



BREATHTAKING BOLIVIA

Brimming with variety, vitality and living history,
Bolivia offers a unique experience in Latin
America.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries



Latin America, Bolivia



12 days from AU\$7,930 pp



Private

Journey Overview

Brimming with variety, vitality and living history, Bolivia offers a unique experience in Latin America, and this one-of-a-kind journey is rich with both indigenous and colonial art and culture in the major centres, unexpected religious relics in the lowland country, and quaint colonial architectural gems. Natural wonders are also in abundance, from the glistening salt flats of Uyuni to the remote altiplano and the world's highest navigable lake.

Journey Highlights

- Witness Salar de Uyuni, the largest salt flat on earth
- Bask in the seclusion of your Sun Island eco retreat on Lake Titicaca
- Navigate through the sparkling white colonial buildings of Sucre
- Meander through local markets, including the Witches' Market in La Paz



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Santa Cruz

Welcome to Santa Cruz, a dynamic cosmopolitan city, Bolivia's largest, located at the foothill of the Andes where modernity fuses with tradition. The country's main gateway is the perfect introduction to discover the Bolivian way of life. Upon arrival meet your local A&K representative and proceed to your accommodation. Stroll out on your own, get your bearings and immerse yourself in Bolivian culture.

Camino Real Hotel

Day 2: Santa Cruz

Spend your morning exploring the city with your private guide. Begin at the main square "Plaza 24 de Septiembre" and view the Cathedral "Basilica Menor de San Lorenzo" and continue to the Indian Market, "El Abasto". Wind through the city's neighbourhoods and see where up-scale restaurants sit alongside local street vendors, and colonial architecture blends with native art. Here, sip your first taste of real Bolivian coffee. Immerse yourself in the fascinating local art and handicrafts of Arte Campo, which provides an outlet for the work of a thousand rural cruceña women and their families.

Camino Real Hotel / Meals: B

Day 3: Santa Cruz - Sucre

Fly to the UNESCO World Heritage listed city of Sucre (2,800 metres), Bolivia's constitutional capital. Navigate your way through sparkling white colonial buildings in the picture-perfect city centre and enjoy its cultural hotspots, including museums and galleries filled with indigenous arts, colonial paintings and archaeological remains. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure or you choose to experience the transformation of cocoa into chocolate and learn about the cultivation of cocoa in Bolivia.

Parador Santa Maria La Real / Meals: B

Day 4: Sucre

Spend the day uncovering Potolo, a community belonging to the Quechua-Jalq'a ethnic group, located between beautiful coloured mountains and surrounded by the river of the same name a short distance from town. Famous for its handcrafted textile production and the beauty of its designs with zoomorphic, geometric figure. Every Sunday, the nearby charming and indigenous town of Tarabuco comes to life as villagers come from far and wide to buy and sell wares at the myriad of stalls lining the streets. Marvel at the fantastic mix of traditional dress, including their surprising choice of hats. This evening you may choose to enjoy a traditional Bolivian music; featuring musicians and dancers whilst dining on traditional cuisine.

Parador Santa Maria La Real / Meals: BL

Day 5: Sucre - Potosi - Uyuni

Start your overland journey to colonial Potosí (4,100 metres), home to the Rich Mountain. Legend has it that this cone-shaped peak rising 4,800 metres into Bolivia's southern highlands bankrolled the Spanish empire with its rich silver deposits. See how mining still drives the local economy when you visit a working mine. Then, continue overland to Uyuni (3,650 metres) where your hotel is built almost entirely out of salt blocks.

Luna Salada Hotel / Meals: BLD

Day 6: Uyuni

Lose yourself in Salar de Uyuni, the largest salt flat on Earth comprising 10 billion tonnes of salt. Discover Bolivia at its most barren and uninhabitable, where the only sound is the salt crust crunching underfoot. Gaze beyond the unchanging and shadowless flatness to the snow-capped Andes on the horizon. If you can tear yourself away, lunch at Isla Incawasi will not disappoint. See where the remains of a magnificent coral reef are now covered by 1,200-year-old cacti and fossils.

Luna Salada Hotel / Meals: BLD

There is an option to upgrade to an overnight in a Deluxe Airstream Camper tonight.

Camp out under the stars on the largest Salt Lake in the world, in the luxury of your own Deluxe Airstream Camper. Travel by 4WD with a private guide during the day, as the sunsets, park up for the night and sip a cocktail while dinner is prepared by the chef, using a separate 'kitchen on wheels. 'The Deluxe Airstream Camper are fully equipped and have an electricity supply, heating and inside toilet. There is a spacious area to relax in. During the evening, the guides sleep separately away from the camper to give you complete privacy. The camper will be in the middle of the salt flats, where you can enjoy spectacular sunsets and stunning scenery.

Day 7: Uyuni - La Paz

Travel northwards by flight to the Bolivian capital where you'll soon discover there's more than the altitude making La Paz (3,625 metres) so exquisitely memorable. Step back in time and unearth mystic remedies and charms in the Mercado de las Brujas, or Witches' Market. Stroll along streets filled with the stalls of women in brightly coloured traditional shawls and bowler hats to the Museo de Coca, dedicated to Bolivia's best-known export. Get lost in a maze of canyons and giant spires in Moon Valley, before soaring in a cable car to breathe in views of majestic Mount Illimani.

Casa Grande Hotel / Meals: B

Day 8: La Paz

Explore La Paz two ways this morning. Venture to a high plateau above the city to witness the brightly coloured ostentatious *cholets* (mansions) of architect Freddy Mamani. Cholets aren't only houses to live in, the ground floors feature ballrooms, the upper floors are apartments or galleries and the top floor is where the owner lives. Later seek out treasures in the frenetic Andean markets, where colour, commerce and culture collide in wonderful chaos. Spend your afternoon free to wander amongst the city's theatrical street life or simply recline in the sanctuary of your hotel. Later, witness the fascinating and bizarre Cholita wrestling where traditionally dress women in bowler hats do battle in the ring in a highly choreographed display.

Casa Grande Hotel / Meals: B

Day 9: La Paz - Lake Titicaca

Journey onwards to board the hydrofoil to Copacabana. Brazil's Copacabana beach may be world renowned, but it took its name from Lake Titicaca's base town, in homage to the Virgin Mary statue there. Visit the shrine before continuing your cruise to Sun Island, where your rustic eco-lodge rests atop the hill. The afternoon is yours to enjoy the world's highest navigable lake and its surrounds.

Posada del Inca Eco Lodge / Meals: BLD

Day 10: Lake Titicaca

Bask in the seclusion of your island retreat for the day. Your lodge is the ideal base from which to explore the island's highlights, like the sacred Puma Rock, trek to the nearby lighthouse or simply soak up the surrounding scenery and the majesty of the Andes.

Posada del Inca Eco Lodge / Meals: BLD

Day 11: Lake Titicaca - La Paz

Descend the Inca Steps to taste the water of the sacred fountain, promising to bring eternal youth and happiness. Soak up lake views over lunch at the Uma Kollu archaeological restaurant, with its picturesque handicraft market. Visit the temple of nearby Moon Island, before cruising to Copacabana for your return journey to La Paz.

Casa Grande Hotel / Meals: BL

Day 12: Depart La Paz

Take a final stroll through the city's colonial centre, before your private transfer to the airport for your onward journey.

Meals: B

Map



Accommodation

Parador Santa Maria La Real, Sucre



Parador Santa Maria is in the historic city centre in a colonial house dating back to the 18th century. The hotel has been renovated with modern facilities while conserving the structure and detailing of the original building. The traditional colonial style is evident in each of the rooms with handpicked works of art and antiques used in the decor. Facilities include a café and a Jacuzzi on the upper terrace.

Luna Salada Hotel, Uyuni



Built entirely of salt, Luna Salada Hotel is a rustic property situated on the edge of the world's largest salt flat. With sweeping panoramic views, rooms are designed with colourful Andean charm, art and furniture. Enjoy delicious regional flavours from the restaurant or relax in the spa.

Casa Grande Hotel, La Paz



La Paz's most stylish contemporary hotel – in the smart Zona Sur neighbourhood – is a great choice for those who want to see the more residential side of the Bolivian capital. An architectural landmark for the city, Casa Grande has a lofty atrium featuring a striking curved glass roof that allows natural light to flood the reception. Interiors are in functional grey and off-white, and there is oxygen available for anyone challenged by the altitude. The sleek cocktail lounge and restaurant serves innovative cuisine and mesmerising views of the surrounding mountains and city.

Posada del Inca Eco Lodge, Titicaca



An exclusive retreat on one of Lake Titicaca's most beautiful islands, Posada del Inca Eco Lodge has an idyllic setting. Very much in keeping with the island's agricultural economy and traditional architecture, this restored quaintly rustic stone-built house features walled-in gardens full of lawns and flower beds. The views over the lake are stunning, especially at dawn. Cosy, simple rooms are decorated in a homely style, with en suite bathrooms and the food is home-cooked super-simple fare.

Deluxe Airstream campers



Upgrade your experience on the Uyuni Salt flats with a stay in a Deluxe Air Stream Camper. Complete with double or twin beds and a convertible sofa, enjoy every home comfort from electric blankets and a private bathroom with hot shower to air-conditioning/heating and a mini-bar. Gourmet meals are prepared by your private chef.

2 DAYS | PRICE:

Twin Share Per Person: From \$1,795

Solo Traveller: From \$3,395

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