



# Essence of the Altiplanic Deserts - 15 Days

## (#9674)

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **08-09-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

### Overview

Enjoy the beautiful city of Buenos Aires with a dinner show with tango performance. Visit the Calchaquíes Valleys, Obispo Slope, Del Tin Tin Straight, Los Cardones National Park, Cachi and De Las Flechas Gorge. We also take you to Miscanti, Miñiques and Toconao Lagoons. Admire the landscapes such as Verde Lagoon, Dali Valley with the thermal springs of Chaviri, De la Mañana Geysers and Colorada Lagoon, where we appreciate James flamingos.

### Trip Highlights

Buenos Aires-Salta- Cafayate- Purmamarca- Atacama- Malku Cueva- 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 - Malku**

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 Humahuaca 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 Humahuaca 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) - Purmamaca (2) - Atacama (3) - Villamar (1) - Malku (1)

- Colchani (2)

-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

-Flight tickets and airport taxes.

-Extra: laundry service, telephone call.

-Tips.

-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).



## Note

### Operational notes:

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.

### Hotels Used

#### 3 Star

BUENOS AIRES - NH FLORIDA OR SIMILAR (STANDARD ROOM)

SALTA - DEL VINO HOTEL OR SIMILAR (SUPERIOR ROOM)

CAFAYATE - HOTEL LOS SAUCES OR SIMILAR (STANDARD ROOM)

PURMAMARCA - HOSTERIA DEL AMAUTA OR SIMILAR (STANDARD ROOM)

ATACAMA - HOSTERIA SAN PEDRO OR SIMILAR (STANDARD ROOM)

MALKU CUEVA - JARDINES DE MALKU (STANDARD ROOM)

COLCHANI - PALACIO DE LA SAL (STANDARD ROOM)

TILCARA - TERRAZAS DE TILCARA (STANDARD ROOM)

#### 4 Star

BUENOS AIRES - NH JOUSTEN OR SIMILAR (SUPERIOR ROOM)

SALTA - BRIZO SALTA OR SIMILAR (CONFORT)

CAFAYATE - VIÑAS DE CAFAYATE OR SIMILAR (MOUNTAIN VIEW)

PURMAMARCA - LA COMARCA OR SIMILAR (STANDARD ROOM)



ATACAMA - ALTIPLANICO OR SIMILAR (STANDARD ROOM)  
 MALKU CUEVA - JARDINES DE MALKU (STANDARD ROOM)  
 COLCHANI - PALACIO DE LA SAL (STANDARD ROOM)  
 TILCARA - TERRAZAS DE TILCARA (STANDARD ROOM)

## Program Touring / Guide

Escorted Experience

## Fixed-Departure

**11 Sep, 2024**

3 Star

AUD 17,464 P P twin share

AUD 20,798 P P single

AVAILABLE

4 Star

AUD 17,754 P P twin share

AUD 21,230 P P single

AVAILABLE

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