



HORSEBACK RIDING AROUND SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA 2011 (Hotel)

INVITATION TO TRAVEL

We invite you to discover the amazing archeological sites around the village of San Pedro de Atacama, a picturesque oasis located in one of the highest deserts of the world. We will ride among dunes, oasis and canyons, following the trails used by the herders in XIX century during the "transhumance". We will enjoy some marvelous sunsets, and will have also the opportunity to float in a salty lagoon, just like in the Dead Sea!

(It is also possible to overnight at a hostel in San Pedro de Atacama, instead of the hotel. Please ask us!)

Duration: 8 days / 7 nights

Type of trip: horseback riding

Lodging: hotel / tent

Difficulty level: intermediate

Recommended period: this trip is available all year round, although the best period is between March and November.

Code of the trip: SN/ HOR 04 A



ITINERARY

1st DAY: CALAMA (IN) – SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Reception at Calama airport and transfer to the village of San Pedro de Atacama. Lunch at local restaurant. Overnight at HOTEL (3*). (D).

Included meals: Dinner

2nd DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA - CALAR

We leave from San Pedro de Atacama and ride to the "Valle del Tiempo" canyon, located at the foot of the Salty mountain range. We visit the pukara of Quito, a fortress built in the XII century by the Incas to fight against the Spanish conquerors. We continue towards Vilama river, where we have our picnic. Afterwards we border the Gatchi Mountains and finally arrive at Calar Valley where we set up our camp. Possibility of taking a bath in the river. Overnight in TENT.

Distance: 15 km approx. – Horseback riding: 5 hours approx.

Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch / Dinner



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3rd DAY: CALAR – SALADO RIVER

After crossing the canyon of Calar, we continue along a trail used by the herders, which hides to the Valley of Vilama River. We arrive at the “corral of the Petroglyphs” where we can observe some interesting pre-historic drawings. After the picnic, we enter the narrow valleys of the Devil’s Gorge towards the river San Pedro, close to Catarpe. We walk along the river passing by Cuchaorache and reach the Salado River, where we can find some more pre-historic drawings. We set up our camp in the surroundings. Overnight in TENT.

Distance: 18 km approx – Horseback riding: 6 hours approx.

Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch / Dinner

4th DAY: SALADO RIVER – SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

We continue riding across a wide plateau and through a canyon up to the “Coca Stone”, which was a sacred rock to the Natives of this region, who used to travel in caravans from the Andes Mountain Range to the Pacific Ocean. Picnic. Afterwards, we ride along a trail used by the end of the XIX century by the herders when they crossed the region with their herds of cattle. We ride to the top of the plateau and border the cliff from where we have a spectacular view of the Atacama salt flat, the oasis of San Pedro, and of the Salty and Andes Mountain Ranges. We ride down among the dunes and crossing the Death Valley to return to San Pedro de Atacama. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at HOTEL (3*).

Distance: 21 km approx – Horseback riding: 7 hours approx.

Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch / Dinner

5th DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA – CEJAR LAGOON

We ride among the oasis of San Pedro de Atacama (called “ayllu”) before entering the Atacama salt flat. The soil becomes more and more crunching! Suddenly, we are in front of the turquoise Cejar lagoon! If we are lucky we could find some flamingoes in this area. Possibility to take a bath and float in the lagoon, just like in the Dead Sea! We enjoy the amazing sunset and set up the camp near the lagoon. Overnight in TENT.

Distance: 20 km approx – Horseback riding: 5 hours approx.

Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch / Dinner

6th DAY: CEJAR LAGOON – VILLAGE OF BETER

We leave the Atacama salt flat behind and we hide to the “ayllu” of Tulo, where we can see the archeological ruins of the first sedentary indigenous people. This site dates from between 800 BC and AD 500, and it is today well preserved thanks to the sand that used to cover it. We continue to the village of Beter where we set up our camp. The village was built in the colonial period, and later abandoned and covered by a dune. Overnight in TENT.

Distance: 12 km approx – Horseback riding: 4 hours approx.

Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch / Dinner



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7th DAY: VILLAGE OF BETER – MOON VALLEY – SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

After crossing the ayllu of Coyo, we ride towards the Salty mountain range to visit the most famous place of the area: the Moon Valley. Only a few people visit this place in the morning. We cross the widest part of the Moon Valley, reach the top a dune and continue riding along different paths. We arrive at the wide valley of Kari and continue towards the dunes that finally descend to the village of San Pedro de Atacama. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at HOTEL (3*).

Distance: 25 km approx – Horseback riding: 8 hours approx.

Included meals: Breakfast / Box-lunch / Dinner

8th DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA – CALAMA (OUT)

Transfer to the airport of Calama to take the return flight. **END OF OUR SERVICES.**

Included meals: Breakfast

NOTE: *The order of the excursions is subject to changes.*



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EQUIPMENT LIST

CLOTHING:

- Summer cap
- Warm hat
- Wind-stopper jacket. Suggested: Gore-Tex
- Pile lining. Jacket or sweatshirt
- Warm underwear
- T-Shirts
- Gloves
- Horseback riding trousers
- Trekking trousers
- Shorts
- Swimsuit + towel
- Socks
- Horseback riding boots
- Trekking shoes, tennis shoes, sandals.

FOR THE JOURNEY:

- Day Bag (30-40 liters)
- Sleeping bag (-15°)
- Sun glasses
- Frontal flashlight with batteries
- Sun screen: Sun cream and lip screen.
- Water bottle
- Personal First Aid Kit.
- Personal Toiletries: wet towels, soap, etc.
- Photographic equipment



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RATES

02-10 PERSONS:	USD 2190 /PERS
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Single room/tent supplement: USD 240

French or English speaking guide supplement: USD 1050 /Group
during the horseback-ride

The rates include:

- Accommodation in 3*hotels as mentioned in the program (DOUBLE/TRIPLE room basis). Local standard
- Private Spanish speaking guide during the whole program
- Transportation by private vehicle(s) during the whole program
- Camping equipment (sleeping tent, mattress, table, chairs...)
- Meals as mentioned in the program
- Drinks during the camp meals and picnics
- Entrances to the sites mentioned in the program

The rates DO NOT include:

- Flights and taxes
- Alcoholic and soft drinks during the meals at restaurant and/or hotel.
- Single room/tent supplement
- French/English speaking guide supplement
- Meals NOT mentioned in the program
- Personal equipment
- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Services NOT mentioned in the program

The rates are valid from the 01/01/2011 until the 31/12/2011 except in case of a big variation in the USD exchange conditions in Chile. Thanks for reading our general sales conditions.