

# 3-VOLCANO CHALLENGE

GUATEMALA

Exploring the Remote Corners of the World



EMBARK  
EXPLORATION CO.



# GUATEMALA ITINERARY

## 3 - VOLCANO CHALLENGE



## TRIP OVERVIEW

This intrepid discovery of Guatemala includes three impressive volcano ascents- an impressive feat that will leave you feeling accomplished. An undoubted highlight is sleeping on the side of 13,000ft Acatenango Volcano as the lava erupts from Fuego Volcano right before you. We also visit the impressive caldera lake of Atitlan and tackle a summit of the impressive Atitlan Volcano. And our tour up Pacaya Volcano includes the highlight of a delicious pizza grilled directly on the hot rocks of the volcano.

This is a daytrekking journey, across a wide variety of climates, including higher altitudes, and challenging days, with well-earned hotel rests each night. We have curated the best guiding staff with over 20 years experience and one-of-a kind insights into the country and culture of remarkable Guatemala. No technical skills are needed on the volcanoes.



# SCHEDULE

Guatemala | 7-days





# DAY 1

## Arrive Antigua

8 November 2025



Private airport transfer to Antigua, the tranquil and historic capital of Guatemalan tourism. Take time to explore this quaint World Heritage Site nestled in a mile-high equatorial mountain basin. Tonight is a group briefing with your guides.



# DAY 2

## Pacaya Volcano

9 November 2025



**Elevation:** 6,100ft to 7,100ft

**Total Gain:** 1,000ft

**Total Loss:** 1,000ft

**Distance:** 3.75 mi

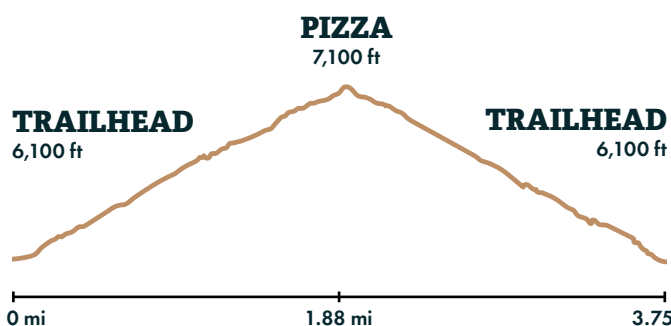
**Meals:** B, L



Today our adventure begins! We will hike one of the most active volcanoes in Guatemala, in search of stones heated by mountain lava where we will bake one of the best pizzas you've ever had! We start in the morning, driving an hour outside of Antigua and past the small mountainside villages that pepper the foothills of Pacaya. Once we get to the trailhead make sure your boots are laced properly and you're not over-dressed as this hike starts out with a steep incline. The good news is that this initial push is short-lived as the trail evens out after only about a half mile.

The rest of the hike is more of a gradual ramble; though we will be at almost 8,000ft in elevation at our high point, making this an excellent way to start our 3-Volcanoe Challenge. We restore lost calories with a truly memorable experience: eating pizza roasted in the lava rocks of Volcan Pacaya. We return back to Antigua in time for some dinner and restful sleep before our endeavors tomorrow.

**Trekking distance: 3.75 mi**



# DAY 3

## Overnight on Acatenango Volcano

10 November 2025



**Elevation:** 8,400ft to 11,700ft

**Total Gain:** 3,200ft

**Total Loss:** 0ft

**Distance:** 4 mi

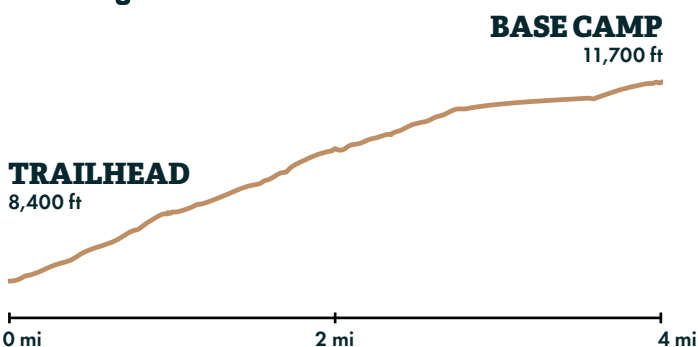
**Meals:** B, L, D



Immerse yourself in the mountains today, with a private transfer to Acatenango volcano. Today is a challenging hike through four distinct microclimates, sharing trails with local farmers as you pass their fields, emerging in an old-growth tropical cloud forest. Ultimately, we ascend to our campsite with sweeping views of Antigua and the justly named Fuego volcano, freely spitting fire and erupting often. Rest or explore the slopes of Acatenango until sunset.

After dark, the show really begins, with spectacular lava flows cascading down Fuego volcano; sights and sounds so rare you will not soon forget this unique experience. Your impression of Mother Nature and her immense power will be a lasting one!

**Trekking distance: 4 mi**



# DAY 4 Summit Acatenango Volcano

11 November 2025



**Elevation:** 11,700 to 13,045ft to 8,400ft

**Total Gain:** 1,200ft

**Total Loss:** 4,500ft

**Distance:** 4.5 mi

**Meals:** B, L



After breakfast, we undertake the short but steep climb to the chilly summit of Acatenango. Our summit attempt won't be an easy one, scrambling up a trail of gravel scree at high elevation. But the effort is worth it as we emerge at the top of Acatenango to views that stretch all the way to Mexico. We will descend down the entire volcano, reveling in the beautiful morning mountain views of Agua and Fuego volcanoes.

Upon completing our descent we will transfer around the base of the mountain to a private Macadamia estate for a gourmet farm to table lunch in the tranquil surroundings at the base of active Fuego volcano. Then it's back to the city, where we can celebrate conquering our second volcano!

# DAY 5

## Transfer to Lake Atitlan - Boat to Hotel

12 November 2025



**Meals:** B



Take in the landscape on the way from lush Antigua to astounding Lake Atitlan. This ancient massive caldera lake is a sight to behold. The views as we wind our way from the crest of the caldera to the lakeshore will be among the most unique you've ever encountered. It gets even better with a boat ride across the water, over which multiple mountains loom.

This magical lake is peppered with indigenous villages and the locals are intensely connected to the land that their ancestors have inhabited for thousands of years. Indeed, the pull of the lake can often be felt by more than the locals. Tonight we overnight in a beautiful lakeside hotel with captivating sunset views.

## Trekking distance: 4.5 mi

### ACATENANGO SUMMIT

13,045 ft

### BASE CAMP

11,700 ft

### TRAILHEAD

8,400 ft

0 mi 2.25 mi 4.5 mi



# DAY 6

## Sunrise Hike of Atitlan Volcano

13 November 2025



**Elevation:** 6,000ft to 11,600ft

**Total Gain:** 5,600ft

**Total Loss:** 5,600ft

**Distance:** 8 mi

**Meals:** B, L

# DAY 7

## Departure

14 November 2025



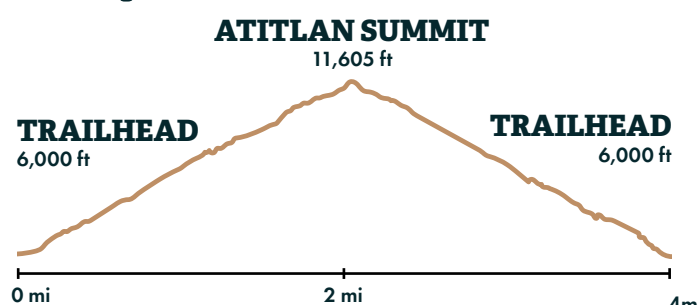
**Meals:** B

Morning transfer to Antigua from Lake Atitlan.



Today is our final, and most difficult volcano challenge. We leave before sunrise for an early morning transfer to the village of Santiago where we meet up with our local guides and hit the trail. With over 5,000 feet to ascend we've got our work cut out for us. We ascend with the sun revealing ever more impressive lake views as we make our way up this active stratovolcano. Atitlan, along with the other volcanoes we have climbed, is part of the Central American Volcanic Arc. The trail takes us up a fairly direct ascent of the mountain, without many switchbacks. After an arduous morning and a steep final ascent scrambling up rock and scree, we reach the summit of Atitlan Volcano. Views of the volcanic arc unfold before us, as well as the picturesque lake below. We will enjoy a well-earned mountaintop lunch and celebrate our big accomplishment. Our descent can be steep at times so it will take some time to return back to the trailhead. We will be back at our hotel in the late afternoon, in time to embrace one last mystical sunset on Lake Atitlan before a much-needed night of rest and recuperation.

### Trekking distance: 4mi



## ADDITIONAL ESTIMATED COSTS TO PARTICIPANTS

\*Single Supplement Hotels: \$450

**Airfare:** \$600-\$800 per person

**Supplemental medical insurance:** \$200-\$700 per person (varies widely based on what you want to insure, base cost of just medical insurance is less than insuring the cost of your trip)

**Tips for support staff:** \$200 per person.

**Gear:** \$500 (will vary based on personal needs and what you already have)

*This pricing is based on double occupancy in hotels and tents. Extra nights in a hotel are approximately \$125 depending upon room type, availability and double-occupancy.*

## INCLUDED

- ✓ Airport transfers as per the program by private vehicle
- ✓ All domestic transfers by private vehicle
- ✓ Boat ride on Lake Atitlan
- ✓ All park fees
- ✓ All meals and accommodations indicated in the itinerary
- ✓ Accommodation, meals, insurance, equipment, transportation and allowances of guides and porters
- ✓ All applicable government taxes

## NOT INCLUDED

- ✗ Any meals not indicated in the itinerary International flight
- ✗ Bottled drinks (mineral water, any cold drinks, and alcoholic drinks).
- ✗ Supplemental insurance coverage
- ✗ Expenses of personal nature (tips for guide, porter and driver, laundry, bar bill, telephone calls etc.)
- ✗ Liability for expenses against sickness, flight cancellation, road blockage, accidents and other occurrence beyond our control
- ✗ Any other expenses not mentioned above

*Disclaimer: Hiking times are approximations only and will differ based on individual fitness levels. The outlined itinerary is a guide that the Embark Exploration Co. will adhere to. The final itinerary may differ in the order that you visit areas and the places where you stay overnight. We reserve the right to make changes based on weather, road and/or operating conditions imposed by owners of accommodation facilities, etc.*





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## CONTACT

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