

# FROM THE ATACAMA DESERT TO THE AMAZON JUNGLE 16 days – 15 nights

Two of the most imposing scenarios in the Americas are the Atacama Desert and the Amazon Jungle. The first is the most arid non-polar desert on Earth, with an approximate area of 105,000 km² that extends in northern Chile and is bounded by the Pacific Ocean and the Andes mountain range. Some institutions consider its extension to the Peruvian coastal area; as well as the puna located on the 3500 meters above sea level that includes part of northern Argentina and South-West Bolivia. The Amazon Jungle is the largest rainforest in the world with an area of 7 million km² spread among Brazil that has the most, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador. It develops around the Amazonas river and its river basin. It has also been declared one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

Therefore, we have planned this route in order to make you known two wonders of nature that exceed expectations.

We start our trip in Santiago de Chile with visits that includes tasting of the best wines of the region. Once in the desert, we settle in San Pedro de Atacama and visit its best places. In addition, we will have the opportunity to enjoy the sky and its stars, since the Atacama is considered the best place on the planet to observe the firmament for its height respecting sea level, the low cloudiness, the almost non-existent humidity of the air and the distant light and radio pollution. Then we will pass to Bolivia and visit the Avaroa National Park, with its colorful desert, geysers and colorful lagoons. We continue with another destination of the superlative, the Salar de Uyuni, the largest salt surface on the planet with 12.000 km2 of extension. After visiting La Paz, the highest capital city in the world (3200 m.s.n.m.) we will fly to Rurrenabaque, the gateway to the Bolivian Amazon Jungle. We enter the jungle on a 3-hour boat trip to Madidi National Park where we will enjoy the world's largest biodiversity in the next 3 days. Finally, we will see Machu Picchu and Cusco in Peru for a meeting with the history of South America and the Inca Empire. Come with us on this superlative journey and live your adventure with EUROLATINO!!

#### DAY 1 (Friday) ARRIVAL IN SANTIAGO DE CHILE

Arrival in Santiago after your international flight. Reception at Santiago airport and transfer to the Hotel. Registration. In the afternoon visit to the city of Santiago, starting at Cerro Santa Lucia, where the city was founded in 1541. We will continue towards The San Cristobal Hill. Then we will visit the Plaza de Armas (main square) with the Government Palace "La Moneda" and other important national monuments such as the Cathedral, Correo Central (main post office) and the Municipality of Santiago. The visit continues across the Mapocho River and through several residential areas overlooking the city. Return to the hotel in Santiago. Dinner and accommodation. **(L) (D)** 

DAY 2 (Saturday) SANTIAGO - VIÑA CONCHA Y TORO - SANTIAGO

Departure from Santiago to the south. Arrival in Pirque, where you will find the vineyard "Concha y Toro", the largest wine producer in Chile. Tour of the "Patronal House" (mansion) with the beautiful park and the lagoon. Access to vineyards and deposits of these internationally renowned wines. Visit the wineries, including the famous "Casillero del Diablo", taking into account its production. There is a wine shop at the end. The tour continues along the Maipo River, with lunch on the way, through the residential area of Las Vertientes, where you will see typical cabins, camps, restaurants and cottages. Return to the hotel in Santiago. Dinner & Accommodation (B) (L) (D)

PRICE PER PERSON
IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
From EUR 3.275.-

PRICE FOR THE EXTENSION EUR 1.465.-

TOUR DATES 2025
July 18 August 8
August 29 September 19
October 10 October 31

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Sit-in basis program up to 15 pax. Minibus or private van on request.
- ♣ 15 Hotel nights including Breakfast
- ♣ Meal plan: HALFBOARD
- All transfers and excursions as mentioned in the program.
- Local guides in English for all the excursions mentioned in the program
  All entrance fees to national parks and excursions

### **NOT INCLUDED**

- International flights
- Local flights Santiago- Calama, Sucre-La Paz, La Paz-Rurrenabaque-La Paz and Cuzco-Lima in economy class
- Meals and drinks and other services not mentioned in the program.
- Tips for guides, conductors and porters.
- Personal expenses





Early transfer to the airport for your flight to Calama. Reception at the airport and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama. During the trip, you can see the Salt Range and the Licancabur volcano. Arrival in San Pedro de Atacama and check-in at the selected hotel. In the afternoon, we will visit the Salt Range and the Moon Valley. The Cordillera de la Sal was formed by tectonic activity in the Salar de Atacama, during which layers of continental red sediment and white evaporites were deployed and raised. Over the past 4000 years, water erosion from poor rains in this extremely hyper-arid region has formed a strange-looking karst landscape with surface salt efflorescences and salt caves. Due to the sterile salt soils, the dry climate and intense sunlight, the mountains are mostly an absolute desert. At the end of the afternoon, we will experience an extraordinary sunset there, in this strange moon-like valley, with its bright colors and grotesque shapes. Dinner and Accommodation (B) (L) (D)

DAY 4 (Monday) TRAVEL TO BOLIVIA: LAGUNA VERDE - LAGUNA COLORADA After breakfast, we travel to the border town of Hito Cajon between Bolivia and Chile. On this journey, we reach the highest point of our adventure. After meeting the migration requirements, we continue by jeep to Laguna Verde on the Licancabur volcano (5930 m). The emerald, green lagoon has a high concentration of calcium, lead and sulfur carbonates. The journey continues to Laguna Blanca and the Geysers Sol de Mañana: you will see there, mud pools and fumaroles. Nearby, you can bathe in hot springs. Continue to the Laguna Colorada. Along the way, we'll look for a cozy corner for a memorable picnic. Arrival at Los Flamencos hotel near Laguna Hedionda and check-in. After a short break, you will be able to walk and admire the different varieties of Andean flamingos. Dinner at the hotel and accommodation. (B) (L) (D)

#### DAY 5 (Tuesday) LAGUNA HEDIONDA - COLCHANI

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, we continue with our expedition. This time we cross the Siloli Desert, one of the driest deserts in the world. Then we visit the Cañapa lagoon and the Dalí desert with a rich mix of colors and rock formations. Enjoy a picnic in a beautiful setting. Then we will drive through the Salar de Uyuni to our hotel. Registration and rest of the afternoon off. At sunset, we will approach the saltflat to appreciate a spectacular sunset. Return to the hotel for dinner. Accommodation at Hotel Palacio de Sal (B) (L) (D)

#### DAY 6 (Wednesday) SALAR DE UYUNI

This day we cross the Salar de Uyuni. With seemingly infinite extensions of more than 12,000 km2, Uyun is the largest salt flat in the world. Free drive through the salt flats, where there is no visible highway, towards Isla Pescado, an oasis with giant cacti and unusual flowers. Continue to the city of Uyuni and visit. On return we will visit a salt factory in Colchani. Once at the hotel, you will have free time until dinner time. You can take advantage of your time to enjoy the hotel's spa, stroll around the place, take a bike tour or just rest until dinner time. (B) DAY 7 (Thursday) SALAR DE UYUNI - POTOSI - CAYARA

# After breakfast we will continue our trip to Potosí, one of the most important Spanish colonial

cities in South America. At this point it was the importance of this city, that not only were silver coins minted for the Spanish empire and all European crowns, but the term VALE UN POTOSI was used to point out something of great value.

Potosi was founded by the Spaniards in the sixteenth century at the foot of Sumay Orcko hill, known as Cerro Rico de Potosi, rich in silver and already exploited since the Inca time under the reign of Huayna Kapac, the XI Inca King. Arriving in the city, visit on foot the historic center, with the Museum of the Mint, colonial streets and artisan markets, the Church of San Lorenzo with stone sculptures carved in the mixed Baroque style and the church of San Francisco that stands out for its remarkable ceilings. Pause for lunch at a local restaurant. Finally, we will see the Tower of the Society of Jesus Church and the Cobija Arch. We will continue the trip to Hacienda Cayara, former Encomienda de Don Juan de Pendones, whose original titles date back to 1557, making it the first Hacienda constituted in The New Toledo (now Bolivia) and restored to become a museum hotel that shows the grandeur of colonial architecture. See to



believe says the saying and in this case there are plenty of words to describe this magnificent construction. Upon arrival, check-in and distribution of the rooms, short rest and visit of the museum. After the visit, dine in its imposing dining room and free time to enjoy a high altituderise wine on a stage that will take you back in time. Accommodation (B) (L) (D) DAY 8 (Friday) POTOSI - SUCRE

Breakfast at the hotel. Our journey continues to Sucre, Bolivia's capital. Founded by the Spaniards who, affected by the height of Potosí and the consequent disease it generated, made this city their place of residence while working in mining. Sucre is the historical and official capital of Bolivia in addition to hosting the country's judiciary power. Check-in and short break. In the afternoon, guided visit through the city center that includes the highlights, among them the Cathedral, the House of Liberty and the Monastery of Recoleta. Dinner and overnight at the Hotel Parador Santa María la Real, located in a majestic mansion of the XVIII century that was rescued and remodeled completely preserving all its architectural details. The building that houses the Hotel was built on the premises and orchard of the palace of the Real Audiencia de Charcas, the highest judicial and administrative authority of this part of the Spanish empire in America. (B) (D)

### DAY 9 (Saturday) SUCRE - LA PAZ

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time in Sucre for private activities. At the agreed time, transfer to the airport for your flight to La Paz. Upon our arrival, reception by our guide and transfer to the chosen hotel in the city center. Rest of the afternoon off until dinner time. Transfer to a Restauante-Peña where you can enjoy an excellent variety of dishes that make Bolivian gastronomy a concert of flavors. Then you can appreciate a sample of Bolivian folklore with typical music and dances before returning to the hotel. Accommodation at Hotel Europa (B) (D) DAY 10 (Sunday) LA PAZ

After breakfast, we will visit La Paz, the administrative capital, and the largest city in Bolivia. La Paz and its surroundings lead to a mysterious past, where every corner, every street, is a hidden treasure where adventure begins a living story that will be reflected in all its pre-Hispanic traditions, and the magic of its past. The colonial, indigenous and modern neighborhoods, the indigenous market, the witch market, and fascinating scenarios are framed by the majestic "Illimani", the mountain monument, in the Andean Mountains. Finally, we visit the Valley of the Moon, where you will see strange clay formations. The highlight of the day is the ride on the modern cable car enjoying the city literally from the air. Using one of its seven lines identified by colors, we will reach the highest point of the city where you will have spectacular views of the city surrounded by snowy mountains. Return to the hotel. Rest of the day is at your disposal for private activities. Our guide will help you decide what you can do. (B) DAY 11 (Monday) LA PAZ

Breakfast. Free day to enjoy the hotel facilities, to relax or to return to the city walking through the neighborhood of artisans, where you can do your last shopping. Or you can take a ride on another cable car line to see the city from a bird's perspective. (B)

#### DAY 12 (Tuesday) LA PAZ - RURRENABAQUE

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to La Paz Airport for your flight to Rurrenabaque, a small tourist town in the Department of Beni at 274 meters above sea level that is located in the last foothills of the Andes mountain range and at the beginning of the eastern plains, on the right banks of the Beni River. It is the gateway to Madidi National Park, fascinating for its wide diversity of birds, for its landscapes of lush jungle, for its exotic flowers, for its rivers and its oriental savannahs. Upon arrival, reception by our representative and transfer to the chosen hotel. The rest of the day is free for private activities. You can swim in the river, ride in the jungle or just walk around. Dinner and Accommodation at Hotel Maya de la Amazonia\*\*\*

(B)(D)





### DAY 13 (Wednesday) RURRENABAQUE - NATIONAL PARK. MADIDI (Amazonas)

After breakfast, boat trip to Madidi National Park. The boat tour of the Beni and Tuichi rivers lasts 3 hours and is an opportunity to observe the stunning wildlife and landscapes of Madidi National Park. Around noon we arrive at the Ecolodge. Accommodation in traditional style cottages. After lunch, brief rest in the hammocks. In the afternoon, guided 3-hour walk along the Tareche Trail until you reach the Aguapolo River, where you can walk along the riverbanks and observe the natural nidation area of parrots and macaws. You can also observe some species of animals such as chanchos troperos (wild porks), capuchin monkeys and howler monkeys. After dinner, take a short walk to observe insects such as tarantulas, grasshoppers, night butterflies, frogs and hopefully some mammal. Listening the symphony of the jungle produced by the large amount of wildlife hidden at night is a magical feeling. Accommodation. (B) (L) (D)

#### DAY 14 (Thursday) MADIDI NATIONAL PARK (Amazonia Boliviana)

After breakfast, walk 3 hours through the Biwa Trail, where we can see the spider monkey, capuchin monkeys, chanchos troperos (wild porks), macaws, tocans and many other species of birds. Reaching the Madidi Natural Viewpoint, you will have a spectacular view of the primary forest and the meanders of the Aguapolo River. Return to the Ecolodge by the Tareche Trail. Lunch and time to rest in the hammocks. In the afternoon, guided 3-hour walk through the Mapajo and Matapalo Trails to observe a variety of giant trees such as the Raccoon (Ceiba Pentandra), Matapalo and Almendrillo, with more than 300 years of life, considered the leafiest in the Amazon rainforest. Accompanied by your guide, learn about medicinal plants and their healing benefits. Our native guides born and grown in the jungle, maintain ancestral knowledge and combine it with scientific knowledge, facilitating animal observation and interpretation of the wet tropical forest. Return to the Lodge. Traditional dinner "Dunucuabi", cat fish cooked in heliconian leaves (B) (L) (D)

# DAY 15 (Friday) MADIDI NATIONAL PARK (Amazonia Boliviana)

Breakfast at the Ecolodge. Boat departure upstream of the Tuichi River bound for the Serere Trail. We will start a short walk until we reach the Piranha Lagoon, where you can optionally do piranha fishing. On this tour you will get to know the riverside forest where the yellow squirrel monkey is frequently sighted. After the fishing activity we will visit a newly discovered mammal salt flat where we can learn about the animals' behavior. Return to the Ecolodge by boat. Lunch at the Ecolodge and short break before returning to Rurrenabaque. On the way - and depending on the season, visit optional Caquiahuara to observe red and green macaws and other species of parrots on a rocky cliff. The return journey takes only 2 hours. Arrival in Rurrenabaque and transfer to the airport to take your flight to La Paz. Reception and transfer to your hotel in La Paz. Accommodation. (B) (L)

## DAY 16 (Saturday) LA PAZ - AIRPORT

Breakfast at the hotel. Today you have all day off for personal activities. Shopping opportunities. At the right time we'll take you to the airport for your flight back home. If you want to take an optional excursion or extend your stay in South America, we will take care of your requirements with pleasure. If you have decided to continue with the extension to Cuzco and Machui Pichu, then get ready to travel to Lake Titicaca today. Please write to us with your request. (B)

