



Legendary PERU

CAJAMARCA

The city of Cajamarca is located at the north of the Peruvian Andes. It has natural landscapes with a particular beauty, a magnificent colonial architecture and a rich history, besides being one of the most prosperous cattle raising regions of Peru

CITY TOUR

Visit the **Cathedral**, inaugurated in 1776. The Cathedral's facade was sculpted in volcanic rock and the high altar is totally covered by *pan de oro* (gold leaf). Opposite the Cathedral is the **San Francisco Church**, a baroque style with notable paintings of the Cajamarca School. Then, visit the **Ransom Room** (Inca construction) and the **Belén Complex**, a building entirely built on carved stone. The visit ends with the **Santa Apolonia Hill** or **Inca's chair**, reached by climbing a stairway. From this place, you can see an excellent panoramic view of the city and the valley.

OTUZCO NECROPOLIS

Pre-Inca cities and villages in Cajamarca were built on the top of rocky mountain and in defensive positions; often built in the highest and most hidden parts of the dry and high areas of the Andes.

The variety of types of tombs is considerable and can be classified in two groups: tombs built on top of the floor or "small windows," and underground tombs.

At 7.5km from the city are the **Ventanillas de Otuzco** niches with circular or rectangular openings, carved on the stony walls in overlapped horizontal lines. Most of these tombs are simple and cannot have lodged more than one corpse. Others are multiple niches.

CUMBEMAYO RUINS

The **archaeological complex of Cumbemayo** is located at 23km southeast of Cajamarca. It is an impressive group of buildings that come from the Chavín era. In this place, there are four sections or monumental groups: an aqueduct, a sanctuary, many petroglyphs, and the Ventanillas Cemetery. The aqueduct, a hydraulic engineering construction is opened in "*traquita*" rock, and it has a length of more than 1km. The sanctuary is a great monolith carved as done in Qenqo in Cusco. The solid rock has been cut in perfect right angles leaving some open spaces for steps, seats and altars. The petroglyphs are more or less preserved allowing seeing at first sight figures representing birds, holy animals and other symbols of an unknown writing. The *ventanillas*, are tombs cut in solid rock at a certain level above the aqueduct.

KUNTURWASI RUINS

The **Kunturwasi** ruins are located 4 hours away from Cajamarca. After travelling a short distance of the paved highway take a detour that gets to the locality of San Pablo (2365 masl). These important ruins are spread out on the hill "La Collpa", 2km southwest of this town the name Kunturwasi, considering the statues found, is related to the condor so it is thought the place was dedicated to worshipping this god. The hypothesis is reinforced by a nearby great rocky abyss, where there are a number of condor nests. In the mountain's summit, lays a 12-meter-high temple built on three overlapped platforms. The upper platform lodges the currently deteriorated sacred site.



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In this place, one can observe half-way submerged elongated statues buried in the land and earthen-ware engraved in bas-relief representing the heads of important gods, among them the condor. It is a tough excursion due to its duration and because of the harshness in climbing up the mountain.