

PAMACHI BACKPACK

Logistics: Meet at the Urique Canyon rim. Arrive by train at Posada Barrancas; or by bus or driving in Areponapuchi (between Creel and San Rafael). This is a 8 day trip counting the guesthouse stay before and after the hike.

Duration: 7 nights

Length: 35 mile loop hike

Elevation change: Appr 5000 ft (1700m) X 4 = 20,000 ft.

Difficulty: Strenuous, including river fords & boulder hopping, some route finding

Expectations: Urique River, Tarahumaran Indians and culture, spectacular Copper Canyon scenery, semi-tropical vegetation, unusual bird species including Elegant Trogon, Eared Quetzal, and thick billed Parrot

Day 1: Arrival, dayhike

Day 2: Descend to Urique River (8 miles, descend 5000 ft, 8-10 hrs) Leaving largest pine conifer forest in Mexico, passing Apachean-Madrean woodland (with over 200 species of scrub oak alone), passing semi arid desert zone, to semi-tropical riparian habitat, where we camp beside the river.

Day 3: Follow Rio Urique upstream, expect river crossings

Day 4: Climb Arroyo (8 miles, ascend 5000 ft, 8-10 hrs). Visit Pamachi village with a school, store, and mission. Traverse 2 miles to our campsite.

Day 5: Descend 5000 ft, 6 miles, 6 hrs. Hot exposed ridge. Camp at Rio Urique

Day 6: Ascend arroyo/ridge to camp (4 miles, 1500 ft, 2-3 hrs). Camp at local rancho.

Day 7: Ascend 3500 ft, 9 miles, 8-10 hrs to mesa/canyon rim/guesthouse

Day 8: Departure