Huaraz-Anta airport and begin your journey home.

**Meals:** B

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## Dates

Jun 15 - 28, 2025

Jul 20 - Aug 2, 2025

Aug 3 - 16, 2025

For full terms and conditions please visit [www.mtsobek.com/terms](http://www.mtsobek.com/terms). Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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## Inclusions & Exclusions

### PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities for hotels, restaurants, and drivers
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

### PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and camp staff
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses

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## ➤ **The World of MT Sobek**

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are *the* adventure company.

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### **Awards**



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