

13 DAYS CYCLE CHILE & ARGENTINA: ATACAMA TO SALTA

DESTINATIONS

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1

Destination	San Pedro
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

The tour meeting point will be at the start hotel in San Pedro in the afternoon, where you will meet your travelling party

DAY 2

Destination	San Pedro 🚲 Valley of the Moon 🚲 San Pedro
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

This morning we get on our bikes for the first time and go on an acclimatisation ride. We will depart the town of San Pedro and cycle to the Valley of the Moon. Here you will feel as if you have landed on another planet, as it is often compared to Mars due to its red coloured rock formations and dunes. Afterwards we will ride a bit further to visit some salt caves, before heading back a different way to San Pedro town.

DAY 3

Destination	San Pedro 🚲 Tatio Geysers 🚲 San Pedro
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Today is a very early start as we depart our hotel in San Pedro and set off towards the impressive Tatio Geysers, the third largest geyser fields in the world and the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. They are located at 4000 meters above sea level. Departing early gives us an opportunity to watch the sunrise in one of the most important geothermic fields in the world. On arrival we will enjoy breakfast in this beautiful setting, providing us with the perfect way to warm up. On our way back to San Pedro we will see beautiful sites and stop off in the Village of Machuca, an atacameño village of 20 houses which are built from clay, straw and cactus wood. We will head back to town in time for lunch, before a short ride scheduled in the afternoon. Departing in the afternoon to San Isidro's Chapel, stopping along the way at famous landmarks like the Devil's Throat.

DAY 4

Destination	San Pedro 🚲🚲🚲 Jama Pass 🚲🚲 Jama Salt Flats 🚲🚲 Susques
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

Today is a long travel day so we will get up early in order to say goodbye to Chile and cross into Argentina (approx. 2.5 hours), via the Jama Pass (4275m). We will be making some stops at viewpoints to stretch our legs and take some photos during the journey, including some lagoons in Los Flamencos Reserve. Once we clear immigration, we will continue our transfer to the town of Jama (approx. 2.5 hours). In Jama we will have lunch before getting on our bikes and cycle alongside the Jama Salt Flats. Then we have another transfer (approx. 1.5 hours) to our destination for the night, Susques.

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TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 5

Destination	Susques 🚗 Salinas Grandes Salt Pans 🚲 Purmamarca
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

Departing Susques, we transfer (approx. 1 hour) to the small community of Cerro Negro. Here we will unload the bikes and start cycling towards the Salinas Grandes Salt Pans. Here you will have the opportunity to experience riding on salt before making a stop for our picnic lunch. Afterwards we will transfer to the viewpoint of Abra de Potrerillos (4170m). From there we will then enjoy a fast-downhill ride with amazing views of the surrounding coloured hills and rock formations until we arrive at the famous Hill of Seven Colours. From here we have a short ride to our hotel located just outside the town of Purmamarca.

DAY 6

Destination	Purmamarca 🚗 El Carmen 🚲 Salta
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

We start the morning with a transfer (approx. 1 hour) to the small town of El Carmen. Today's ride will feel completely different as we cycle through a rainforest on a paved road heading south towards Salta. This was the route that joined the two main cities in the province, Salta and Jujuy. This is one of the most spectacular cycling stages as you will encounter a serpentine road surrounded by lush rainforest on either side of the road. We will stop for a picnic lunch near the town of La Caldera before boarding a transfer to our destination for the next 2 nights, the beautiful city of Salta.

DAY 7

Destination	Salta
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Spend today at leisure and enjoy exploring beautiful Salta. We recommend you visit the high mountain archaeological museum (MAAM), located in the centre of town. Here you will find three mummies of children from the Inca civilization, who were sacrificed at the Llullaillaco Volcano. Only one of the mummies is on display at any one time, as they are changed every 6 months. Please ask your tour leader and they will help you to arrange it. We can also organise a bird watching trip to Finco Cielo Verde.

DAY 8

Destination	Salta 🚗 Alemania 🚲 Conchas River 🚲 Cafayate
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

Following breakfast, we transfer (approx. 1 hour), to the abandoned Alemania village and train station. After exploring this fascinating village, we will get on our bikes and start cycling along the Conchas River. We will pass many interesting rock formations which have over the years received names like the Amphitheatre and the Devil's Throat. Today is our longest ride but we end in the tranquil town of Cafayate, which is renowned for its wine production.

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DAY 9

Destination	Cafayate 🚲 Quilmes 🚗 Cafayate
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

This morning we cycle towards the Sacred City of Quilmes. These are Calchaquí native ruins, from a tribe who once lived amongst the Calchaquí mountain range. It is considered as the largest pre-Colombian settlement in Argentina. We will have a guided tour of the ruins before having lunch and then transfer (approx. 1 hour) back to Cafayate. On route we will stop at Las Arcas de Tolombon Winery for some wine tasting.

DAY 10

Destination	Cafayate 🚲 San Carlos 🚗 Molinos
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

After breakfast we set off on our bikes towards the Calchaquí Valley passing through the old town of San Carlos. This is one of the oldest towns in Argentina. After lunch we will take a transfer (approx. 1.5 hours) to Molinos but will be stopping off at the best locations to get great photos. Everywhere you look you will see horizontal rock formations which look like they have been fired at Earth from space. We will pass a few sleepy small towns and hamlets along the way.

DAY 11

Destination	Molinos 🚲 Seclantás 🚲 Cachi
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

After breakfast we will start cycling straight from our hotel and head on the old National Route 40 to Seclantás. This is a very scenic route as we will be cycling along the Calchaquí River. When we arrive to El Colte, we will stop and appreciate some of the art displayed by the side of the path produced by loom weavers. Afterwards we will carry on cycling until we arrive at our hotel for the night.

DAY 12

Destination	Cachi 🚗 Los Cardones National Park 🚲 Bishops Slope 🚗 Salta
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation	N/A

For our final day of cycling we will have a short transfer (approx. 30 minutes) to our starting point in Los Cardones National Park. The name comes from the hundreds of cardon grande cactus which are everywhere throughout the park. From here we will have our final biking stage, downhill along the mesmerising Bishop's Slope. The last leg of our journey is completed with a transfer back to Salta.

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DAY 13

Destination	Salta
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Today after breakfast, the tour concludes

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Inclusions

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All breakfasts and 9 lunches
- 12 nights accommodation in 3 to 4 star hotels
- 10 days cycling with full vehicle support
- Tour leader throughout
- Local bike hire included
- Cycle through a desert, salt flats, ravines and a rainforest
- Two South American Countries, Chile and Argentina
- Excursions to Atacama salt flats, altiplano lagoons and the Tatio geysers
- Superior twin share accommodation
- Sightseeing and transportation as per the itinerary

Fine Print

HOW TO BOOK & PAYMENTS

Deposit & Payments

- Book now and secure your package with only a AUD \$640 deposit per person.
- Pay a 2nd instalment of AUD \$1,280 per person within 28 days.
- You will then be invoiced for final payment 120 days prior to departure.

Booking Process

- Select the purple 'Reserve Your Seat' tab to begin your booking (you must 'Sign Up' first by entering your email and creating a password)
- Then select the purple 'Book now' tab of the tour you have selected
- Select your Departure Date, Departure City, Number of Passengers, Room Configuration, any Upgrade Options, and enter any Special Requests
- Click the purple 'Proceed to Secure Checkout' tab
- Enter your credit card or PayPal details to secure your deposit/payment. You may also pay via BPAY (not available within 70 days of departure)
- Once your order is complete, you will be prompted to complete a Booking Form so that we can fulfil your booking
- Your position on the tour will be confirmed within 48 hours of completing your order. If your place cannot be confirmed, a full refund of the deposit will occur.

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OPTIONAL TOURS	None
EXCLUSIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International Airfares• Personal Expenses• Travel Insurance• Optional activities• Anything not mentioned in the itinerary or optional
HOTEL LIST	Porto - Cristal Hotel or Vila Gale or similar Praia de Mira - Maçarico Beach Hotel or similar Figuera da Foz - Universal Boutique Hotel or similar Sao Pedro do Moel - or similar Obidos - Literary Man Hotel or similar Lisbon - Sana Malhoa / Hotel Czar / Olaias Park or similar
IMPORTANT INFORMATION	<p>Accommodation The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences, however, any changes are beyond our control.</p> <p>Single Supplement A single supplement is available from \$1,333</p> <p>Triple Share Not available.</p> <p>Children Children must be 5 years old or over and share a room with parents at all times. Children are charged the same price as adults.</p> <p>Tour Documentation Final documentation will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.</p> <p>Activity Level 3 Moderate You are moderately fit and possess a spirit of adventure. Some previous experience is required for most activity based trips.</p>

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