

MORE INFORMATION

WEATHER

Cajamarca has an equatorial climate so it is mild, dry and sunny, which creates very fertile soil.

Maximum temperature: **22.1° C / 71.78° F**

Minimum temperature **3.1° C / 37.58° F**

While the altitude is not an issue to worry about, you may need to consider acclimating yourself. Take it easy during the first few hours, eat light food and drink mate de coca (coca leaf tea) to keep yourself from suffering the effects of altitude sickness.

HOW TO GET THERE?

BY CRUISE

Cajamarca is served by the Armando Revored Iglesias Airport

BY LAND

From Lima: 859 km/13 hours

From Trujillo: 294km/6 hours

From Chiclayo: 258km/5 hours

BY AIR

From Lima: 1 hour

SUGGESTED FOR

For people interested in History and Archaeology buffs, who will love the visit to the Ventanillas de Otuzco, as well as the mysterious Cumbemayo canals and the Ramson Room.

Agrotourism enthusiasts, who will find farms in the communities of Sulluscocha and Chagmapampa, where the people welcome visitors to stay in homes that have been adequately prepared for such purposes

Religious enthusiasts, who need to tour the Cathedral and the Bethlehem church.

Bird watchers, who must make their way to the Sangal Canyon (just 9 miles from the city), where they can catch glimpses of goldfinches, trushes, sparrows, eagles and especially the endangered hummingbird species called the Grey-bellied Comet).

Trekkers and hikers, who have plenty of routes to choose from among the ancient paths built by the Incas. We recommend taking the one connecting the towns of Jesus and Llacanora.

Nature lovers, who should definitely go to Porcon farm and check out the vicuñas and deer living in the midst of a pine forest haven.

PLACES TO VISIT

IN CAJAMARCA

The Cathedral or Church of Saint

Catherine: It is one of the finest examples of Peruvian Baroque architecture with a façade that harmoniously combines finely carved columns, cornices and niches.

Church of Saint Francis of Assisi: Besides the church, you can visit the convent, the Museum of Religious Art and the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Sorrows, who is the patron saint of the City

La Recoleta Complex: The church and convent were built during the second half of the 17th century, and the church's façade is modeled after a Plateresque Neoclassic retablo (shrine-like tabernacle with different levels), possessing elegant bell towers.

Saint Apolonia Natural Lookout: Located at the highest spot above the city, it is a vantage point for appreciating the beauty of Cajamarca Valley. In its surroundings, you can see pre-Hispanic vestiges, like the so called Silla del Inca (Throne of the Inca), a finely carved block of stone in the shape of a royal seat.

The Ransom Room:

The only evidence of Incan Architecture in the city, it is a stone building with slightly slanted walls that confer upon it the characteristic trapezoidal shape of Incan structures.

EXCURSIONS

IN CAJAMARCA

Tres Molinos Farm: Near the Ventanillas de Otuzco, this area is known for the breeding of excellent cattle and Peruvian paso horses. It is likewise famous for its mil, cheeses, and other dairy products. There is also a hydrangea garden showcasing these beautiful and gigantic flowers.

Ventanillas de Otuzco: An eye-catching burial site formed by square or rectangular niches carved directly into the rock face of a volcanic hill. Research indicates the possibility of their relationship to the Caxamarca Culture, which held sway over the region from 300 to 800 A.D.

Cumbemayo Archaeological Complex: It is surrounded by a stone forest, whose natural statues taen on the appearance of praying friars. At the complex itself, you can see an aqueduct (1000 BC), and outstanding work of hydraulic engineering, the so-called Sanctuary, a cliff in the shape of a gigantic human head, and The Caves, where there are carvings and petro glyphs.

Baños del Inca: Hot springs with temperatures higher than 72 C (158 F); they also possess therapeutic minerals that are reported to help with bone and nervous system conditions.

Porcon Farm: It is a site where you can engage in agro-tourism, be surrounded by pristine nature, and have cultural exchanges. There are also hiking trails that wind through dense pine forest, where deer and vicuñas run wild.

Celendin:

It is essentially a farming town, famous for its artisans who are experts in making straw hats.

Kuntur Wasi Ceremonial Center:

One of the most interesting pre-Incan sites in northern Peru. It was constructed in the form of enormous terraces with stone stairways running along the sides, enabling one to access the next level.

Carnival In Febuary: A colorful display of dance, costumes and mask. The festivities include throwing buckets of water and handfuls of baby powder on each others faces, so you could end up the day soaked and coated in white.

WHAT TO BUY?

When it comes to **handicrafts** in Cajamarca, local artisans work in many different styles, like traditional backstrap weaving or callua (in Porcon and San Miguel), which is issued to make **blankets, ponchos, shawls, bags, sashes and saddle bags**, of the famous hat making from Celendin and Bambamarca, the cotton fabrics made in Chota, stone carving in Huambocancha, and **ceramic** making in Mollepata, Shundal and Cruz Blanca.

WHAT TO EAT?

The best cattle in the country graze on the emerald fields of Cajamarca, reason why the best **cheeses** are also found here, which form the base of fabulous foods like the **humita de queso** (corn roll stuffed with cheese) and the tangy **green soup** or chowder. Restaurants in the city offer a fine choice of grilled meats and sausages and, to a lesser degree, international cuisine and seafood (trout is abundant).

