



# ANDEAN TRADITIONS 2011/2012

## Chile - Bolivia

### INVITATION TO TRAVEL

Let the colors and sounds of the Andes carry you away with this program that blends the sacred and profane of the Chilean and Bolivian high-plateau. In the awesome scenery of geysers and salt flats you will enjoy the rich and varied folklore of millenary cultures. Picturesque markets, lovely colonial towns, sumptuous carnivalesque celebrations and much more are the main ingredients of this trip. We will learn about the traditions of the ancient culture of the Atacama region before we discover the natural and historic treasures of Bolivia, going back in time until prehistory (in the archaeological site of Cal Orko, well known for the huge dinosaurs' footprints). We will also relive the age of the Spanish conquer in the colonial cities of Sucre and Potosi. The magnificent celebration of the Carnival in Oruro, with its captivating rhythm and spectacular choreographies, is definitely the icing on the cake, making this tour a unique and unforgettable experience.

**Duration:** 14 days/13 nights

**Type of trip:** culture & folklore

**Lodging:** hotel

**Difficulty level:** For the general public

**Recommended period:** from March to November. **Upcoming group departure:** from the 06/02/2012 to the 19/02/2012. **Private departures** are available all year round, but the celebration of the Carnival in Oruro only takes place on the mentioned date.

**Code of the trip:** SN / CLT 04



### ITINERARY

**1<sup>st</sup> DAY: CALAMA (IN) – SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA**

06/02/12 Reception at Calama airport and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama (2438m). In the afternoon we cross the Death Valley and stop at the "Three Maries", curious rocky formation that looks like a statue. Then we reach the Moon Valley before sunset, to enjoy the charming twilight from the Big Dune. Return to San Pedro. **Astronomical tour** at night. Overnight at HOTEL CASA DE DON TOMAS (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Meals NOT included**

**2<sup>nd</sup> DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA (High-plateau lagoons, Salt flat)**

07/02/12 Excursion to the high-plateau and to the lagoons Miscanti (4200m) and Miñiques, famous for their deep blue colour and the spectacular view of the nearby peaks. On the way back we visit the village of Toconao and also

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Chaxa Lagoon at sunset, where we can watch colonies of flamingos. Return to San Pedro. Overnight at HOTEL CASA DE DON TOMAS (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch or Box-Lunch**

**3rd DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA (Tatio, Quitor, Tulo)**

08/02/12 Early morning departure to Tatio Geysers (4321m), well-known for the steaming vents and pools of boiling water. Possibility to have a bath in a natural pool. Return to San Pedro. In the afternoon we visit the village, its church, the handicrafts market and the nearby pukará (fortress) of Quitor. We continue to the archaeological site of Tulo, remains of a village dating between 800 BC and AD 500. Return to San Pedro. Overnight at HOTEL CASA DE DON TOMAS (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast**

**4th DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA – LAGUNA COLORADA – OJO DE PERDIZ**

09/02/12 In the morning we drive to the Bolivian border of Hito Cajón. After the customs checks we enter Bolivia and visit the White and Green Lagoons (4400m), whose colour is due to the concentration of minerals (lead, arsenic, sulphur). Stop at the impressive geyser Sol de Mañana (4850m), with its infernal steaming vents and the strong smell of the sulphuric vapours, before we reach Laguna Colorada (red Lagoon), (4278m). Its intense red colour derives from the seaweeds and plankton living in these waters, so rich in minerals. The view of the numerous flamingos in this sector is unforgettable (in this place we can watch the 3 species living in Latin America: the Chilean, the James and the Andean flamingos). We continue to Ojos de Perdiz. Overnight at HOTEL DEL DESIERTO (3\*) or in a local refuge according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch / Dinner**

**5th DAY: OJO DE PERDIZ - UYUNI**

10/02/12 We drive to Uyuni, town located on the edge of the homonymous salt flat. On the way we can visit the Rocky Valley and the village of San Cristóbal. Arrival at Uyuni in the evening. Overnight at HOTEL LOS GIRASOLES (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch or Box-lunch**

**6th DAY: UYUNI – SALT FLAT - UYUNI**

11/02/12 Full day excursion in the salt flat, whose surface is more than 12.000 km<sup>2</sup>. The first stop is at the village of Colchani, where we will learn about the way of extracting and processing the salt. We visit Incahuasi Island and its huge cactuses, in the heart of the salt flat. The amazing view on this white sea is definitely one of the highlights of the tour and a memorable experience. Return to Uyuni in the afternoon. Overnight at HOTEL LOS GIRASOLES (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch**

**7th DAY: UYUNI – POTOSI**

12/02/12 We continue to the city of Potosí (4090m), famous for the silver mines that made it one of the richest towns in South America in the XVIII century. Potosí was declared World Heritage by UNESCO. City tour in the afternoon, visiting the palace Casa Real de la Moneda, the Convent and Museum of San Francisco,

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the Cathedral and others attractions of this nice colonial city. Overnight at HOTEL COLONIAL (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch or Box-lunch**

**8<sup>th</sup> DAY: POTOSI – CERRO RICO SILVER MINE - SUCRE**

13/02/12

In the morning we visit Cerro Rico silver mine, an experience that will take us back in time and show us the hard working conditions in the mines of this region. After the visit we leave Potosi behind and drive to Sucre (2790m), constitutional and legal capital of Bolivia, known for its white colonial buildings. The historic centre was declared World Heritage by UNESCO. Overnight at HOTEL DE SU MERCED (4\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch**

**9<sup>th</sup> DAY: SUCRE – CAL ORKO - SUCRE**

14/02/12

In the morning we visit the lovely town of Sucre. Afterwards we visit the prehistoric park of Cal Orko. It is the most important site in the world with dinosaurs' footprints, with more than 5.000 footmarks of 294 species of dinosaurs. Return to Sucre. Overnight at HOTEL DE SU MERCED (4\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch**

**10<sup>th</sup> DAY: SUCRE – LA PAZ**

15/02/12

Transfer to the airport of Sucre to take the flight to La Paz (3632m). Reception and transfer to the hotel. Overnight at HOTEL ROSARIO (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast**

**11<sup>th</sup> DAY: LA PAZ - TIWANAKU – COPACABANA**

16/02/12

In the morning we visit the remains of the pre-inca site of Tiwanaku (Temple of Akapana, Sun Gate, Puma Punku, etc). We continue to Copacabana, (3800m) lovely town on the shore of Lake Titicaca. This basin is also known as the Sacred Lake of Incas and it is the highest navigable lake in the world (3800m). Visit of Copacabana and its monumental cathedral built in Moresque style. Overnight at HOTEL ROSARIO DEL LAGO (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch or Box-lunch**

**12<sup>th</sup> DAY: COPACABANA – ISLA DEL SOL – LA PAZ**

17/02/12

We sail by catamaran to reach the famous Isla del Sol (Sun Island): according to the tradition it is the cradle of the Inca empire. We visit the ruins and enjoy an awe-inspiring view of the Cordillera Real (Royal Range). In the afternoon we return to Copacabana and continue to La Paz. Overnight at HOTEL ROSARIO (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch or Box-lunch**

**13<sup>th</sup> DAY: LA PAZ – ORURO – LA PAZ**

18/02/12

Early in the morning we drive to Oruro (3702m). We take our seat in the reserved stands to enjoy the sumptuous "Parade of Carnival". The best dancers groups show their spectacular choreographies accompanied by big music bands. The dancers make vows to the Virgin and go around the streets during many hours, until they arrive on their knees at the image of the Virgin of Socavón (hole,

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cave). The dances, the rhythms and the colourful costumes make this show the highest expression of the Bolivian folklore, attracting every year numerous visitors from the country and from abroad. For these reasons UNESCO declared the Carnival of Oruro in 2001 "Intangible cultural heritage of mankind", emphasizing its religious and cultural value. In the evening we return to La Paz. Overnight at HOTEL ROSARIO (3\*) or of similar category according to availability.

**Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch**

**14<sup>th</sup> DAY: LA PAZ (OUT)**

19/02/12 Transfer to the airport. **END OF OUR SERVICES.**

**Included meals: Breakfast**

**NOTES:**

The itinerary may suffer changes without previous notice due to the climatic phenomenon of the High-Plateau Winter. All extra cost will be paid directly by the clients.

If this tour is booked on different dates (not during the Carnival of Oruro) an alternative excursion can be organized on DAY 13 (to be defined on spot with the guide).



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### EQUIPMENT LIST:

#### CLOTHING:

- Sun hat
- Wool hat
- Pile lining. Jacket or sweatshirt
- T-shirts
- Gloves
- Trekking comfortable trousers
- Shorts
- Socks
- Underwear
- Swimsuit and towel
- Tennis shoes, sandals.

#### ADDITIONAL ACCESSORIES:

- Day pack (30 lt)
- Sung glasses
- Sun screen: Sun cream and lip screen.
- Personal First Aid Kit.
- Personal Toiletries: wet towels, soap, etc.
- Photographic equipment

**ENJOY THE TRIP!**



## ANDEAN TRADITIONS 2011/2012 Chile - Bolivia

RATES valid for the group departure of 06/02/12 only (with English/Spanish speaking guide):

05-12 PERSONS	US\$ 3395/person
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Single room supplement: US\$ 625/person

SUPPLEMENT FOR GROUP OF 4 PERSONS: US\$ 110 /person

SUPPLEMENT FOR GROUP OF 3 PERSONS: US\$ 530 /person

SUPPLEMENT FOR GROUP OF 2 PERSONS: US\$ 1645/ person

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RATES valid for private departures with bilingual guide  
(English/Spanish/French/Italian speaking according to the availability)

02 PERSONS:	US\$ 5265/PERS
03 PERSONS:	US\$ 4090/PERS
04 PERSONS:	US\$ 3665/PERS
05 PERSONS:	US\$ 3560/PERS
06 PERSONS:	US\$ 3280/PERS
07 PERSONS:	US\$ 3080/PERS
08-09 PERSONS:	US\$ 2970/PERS
10 PERSONS:	US\$ 2890/PERS
11 PERSONS:	US\$ 2805/PERS
12 PERSONS:	US\$ 2730/PERS

Single room supplement: US\$ 625/person



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### The rates include:

• Accommodation in the mentioned or similar hotels ( <b>DOUBLE/TRIPLE room basis</b> ) or at a refuge in Bolivia. <b>Local standard.</b>
• Meals as mentioned in the program
• Private transportation during the whole program (except during the excursion to Oruro)
• Local bilingual guide(s) during the program (languages according to the rates)
• Museum and Park fees, catamaran ticket as mentioned in the program

### The rates DO NOT include:

• Flights and taxes
• Alcoholic and soft drinks during the meals at restaurant/hotel
• Single room supplement
• Personal equipment
• Personal Insurance
• Tips
• Services NOT mentioned in the program

**The rates are valid from the 01/03/2011 until the 31/03/2012 except in case of a big variation in the USD exchange conditions in Chile and/or Bolivia. Thanks for reading our general sales conditions.**