

## UYUNI SALT FLAT EXPEDITION Bolivian Altiplano & Uyuni Salt Flat

Lagunas Blanca & Verde Dalí's desert Polques Hot Springs Geysers Sol de Mañana Laguna Colorada Laguna Honda & Hedionda Rocks Valley Chiguana Salt Flat Uyuni Salt Flat Incahuasi Island Tunupa Volcano

4x4, driving most of the time in dust roads. We'll sleep in shelters lost within inhospitable places and most of the time we'll be isolated from the world. This is the only way to access the wonders that surrounds the Altiplano, we'll see lakes of different colors, mud geysers and dramatic rock formations. Being in these places is like going through a living picture, where we see sediments of colors come down from the volcanoes to paint the earth according to the whims of the wind.



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# San Pedro to Laguna Colorada

#### DAY 01

#### SAN PEDRO OF ATACAMA - BOLIVIA

### HIGHLIGHTS

- > National Park Eduardo Abarca
- > Lakes Blanca and Verde
- > Dali's Desert
- > Polques Salt Flat
- > Polques Hot Srings
- > Sol de Mañana Geysers
- > Laguna Colorada

Maximum Altitude: 5000 meters Distance: 97 km. Accommodations: Refuge, Laguna Colorada . Meals: Breakfast + Lunch + Supper.

#### 09.00 hrs. (Duration 8 hrs)

We leave go through customs in San Pedro, about 45 minutes away we cross the Bolivian border at Hito Cajón. We'll change cars here as we'll need Bolivian 4x4. We head towards the Eduardo Abarca National Park. We begin by encircling the White Lake, populated by numerous species of birds, such as coots and flamingos. We continue to the Laguna Verde which, due to its composition, does not harbor life, but if we are lucky in the morning we can see the colors changing when the wind rises turning it turquoise green.

Then we'll travel through Dali's Desert where the mountains truly seem to become clocks of sand when as the sediments descend creating large banks of colors that are then carried by the wind painting the landscape. We continue to Polques where we can enjoy a thermal bath in front of a great salt flat, we'll have lunch here.

We drive through the desert ascending up to 5000 meters (16,404 ft.). Here we'll see the Sol de Mañana geysers (*Morning Sun*), colorful geysers of boiling mud that lie in sedimentary soil, as the bubbles explode they throw away mud particles forming deep pools of different colors. We go down through a great plain where we see a small settlement at one end, we continue to Laguna Colorada that appears with its exotic beauty, we go to a lookout where we can appreciate the true majesty of the lake with its enormous red expanse dotted with boron islands and populated by abundant James flamingos, you can often see on the sides of this lake wild vicuñas and large herds of llamas grazing. We return to the settlement for dinner and sleep.







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# Siloli Desert & Chiguana Salt Flat

#### DAY 02

#### BOLIVIA, LAGUNA COLORADA / CHUVICA.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- > Stone Tree
- > Siloli Desert
- > Lakes, la Honda, Chiarkota,
- Hedionda and Cañapa > Chiguana Salt Flat
- > Uyuni Salt Flat
- > Chuvica Village
- > Night in a Salt Hotel

Maximum Altitude:. 4550 meters. Distance: 229 km. Accommodations: Salt Hotel, Chuvica. Meals: Breakfast + Lunch + Supper.

## 09.00 hrs.

We'll have an early breakfast and get into the 4x4 heading towards the Stone Tree. Here we'll see blocks of ignimbrite stone exposed by the low winds that pick up small pebbles eroding the already narrow bases of these formations leaving the rocks delicately balanced.

We continue our expedition going through Siloli desert, beautiful mountains colored by the sulfur that covers great extensions. We continue to discover three beautiful lakes: La Honda, Chiarkota, Hedionda and Cañapa. Here we'll have an outdoors lunch near the flamingos.

We continue to travel along huge valleys of volcanic rock that still seem to flow from the volcanoes. From our high viewpoint we spot the Chiguana salt flat that begins to dominate the landscape as we go down. We then see hills painted with colorful quinoa plants, we skirt these hills until we reach the edge of the Uyuni salt flat where we find the village of Chuvica. Here we'll spend the night and have dinner in a hotel completely built with salt.





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## Uyuni Salt Flat

#### DAY 03

#### BOLIVIA, CHUVICA / UYUNI SALT FLAT.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- > Chuvica village
- > Uyuni Salt Flat
- > Incahuasi Island
- > Coqueza Village
- > Walk trough the extinct crater of the Tunupa volcano.
- > Cave of the Mummies

Maximum Altitude: 4800 meters Distance: 203 km.

Accommodations: Hostel, Uyuni. Meals: Breakfast + Lunch + Supper.

#### 09.00 hrs.

From the town of Chuvica we enter the dazzling whiteness of the Uyuni Salt Flat, we cross its vast extension to arrive at the island Incahuasi populated by numerous cardón cacti. We walk up a path to a beautiful panoramic viewpoint of the surrounding salt flat.

We continue exploring the salt flat towards the village of Coqueza where we'll have lunch. From here we start a walk up to a lookout at the edge of the extinct crater of the Tunupa volcano where we have an incredible view of the Uyuni Salt Flat. We go down to visit caves inhabited by ancient mummies and then we head to the village of Uyuni where we have supper and spend the night in a hostel.







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# Uyuni to San Pedro of Atacama

#### DAY 04

#### BOLIVIA, UYUNI / CHILE, SAN PEDRO OF ATACAMA

## HIGHLIGHTS

## > San Cristóbal Village

- > Rocks Valley
- > Villa Mar
- > Laguna Capina
- > Return to San Pedro

Max. Altitude: 4800 m. Distance: 393 km.

Accommodations: San Pedro of Atacama. Meals: Breakfast + Lunch.

#### 09.00 hrs.

We leave early from Uyuni and start our long return to San Pedro of Atacama. To return we take a different road. In the first section we pass through the mining town of San Cristóbal and continue driving through wide plains planted with quinoa. After several hours of road, we arrive at the Valley of Rocks, during this part of the trip we drive next to numerous ravines of ignimbrite stone and sectors where high rock pillars arise. At the end of this valley we find the village of Villa Mar.

We continue our drive passing next to the Lake Capina, where boron is exploded, until we reach the Laguna Colorada where we find the path that we previously used on our expedition, we follow this path to Hito Cajón. We cross the Bolivian border and go down to San Pedro de Atacama.

We go through Chilean customs and leave you at your hotel.





3RD DAY. Climbing up the Tunupa Volcano.





3RD DAY. Tunupa Volcano.



2ND DAY. Tree Rock.

4тн day. Rock Valley.



3RD DAY. Tunupa Mummies.

2ND DAY. Salt Hotel, Chuvica.