



# CARNIVAL OF THE ANDES

## Circuit in South America with the Carnival of Oruro

... It's just any afternoon. Lima flashes at 30 degrees in the shade; everywhere people use their umbrellas as sunscreen. At the same time, the streets stir around the Plaza Mayor with drums and trumpets, echoing songs along with colonial balconies. It's Carnival in Lima!

People of all ages move in a seemingly endless Diablada - the devil's dance - to the rhythm of Carnival, through the capital of Peru. Its elaborate and gleaming costumes are full of details in all the colors of the prism. In addition to this, thousands of spectators on the edges of the roads. Noisy, colorful moments... and the main theme seems to be dancing.

The city of Puno on Lake Titicaca, with its houses and dirt-colored streets, boasts of being the carnival capital of Peru. The city, which would otherwise be quite bleak, with its 125,000 inhabitants, would otherwise not have many attractions. However, every year in February/March Puno shines in many colors, when the devil's dancers dance through the streets...

### Oruro, capital of Bolivian folklore

In Bolivia, the city of Oruro, at 3,700 meters above sea level, plays a similar role to Puno. The few views of the ancient mining town tell the story of ancient tin barons and, for most, Oruro is simply a stop on the journey to the Salar de Uyuni, the largest Salt flat in the world.

Only once a year, during Carnival, the city of Oruro trembles under the drums of the people of the Altiplano. Hotel rooms must be booked weeks in advance for the colorful Diablada show. There are many dances such as Caporales, Moreno, Tobas ... more than 100 fraternities ... but here dances the devil led by Archangel Michael.

La Diablada is one of the best and most original dances in Bolivia and a symbol for the Carnival of Oruro, which was declared in 2001 by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. In this dance, there is a strong amalgam of the Andes with Christian belief, a stylized battle between good and evil. This is represented by the cult of evil "Supay" to "Huari", the god of the mountains, the Archangel Michael and the figure of Mother Earth, the Pachamama. The key elements of Diablada are the figures of Lucifer, the Archangel Michael, the devil and the devil's women, the seven deadly sins, the bear and the devil's consort, the "China Supay". Forced labor in Bolivia's mines engaged the Aymara Indians to worship in the depths of the mines their God "Huari" who now reinterpreted himself as the Lord of the Caves, el Tío (the "Uncle"), who adopted benevolent traits. And so, the miners began to sacrifice chicha, alcohol, and coke in exchange for wealth and protection.

### DAY 1 Saturday, February 07 SANTIAGO DE CHILE

Arrival in Santiago de Chile and transfer to your hotel. Lunch. In the afternoon guided tour of the city and excursion to Cerro San Cristóbal for a beautiful view of the city and the Andes Mountains. Welcome and briefing. (L)

### DAY 2 Sunday, February 08 SANTIAGO - COLCHAGUA - SANTIAGO

After breakfast, we will leave the hotel in Santiago towards the Colchagua Valley. The simple beauty of this quiet city reflects the rural lifestyle. The Colchagua Valley is known for being one of the most fertile wine valleys, particularly for the quality of its red varieties. We'll take you to visit a family vineyard, Viu Manent. The old house, where the café and restaurant are located, is an elegant property to relax and enjoy a simple coffee or a more sophisticated meal. A horse-drawn carriage takes you through the vineyard as part of the tour, before finishing a wine tasting. We continue the route to the Santa Cruz winery. Here we can walk through the winery and taste the Chamán wine. The tour begins by visiting one of these wineries, learning about the winemaking and production process, visiting its wineries and finally tasting wines to get acquainted with the final product. Enjoy a barbecue-style outdoor lunch. Next, we will climb the hill by cable car to visit the indigenous towns, where typical constructions of three native cultures have been represented: mapuche, Rapa Nui and Quechua. After that, we'll be transferred back to the hotel. (B) (L)

**TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON  
IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

**EUR 3.700.-**

**Surplus single room EUR 810.-**

**FIXED GROUP  
DEPARTURE**

**07.02.2026 – 23.02.2026**

**17 Days**

**HALB BOARD**

#### SERVICES INCLUDED:

- ✦ Transfers, excursions, and visits on private buses.
- ✦ Overland Transfers from Hito Cajon to Oruro with 4x4 Jeeps
- ✦ 16 nights hotel of 3\*\*\* and 4\*\*\*
- ✦ 16 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 7 dinners
- ✦ All excursions as described in the program.
- ✦ Tickets and seat reservation for Carnival Parade in Oruro
- ✦ Professional tourism guide on all the excursions mentioned here
- ✦ All tickets to museums and parks

#### NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Domestic flights in South America in economy class (Santiago-Calama, Cuzco-Lima)
- Personal expenses
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters
- Other meals not specified in the program.
- Other excursions or optional walks not mentioned here.







#### DAY 3 Monday, February 09 SANTIAGO -CALAMA -SAN PEDRO

Early transfer to the airport for your flight to Calama. Reception at the airport and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama to the hotel. Lunch. In the afternoon visit to the 17th century church in the village and its archaeological museum Padre le Peige. (B) (L)

#### DAY 4 Tuesday, February 10 ATACAMA SALT FLATS AND LOS FLAMENCOS NATL. PARK

In the morning visit the Salar de Atacama and Laguna Chaxas. Then visit Jere's Ravine. Lunch in San Pedro de Atacama. In the afternoon, visit the Salt Range and the Moon Valley. You will experience an extraordinary sunset there in this strange, moon-like valley with its bright colors (B) (L)

#### DAY 5 Wednesday, February 11 TRIP 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. Continue by jeep to Laguna Verde (Green Lagoon) at 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 Sold de Mañana: you will see there, mud pools and fumaroles. Nearby, you can bath in hot springs. Continue to the Laguna Colorada, the Red Lagoon. 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 can walk and admire the different varieties of Andean flamingos. Dinner at the hotel and accommodation. (B) (L) (D)

#### DAY 6 Thursday, February 12 LAGUNA HEDIONDA - COLCHANI

In the morning, we continue with our expedition. This time we crossed 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 salt area to appreciate a spectacular sunset. Return to the hotel for dinner. Accommodation at Hotel Palacio de Sal (B) (L) (D)

#### DAY 7 Friday, February 13 UYUNI SALT FLATS

This day we cross the Salar de Uyuni. With seemingly infinite extensions of more than 12,000 km<sup>2</sup>, Uyuni is the largest salt flat in the world. Free advance 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 8 Saturday, February 14 UYUNI - ORURO - LAPAZ

After breakfast, departure very early from the hotel. Today we have a long journey to the city of Oruro ahead. Oruro was founded in 1606 and is famous for its carnival. The Carnival of Oruro is one of the most famous cultural and religious carnivals in South America. Upon arrival, we will head to our seats in the quiet grandstand, and from there we will experience the unique traditional dances with colorful costumes, such as Diablada, Morenada or Caporales. Thousands of dancers show their loyalty to the Mamita del Socavón, the Virgin of miners. Explanation of the various dances. At the agreed time, lunch in the restaurant of Hotel Eden, where you can also rest between the dances or enjoy a drink in its bar. As the afternoon falls, we will continue our journey to the city of La Paz. Arrival at Hotel Europa and check-in. After a short break, dinner at the hotel and accommodation. (B) (L) (D).

#### DAY 9 Sunday, February 15 LA PAZ

Breakfast at the hotel. Around noon we will go out for lunch in a typical restaurant and then continue with the guided tour of the city of La Paz, one of the highest cities in the world (3,600 m). You will experience the historic district with the Plaza Murillo, calle Jaen, San Francisco and Mercado de los Brujos. And of course the lively shopping city. We will also use the cable car lines in the city with spectacular views from above. Back to the hotel and free time to enjoy the evening in this amazing city. Accommodation at the Hotel Europa in La Paz. (B) (L)

#### DAY 10 Monday, February 16 LA PAZ - HUATAJATA - ISLA DEL SOL







Departure by bus to Huatajata on Lake Titicaca. Breakfast at Hotel Inca Utama. After visiting a local museum our cruise by hydrofoil to the Isla del Sol (Sun Island) will start, the largest inhabited island on the lake. Lunch at Uma Kollu Restaurant, located on one of the original Incas terraces. At sunset, stroll through the village and experience the sunset with one of the most beautiful views of Lake Titicaca. Dinner and accommodation on the island. **(B) (L) (D)**

#### **DAY 11 Tuesday, February 17 ISLA DEL SOL (SUN ISLAND) - COPACABANA- PUNO**

In the morning we head to Copacabana, perhaps the most important Catholic shrine in South America. Visit the Cathedral with the "Virgen de Copacabana", a wooden statue of the 16th century. After lunch, we will cross the border between Bolivia and Peru to Puno on the Peruvian side of Lake Titicaca. We'll spend the night in Puno. **(B) (L)**

#### **DAY 12 Wednesday, February 18 PUNO - CUZCO**

We continue our journey by private bus from Puno to Cuzco (about 400 km away). Along the way we will visit the necropolis of Sillustani, visit the Temple of Viracocha Raqchi and the Church of Andahuayllas. In fine weather, we will see the snow-capped peaks of the Andes Mountains. Buffet lunch on the way. Upon arrival in Cusco, check-in at the hotel and free time for private activities. **(B) (L)**

#### **DAY 13 Thursday, February 19 CUZCO AND AROUND**

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, we will have a city tour visiting some of the Cuzco highlights: the Cathedral, the temple of the sun and the monastery of Santo Domingo, the Plaza de Armas, the cathedral and the old town with the stone of 12 angles. After lunch, we continue by bus and visit the ruins of Sacsay Huaman, Qenqo, Puca Pucara and Tambo Machay. Return to Cusco. **(B) (L)**

#### **DAY 14 Friday, February 20 SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS**

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning we head to the Sacred Valley. There we will visit the Indian market of Pisac and its archaeological site, as well as the fortress of Ollaytantambo. Buffet lunch on the way. Then we will head to the chosen Hotel in the sacred valley. Free time after registration. Dinner at the hotel **(B) (L) (D)**

#### **DAY 15 Saturday, February 21 MACHUPICCHU -CUZCO**

The visit to Machu Picchu is on today's agenda. After breakfast, we will take small buses to the archaeological site of Machu Picchu. The advantage is that we arrived early to the ruins before the crowd of tourists. Our guide will explain the details of the citadel. After the guided tour, free time to explore the ruins on your own. After lunch, return to Cusco via Ollantaytambo. **(B) (L)**

#### **DAY 16 Sunday, February 22 CUZCO - LIMA**

In the morning, domestic flight to Lima. After lunch (not included), city Tour and visit of the historic center, Plaza de Armas (main square) with the government palace (House of Pizarro), the church and monastery of San Francisco and its catacombs. We will also visit the Golden Museum. At the end of the afternoon, we'll meet for a farewell dinner. **(B) (D)**

#### **DAY 17 Monday, February 23 LIMA - TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT**

You will have all day free. Time to go shopping or to recover from your trip. At the given time, transfer to the airport for your flight back home. It is possible to book individually daily trips from Lima (such as the Nazca Lines or the Ballesta Island, the small Galapagos Island). If you plan to stay a few more days in South America, we will gladly help you to plan your extension. Once at the Airport, end of our services. **(B)**



**(B)** Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(B)** Dinner