

## La Paz to Buenos Aires: Andes & the Atacama Desert - SBLB

15 days: La Paz to Buenos Aires

### What's Included

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- Your G for Good Moment: Jukil Community Experience & Lodge, Santiago de Agencha
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends
- Your Discover Moment: Sucre
- Your Discover Moment: Salta
- 4x4 excursion to the Salar de Uyuni and surrounding area (3 days)
- Transportation between destinations and included activities
- Internal flight
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2017 and onwards

### Itinerary Notes

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**1) Please note transportation providers in Bolivia can be unpredictable and change or cancel bus routes, our itineraries may change to accommodate these changes with the best passenger experience in mind. 2) We recommend bringing USD in cash for the Argentinean portion of this tour as it is easier than using a credit card or withdrawing ARS from an ATM. USD currency is accepted in travel agencies for booking optional activities.**

### Itinerary

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

#### Day 1 La Paz

Arrive at any time. Catch your breath before heading out for a few cold ones near the hotel with your fellow travellers. Get to know each other as you prepare for the adventure of a lifetime.

#### **Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group**

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

#### **Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends**

Connect with new friends on your first night out in a new destination. Only available on 18-to-Thirtysomethings tours.

#### **Accommodation**

**Hotel Las Brisas (or similar)**

Hotel

## **Day 2 La Paz/Sucre**

Get to know La Paz with a free day to wander through the city's winding streets and vibrant markets before boarding a night bus to Sucre.

### **Free Time**

La Paz Full Day

Get out and explore this high altitude city.

### **Overnight Bus**

La Paz – Sucre 14h416km

Curl up and catch a snooze en route to the next stop.

### **Optional Activities - Day 2**

#### **Valley of the Moon Tour**

La Paz

15USD per person

Tour the lunar landscape of the Valley of the Moon, observe the clay formations carved into the landscape by years of erosion.

#### **Witches' Market Visit**

La Paz

Learn more about the pre-Columbian Aymara beliefs at the Witches' Market. You can witness locals buying products such as dried frogs, potions, and talismans for use in rituals and offerings.

#### **Death Road Biking Adventure**

La Paz

Get your adrenaline pumping as you soar down the 'world's most dangerous road.' Start high up in the Andes at 4,700m (15,420 ft) and wind your way down this steep, narrow road on the mountainside into the depths of the Bolivian jungle. This is not one for the faint of heart, adrenaline junkies only!

Please note that the entrance fee of 53 Bolivianos (not included in this activity) must be paid directly to the National Park prior to biking, only local currency is accepted. We are unable to pre-pay this fee in advance, due to the park policy.

#### **La Paz City Tour**

La Paz

25-45USD per person

Explore the city on a guided tour. Check out stunning cathedrals, impressive museums, and lively markets, learning more about the history of this fascinating city. Look for majestic Mt Illimani in the background.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **Day 3 Sucre**

Discover the beauty of Sucre, known as Bolivia's "White City" at your own pace with a free day to explore. Set in a valley surrounded by mountains, you can choose to go hiking or mountain biking to admire this city from a different point of view.

### **Free Time**

Sucre

Get out and explore beautiful tranquil Sucre.

### **Optional Activities - Day 3**

#### **Hiking**

Sucre

Head out of town, take in some fresh air, and explore this scenic area by foot.

#### **Mountain Biking**

Sucre

Take a guided mountain biking trip on the outskirts of Sucre and explore more of this beautiful region.

#### **Sucre Dinosaur Tracks Excursion**

Sucre

Get ready to get up close and personal with the prehistoric times: Sucre is home to one of the world's largest collections of dinosaur footprints made some 68 million years ago. Discover more than 5,000 footprints perfectly preserved footprints in the Cal Orck'o cliff just outside the city centre. See the world's longest trail -- 347m (1138 ft) -- left by a baby Tyrannosaurus Rex now affectionately known as 'Johnny Walker'.

### **Sunday Tarabuco Market**

Sucre

130BOB per person

On a Sunday morning, the Tarabuco market offers a glimpse into daily Bolivian life and the diversity of its people. Where indigenous groups from the surrounding area gather on Sundays to sell their goods.

### **Accommodation**

**Hotel Independencia (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 4 Sucre**

One day in Sucre isn't enough, so take another free day to explore! Try optional activities such as hiking, mountain biking, a visit to the Textile Cooperative, or get up close and personal with real dinosaur tracks.

### **Your Discover Moment**

Sucre Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Sucre, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like hiking, mountain biking, and visiting the Textile Cooperative. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

### **Optional Activities - Day 4**

#### **Hiking**

Sucre

Head out of town, take in some fresh air, and explore this scenic area by foot.

### **Sucre Dinosaur Tracks Excursion**

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130BOB per person

On a Sunday morning, the Tarabuco market offers a glimpse into daily Bolivian life and the diversity of its people. Where indigenous groups from the surrounding area gather on Sundays to sell their goods.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Accommodation**

**Hotel Independencia (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 5 Sucre/Potosí**

Venture south to Potosí, the highest city of its size in the world.

Staying in the Bolivian highlands, we travel south to the city of Potosí. The highest city of its size in the world, this UNESCO World Heritage Site has had a tumultuous history as a silver mining centre during colonial times.

### **Local Bus**

Sucre - Potosí 2h30m

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Accommodation**

**Hotel Gran Libertador (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 6 Potosí**

Get out and explore Potosí on a free day. Choose to take an excursion to the silver mine, visit the Casa de la Moneda or wander the streets and visit the local market.

### **Free Time**

Potosí

Get out there and explore.

## **Optional Activities - Day 6**

### **Silver Mine Tour**

Potosí

150BOB per person

Take the opportunity to visit a working silver mine and learn more about the process of extraction and working conditions faced by as much as half of the people who live and mine in Potosí. Bring a bandana and wear protective gear (boots, helmet and headlamp) as you head deep into the bowels of Cerro Rico (Rich Hill).

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Accommodation**

**Hotel Gran Libertador (or similar)**

Hotel

## **Day 7 Potosí/Uyuni**

It's off to Uyuni today. Breathe in the beautiful scenery while relaxing in a private vehicle. Take it easy today because your next adventure is right around the corner!

**Private Vehicle**

Potosí – Uyuni 4h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Accommodation**

**Hotel Samay Wasi (or similar)**

Hotel

## **Day 8 Uyuni/Salt Flats and Desert Crossing**

Embark on a three-day 4x4 excursion to the Salar de Uyuni. Get your camera ready because the endless white of the salt flats creates the perfect backdrop for mindbending photo ops. Settle in to your G Adventures-supported community salt-brick bungalow — complete with salt floors and salt furniture, and enjoy a delicious dinner prepared with local ingredients.

Note: During the rainy season, the locations visited may change due to some routes being covered by water.

We offer unique accommodation on the Salar de Uyuni. Instead of very basic refuges and homestays most operators use, we have upgraded to simple hotels that are equipped with solar panels to provide electricity and hot water. Rooms are multi-share and each has a private bathroom. Meals are made from local ingredients, most of which are grown on-site.

### **4x4**

Uyuni – Salt Flats

Roads? Where this rough-and-ready vehicle's going, we don't need roads.

### **Salt Flats and Desert Crossing Excursion**

Salt Flats

Spend three days in the stunning landscape between the Salar de Uyuni and the Atacama Desert in Chile. Enter a world unlike anything else as we drive across the salt flats; the piercing blue sky contrasts against the blinding white of the flat salt beds. Take memorable photos of the unusual landscape complete with mountains and active volcanoes. Visit the coloured lagoon of Laguna Colorada and enjoy the uniqueness of this region.

### **Your G for Good Moment: Jukil Community Experience & Lodge**

Visit the Santiago de Agencha community, located two hours across the salt flats from Uyuni, a rural village surrounded by towering cacti and part of a small desert oasis. The community-owned salt lodge was renovated and expanded through a major project in 2016 funded by G Adventures' foundation, Planeterra. With many of the village's younger residences fleeing for economic opportunities, this lodge is seen by the community as a way to rescue their indigenous culture and provide opportunities for the future. Learn about their traditional agricultural practices, including their specialization in quinoa production, and take a guided walk with a community member to the sacred Jukil mountaintop for a beautiful view of the village below and the salt flats beyond. Meals of local ingredients grown in the village are prepared by ladies who were provided culinary training through the project. Leave Jukil Community Lodge knowing your visit is creating opportunities for a whole new generation of people in this community to improve their lives, and the lives of their children and grandchildren.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**

**Accommodation**

**Jukil Lodge (or similar)**

Hotel

## Day 9 Salt Flats and Desert Crossing

Continue crossing the desert today, admiring the scenery while passing red and blue lagoons and intriguing rock formations along the route. Keep an eye out and you might spot wild llamas, alpacas, and even flamingos deep within the desert.

### Salt Flats and Desert Crossing Excursion

Salt Flats

Spend three days in the stunning landscape between the Salar de Uyuni and the Atacama Desert in Chile. Enter a world unlike anything else as we drive across the salt flats; the piercing blue sky contrasts against the blinding white of the flat salt beds. Take memorable photos of the unusual landscape complete with mountains and active volcanoes. Visit the coloured lagoon of Laguna Colorada and enjoy the uniqueness of this region.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

**Accommodation**

**Quetana (or similar)**

Lodge

## Day 10 Salt Flats and Desert Crossing /San Pedro de Atacama

Get a head start on your day by rising early to cover more ground on your journey through the unique landscape of the Salar de Uyuni. Soak in the views of unimaginable scenery including volcanoes and salt lakes. Travel to the border then kick back and relax on your descent by bus to San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.

### 4x4

Salt Flats – Estación Avaroa1h

Roads? Where this rough-and-ready vehicle's going, we don't need roads.

### Border Crossing (Bolivia - Chile)

Hito Cajon

Ready for a little more ink in your passport? Grab your bags and get ready to check another country off your bucket list.

### Local Bus

Hito Cajon – San Pedro de Atacama1h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

### Optional Activities - Day 10

#### Valley of the Moon Visit

San Pedro de Atacama

30000CLP per person

The sunset brings out a variety of colours over this majestic valley that experts say is the area on Earth that most closely resembles moon's surface. Explore the incredible formations created by wind and rain over millennia in this unique location between the Andes mountains and one of the world's driest deserts.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**

**Accommodation**

**Hostal Puritama (or similar)**

Hotel

## Day 11 San Pedro de Atacama

Today is full of possibilities. Explore San Pedro de Atacama on a mountain bike, cruise down the dunes on a sandboard, or chill out in the hot springs. Or visit the Valley of the Moon, an area on Earth that resembles the moon's surface. (How cool is that?)

### Free Time

San Pedro de Atacama

Get out and explore the area.

### Optional Activities - Day 11

#### Sandboarding

San Pedro de Atacama

45000CLP per person

Hit the dunes and experience the rush of surfing down.

#### Valley of the Moon Visit

San Pedro de Atacama

30000CLP per person

The sunset brings out a variety of colours over this majestic valley that experts say is the area on Earth that most closely resembles moon's surface. Explore the incredible formations created by wind and rain over millennia in this unique location between the Andes mountains and one of the world's driest deserts.

#### **Observatory Tour**

San Pedro de Atacama

25000CLP per person

Gaze at the impressive desert stars from one of the best places to see them in the world and be guided on a planetary journey with an expert astronomer.

#### **San Pedro de Atacama Hot Springs**

San Pedro de Atacama

45000CLP per person

Relax in large geothermal pools surrounded by stunning desert landscapes and scenery.

#### **Accommodation**

**Hostal Puritama (or similar)**

Hotel

#### **Day 12 San Pedro de Atacama/Salta**

Say "Adios!" to Chile because you're heading to Argentina today. Relax on the bus en route to Salta, home to empanadas salteñas—and no visit to the town is complete without trying them! Unwind at the hotel or liven it up with a visit to a Peña Folklore show to dance the night away and sip delicious Argentine red wine.

#### **Local Bus**

San Pedro de Atacama - Salta10h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

#### **Border Crossing (Chile - Argentina)**

Paso de Jama

Ready for a little more ink in your passport? Grab your bags and get ready to check another country off your bucket list.

#### **Optional Activities - Day 12**

##### **Peña Folklore Show**

Salta

600ARS per person

Enjoy a combination of local musical, dancing, wine and food at a peñas folklóricas. The performances can take place in restaurants, open-air squares or music halls and are usually very casual. While dancing the chacarera or zamba, any guitarist can jump on stage or start to sing. Dance the night away, try some delicious Argentine red wine and enjoy the great music.

#### **Accommodation**

**La Candelaria Hotel (or similar)**

Hotel

#### **Day 13 Salta**

Tantalize your tastebuds with the local cuisine today as you explore freely. Choose to saddle up and admire the scenery on horseback. Or, if you'd prefer, take a visit to the town of Cafayate to roam vineyards and sample some of the white wine produced at insanely high altitudes.

#### **Your Discover Moment**

Salta Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Salta, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like the Museum of High Altitude Archeology, whitewater rafting, and hiking around Quebrada de las Conchas. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

#### **Optional Activities - Day 13**

##### **Quebrada de las Conchas**

Salta

Wind your way through valleys to the impressive layered red rock walls of the Quebrada de las Conchas, carved into high walls over time by the Las Conchas River. This is a spectacular sight, so be sure to take a few photos.

#### **Cafayate Full Day Tour**

Salta

35USD per person

Travel along beautiful valleys and stop by the Quebrada de las Conchas, a beautiful red rock gorge with unique shapes eroded into its walls by wind and water. Continue on to the town of Cafayate, home to several vineyards and wineries that produce the torrontes grape. Be sure to sample some of this white wine that is produced at remarkably high altitudes. Salud!

### **Museum of High Altitude Archeology**

Salta

800ARS per person

The Museum of High Altitude Archeology offers a peek into Inca culture in the Andes, with a focus on child sacrifices. The mummified remains of one such sacrifice is on display in the museum.

### **Horseback Riding and BBQ**

Salta

15000ARS per person

Admire the scenery while your ride slowly carries you across hills and along trails in the countryside.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Accommodation**

### **La Candelaria Hotel (or similar)**

Hotel

## **Day 14 Salta/Buenos Aires**

Skip the long bus journey with a quick flight to Buenos Aires. Spend the afternoon exploring the city. Cruise around on a bike with a local or dine on a traditional Argentine meal while experiencing the art of the tango.

Opt to pre-book the "Buenos Aires Tango Experience" on the checkout page ahead of time to include it on your tour.

### **Plane**

Salta – Buenos Aires 5h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

### **Free Time**

Buenos Aires Afternoon

Get out and explore beautiful Buenos Aires.

### **Optional Activities - Day 14**

#### **Teatro Colón Tour**

Buenos Aires

25USD per person

Explore this stunning opera house on a guided tour and find out why it is voted one of the best acoustic venues in the world.

### **Buenos Aires Guided City Tour**

Buenos Aires

Enjoy a guided tour exploring beautiful, vibrant Buenos Aires. Be introduced to historic sites and districts, including Plaza de Mayo where Eva Peron's famed balcony presides over the square. See La Boca and San Telmo's colourful street life, painted houses, and the famed Recoleta Cemetery.

### **Tango Dinner Show**

Buenos Aires

Discover the passion of tango. Watch the pros step and slide around the dance floor while you dine on a traditional Argentine dinner. Get lost in the music, savour the sensuality, and see why this traditional dance continues to ignite the senses of locals and visitors alike.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Accommodation**

### **Milhouse Avenue Hostel (or similar)**

Hotel

## **Day 15 Buenos Aires**

Depart at any time.

Consider booking post-tour accommodation to further explore fascinating Buenos Aires.

### **Departure Day**

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

### **Optional Activities - Day 15**

### **Teatro Colón Tour**

Buenos Aires

25USD per person

Explore this stunning opera house on a guided tour and find out why it is voted one of the best acoustic venues in the world.

### **Buenos Aires Bike Tour**

Buenos Aires

Experience this vibrant city cruising around on a bicycle with a local Argentine. Bike, helmet, knowledgeable tour guide, they've got it all taken care of, just come along for the ride and take in the many historical sights on offer. Discover Plaza de Mayo, San Telmo, colourful Caminito, and the working class neighbourhoods where Tango was born.

Meeting place: Carlos Pellegrini 1233

Please note the bike tour begins at 10 AM. We advise booking a pre-night in order to arrive on time for this pre-sold optional activity. If you choose to arrive the day of the bike tour, please ensure your flight lands no later than 8 AM to ensure enough time to make it to the arrival point.

### **La Boca Neighbourhood Visit**

Buenos Aires

10USD per person

Visit La Boca to soak in the vibrancy of the barrio's brightly coloured buildings and El Caminito (a cobblestone street lined with artist studios that's often used as an impromptu setting for tango performances). Or, if lucky, catch a match at fabled La Bombonera, the home stadium of the Boca Juniors' fútbol club (the crowd's excitement is electric!).

### **Buenos Aires Guided City Tour**

Buenos Aires

Enjoy a guided tour exploring beautiful, vibrant Buenos Aires. Be introduced to historic sites and districts, including Plaza de Mayo where Eva Peron's famed balcony presides over the square. See La Boca and San Telmo's colourful street life, painted houses, and the famed Recoleta Cemetery.

## **What's Included**

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Your G for Good Moment: Jukil Community Experience & Lodge, Santiago de Agencha

Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group

Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends

Your Discover Moment: Sucre

Your Discover Moment: Salta. 4x4 excursion to the Salar de Uyuni and surrounding area (3 days).

Transportation between destinations and included activities. Internal flight. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

## **Highlights**

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Discover colonial cities and historic cultures, cross the Salar de Uyuni and surrounding desert altiplano on a 4x4 excursion, witness the stunning scenery and unique culture of northern Argentina.

## **Dossier Disclaimer**

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Itinerary Disclaimer**

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While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.



Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## Itinerary Notes

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- 2) We recommend bringing USD in cash for the Argentinean portion of this tour as it is easier than using a credit card or withdrawing ARS from an ATM. USD currency is accepted in travel agencies for booking optional activities.

## Important Notes

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### 1. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

### 2. LUGGAGE

Please Note: Aerolineas Argentinas allows 1 piece of luggage that weighs up to 15kg on internal flights. If luggage is overweight, the airline charges ars 3199 at check-in (approx. 20-25 USD) up to a max of 23 kgs per piece. Luggage over 23 kgs is not allowed for internal flights.

### 3. YELLOW FEVER

It may be required to show a Yellow Fever certificate upon entering the country visited. Please check in with your local health expert for advice on Yellow Fever and other inoculations required for this area.

## Group Leader Description

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All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our group leaders, a G Adventures representative, or an expedition team. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

## Group Size Notes

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Max 18, avg 14.

## Meals Included

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10 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners

## Meals

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Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. On truck trips in Africa, aboard the expedition ship Explorer or our Galapagos yachts, while trekking in remote regions etc. food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## Transport

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Local bus, plane, 4x4 truck, van

## Local Flights

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All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

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## **Solo Travellers**

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We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Accommodation**

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Simple hotels (twin-share) (10 nts), hostels (multi-share) (1 nt), overnight bus (1 nt), basic hotel/G Adventures-supported community lodge on Salar de Uyuni excursion (2 nts, multi-share).

## **Rooming and "My Own Room" Exceptions**

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Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single accommodation for all night stops, with the following exceptions: Night 2: overnight bus, Nights 8-9: Salar de Uyuni, Night 14: Buenos Aires.

## **About Accommodation**

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Accommodation will be varied throughout your adventure. Some nights on this tour will be multi-share. This may involve 4-6 group members sharing a room. The majority of accommodation will have shared bathroom facilities.

Where we use multi-share hostels, rooming requests of any kind cannot be taken. For private accommodation please see tours in our Classic Travel Style.

## **Joining Instructions**

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For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

Alto International Airport is a spectacular drive from the center of La Paz, where our joining hotel is located. The easiest way to get there is via taxi. You can pay for the car at set rates (approximately \$8 USD), from an official uniformed taxi driver. The trip takes approximately 30 minutes and is very scenic. The money exchange desk is open 9am to 7pm.

If you have paid in advance for an arrival transfer, a G Adventures representative will be at the airport to meet you holding a sign with your name on it. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## **Arrival Complications**

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We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Emergency Contact

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Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

The driver will be waiting on the arrivals terminal holding a sign with your name.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office Lima, Peru.

During office hours (Weekdays, 9-6pm Local Time): +51 1 241 1650

After hours Emergency number: +51 99 758 2712 (WhatsApp Available)

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What to Take

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Most airlines allow two checked bags and one carry-on per person. To avoid any problems on check-in and with possible excess baggage charges, please consult the airline for specific restrictions. We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage.

Most people automatically assume that the weather is hot in South America, but because of the higher altitude in the Andes, the temperature can feel quite cold, especially at night. It can be very cold in the Andean highlands, temperatures of -10C and lower are frequent around Uyuni and the Altiplano (high plateau). It is best to layer clothes rather than wearing a heavy parka. This allows you to accommodate clothing to varying degrees of temperatures and wet/dry/windy weather conditions.

## Packing List

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Available for Rent:

- Sleeping bag (35 BOB per day)

Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Snow Boots
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

#### Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

#### Health & Safety:

- Hand sanitizer (required)
- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)
- Quick Covid Test/Antigen Test

#### Salt Flats:

- Sleeping bag and liner, 4 season (Also available for rent)
- Warm waterproof jacket

#### Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

## Laundry

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Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## Visas and Entry Requirements

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All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

## Spending Money

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Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## Money Exchange

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The currency in Argentina is the Argentine Peso (ARS), in Chile the Chilean Peso (CLP), and in Bolivia, the Boliviano (BOB).

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances. Visa cards are the most widely accepted cards. While ATMs are widely available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work in Latin America. Check with your bank.

You should be aware that to purchase products or services on a credit card a fee of 5%-10% usually applies.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money, a combination of US dollar cash and cards is best. Please bear in mind that cost of living in the southern cone countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile) is much higher than the rest of South America, and in the case of Argentina, more comparable with Europe. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

We recommend bringing USD in cash for the Argentinean portion of this tour as it is easier than using a credit card or withdrawing ARS from an ATM. USD currency is accepted in travel agencies for booking optional activities.

We do not recommend bringing travellers cheques as they are very difficult to change in country.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE TIP: Please be advised that slightly torn notes, notes that have been heavily marked or are faded may be difficult to exchange. It is best to bring notes in fairly good condition, in denominations lower than 100USD (or equivalent).

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

## Emergency Fund

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Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Departure Tax

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Most airlines include departure tax in the cost of the ticket. If this is not included then it should be mentioned in your flight booking confirmation

## Tipping

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It is customary in Latin America to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$5-10 USD per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$20-25 USD per person, per week can be used.

## Optional Activities

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- La Paz
- Valley of the Moon Tour (15USD per person)
- Witches' Market Visit
- Death Road Biking Adventure
- La Paz City Tour (25-45USD per person)

#### Sucre

- Hiking
- Mountain Biking
- Sucre Dinosaur Tracks Excursion
- Sunday Tarabuco Market (130BOB per person)

#### Potosí

- Silver Mine Tour (150BOB per person)

#### San Pedro de Atacama

- Valley of the Moon Visit (30000CLP per person)
- Sandboarding (45000CLP per person)
- Observatory Tour (25000CLP per person)
- San Pedro de Atacama Hot Springs (45000CLP per person)

#### Salta

- Peña Folklore Show (600ARS per person)
- Quebrada de las Conchas
- Cafayate Full Day Tour (35USD per person)
- Museum of High Altitude Archeology (800ARS per person)
- Horseback Riding and BBQ (15000ARS per person)

#### Buenos Aires

- Teatro Colón Tour (25USD per person)
- Buenos Aires Guided City Tour
- Tango Dinner Show
- Buenos Aires Bike Tour
- La Boca Neighbourhood Visit (10USD per person)

## Health

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Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

Please note your Adventure travels to high altitude. This is medically defined as anything over 8,000 feet (2,440 meters). Most people can travel to 8,000 feet with minimal effects. However, everyone reacts to altitude differently and altitude sickness can onset with some people irrespective of fitness and age. For details on how to best prepare and what to do in the unlikely event you are effected on your Adventure, please consult your physician.

## Safety and Security

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Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces

to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

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## **Trip Specific Safety**

We recommend that you wear minimal jewelry and that you keep valuable items safely stored.

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## **A Couple of Rules**

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

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## **Travel Insurance**

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

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## **Trip Specific Responsible Travel**

Silver Mines in Potosí

Working conditions for miners were appalling, and a large portion of the indigenous population was decimated. African slaves were brought in to replace the native workers, and it is estimated that as many as eight million indigenous and African people died in the mines during the first three centuries of Spanish colonial rule. Unfortunately little has changed throughout time and working conditions have remained the same. Although this is not an excursion for everyone, we do recommend a visit as it is an eye-opening experience that gives you a chance to glimpse the realities of life in the Andes in general and more specifically in these mines however we do not condone the working conditions of the mine.

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## **Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures**

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](http://www.planetterra.org/).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## Feedback

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After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Newsletter

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Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## Minimum Age

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Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

## International Flights

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Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.