

# COTOPAXI NATIONAL PARK 1 day trip

Dear visitor,

The trip to Cotopaxi National Park organized by our Spanish school is operated by the travel agency "Luis Tipan Travel Cia. Ltda." It's been based in Quito since 2001 and is insured in case of accidents.

#### **ITINERARY**

We will leave Quito at 7:10 from the Cristóbol Colón school. We'll travel south along the Avenue of the Volcanos (Av. de los Volcanes), admiring the beautiful Andes landscape around us. After an hour and a half, we will arrive at The Cotopaxo National Park with its majestic Cotopaxi Volcano, one of the highest active volcanoes in the world at 5,897 meters above sea level. It's considered the most beautiful volcano in the world and is also a national ecological sanctuary.

With our private transportation, we will arrive at 4,500 meters above sea level where we will start our steep ascent lasting between 45 and 55 minutes until we reach the Refuge of José Rivas at 4,800 meters above sea level.

The next section of the path is covered in gravel. Sometimes it is covered in snow, but it is always an easy walk. Once in the Refuge we will be able to rest, eat our box lunch, and enjoy the majesty of the Volcano.

Once we reassemble and with renewed energy, we will prepare to hike further until we reach the perpetual snow of Cotopaxi Volcano where we will have another spectacular view of the mountains and the beautiful natural landscape it offers. Simply amazing!

Soon after, we will return to the Refuge a little tired and so we will rest and then return to the parking lot where our vehicle will pick us up and take us to the park's main valley at about 3,800 meters above sea level. Here we'll see the Lake of Limpiopungo formed from the volcano's snowmelt.

Finally, you'll have the option to visit the "Museo Natural del Cotopaxo" (Cotopaxo Nature Museum) 15 minutes from the Lake. Here they have examples of the local plants and animals of the region and descriptions of past eruptions of the Volcano.

We will leave for Quito at 6:00 PM.



Thanks for visiting our geographical and natural riches! Enjoy your weekend.

### **INCLUDED**

- Private Transportation
- Bilingual naturalist guide
- Box Lunch
- Drinking water
- First aid kit

## NOT INCLUDED:

- Alcholic beverages

### TO TAKE

- Sunblock
- Sunglasses
- Hat (any kind)
- Water bottle
- Warm gloves
- Cotton socks
- Long pants
- Boots/shoes for walking
- Waterproof coat
- Warm sweater
- Waterproof small bag
- Camera
- Copy of your passport

