

South America MOTORBIKE TOURS

LIFE IS NOT - WITHOUT A PASSION

UYUNI tour Chile - Bolivia - Argentina AS REAL AS IT GETS

An **adventure** which can only be described as Authenticity at its very best. Discover some of the highest, most isolated, coldest, warmest, windiest, spots on earth. A flat whiteness, fringed by the peaks of mountains on the horizon beneath a bright blue sky can be admired by the riders. Besides, the silence that one can experience in this region is captivating. Calm and tranquility, not easily found anywhere, characterizes this landscape. As many other parts of South America, this developing area has very little to offer in terms of commodity. However, if you have an adventurous spirit you will be overwhelmed by its natural beauty. Combine this with the most indigenous country in South America and you have a true adventure.

Total Kilometers 3.060
11 days, 10 nights

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AS REAL AS IT GETS

DAY 1

420 km.

We leave **Antofagasta** towards Calama in which we will cross the famous Atacama Desert which is well known as being the driest desert in the world. After having lunch and fueling up in Calama we'll hit our first dirt/gravel road which after 190 km will take us to our first resting place, Ollagüe. The **Ollagüe** (3200m above sea level) community has its foundation in the old station of the Antofagasta - Bolivia railroad, located on the border of both countries. The majority of inhabitants in Ollagüe are Indigenous (Quechua).

Lodging at Ollagüe, Chile.

DAY 2

270 km.

Today's destination is certainly one of the most exciting of all: **El Salar de Uyuni**. (Uyuni Salt Flats). With an area of 12.000km², and situated in the southwest of Bolivia, **Uyuni is the world's largest salt flat**. It lies at an altitude of 3.700 meters just west of the township of Uyuni and extends like a huge flat white desert.

We stay in a hotel built entirely of salt located on the edge of this enormous Salt Flat. We arrive just in time to come together on the terrace of the hotel to share a drink whilst watching a magnificent Uyuni sunset.

Lodging at Uyuni salt flats, Bolivia.



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DAY 3

180 km approx.

Today we will enjoy riding the **Uyuni salt flats**.

Surrounded by mountains and volcano's, the dimensions of this vast plain of salt transmits a set of mixed feelings to the riders; surprise, novelty, admiration and enchantment, while their bikes ride on the shiny hard salt crusts. A silent landscape of salt stretching in all directions bringing the riders to a powerful state of mind; for many an opportunity to experience their lifetime desired to truly feel: **freedom!**

Lunch will be at **Incahuasi Island**. Built on the remains of an ancient volcano of petrified limestone, the island hosts a forest of cactus and is located in the middle of the salt flats.

In the afternoon we continue this adventure riding towards the **Thunupa Volcano**. After a short journey through the volcano we will reach a small cave where five mummies from 700 AD were found and preserved. Part of their skin, hair, nails, and the mantle covering them are almost intact. Around them are tools and personal items such as bowls, which were placed there to enable them to travel safely to their next life. The most interesting part of this visit is that these mummies are until today without any government protection.

Lodging at Uyuni salt flats, Bolivia.

DAY 4

280 km.

Our destination for today is **Potosí**. Located at an altitude of 4,070 mts. over sea level, Potosí is the capital of the department of the same name and it is the highest city in the world. We stay at the **Hacienda Cayara**, located just outside the city.

The place is a real museum; with original historic pieces of art and furniture that date back to the 15th century. We always book the entire place for our group. At night we enjoy a barbecue cooked in the Argentinean traditional way accompanied by a good selection of wines.

Lodging at the Hacienda Cayara, Potosí, Bolivia.



49' 50' 51' 52' 53' 54' 55'

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DAY 5

120 km.

Potosi city was created by miners and continues to be a **miner's city**. Today we will have the opportunity to go down a **mine shaft** and see how people work, without adequate lighting or equipment, no gloves, little air, and under extreme conditions.

If you don't suffer claustrophobia or asthma, and dare to, this will be an unforgettable experience. Once you are inside, the miners will come to visit and chat with the group, something they appreciate as it is the only thing that will distract them from their exhausting routine for a few minutes. After lunch we'll start our trip to our final destination for the day, **Sucre, the Capital of Bolivia** (sealed road). Sucre is a beautiful colonial city and is well-known for its lovely churches. **Founded in 1540** Sucre has been declared by **UNESCO as a Cultural Heritage of Humanity**, a living museum of the splendid lifestyle of the Spanish colonial aristocracy.

Lodging at Sucre, Bolivia.

DAY 6

Non riding day.

Free day to wander around and explore the beautiful old city of **Sucre**.

Sucre's colonial past is reflected in numerous religious and civic buildings distributed in the city center. Around the main square you will also find the best gift shops with a variety of high quality local designs.

Lodging at Sucre, Bolivia.

DAY 7

400 km.

From Sucre we'll ride for approx 8 hours before reaching the city of **Tarija**.

Approximately half of the 400 km is asphalt whilst the remainder in dirt /gravel. The dirt/ gravel section is in good condition and consolidated. The ride entering Tarija is absolutely stunning. Tarija is as laid back town, with its palm lined squares, sizzling Argentine barbeques and sprawling bars. Tarija is also surrounded by numerous vineyards.

Lodging at Tarija, Bolivia.



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DAY 8

650 km.

From Tarija to **Bermejo** (the border town between Bolivia and Argentina) we will ride for approx 5 - 6 hours. After crossing the Bolivian/Argentine border we'll ride through Jujuy until we reach the stunning town of Purmamarca, which is our final destination for the day. **Purmamarca** is famous for its **Seven Color Mountain**; layers upon layers of sedimentary origin make an absolutely gorgeous backdrop for the village. At dawn, the market stalls that arise around the square start to unfold fabrics and shawls woven of alpaca and sheep wool.

Lodging at Purmamarca, Argentina.

DAY 9

420 km.

Today we'll be on our way to **San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.**

Leaving Purmamarca, we take National Route 52 that takes us to the **International Jama Pass** through the well known **"Cuesta de Lipan"**. We may say that, combined with the infinity of the curves of the "Cuesta de Lipan", this landscape is one of the most beautiful natural sceneries in the Argentine Northwest. Our first stop will be at Las Salinas Grandes (salt flats). **Las Salinas Grandes** are considered to be **the third largest salt lakes in the world**, after Uyuni Salt Lake in Bolivia and Arizaro Salt Lake in Salta.

Lodging at San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.



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DAY 10

Non riding day

San Pedro de Atacama is considered **the archaeological capital of Chile**.

Today, you can have the morning off to walk around the town. Early in the afternoon, a private transfer will pick up to take you for a cocktail on the salt flats beside the amazing oasis where you can also swim.

Lodging at San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.

DAY 11

320 km.

We begin our final ride of our journey, towards the city of **Antofagasta** following a coffee-break in the heart of the **Atacama Desert**, we reach our final destination of this tour. After a dust down and a good leans up, we will make our way to the airport to catch our flight to Santiago.

END OF TOUR



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