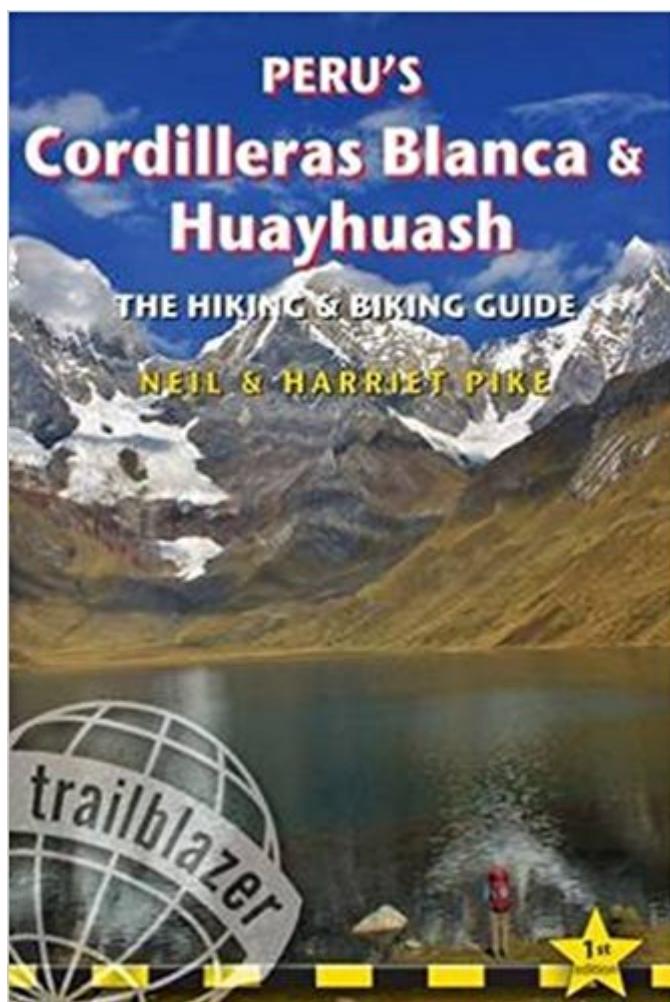


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# Peru's Cordilleras Blanca & Huayhuash: The Hiking & Biking Guide (Trailblazer)



## Synopsis

Andean adventure paradiseAs mountain adventure destinations, the Cordilleras Blanca and Huayhuash in central Peru are unrivalled in South America. These ranges boast some of the most spectacular scenery in the Andes, and some of the most accessible high altitude trekking and cycling in the world. Perfect pyramidal peaks, gargantuan ice falls and turquoise alpine lakes are all easily reached from Huaraz, the region's capital and centre of tourist comforts.Trekking  
- 20 hiking trailsIncludes the classic treks: Huayhuash Circuit, Santa Cruz and Alpamayo Basecamp, as well as lesser known, wild walks in valleys which see few visitors. Ranging from easy day hikes to challenging routes of 10 days or more, all can be trekked independently or in guided groups. Cycling - 30 days of paved and dirt road routesIncludes a loop of Peru's highest mountain - the Huascarán Circuit - as well as four other multi-day rides and five day-cycles from Huaraz. Covers all the information cyclists need to pedal past glaciers on 6000m peaks or fly down 2500m descents from high passes.Mountain biking - off road routes Includes two detailed downhill routes and information on organising guides to lead you through the labyrinth of exciting singletrack to be found in the area.Practical information - planning your trip and getting to PeruCity and town guides and maps - Lima, Huaraz, Caraz, Carhuaz, Chavín, Chiquián, Pomabamba Minimum impact hiking and biking - how to hike and cycle lightly in a fragile regionLanguage - Spanish words and phrases50 detailed route maps - at 1:50,000 or 1:100,000 scale for main trekking maps

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'guide to a region north-west of Lima that's often neglected by Brits in favour of the Inca Trail, but it has some of the world's finest trekking and mountain biking.' - Simon Calder, The Independent, January 2015. 'Area Guide, detailed route maps and practical information for visiting these two high sections of the Peruvian Andes.' - The Great Outdoors Magazine, February 2015

The Cordilleras Blanca and Huayhuash boast some of the most spectacular scenery in the Andes, and most accessible high mountain trekking and biking in the world. Perfect pyramidal peaks, gargantuan ice falls and turquoise alpine lakes are all easily reached from Huaraz, the region's capital and centre of tourist comforts. This practical guide contains 60 detailed route maps and descriptions covering 20 hiking trails and more than 30 days of paved and dirt road cycling. Trekking section includes the classic treks: Huayhuash Circuit, Santa Cruz and Alpamayo Base Camp, as well as lesser known, wild walks in valleys which see few visitors. Ranging from easy day hikes to challenging routes of 10 days or more, all can be trekked independently or in guided groups. Cycling section includes a loop of Peru's highest mountain - the Huascarán Circuit - as well as 6 other multi-day rides and 5 day cycles from Huaraz. Covers all the information cyclists need to pedal past glaciers on 6000m peaks or fly down 2500m descents from high passes. Mountain Biking section includes 2 detailed downhill routes and information on organising guides to lead you through the labyrinth of exciting singletrack to be found in the area."

This is an excellent current resource for anyone wishing to hike or bike in the area. Some of the guidebooks that others refer to are out of date or out of print so it's nice to find a guidebook that has good background information, detailed hand-drawn maps and thorough descriptions of the trails. I particularly appreciated the information about the region that included some of the history of the area and information about the flora and fauna. There is also good information about the various towns and villages that hikers might encounter. I wish I had had it when we did the Santa Cruz Trail but hopefully we'll be back soon to check out some more beautiful hikes.

If you're thinking of heading to the Cordillera Blanca or Huayhuash, or just want to do some armchair traveling, this compact, up to date book will be perfect to help you on your way.

Fantastic book for outdoor adventures in this region - so helpful! I wish there were more guidebooks out there like this one.

Extremely good maps, designed for hikers by hikers. Trailblazer guides are my favorites.

Small font and lack luster layout. Time will tell on accuracy

There are a few guidebooks available on trekking in the Cordillera Blanca and Huayhuash, but none are nearly as good as this one. The reason for this is simple, this guidebook has been written by people who actually did all the treks (and cycle routes) themselves, and who have clearly spent a long time in the area, which is obvious as their understandings of the local culture, issues and needs is very evident and well explained. This is a must for anyone planning a trip to the region, whether it be for trekking or cycling, route descriptions are clear and accurate, maps are easily readable and so detailed, and there is also plenty of extra information on good places to stay, restaurants, agencies, how to get to places, etc. It is obvious that the authors have a deep passion, love and respect for the Andes, its nature and people alike, and that is the reason why this guidebook is of the highest quality. So don't bother with Bradt (worryingly inaccurate), Lonely Planet or other, this is undoubtedly the best guidebook on this most wonderful part of Peru.

Without a doubt one of the best guide books for the Cordilleras Blanca and Huayhuash. What struck me most when reading it was both the familiarity with the locations described - the authors clearly spent a good amount of time in these mountain - as well as the depth of description, down to a great level of detail. The maps are really helpful and for cyclists there are some super useful nuggets of information for making riding here much smoother, as well as loads of routes to choose from.

Brilliant guide for an amazing place!

Excellent, we did Quilcahuanca Cojup, Santa Cruz, and another 3 day treks in April/May and with GPS waymarks which are part of this book it was possible to find way without been lost. I mean Santa Cruz is easy, but Quilcahuanca Cojup where path is not clear without this book would be challenging (if not impossible).Very helpful is map of Huaraz with marked "stops" of collectivos.We did not cycle, so I am not rating this part of book.If you plan to trek independently, this is the right book for you.

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