

**GASTON SACAZE BOLIVIA
TAILOR MADE PROGRAMS:**

THE BEST OF THE ANDES: Bolivia

10D/9N | Santa Cruz / La Paz | All year round

**SANTA CRUZ | SUCRE | POTOSÍ | LA PAZ | UYUNI | LIPEZ
COPACABANA | MON & SUN ISLANDS**



BASE CIRCUIT

ITINERARY - 10 days / 9 nights

DAY 1: Santa Cruz

DAY 2: Santa Cruz – domestic flight to Sucre – Sucre

DAY 3: Sucre – Potosí - Uyuni

DAY 4: Uyuni – South Lipez – Siloli Desert

DAY 5: Siloli Desert – North Lipez – San Pedro de Quemez

DAY 6: San Pedro de Quemez – Uyuni Salt Flat - Uyuni

DAY 7: Uyuni – domestic flight to La Paz – La Paz

DAY 8: La Paz – Copacabana – Moon & Sun Islands

DAY 9: Sun Island – Copacabana – La Paz

DAY 10: La Paz - OUT

HIGHLIGHTS in this program:

The Moon Valley in La Paz

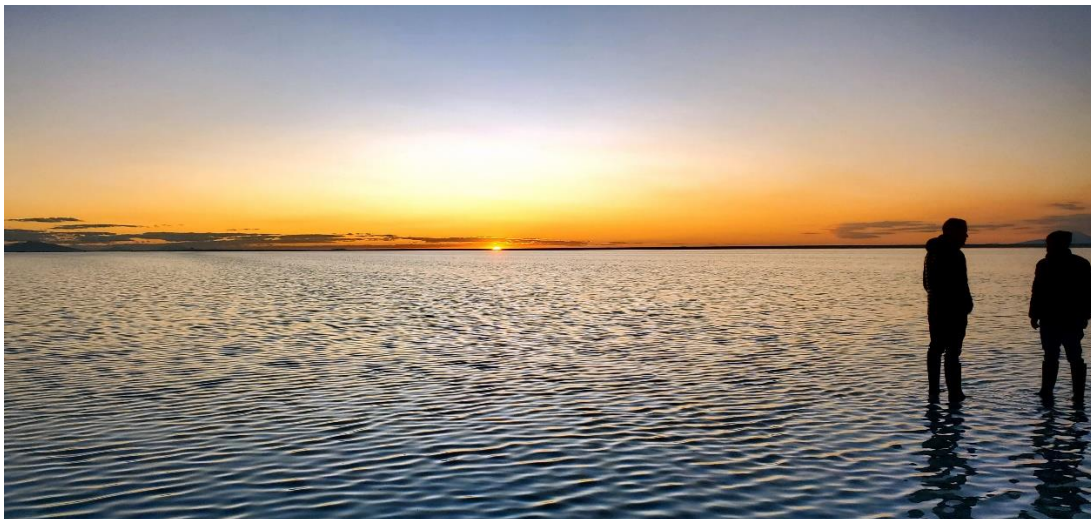
The Uyuni salt desert and the Incahuasi Island with its giant cactus

Santa Cruz, a small sample of the Amazonian region in Bolivia.

Titicaca Lake: Moon & Sun Islands

Potosí & Sucre: colonial cities

Lipez region: deserts and coloured lagoons



HOTELS

The category of hotels is based on national standards, and the below are listed for reference purposes only. Availability will be confirmed at the time of booking, and in case of no availability, they will be replaced by hotels of equivalent standard

HOTELS: STD CATEGORY STD (3*)		
Santa Cruz	Cosmopolitano	www.cosmopolitano.com.bo
Sucre	Villa Antigua	www.villaantiquahotel.com
Uyuni	Jardines de Uyuni	www.jardinesdeuyuni.com
San Pedro de Quemez	Tayka de Piedra	www.taykahoteles.com
Siloli Desert	Tayka del Desierto	www.taykahoteles.com
La Paz	Ritz	www.ritzbolivia.com
Sun Island	Albergue Jacha Inti	not web
HOTELS: SUP CATEGORY (3* superior / 4*)		
Santa Cruz	Cortez	www.hotelcortez.com
Sucre	Mi Pueblo Samary	www.samaryhotel.com
Colchani	Luna Salada Palacio de Sal	www.lunasaladahotel.com www.palaciodesal.com.bo
San Pedro de Quemez	Tayka de Piedra	www.taykahoteles.com
Siloli Desert	Tayka del Desierto	www.taykahoteles.com
La Paz	Stannum	www.stannumhotels.com
Sun Island	Wiñay Inti Lodge	not web

SERVICES INCLUDED AND NOT INCLUDED

INCLUDED:

- 9 hotel nights with breakfast in double room.
- The early check-in Day 1.
- The lunch meal Days 4, 5, 6 and 9.
- The dinner Days 4, 5 and 8.
- All mentioned transfers in private services.
- All excursions in private service with English speaking guide. In Uyuni & Lipez in 4x4 Vehicle
- Entrance fees.
- Pre-checking for domestic and international flights.
- Permanent assistance from our local offices.

NOT INCLUDED:

- International flights.
- Flight Santa Cruz / Sucre (approx. USD 90.00 per flight per person).
- Flight Uyuni / La Paz (approx. USD 185.00 per flight per person).
- Meals not mentioned in the program.
- Drinks.
- Tips, extras and personal expenses
- All elements that are not mentioned as included in the description.

ITINERARY THE BEST OF THE ANDES

10 days / 9 nights

D 1 Santa Cruz

Upon arrival at Santa Cruz airport, a transfer takes you to your hotel. Visit of the historical ARTECAMPO (Original and Popular Art of the Lowlands) museum (closed on weekends) and enjoy an exposition of the amazonic indigenous group's handcrafts and artisan work. Visit the "Recoba Market" where you can find typical Eastern and Andean indigenous products.

Standard HOTEL: Cosmopolitano, Superior HOTEL: Cortez

D 2 Santa Cruz – domestic flight to Sucre – Sucre

After breakfast, a transfer takes us back to the airport in order to board a flight to Sucre. Upon arrival, we make our way directly to Recoleta Lookout, where you can enjoy a panoramic view of the city. Visit Museum of Indigenous Textile Art. The ASUR Museum of Indigenous Art was created with the intention to organize and promote the confounding and graceful textiles of the Jalq'a and Tarabuco people. Visit the Convent of San Felipe Neri, enjoy a walk on top of these colossal structures for a finer view of the blissful white city.

Standard HOTEL: Villa Antigua, Superior HOTEL: Mi Pueblo Samary

D 3 Sucre – Potosí - Uyuni

After breakfast, departure in a private vehicle to Potosí, also called the Imperial City of Charles V a colonial city with extremely rich history. Visit the "Real Casa de Moneda" (Mint of Potosí) this institution was instrumental in the development and sustainability of the Spanish Crown. Enjoy the main plaza, Plaza 10 de Noviembre, where you can have a great view of the Cerro Rico, mountain situated at 4,800 m above sea level. Departure for Uyuni

Standard HOTEL: Jardines de Uyuni, Superior HOTEL: Luna Salada or Palacio de Sal

D 4 Uyuni – South Lipez – Siloli Desert

Departure to the Eduardo Avaroa National Reserve in the region of South Lipez Departure to the Green Lagoon. After enjoying the stunning Lagoon, embark on a journey to the Salvador Dali Desert, this desert's various red shades throughout its landscape, it has been named Dali Desert after the famous Spanish painter. Depart onto the outer region of the Salar of Chalviri where you will be able to visit the thermal waters of Polkes. Visit Sol de Mañana Situated at about 4,850 meters above sea level, this site has an abundance of volcanic activity which include geysers and fumaroles. Drive to the Red Lagoon, this lagoon has a unique semblance to a luminescent ruby due to the presence of red algae that feeds the 30,000 flamingos sheltered here. Depart for the Siloli Desert.

Please note: Ojo de Perdiz (Eye of the Partridge) in the Siloli Desert the Hotel Del Desierto (Desert Hotel): unique boutique hotel: rooms with private bathrooms, hot water, heating, electricity and a restaurant.

Standard & Superior HOTEL: Tayka del Desierto



D 5 Siloli Desert – North Lipez – San Pedro de Quemez

After breakfast, departure for the Paseo del Leon. Depart for the Jewels of the Andes, this region receives its name for the precious and mesmerizing lagoons dispersed throughout the terrain. Visit the Cañapa, Hedionda, Chiari Khota, and Honda Lagoons. Departure to San Pedro de Quemez. Visit the Pueblo Quemado (Burned village)

Please note: San Pedro de Quemez the Hôtel de Piedra (Hotel of the Rock): Very lovely boutique hotel, rooms with private baths, hot water, heating, electricity and a restaurant. The hotel was constructed from the stone and volcanic sands that surround the site. It has a solar heating system to heat the rooms.

Standard & Superior HOTEL: Tayka de Piedra.

D 6 San Pedro de Quemez – Uyuni Salt Flat - Uyuni

After breakfast, departure to Uyuni. The Salt Flats of Uyuni were once part of a prehistoric inland sea called Lake Minchin, which included most of southwestern Bolivia. Visit the Incahuasi Island (Home of the Inca in Quechua) the most important Island in the Salt Flats.

Standard HOTEL: Jardines de Uyuni, Superior HOTEL: Luna Salada or Palacio de Sal

D 7 Colchani – domestic flight to La Paz – La Paz

Breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast, a transfer takes us back to the airport in order to board a flight to La Paz. Upon arrival, we make our way directly to the Plaza Murillo, La Paz's main square for governmental and legislative functions. Visit to the Witches Market and the Church of San Francisco. Departure to the Moon Valley (about 5 Km from central La Paz)

Standard HOTEL: Ritz hotel, Superior HOTEL: Europa Hotel

D 8 La Paz – Copacabana – Moon & Sun Island

After breakfast, depart from La Paz to Copacabana passing by the Tiquina Strait. Arrive and visit Copacabana, considered the most important catholic sanctuary in the country. Departure to Moon Island (Koati Island) on private motorboat on the blue waters of Lake Titicaca. Visit Iñak Uyu, also referred to as the Palace of the Virgins of the Sun. Depart on boat towards Island of the Sun.

Standard: Small Family Hostal Jacha Inti, Superior HOTEL: Wiñay Inti Lodge

D 9 Sun Island – Copacabana – La Paz

After breakfast, visit to the Pilkokaina (place where the bird rests) an archaeological site that was once an Incan palace where the Inca would reside. Visit the Sacred Source of Three Waters: This fountain is considered proof of the advanced level of understanding of hydraulics that the Incan civilization possessed. Enjoy an Apthapi, a traditional Aymara ceremony for a collective meal, on the bay Lake Titicaca. Return to Copacabana and La Paz.

Standard HOTEL: Ritz hotel, Superior HOTEL: Europa Hotel

D 10 La Paz

Breakfast at the hotel. At time indicated, transfer to airport for your flight. Baggage check and passenger boarding.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

UYUNI SALT FLAT

Best season: October to December (least cold)

Intermediate season: April to September (the coldest and driest: few risks of rain)

Most random season: December to March: rainy season.

Climate: The Salar has a dry winter from May to October and a rainy summer from December to March. It is very cold and the wind is icy. During the night, the temperature often drops to -25°C in June (the coldest months are June, July and August).

Health: Good physical condition recommended due to altitude and climatic variations. Altitude (and therefore lack of oxygen) can be a major problem.

Altitude: Uyuni: 3660m

Communication routes: land road in a variable state from correct to bad (this also depends on the season).

Individual equipment: the days are usually sunny with wind in the afternoon; the nights could be very cold.

Do not forget to bring sunglasses, sunscreen, warm clothing (wind and fleece, hat, gloves, socks, etc.), walking shoes, hat, and personal pharmacy.

Note: From December to March is the rainy season in the Salar region. During this season it is not always possible to reach the island of Incahuasi by car because the Salar can be flooded. Nevertheless, the landscape is still beautiful, with the sky reflected in the water. During the months from June to August temperatures can drop very sharply, expect very warm clothes.