

# **BOLIVIA TOTAL** 17 days / 16 nights - Half board

Bolivia is known as the heart of South America. Its position on the map and its form, grant this nomination. And Bolivia is also the fact of the south continent, with mountains, plains, high plateau, valleys and tropical regions with the Amazonas. All these regions replace with pride the lack of coast that Bolivia suffers since 1879, when we lost our access to the ocean in a war with Chile. Starting in Santa Cruz, you will be able to get acquainted with the largest region of the country, the

Amazon basin. Santa Cruz de la Sierra, the fast-growing bolivian metropolis shows the character of its people. From here, you will get a bit further into the Amboro National Park and visit also Samaipata, the cradle or one pre-inca culture. You will see the valleys of Bolivia with Sucre, the capital city and sit of the bolivian justice power which used to be the alternative for the high altitude from Potosi during the colonial time. Also, the aristocracy of Bolivia found a beautiful place to grow there. Then you will see Potosi, a city that seems to be held on the colonial time. See there the Mint and several catholic churches. The highlight of this tour would be Cayara, an ancient Hacienda from the Spanish colonial time and restored a few years ago as one of the leading hotels in the region.

Time to reach the nature's superlative of the Highlands in Bolivia, the Uyuni Salt Lake, the largest salt reserve of the world with more than 12.000 km2 and the largest world's lithium reserve. Together with the Avaroa National Park, you will have an awesome adventure at these altitudes. Lake Titicaca will be our next destination, next to La Paz, the administrative capital of the country, honored with the "teleferico" a cable car system that runs to almost every corner of the city Last but not least, you will go to Rurrenabaque in the northern Pampa and begin of the Amazon lowlands. These and more will be shown by your local guides, come to Bolivia and live your adventure!

# DIA 1 (Thursday) ARRIVAL AT SANTA CRUZ

Arrival in Santa Cruz, the second largest city in Bolivia. Reception and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon city tour in the city of Santa Cruz, including the Zoological Park with the animal kingdom of Latin America. You will start by visiting the Basilica of San Lorenzo, the Cathedral Museum, the Prefectural Palace, the Art Museum and the House of Culture, all in the historic center of the city. In addition, you will visit the La Recova craft center and the Art field, where you will find regional handicrafts, textiles, ceramics, sculptures among others. Overnight.

# DIA 2 (Friday) SANTA CRUZ - SAMAIPATA - AMBORO NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast, departure to Samaipata. This journey unfolds slowly from the tropical Amazon region through the beautiful valleys and spectacular landscapes. In the morning we will visit Samaipata, the pre-Inca ruins of "El Fuerte", very interesting remains of an unknown culture chiseled in living sandstone. Typical grilled lunch in the restaurant of "El Pueblo Resort". In the afternoon, we continue to the Amboró National Park where you can admire among others, giant ferns. Beautiful walk through this unique rainforest, which is located at 1,650 meters high. Return to Santa Cruz. Overnight. (B) (L) DAY 3 (Saturday) SANTA CRUZ – SUCRE

Breakfast at the hotel. It's time to leave for Sucre, the capital of Bolivia. Sucre is located at an altitude of 2,700 meters above sea level. Transfer to the airport for your local flight. Upon arrival, your guide will be waiting for you at the terminal. Transfer to the hotel and free afternoon. Time to relax and acclimatize to the altitude. Just leave the hotel for a walk to get to know this colonial city called "the white city". Dinner and overnight at the Hotel Parador Santa María la Real, located in a majestic mansion of the eighteenth century that was rescued and remodeled completely preserving all its architectural details. **(B) (D)** 

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### PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY EUR 3.830.-Increase Hab. Simple EUR 730.-

#### Inclusions

- 416 nights Hotel (with bathroom or shower / WC)
- 4 16 Breakfasts, 12 Lunches, 5 Dinners Included
- All excursions and transfers mentioned in the program
- All tickets to museums and national parks
- Information pack with travel literature and tips
- Guide in English during the excursions.
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# NOT INCLUDED

- International flight to Santa Cruz, Bolivia and return from La Paz.
- Domestic flights (Sta Cruz-Sucre, Uyuni-La Paz, La Paz, Rurrenabaque-La Paz)
- Meals and drinks and other services not mentioned in the program.
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters.

# FIXED DEPARTURES FOR GROUPS 2024

28 March	11 April
09 May	06 June
18 July	29 August
26 September	24 Octubre
14 November	05 December
Departures on private basis anytime	





After breakfast, visit the city of Sucre. You'll see the sights of Bolivia's capital, including the Cathedral, Casa de la Libertad, and Recoleta Monastery. Lunch at the restaurant "El Huerto", the best restaurant in the city for Bolivian specialties. In the afternoon we will make a brief visit to the outskirts of Sucre, including the Dinosaur Park, with the dinosaur footprints discovered a few years ago. Return to the Parador Santa Maria la Real hotel and accommodation (B) (L).

# DAY 5 (Monday) SUCRE - POTOSI

After breakfast we will continue our trip to Potosí, one of the most important Spanish colonial cities in South America. Upon arrival and a short break, lunch in a typical restaurant. In the afternoon city tour with visit to the historic center of the colony, with the Museum of the Mint, colonial streets and craft markets, the Church of San Lorenzo with stone sculptures carved in the mestizo baroque style and the church of San Francisco that stands out for its remarkable ceilings. Finally, the Tower of the Society of Jesus and the Arch of Cobija. Potosi is situated at an altitude of 3,970 meters. We will continue to Cayara, about 30 minutes from Potosi to our chosen hotel. We will spend the night at the Hotel Museum Cayara. After dinner, you will visit the small museum with different rooms and colonial architecture as well as original furniture. Overnight. **(B) (L) (D)** 

# DAY 6 (Tuesday) POTOSI - UYUNI

After breakfast visit a mine in Cerro Rico (Silver Mountain). A great experience with a tour of the interior of the mine where we will see the daily life of the miners and their traditions. We will even participate in a small ritual for the TIO (deity of the mine, a coincidence between the devil and the old tradition of Christianity). After the visit, we will continue to the city of Uyuni. On the way, short stop for picnic-lunch. Upon arrival in Uyuni, we will visit the train cemetery and after a short rest we will continue to the indigenous village of Colchani where you will check in at the Palacio de Sal Hotel, built completely with salt blocks. Even the chairs, tables and beds are made of salt blocks. A unique experience. Dinner and overnight. **(B) (L) (D)** 

# DAY 7 (Wednesday) UYUNI – UYUNI SALT LAKE – COQUESA

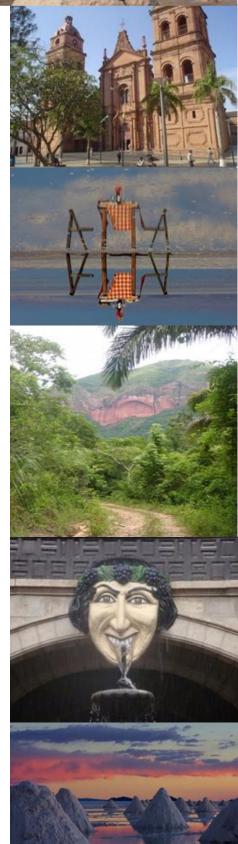
Breakfast at the hotel. Departure in direction to the Salt Lake. You will enter the white desert in its fullness with typical extraction landscapes such as salt pyramids, salt eyes and the first hotel built entirely with salt, which is now a local museum. Our guide will look for the ideal place to enjoy a typical community lunch called "ajtapi", Aymara word for picnic. After lunch we continue to the Hotel. On the you will visit the island of Sajchilla with ancient cacti, an unexplored place. We continue in the direction of Coquesa at the foot of the Thunupa volcano. Accommodation in "Tambo Coquesa Lodge". After check-in and a short break, we will find the ideal place to watch the sunset, accompanied by a welcome cocktail made of coca leaves. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight. (B) (L) (D) DAY 8 (Thursday) COQUESA – LAGUNAS – LOS FLAMENCOS

After breakfast at 8.00 am, we leave the hotel heading south, returning to the Salar with paradisiacal landscapes, towards the island of Incahuasi, whose translation from Quechua is "Casa del Inca". The island is completely surrounded by the huge saline area of the Salar de Uyuni and its relief is steep. It contains a large number of giant cacti (*Echinopsis atacamensis*), which can reach more than 10 meters in height. Subsequently, we continue our trip to the municipality of San Juan, natural view of the Ollague volcano (active), with a visit of the "comunarios", then to Laguna Cañapa and finally Laguna Hedionda. Overnight at Los Flamencos Echohotel. After accommodation and a short break, walk along the shores of the lagoon, where you can see the three species of flamingos a few meters away. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight. **(B) (L) (D)** 

# DAY 9 (Friday) LOS FLAMENCOS - PARQUE NACIONAL AVAROA - UYUNI

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure before dawn to the Eduardo Abaroa Reserve National Park with a visit to Laguna Honda, Charcota, Siloli Desert, Stone Tree, Laguna Colorada with geysers and hot springs, Dalí Desert and Laguna Verde. On our way back to the city of Uyuni we will visit the Valley

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of the Rocks, and authentic villages such as Villa Alota, Culpina K and the mining town of San Cristóbal with its church. Arrival in the city of Uyuni and check-in at the chosen hotel. Dinner and overnight. (B) (L) (D)

# DAY 10 (Saturday) UYUNI - LA PAZ

After breakfast, departure to Uyuni airport in time for your flight to La Paz. After a short flight, arrival in La Paz and reception through your guide to continue to downtown. La Paz, the largest city and seat of the government of Bolivia, located at 3600 m. above sea level and one of the highest cities in the world. Arrival in La Paz and check in at the hotel. Free time for private activities. You can take a walk through the historic center, visiting the handicraft streets or have your first contact with the "teleférico", a cable car that was implemented years ago and have solved partially the traffic problems of the city. Our guide will show you the two options you can find near the hotel. Overnight at the Hotel Europa or similar. **(B)** DAY 11 (Sunday) LA PAZ

After breakfast, guided visit of the city with the colonial district and Indian markets, including the Valley of the Moon, beautiful limestone geological formations not far from the city. Today we will use the modern cable car system visiting La Paz in a very special way. The gondolas stand out with colors and each route is defined in these colors. The afternoon is at your disposal for private activities. **(B)** 

# DAY 12 (Monday) LA PAZ – HUATAJATA – COPACABANA – LA PAZ

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure towards Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world. Our first stop will be Huatajata, a small town on the shores of the lake. You will visit here a local museum that shows the life and habits of the altiplano in a very pleasant way. Then, start with a small cruise on Lake Titicaca to Isla del Sol and Copacabana. You will cross the Strait of Tiquina, the narrowest point of the lake, which divides it into two parts, a small lake and a large one. Visit the islands of the sun and moon. Continue to Copacabana and visit the city and the Catholic Church, home to "La Mamita", the Virgin of Copacabana, a wooden statue from the sixteenth century. After lunch, return to Huatajata and overland transfer to La Paz, back to the hotel. Overnight. **(B) (L)** 

#### DAY 13 (Tuesday) LA PAZ – RURRENABAQUE

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for your flight to Rurrenabaque, a small town in the North of Bolivia on the Beni River. In recent years it has become popular with international tourism as it is an easy gateway for visits to Madidi National Park (within the Bolivian rainforest), as well as the surrounding pampas. Locals commonly refer to the town by its shortened nickname, "Rurre." Transfer to the hotel and time to relax enjoying the surrounding, swimming on the river or just relaxing at the hotel pool with a delicious fruit juice just pressed. Optional you can visit a ranch where you can see its daily activity working with the cattle. You can also opt for a horseback riding. Back to the hotel for diner and overnight. **(B) (D)** 

### DAY 14 (Wednesday) RURRENABAQUE – MADIDI NATIONAL PARK

Departure by motorboat from Rurrenabaque to the Madidi National Park. The trip up the Beni and Tuichi rivers takes 3 hours and is a great opportunity to spot wildlife and admire the impressive landscape of the Amazon, such as the Bala Canyon. Around noon arrival to Madidi Jungle Ecolodge and accommodation in traditional-style cabins. Lunch and time to relax in the hammocks.

After lunch we set out for a 3-hour guided hike along the Tareche Trail. This is an opportunity to observe a variety of bird species, mainly macaws and parrots, and to appreciate the surrounding tropical rainforest. You may spot different animals such as the white-lipped peccary, the brown capuchin monkey and the red howler monkey. After hiking along the Aguapolo riverbank, we return to the Ecolodge by the Wabu Trail. After a short break, dinner at the Ecolodge. Thereafter, you will have the opportunity to go on a short night hike to experience the nocturnal wildlife. During the walk you will be able to see amphibians and insects, such as the tarantula. You can take part of the jungle's symphony produced by uncountable varieties of wildlife. (B) (L) (D)

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### DAY 15 (Thursday) MADIDI NATIONAL PARK

Breakfast at the ecolodge. After breakfast, we set out on a 3-hour guided hike along the Biwa Trail, where black spider monkeys are often encountered. Along this trail you will stop at the natural Madidi scenic viewpoint for a panoramic view of the rainforest canopy. Return to the Ecolodge along the Tareche Trail. Lunch and an opportunity to relax in the hammocks. In the afternoon we will go on a 3-hour guided walk via the Mapajo and Almendrillo Trails. Along these trails, you'll appreciate the Giant Kapok Tree, Almendrillo Tree and the Strangler Fig Tree. Your guide will provide an in-depth explanation of the diverse species of plants used for medicinal purposes. It is a great opportunity to learn about the Amazon ecosystems while observing the pristine environment and different wildlife species. Return to the Ecolodge along the Dati Trail. After a break, have a traditional dinner where you can taste the Dunucuabi (catfish wrapped in leaves) at the lodge and enjoy free time. (B) (L) (D)

#### DAY 16 (Friday) MADIDI NATIONAL PARK - LA PAZ

Breakfast at the Ecolodge. Then we will take a boat upstream along the Tuichi River to the Serere Trail. A hike via the jungle floodplain to the Piraña lagoon offers a chance to see yellow squirrel monkeys before stopping to fish for piranha. After fishing, we will stop at a large, recently discovered, salt lick to learn more about the animal behavior. Return to the lodge by boat. Lunch followed by free time before returning to Rurrenabaque by boat. On the way back, you have the option to visit Caquiahuara to see red and green macaws and other species of parrot. Bird sighting can be done any time of the year but is more frequent from May through December. The trip is also a great opportunity to see some exotic species such as the capybaras, tapirs, turtles and caimans. The return trip takes only 2 hours. Upon arrival in Rurrenabaque, transfer to the airport for your flight back to La Paz, where a car will be waiting to take you to the hotel. **(B) (L)** 

# DAY 17 (Saturday) LA PAZ - RETURN

The day is available for private activities. Visit the artisan center or travel on one of the current cable car lines. On time transfer to the airport for your return flight or continuation of your adventure in South America. End of our services. **(B)** 

(B) Breakfast (L) Lunch (D) Dinner

AN EXTENSION OF YOUR TRIP TO CUZCO AND MACHU PICCHU IS OF COURSE POSSIBLE. YOUR REQUEST WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF IMMEDIATELY

