



The Essential of the Altiplanic Deserts (#19223)

Note: Price printed on this PDF is valid until **16-03-2025** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

Trip Highlights

Buenos Aires - Salta - Cafayate - Purmamarca - Atacama - Villamar - Colchani

Detailed Itinerary

Day 01

Day 1 Buenos Aires

Arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, we make a panoramic tour of the city, visiting the most relevant places. In the evening, we attend a dinner show to appreciate the magnetism of tango.

Meal: Dinner



Day 02

Day 2 Buenos Aires - Salta

Arrival and reception at Salta's airport. Transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, the city awaits us in order to explore it by foot, walking along its streets, churches, colonial buildings and visiting the MAAM. Maximum altitude: 1.152 MASL (3.779 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 03

Day 3 Salta - Cafayate

Departure to start our trip through the Calchaquíes Valleys, passing by the Obispo Slope, Del Tin Tin Straight, Los Cardones National Park, Cachi and De Las Flechas Gorge. Arrival at Cafayate. Travel time: 11/12 hours Maximum altitude: 3.348 MASL (10.984 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 04

Day 4 Cafayate - Salta

In the morning, we visited the town, museum and winery to undertake the return to Salta touring the Quebrada de Cafayate and its formations. Arrival and Accommodation Travel time: 8 hours Maximum altitude: 1.683 MASL (5.522 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 05

Day 5 Salta - Purmamarca

Early departure travelling through Del Toro Gorge in order to get to know the small town of San Antonio de los Cobres. After lunch (not included), we continue across the Puna up to Salinas Grandes Salt Flat and then we start descending through De Lipán Slope to Purmamarca. Travel time: 10 hours Maximum altitude: 4.170 MASL (13.681 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast



Day 06

Day 6 Purmamarca - Atacama

In the morning, departure towards San Pedro de Atacama, passing by Paso de Jama border crossing. Arrival at this oasis in the middle of the desert. Travel time: 7 hours Maximum altitude: 4.400 MASL (14.436 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 07

Day 7 Atacama

Departure to the Altiplanic Lagoons, which represent one of the seven sectors that embrace Los Flamencos National Reserve along with Chaxa Lagoon in the Atacama Salt Flat. During the tour, we visit the Miscanti, Miñiques and Toconao Lagoons. Travel time: 7/8 hours Maximum altitude: 4.220 MASL (13.845 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 08

Day 8 Atacama

Early departure to El Tatio Geysers, the highest geothermal field in the world where we observe the steam and fumaroles produced by the high temperatures of its craters. During the afternoon, we enjoy the sunset in De La Luna Valley. Travel time: 9 hours Maximum altitude: 4.320 MASL (14.173 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 09

Day 9 Atacama - Villamar

Departure to the border with Bolivia, Hito Cajón, from there we continue to the Verde lagoon, Dalí Valley, hot springs of Chaviri, Geysers of the Morning and the Laguna Colorada where we will appreciate the flamingos of James, unique in the world. Arrival in Villamar. Travel time: 8 hours Maximum altitude: 4.990 MASL (16.371 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast, lunch and Dinner



Day 10

Day 10 Malku - Colchani

In the morning visit to the Cave Paintings and Fort Necropolis of Tomas Lakjas, Valley of the Rocks and then continue to Uyuni passing by the towns of Culpina and San Cristóbal. During the trip and before going to Colchani, we visit the Cemetery of Trains to finally arrive at Colchani, where we stay at a salt hotel. Travel time: 8 hours Maximum altitude: 3.550 MASL (11.647 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast, lunch and Dinner

Day 11

Day 11 Colchani

Today we explore Uyuni Salt Flat, the largest in the world. During the tour, we will visit a salt processing plant, the Incahuasi Island where we can observe the giant Cactus, and the Pucara de Ayque. After enjoying lunch, which will be served on the Salt Flat, we have fun with a photo session and then we enjoy the sunset. Maximum altitude: 3.600 MASL (11.811 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast, lunch and Dinner

Day 12

Day 12 Colchani - Purmamarca

Early in the morning, departure to Argentina. On the way we stop in Atocha's mining centre and Tupiza, in order to arrive then at Villazon- La Quiaca, from where once we do the migrations procedures. The trip continues through the Quebrada de Huma Huaca to arrive in Tilcara. Travel time: 11 hours Maximum altitude: 3658 MASL (12.001 ft.)

Meal: Breakfast and Lunch

Day 13

Day 13 Purmamarca - Salta

We explore the Huma Huaca Gorge, Humanity's Cultural Heritage by UNESCO and one of its best kept treasures, the incredible mountain range of El Hornocal, also called Cerro de los 14 Colores, whose viewpoint is at 4350 meters above sea level. Arrival in Salta. Travel time: 10 hours Maximum altitude: 4350 MASL (14.271 ft.)



Meal: Breakfast

Day 14

Day 14 Salta - Buenos Aires

In the morning, transfer to the airport to board the flight to Buenos Aires. Arrival and transfer to the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

Day 15

Day 15 Buenos Aires

Day at leisure. At due time, transfer to the airport.

Meal: Breakfast

Inclusions

-Needed transfers.

-Accommodation: 14 nights.

Buenos Aires (2) - Salta (3) - Cafayate (1) - Purmamarca (1) - Atacama (3) - Villamar (1) - Colchani (2)- Tilcara (1).

-Tours:

Buenos Aires: City tour – Dinner tango show.

Salta: Walking tour with MAAM - De Las Flechas, Cafayate and Del Toro Gorges.

Jujuy: Humahuaca Gorge.

Atacama: Altiplanic Lagoons - Atacama Salt Flat - El Tatio Geysers - De La Luna Valley.

Uyuni: Colores Lagoons – De La Mañana Geysers - Uyuni Salt Flat.

-Meals: 14 breakfasts - 4 lunches - 4 dinners.

-Needed tickets to the Parks, Reserves and museums.

Exclusions

International / Domestic Airfare

Airport taxes.

Extra: laundry service, telephone call.



Eco-tax in Puerto Iguazú, Bariloche and port taxes in the Lake Crossing.

Early check in / late check out (Except early check-in in Buenos Aires on day 1, in the Fixed Departures).

Optional activities.

Meals, drinks, tips and other personal expenses or services not specified on the program.

Gratuities.

Voluntary tips for guides or drivers.

Travel and medical insurance.

Personal expenses.

Note

Hotels Used Or Similar

Tourist Category

BUENOS AIRES - LENNOX BUENOS AIRES / HUINID OBELISCO OR SIMILAR

SALTA - HOTEL ROOMIE OR SIMILAR

CAFAYATE - HOTEL LOS SAUCES OR SIMILAR

PURMAMARCA - HOSTERIA CASA DE ADOBE OR SIMILAR

ATACAMA - CASA DON TOMAS OR SIMILAR

MALKU CUEVA - JARDINES DE MALKU

COLCHANI - PALACIO DE LA SAL

TILCARA - TERRAZAS DE TILCARA

First Category

BUENOS AIRES - NH TANGO OR SIMILAR

SALTA - BRIZO SALTA OR SIMILAR

CAFAYATE - VIÑAS DE CAFAYATE OR SIMILAR

PURMAMARCA - LA COMARCA OR SIMILAR

ATACAMA - ALTIPLANICO OR SIMILAR

MALKU CUEVA - JARDINES DE MALKU

COLCHANI - PALACIO DE LA SAL

TILCARA - TERRAZAS DE TILCARA

Operational note:

Day 2: It is required to arrive by flight before 2PM.

The High Mountain Museum is closed on Mondays. Due to the closure of Cabildo (TUE) and Mercado de San Miguel (SUN). The points of interest to visit will be modified.



Day 4: The Vine and Wine Museum closes on Mondays.

Day 6: Please, ask about the frequency of the bus Purmamarca – S.P. de Atacama.

Day 9: From May to October, the access to Colores Lagoon and De la Mañana Geysers in Bolivia can be affected due to weather conditions.

Day 11: From December to April, due to the rains, access to the salt flat, Incahuasi Island and the Pucara de Ayque can be affected.

To keep in mind:

-During the rainy season, DEC-MAR. The tour may be affected.

-Due to the characteristics of the Puna, we recommend that people with respiratory, cardiac or pressure illnesses take special care.

In addition, exclusive benefits of our fixed departure

Buenos Aires: Early check in with breakfast / Tango lesson previous to the dinner show.

Cafayate: Lunch at day 4 of the tour.

THE TARIFFS MAY BE MODIFIED IN THE WINTER HOLIDAYS PERIOD, LONG WEEK-ENDS, NATIONAL HOLIDAY, FESTIVE SEASON, CONGRESSES, CONVENTIONS AND INCENTIVE: HOTEL RATES ONLY UPON REQUEST.

PLEASE, ASK THE MINIMUM OF NIGHTS AND MANDATORY DINNERS.

Benefits at our Fixed Departures

-Early check in with breakfast on day 1 in Buenos Aires (during the hotel breakfast hours),

-Early breakfast for those programs on which needed flights are very early (Mind this is a basic continental breakfast).

-Having 6 or more passengers, services in monolingual English language are guaranteed, except in point 1 of Basic Concepts.

-Transfers in and out with English speaking local guide.

-Guaranteed departure with at least 1 passenger (paying the passenger supplement traveling alone).

-Small groups of up to 16 people.

Basic concepts

1. All guided tours include local bilingual English speaking guide.

2. Flights are not included. Please check at the time of booking the needed flights, as they are subject to frequent rescheduling.

3. To avoid extra transportation costs, you must reserve the needed flights in the program.

4. In case of adding nights before or after the program, calculate only the extra night of the hotel, since the transfer in / out in Buenos Aires is already included.



5. Two categories of hotel: First Superior and Tourist Superior. The hotels can be replaced by others of the same category, for reasons of availability.
6. Lodging tax exemption in Argentina. It is mandatory to receive copy of the passport in order to keep the exemption.
7. Meals as specified in the itinerary. Beverage is included only in box-lunches and during the dinner of the Tango Show. Please have a look to the supplements if full board or modified American plan are needed.
8. Tickets to natural reserves, national parks and museums.

Half Board and Full Board supplement available on request.

Program Touring / Guide

Private touring

Fixed Departure

<p>12 Mar, 2025 Tourist Category AUD 16,526 P P twin share AUD 19,166 P P single AVAILABLE</p> <p>First Category AUD 16,919 P P twin share AUD 19,493 P P single AVAILABLE</p>	<p>16 Apr, 2025 Tourist Category AUD 16,526 P P twin share AUD 19,166 P P single AVAILABLE</p> <p>First Category AUD 16,919 P P twin share AUD 19,493 P P single AVAILABLE</p>	<p>14 May, 2025 Tourist Category AUD 16,526 P P twin share AUD 19,166 P P single AVAILABLE</p> <p>First Category AUD 16,919 P P twin share AUD 19,493 P P single AVAILABLE</p>
<p>11 Jun, 2025 Tourist Category AUD 16,526 P P twin share AUD 19,166 P P single AVAILABLE</p> <p>First Category AUD 16,919 P P twin share AUD 19,493 P P single AVAILABLE</p>	<p>09 Jul, 2025 Tourist Category AUD 16,526 P P twin share AUD 19,166 P P single AVAILABLE</p> <p>First Category AUD 16,919 P P twin share AUD 19,493 P P single AVAILABLE</p>	<p>13 Aug, 2025 Tourist Category AUD 16,526 P P twin share AUD 19,166 P P single AVAILABLE</p> <p>First Category AUD 16,919 P P twin share AUD 19,493 P P single AVAILABLE</p>



10 Sep, 2025

Tourist Category
AUD 16,919 P P twin share
AUD 19,493 P P single
AVAILABLE

First Category
AUD 17,469 P P twin share
AUD 20,827 P P single
AVAILABLE

08 Oct, 2025

Tourist Category
AUD 16,919 P P twin share
AUD 19,493 P P single
AVAILABLE

First Category
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12 Nov, 2025

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07 Jan, 2026

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05 Feb, 2026

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