



Bolivia

Colossal variations in altitude provide Bolivia with some of the world's richest biodiversity and contrast – dazzling salt flats, staggering Andean peaks, Amazonian rainforests and crystal lakes. Landlocked, rugged, challenging, this most indigenous and arguably authentic of South American countries offers an intense, breathtaking experience. Despite its incredible attractions, Bolivia remains a little-visited country.



At a glance

- Amazon Basin dry season April-October
- Altiplano extremely cold (especially at night) June-August
- Lake Titicaca, high in the Andes, sacred to the Inca and Aymara. Explore Moon and Sun island
- Salt flats at Uyuni - the largest in the world and stay in a salt hotel! Sleep in an Airstream camper!
- Noel Kempff Mercado National Park - rainforest, savannah and over 620 bird species
- Madidi National Park – pristine cloud and rainforest
- Vast range of flora and fauna, including toucans, parrots, vicuna, flamingos, condors, and even the Andean spectacled bear
- Rich folklore and culture of indigenous population (Quechua, Aymara, Guarani)

Getting there

There are no direct flights from the UK to Bolivia. Air Europa operates flights from London Gatwick via Madrid to Santa Cruz. American Airlines operates flights via Miami to La Paz. There are flights from neighbouring countries to La Paz and Santa Cruz.

Prices from **£3,895 per person** (2 sharing) for a 11 night trip

Combinations

Bolivia combines particularly well with Peru or Chile (especially Atacama).

La Paz

Positioned at 3,500m and overlooked by high mountains, La Paz has a stunning setting which can now be enjoyed by taking a ride on a network of cable cars. In the centre both old colonial and commercial buildings provide the backdrop to a vibrant and colourful street life, with markets tended by Aymara women dressed in traditional skirts and bowler hats. The 'Witches Market' provides a fascinating insight into the indigenous rituals and beliefs that have become part of urban life.



La Casona Boutique hotel

La Paz **BB**

This property is situated in the historic district of La Paz in a building which dates from the 17th century. There is a courtyard, cellar and small museum. Outside, a terrace allows guests to view the hustle and bustle of the city. The hotel rooms are simply but comfortably furnished and the hotel has a bar and a restaurant.

Sucre

Sucre sits at an altitude of 2790m, and has a laid-back charm and some stunning 19th century whitewashed houses. A UNESCO World Heritage site - it has much colonial architecture to admire, including many churches and interesting museums. The main square is a relaxed place where local people meet to chat under the trees, or drink in a local cafe. The area is particularly noted for the quality of its weaving. Sucre is an ideal base to acclimatise before travelling to the higher altitudes of Potosi and Uyuni.



Hotel de Su Merced

Sucre **BB**

It is a family-run charming hotel with 23 en suite rooms. It is a converted 18th century house filled with antique furniture and a restaurant. The sun terraces around the hotel have superb views of the city. The hotel is walking distance to the main square where there is a good choice of restaurants and bars.

OUR TOP TIPS

About an hour from La Paz lies the interesting archaeological site of Tiwanaku • Take a ride on the world's longest cable car. It is 30km long and has 17 stations. It gives a wonderful bird's eye view of the city • Close to Sucre is the world's largest collection of dinosaur tracks encased in a large limestone rock



Deluxe Airstream camper (see below)



Suggested itineraries

Please find some suggested itineraries which can be tailored to suit individual requirements. They are simply examples of what is feasible within different timeframes. There are additional itineraries on our website or please speak to us for further guidance. They are aimed at individual travellers (NOT group escorted tours). Tours include an English speaking guide. Prices are a guideline only please contact us for an exact quote. Please note that we are able to quote for land only arrangements (no flights) but we require a minimum of 7 nights.

Salar de Uyuni

Salar de Uyuni are the world's highest and largest salt flats, covering over 10,000 square kilometres and reaching 150 kilometres in width at some points. A stark and surreal landscape that is well off the beaten track. The feeling when standing in the middle of this salt desert is truly indescribable and will stay with you forever. Travel on an exhilarating high altitude journey through the Andes from Salar de Uyuni to San Pedro de Atacama (Chile). A fascinating train graveyard lies on the edge of Salar de Uyuni. Marvel at the spectacular soda lakes - bright red Laguna Colorada and jade green Laguna Verde lie 350km southwest of Uyuni. The best time of year to visit these majestic salt flats is between June and July when the bright blue skies contrast with the blinding-white salt crust.



Luna Salada Hotel Salar de Uyuni **HB**

The Luna Salada (Salt Moon) is a hotel built entirely from salt! It is located about 20 minutes from the town of Uyuni. The 23 rooms are spacious with en suite facilities, and additional individual heaters as well as the option of having a hot water bottle put in your bed whilst at dinner! Views of the salt flats from the hotel's slightly elevated position are spectacular. There is a spa and restaurant, Tunupa, which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. There is a telescope for stargazing on clear nights.



DELUXE AIRSTREAM CAMPER

These comfortable and stylish campers provide an experience of a lifetime when travelling around the salt flats. They contain double bed (or twin), sofa, hot shower and heating. Camper is towed by 4x4. Private guide and cook (separate kitchen on wheels) included. More details on request.

Guide prices include

- International economy return flights from the UK (see the itinerary for specific airline details)
- Accommodation - standard room unless stated otherwise
- Private transfers and tours (unless indicated otherwise)
- Internal flights (as featured in the itinerary)
- Meals (as outlined in the itinerary)

Board basis key

- BB** Bed and Breakfast
- HB** Half-Board
- FB** Full Board
- AI** All inclusive

Breathtaking Bolivia - 11 nights

Based on Air Europa flights (via Madrid)
Guide price per person (2 sharing) £3,895

- Santa Cruz 3 nights (total) **BB**
- Sucre 1 night **BB**
- Potosi 1 night **BB**
- Salar de Uyuni 2 nights **HB**
- La Paz 2 nights **BB**
- Lake Titicaca 2 nights **BB**

Day 1 Upon arrival transfer to hotel in Santa Cruz. Cortez Hotel for 2 nights. **BB**

Day 2 Full day guided visit to the site of Samaipata.

Day 3 Transfer to airport. Fly to Sucre. Transfer to

Hosteria de Su Merced for 1 night. **BB**

Guided afternoon half day city tour.

Day 4 Transfer to Potosi. Stay at the Cima Argentum Hotel for 1 night. **BB**

Day 5 Transfer to the Uyuni Salt Flats and Colchani area. Stay at the Luna Salada for 2 nights. **HB**

Day 6 Full day guided sightseeing tour on the amazing Salar de Uyuni.

Day 7 Transfer to airport. Fly to La Paz. Transfer to La Casona Hotel for 2 nights. **BB**

Day 8 Guided half day sightseeing city tour in La Paz including a ride on one of the city's cable-cars.

Day 9 Visit the ruins at Tiwanaku, then continue to the shores of Lake Titicaca and 2 nights Inca Utama Hotel. **BB**

Day 10 Full day guided tour around Lake Titicaca.

Day 11 Return by road to La Paz airport. Fly to Santa Cruz. Cortez Hotel for 1 night. **BB**

Day 12 Transfer to Santa Cruz airport for return flight to the UK.

Andean Explorer - a spectacular journey through Peru, Bolivia and Chile - 19 nights

Based on Iberia (via Madrid) and British Airways
Guide price per person (2 sharing) £5,450

- Peru 9 nights (total) **BB**
- La Paz 2 nights **BB**
- Salar de Uyuni 2 nights **HB**
- San Pedro de Quemez 1 night **HB**
- San Pedro de Atacama 3 nights **BB**
- Santiago 2 nights **BB**

Days 1 to 9 As per the Highlights of Peru Itinerary. (see page 86)

Day 10 Travel from Puno to La Paz by road and hydrofoil on Lake Titicaca. Stop at Copacabana, the Sun and Moon islands, Huatajata and onward transfer to La Paz. La Casona for 2 nights. **BB**

Day 11 Guided half day sightseeing tour in La Paz including a ride on one of the city's new cable-cars.

Day 12 Transfer to La Paz airport for a flight to Uyuni. Transfer to Salt Hotel for 2 nights. **BB**

Day 13 Full day guided sightseeing tour on the amazing Salar de Uyuni.

Day 14 Begin the first part of your overland journey to Chile. Stay in San Pedro de Quemez at Tayka de Piedra for 1 night HB (very simple accommodation).

Day 15 Enjoy fabulous unspoilt natural scenery of colourful lakes, mountains, fumaroles and volcanoes on the journey into Chile. Stay in San Pedro de Atacama at the Noi Casa Atacama Hotel for 3 nights. **BB**

Days 16-17 Days at leisure.

Day 18 Transfer to Calama airport. Fly to Santiago and stay at the Cumbres Lastarria Hotel for 2 nights. **BB**

Day 19 Day at leisure. Optional tour to a vineyard or Valparaiso can be arranged locally.

Day 20 Transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK.