



ATACAMA ON TWO WHEELS (Version Calama-Arica) 2011

INVITATION TO TRAVEL

Mountain-biking on the Chilean high-plateau is a real adventure that will let you discover the awe-inspiring sceneries of this region. With the impressive Andes mountain range and its majestic volcanoes (some still active) as backdrop, you will ride from San Pedro de Atacama to Arica across amazing salt flats and along colorful lagoons, among furious geysers and relaxing hot springs. It's time to pedal!

Duration: 14 days/13 nights

Type of trip: mountain-biking

Lodging: hotel/hostel/tent/refuge

Difficulty level: intermediate

Recommended period: this trip can be made all year round. We suggest the months between April and November.

Code of the trip: SN / MTB 01D 2011



ITINERARY

- 1st DAY:** **CALAMA (IN) – SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA**
Reception at the airport of Calama and transfer to the village of San Pedro de Atacama (2500 m). Overnight in HOSTEL.
Included meal: Dinner
- 2nd DAY:** **SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA**
Mountain-biking in the surroundings of San Pedro de Atacama. We visit the Salty mountain range, which is 23 millions years old. We can observe some impressive mineral sculptures made of salt and clay, carved by the wind and the rain. We continue to the pukara (fortress) of Quitar and Tunel. Lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon transfer to the Moon Valley, where we enjoy an amazing sunset. It's a superb spectacle! Return to San Pedro. Overnight in HOSTEL.
Riding distance: 30 km approximately
Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch
- 3rd DAY:** **SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA - ATACAMA SALT FLAT – LAGOONS MISCANTI & MIÑIQUES**
Transfer towards the Atacama salt flat (2305 m), to the village of Socaire (3220 m), starting point of our mountain-biking excursion to the magnificent lagoons of Miñiques and Miscanti on the high-plateau. They are just on the foot of 2 homonymous mountains (Mt. Miñiques: 5910 m and Mt. Miscanti: 5622 m). The contrasts in colours are amazing: deep blue lagoons surrounded by a white strip, yellow vegetation on red and black rocks, snow on the mountain against

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SENDEROS NATIVOS

Calle Capullo 2251 – Providencia – Santiago de Chile

Tel: (+56) 2 89737/60/61/62

Web: www.senderosnativos.com – E-mail: info@senderosnativos.com



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the blue sky. Overnight in TENT or REFUGE according to availability.

Riding distance: 30 km approximately

Included meals: Breakfast / Lunch or Box lunch / Dinner

4th DAY: LAGOONS MISCANTI & MIÑIQUES – SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Mountain-biking to the amazing Lagoon Tuyajto where the vehicle will pick us up and back to San Pedro de Atacama. Overnight in HOSTEL.

Riding distance: 40 km approximately

Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch

5th DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA – TATIO GEYSERS – PURITAMA HOT SPRINGS – SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Early in the morning we visit the Tatio Geysers (4320 m) located on a chalky plateau and surrounded by volcanoes. The scenery at sunrise is unique, with steaming vents and 10 meters high geysers! Breakfast among the vents. We follow until San Pedro de Atacama, with a stop at Puritama hot springs (3500 m) where we enjoy a nice thermal bath. We continue riding down to San Pedro de Atacama. Overnight in HOSTEL.

Riding distance: 40 km approximately

Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch

6th DAY: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA – ECOCAMP EL HUARANGO

Long transfer across the desert to the Ecocamp El Huarango. On the way we visit the Geoglyphs of Pintados, a pre-Columbian work stretching over 4 kms, and made of more than 350 figures (animals, persons...). Arrival at the Ecocamp, located in a forest of tamarugo trees, in the heart of the Atacama desert. The owners of the ecocamp, Coca and Marcos, will welcome us and tell us about their passion for the desert. Overnight in TENT (equipped with beds) at ECOCAMP EL HUARANGO.

Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner

7th DAY: ECOCAMP EL HUARANGO – LIRIMA

Short transfer and we ride to the village of Lirima (4200 m), founded in 1980 by some aymara (native) families of Cariquima to preserve their traditional costumes and organization. After visiting the village, we relax at Lirima hot springs. We set up the camp close to the hot springs. Overnight in TENT.

Riding distance: 40 km approximately

Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner

8th DAY: LIRIMA – CARIQUIMA - COLCHANE

Mountain-biking to the village of Cariquima (3765 m), ancient ritual settlement located at the base of the homonymous mount. Transfer until the village of Colchane (3730 m). Overnight in HOSTAL.

Riding distance: 45 km approximately

Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner



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- 9th DAY: COLCHANE – VIRGEN DEL CARMEN**
We ride across the Volcán Isluga National Park, with the village (3900 m) and active volcano (5530 m) of the same name and between numerous Andean villages like Paserijo, Taipicollo, Arabilla, Enquelga. We reach the the abandoned hamlet of Virgen del Carmen (4000 m), with just 10 houses and a nice church. Overnight in TENT.
Riding distance: 20 km approximately
Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner
- 10th DAY: VIRGEN DEL CARMEN – SURIRE SALT FLAT**
Mountain-biking on the high-plateau. We can see herds of llamas, alpacas and vicuñas (South American ruminants). We ride across a pass at 4700 m above sea level and arrive at the impressive Surire Salt flat (4200 m, 17.500 hectares). Its name means Ñandu (ostrich) in Aymara (native language). On the salt flat we can watch the 3 species of flamingos living in Latin America: the Chilean, the James and the Andean, as well as ostriches, vicuñas (ruminants) and vizcachas (rodents). Overnight in TENT or REFUGE (according to availability).
Riding distance: 50 km approximately
Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner
- 11th DAY: SURIRE SALT FLAT**
Mountain-biking in the sector to watch the local fauna and enjoy the natural scenery. Arrival at the southern border of the salt flat and possibility to enjoy a relaxing bath at the nearby Pollequere hot springs. Overnight in TENT.
Riding distance: 35 km approximately
Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner
- 12th DAY: SURIRE SALT FLAT – GUALLATIRE**
We ride to the pre-Hispanic village of Guallatire (4100m), situated on the foot of the active volcano of the same name (6063m). Overnight in REFUGE or in TENT according to availability.
Riding distance: 45 km approximately
Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner
- 13th DAY: GUALLATIRE - LAKE CHUNGARA – PUTRE**
We follow until the Lauca National Park and the famous Lake Chungara (4500 m), surrounded by snow-covered volcanoes, like the majestic Volcano Parinacota (6330 m), Volcano Pomerape (6240 m) and Sajama (highest peak of Bolivia, 6542 m). Later transfer to Putre (3500m), a village of 1200 inhabitants on the Chilean high-plateau, whose main activity is agriculture. Overnight in SMALL HOTEL.
Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch / Dinner
- 14th DAY: PUTRE – ARICA (OUT)**
On 08/15/10 Transfer to the Pacific coast to Arica and to the airport.
Included meals: Breakfast / Box lunch
END OF OUR SERVICES.



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EQUIPMENT LIST:

CLOTHING:

- Sun hat
- Wool or pile hat
- Mountain-bike helmet (obligatory)
- Pile lining, Jacket or sweatshirt
- Waterproof jacket / Gore-Tex
- T-shirts
- Gloves
- Mountain-bike gloves
- Short and long leggings
- Trekking trousers
- Shorts
- Socks
- Underwear
- Swimsuit and towel
- Trekking shoes
- Tennis shoes, sandals

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- Mountain-bike
- Spare parts if you take your own mountain-bike: 2 inner tubes, 1 box of patches, glue, spare brake pads, 1 lever cable, 1 back break cable, chain lubricant, 1 pump
- Bike chain with padlock
- Sleeping bag (-15° C / -20° C)
- Day pack (30-40 lt)
- Sun glasses
- Sun screen: Sun cream and lip screen.
- Headlamp with batteries
- 2 canteens
- Personal First Aid Kit.
- Personal Toiletries: wet towels, soap, etc.
- Photographic equipment

ENJOY THE TRIP!



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RATES

02	PERSONS:	US\$ 6690 p/person
03	PERSONS:	US\$ 4860 p/person
04	PERSONS:	US\$ 4260 p/person
05	PERSONS:	US\$ 3650 p/person
06-07	PERSONS:	US\$ 3240 p/person
08	PERSONS:	US\$ 3120 p/person
09	PERSONS:	US\$ 3020 p/person
10	PERSONS:	US\$ 2840 p/person
11	PERSONS:	US\$ 2690 p/person
12	PERSONS:	US\$ 2570 p/person

Single room supplement: US\$ 325 (not valid for the night in refuge & in hostel in Cariquima and Colchane)
 Single tent supplement: US\$ 50

The rates include:

- Bilingual guide(s) during the whole trip (English/Spanish speaking).
- Transportation by private vehicle(s) with driver(s) during the whole trip
- Accommodation in hotel/hostel mentioned in the program or of similar category according to availability (DOUBLE/TRIPLE room basis). <i>Local standard</i>
- Camping equipment (tents, mattresses, kitchen equipment...)
- Meals as mentioned in the program in the program
- Drinks with the box-lunches and during the camp meals
- Entrance fee to the sites mentioned in the program

The rates do not include:

- Flights and taxes
- Meals not mentioned in the program (consider approximately US\$ 15-20/meal/person)
- Alcoholic and soft drinks during the meals at restaurants/hotels
- Single room/tent supplement
- Personal equipment
- Mountain-bike rental: US\$ 300/pers
- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Services NOT mentioned in the program

The rates are valid 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.