

SOUTH AMERICA - DISCOVER UYUNI



INTRODUCTION

Salar de Uyuni is the worlds largest salt flat, spanning 4086 square miles (10,582 sq. km) in south-western Bolivia. Unlike traditional deserts, which have sand in abundance, the Salar de Uyuni features vast expanses of glistening white salt. The landscape is entirely flat, bar a few small 'islands' such as Isla Incahuasi, which only accentuates its surreal beauty. Underneath the cemented salt are large reservoirs of lithium-rich brine. In fact, approximately 70% of the world's lithium reserves are found in Salar de Uyuni and thus it's not surprising that there's an entire industry devoted to its extraction. Unlike any other place on earth, the Salar de Uyuni is breathtakingly beautiful and provides an extraordinary experience that will not be quickly forgotten.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
BOTSUS3
DURATION
3 Days
LOCATIONS
Bolivia


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DAY 1: La Paz to Uyuni

TRANSFER LA PAZ HOTEL TO AIRPORT | FLY TO UYUNI: You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight. On arrival you will be met at the airport and transferred to Uyuni. Departure information will be confirmed in your final documentation. **UYUNI TOUR AFTER ARRIVAL:** Our day begins with a visit of the famous Train Cemetery, located only 8min away from Uyuni town. This place is known for the remains of steam locomotives that have persisted since the 19th and 20th centuries. Later, in Colchani we will observe the salt extraction methods used by the local people in their artisanal fabrics. We will then enter the incredible Uyuni salt flats, with more than 12,000km² of pure salt. Visit the “Stairs to heaven” which is one of the works of the renowned Bolivian artist Gaston Ugalde. It is a staircase made of salt that is located in the middle of the Uyuni salt flat. Making for a great stop to take some unique photos. Then, we will see the “Eyes of the Salt”, these are the outlets for subterranean rivers flowing under the Uyuni Salt Flat. The waters flowing from inside the salt flat have acidic concentrations and are considered medicinal waters by the locals. Continuing our journey to Incahuasi Island, which is a unique oasis and isolated ecosystem that is populated by giant cacti standing up to 10 meters high, amazing! Here you will have a unique experience of having lunch in the middle of the salt flat. Afterwards you will be transferred to your hotel where you will spend the next two nights. A unique hotel like no other, with walls and ceiling made from local salt, perfectly blending into the natural landscape of the area. Dinner will be served at the hotel. Includes: Picnic lunch in the Uyuni Salt Flats and dinner at your hotel. Beverages are not included. Please note: During the rainy season (from the end of November to the end of April) the area becomes difficult to cross because the roads are not paved. Salar de Uyuni fills with water, turning into a large lake, and although the view is very beautiful, it is usually difficult to reach Tahua and / or Isla Incahuasi, so the program is subject to change depending on weather conditions and the time of year.



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DAY 2: Uyuni Salt Flats (Full Day)

COLCHANI - COQUEZA - UYUNI After breakfast at the hotel, the day is spent exploring the Salar de Uyuni further. Continuing the trip direction north until we arrive at the feet of the majestic Tunupa volcano. We will visit Coquesa and their famous “mummies”, which are from pre-Columbian times. Also, on the same salt flats we will have the chance to take the funny “perspective” pictures, our driver and guide can help with this. When returning to Uyuni, we will enjoy a spectacular sunset, which is one of the most beautiful moments that we can experience and share in this area. The effects caused by the colours of the sun together with the salt make for something truly incredible. It's another great time to get some memorable photos of your time here in Uyuni. Includes: Picnic lunch and dinner at your hotel. Beverages are not included.



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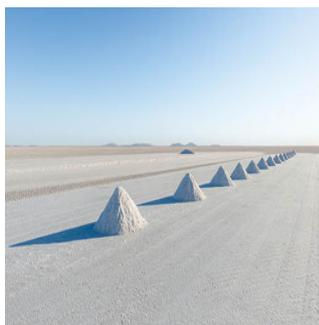
LOCATIONS

Bolivia



DAY 3: Fly Uyuni to La Paz

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard

Inclusions

- Services and meals included as mentioned in the itinerary
- English speaking guide
- All entrances fee
- Private Service
- Accommodation as mentioned in the itinerary
- Air Tickets from La Paz to Uyuni and Uyuni to La Paz

NOT INCLUDED:

- Anything not listed in the itinerary
- Tips
- Airport taxes

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Difficulty Rating	1 (easy)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structured to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.