

## IZTA-POPO HIKING (ROUTE OF THE PORTILLOS) – Unlimited Experiences

Duration: 8–9 Hours

Difficulty: Intermediate

Mode: Mountain hiking experience with transportation

### **Volcanoes, altitude, and landscapes that command respect**

This experience takes you to the heart of Iztaccíhuatl–Popocatepetl National Park, following the route from Paso de Cortés to La Joya. A high-mountain hiking experience ideal for those who want to explore a volcanic landscape without entering technical terrain, offering privileged views of Popocatepetl and a powerful natural environment.

### **Route specifications**

- First Portillo (4,241 m / 13,914 ft)
- Second Portillo (4,371 m / 14,340 ft)
- Third Portillo (4,524 m / 14,842 ft)

### **Paso de Cortes to la Joya (hiking) Highlights**

- Access to La Malinche National Park
- Access to Iztaccíhuatl–Popocatepetl National Park
- Direct views of the active Popocatepetl volcano
- Starting point at Paso de Cortés
- High-mountain hiking route
- Arrival at the iconic point known as La Joya
- Maximum altitude of approximately 3,900 meters above sea level
- Guided experience with a mountain host
- Ideal for people with basic to intermediate physical condition
- Full connection with nature and the mountain environment

### **Itinerary**

- Pick-up at your hotel in Puebla or Cholula (7:00 a.m.)
- Transfer to Paso de Cortés
- Arrival at Paso de Cortés (3,500 m / 11,482 ft)
- Registration and park access permits
- Entry into the national park by vehicle
- Transfer to La Joya (3,900 m / 12,795 ft)
- Equipment preparation
- Adjustment of trekking poles
- Personal gear check
- Safety briefing and recommendations
- Start of the hike along the Route of the Portillos

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EXPERIENCES

- First Portillo (4,241 m / 13,914 ft)
- Second Portillo (4,371 m / 14,340 ft)
- Third Portillo (4,524 m / 14,842 ft)
- Time for rest, hydration, and lunch
- Descent along the same route back to La Joya
- Transfer back to Paso de Cortés
- Meal option: visit to a mountain cabin for a traditional meal
- Transfer back to Puebla
- Drop-off at your hotel (approx. 6:00–7:00 p.m.)

## Description

The experience begins with transportation to Paso de Cortés, the main access point to Iztaccíhuatl–Popocatepetl National Park. After registration and a brief introduction about the mountain, its flora, fauna, and the Legend of the Volcanoes, we continue by vehicle to La Joya, located at 3,900 meters above sea level, where the hike begins. The hike follows the Route of the Portillos, progressing gradually to allow proper acclimatization. During the route, hikers reach several mountain passes, arriving at the Third Portillo at approximately 4,500 meters above sea level, where a break is taken for rest, hydration, and lunch. Afterward, we begin the descent along the same route back to La Joya, and then return to Paso de Cortés. For those who wish, there is an optional stop for a traditional meal at La Cabaña del Abuelo before returning to Puebla. A complete mountain experience — challenging, inspiring, and deeply memorable.

## View photos of the experience

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Adoy69R9VaqYsLnKPg95IX4cnYyxMSOU?usp=sharing>

## Available modalities

### MEAL-INCLUDED MODALITY

Includes full hydration and food support during the experience:

- Hot beverage at the highest point
- Fruits and snacks
- Hydration: bottled water, soft drinks, and one beer
- Meal included: quesadilla and torta/sandwich

### NO-MEAL MODALITY

- No food or beverages included
- Participants must bring their own food, snacks, and hydration

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## Includes

- Round-trip transportation from Puebla or Cholula
- Bilingual mountain host
- Access to La Malinche National Park
- Trekking poles
- Safety helmet
- First-aid kit and oximeter
- Accident insurance

*(Food and beverages depend on the selected modality.)*

## Not Included

- Personal expenses
- Tips
- Entrance fees, food, or drinks not mentioned in the itinerary

## Recommendations

- Mid-mountain or trekking hiking boots
- Thermal clothing and jacket
- Cap or hat
- Sunscreen
- Gloves and buff
- Small backpack
- Water and personal snacks *(especially for the no-meal modality)*

## Book the experience here

<https://unlimitedpuebla.com/producto/senderismo-en-el-iztaccihuatl>

## 💖 Thank you for choosing Unlimited Experiences

Each tour supports the local economy and social projects. We create handcrafted experiences with soul, purpose, and lots of fun.

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