

ALTIPLANO, PATAGONIA & IGUAZU, (JZR)

La Paz to Rio de Janeiro 72 Days, departing 13th September 2020



TRIP OVERVIEW

Trip Style: Overlanding

Route: La Paz to Rio de Janeiro

Duration: 72 Days

Transport: Overland Expedition Vehicle, Jeep, Local Bus, Ferry, Boat, Canoe

Accommodation: Basic Hotel 10 nights
Wild Camp 5 nights
Multishare Hostel 19 nights
Camping 30 nights
Comfortable Hotel 7 nights

Meals: Breakfasts x 54, Lunches x 38, Dinners x 37

Physical Challenge:



The trip may include multi-day treks at high altitude, walking for 5-8 hours per day.

Lifestyle Challenge:



This is a fairly challenging trip; you may well be travelling at high altitudes, across deserts or through cold and windy or hot and steamy areas. The terrain and roads may be rough and the facilities can be very basic or non-existent. There may be some long drive days followed by wild camps, and physically and mentally it can be tough, but there will be some rest days and time to relax as well.



DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1 - La Paz (13th September 2020)

Border information: if you are joining in La Paz, you will most likely enter Bolivia at La Paz El Alto International Airport (IATA code: LPB).

Welcome to La Paz, Bolivia's seat of government and the highest administrative capital in the world! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting.

A note on altitude: If you are joining in La Paz, we strongly recommend arriving at least 24 hours before the trip begins to allow additional time to acclimatise.

Accommodation: Estrella Andina Hostal A""

Day 2 - La Paz (14th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a free day to make the most of the extraordinary city of La Paz, explore the witches market or take a mountain biking trip down the World's Most Dangerous Road.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a trip out to the mountain resort of Chacaltaya and the other-worldly landscape of the Moon Valley near La Paz

Full day tour: 130 BOB

Downhill "gravity assisted" mountain biking from La Paz to Coroico

Full day tour (not incl 50 BOB road fee): 125 USD

Discover Bolivia's history art and culture in some of La Paz's many museums such as the San Francisco Museum and the Museum of Ethnography

Entrance: 20 BOB

Take a guided tour of the main sights and viewpoints around La Paz

City tour: 150 BOB

Guided tour to explore Tiahuanacu Inca Ruins

Full day tour: 220 BOB

Day 3 - Uyuni (15th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive south to Uyuni, the gateway to the incredible salt flats of the Salar de Uyuni.

Day 4 - Uyuni (16th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Today we will venture out onto the salt flats of the Salar de Uyuni, spending a full day exploring this phenomenal location by jeep and on foot. En route we will explore the nearby train graveyard and the cactus-filled 'Fish Island', and take all the time we need to get plenty of perspective-bending photographs!

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Take jeeps out onto the dazzling Uyuni Salt Flats

Included

Day 5 - Altiplano (17th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will head off across the wilds of the Altiplano, a surreal and desolate desert landscape that stretches all the way into Chile. We will make plenty of stop for photographs on the way and at the end of the day we aim to cross the border into Chile, making camp soon afterwards. Tonight we will bush camp in a remote spot with no facilities!

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Take the epic journey across the Altiplano - an incredible high-altitude adventure through a surreal desert landscape taking in bizarre rock formations and stunning lakes

Included

Day 6 - San Pedro de Atacama (18th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

After breakfast we will break camp, and drive through the stunning Reserva Nacional Alto Loa on the Chilean part of the Altiplano, stopping off en route for photographs and a lunch stop at the famous El Tatio Geysers, the worlds highest Geyser field at 4300m. Afterwards descending down to San Pedro de Atacama.

Please note: The weather in this region can be unpredictable and has been known to close the road to the border. On these occasions we will take an alternate route across the Altiplano, crossing into either Chile or Argentina at a different border point. Your trip leaders will keep you informed of any changes that may be necessary.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Experience the incredible El Tatio geysers in the mountains high above the Atacama Desert

Entrance: 10,000 CLP

Day 7 - San Pedro de Atacama (19th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a free day to explore the incredible highlights of the Atacama desert surrounding San Pedro. In the evening we will take an included trip out to the extraordinary Moon Valley, where we will hopefully see an incredible sunset. At night we will also have the chance to go stargazing, in one of the world's premier regions for astronomy (please note that this is only possible when there is not a full moon).

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the dramatic landscape of the Moon Valley

Included

Optional Activities

Discover some of the interesting ancient ruins near San Pedro and the artifacts found in the area on an archaeological tour

Tour: 25,000 CLP

Hire a bike to explore the incredible deserts surrounding San Pedro de Atacama at your own pace

Half day: 5,000 CLP

Discover the incredible deserts of San Pedro on horseback

Riding: 13,500 CLP

Take a tour of the stunning Lagunas Altiplánicas backdropped by the incredible deserts and volcanic scenery of the region

Entrance: 35,000 CLP

Observe the night skies at a Chilean observatory

Tour: 25,000 CLP

Visit the incredible salt plains of the Salar de Atacama and take a swim in the salty pools of Laguna Cejar

Entrance: 15,000 CLP

Day 8 - Salta (20th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a long drive day to cross the mighty Andes, cross the border into Argentina, and reach the beautiful town of Salta.

Day 9 - Salta (21st September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a free day to explore Salta, visit its many museums, or explore the beautiful surrounding hills on foot or by mountain bike. We will also have the chance to take the cable car to the viewpoint on San Bernardo Hill overlooking the town, or take the famous 'Train to the Clouds' through some of the incredible mountain scenery nearby.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Explore the beautiful mountains and forests near Salta on a mountain biking trip

The Bull circuit: 1,300 ARS

Rainforest Circuit: 900 ARS

Downhill Cuesta del Obispo: 2,000 ARS

Bike Rental (full day): 600 ARS

Day 10 - Cafayate (22nd September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Today we will drive through the spectacular rock formations of the Quebrada de las Conchas, and reach the serene town of Cafayate.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the impressive rock formations of 'El Amphiteatro' and 'La Garganta del Diablo' en route through the primeval landscape of the Quebrada de las Conchas

Included

Day 11 - Cafayate (23rd September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Free day to explore Cafayate. This small unassuming town is the centre of one of Argentinas's principal wine producing regions, famous for the quality of its Torrontes and Tannat wines! We will have the opportunity to go to a few of the vineyards nearby to see how the wine is made, and of course to try them!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Discover the bodegas and stock up on wine in Cafayate

Wine tasting: 150 ARS

Day 12 - Recreo (24th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive south through spectacular mountains and arrive in the pampas that Argentina is famous for. We will visit the ancient ruins of the indigenous city of Quilmes en route.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the Quilmes ruins

Included

Day 13 - Estancia (25th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we drive to a unique Anglo-Argentine Estancia, where we will stay for 3 nights.

During our time at the Estancia, we will head out horseback riding. This is a magical experience in a beautiful and many people's highlight of the trip! Please note that some of these activities are subject to weather conditions.

Please also note that there is a strict weight limit of 15 stone (210lbs) or 95kg to partake in the horse riding - if you should weigh more than this, then unfortunately you will not be able to participate in the horseback riding.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Spend 3 unique days at an Anglo-Argentinian estancia to experience the Gaucho way of life

Included

Day 14 - Estancia (26th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Full day at the Estancia.

Day 15 - Estancia (27th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Full day at the Estancia.

Day 16 - Cordoba (28th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a leisurely start after breakfast to the city of Cordoba, where we will enjoy a free afternoon to explore the city.

Day 17 - Mendoza (29th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a very early start for a full day's drive to the stunning town of Mendoza, nestled in the dry flats underneath the shadows of the largest mountains of the Andes.

Mendoza is the centre of Argentine wine production, and one of the nine 'Wine Capitals of the World' - it is especially famous for its Malbec, grown at some of the highest-altitude vineyards to be found in the world.

Day 18 - Mendoza (30th September 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today will be free time to explore the region, head out on various adventure activities, or of course take a tasting tour of the incredible wineries in the region.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a mountain biking trip through the dramatic landscapes of the Andean foothills near Mendoza

Biking: 1,000 ARS

White water rafting on the Mendoza River

Full Day Rafting: 1,750 ARS

Half Day Rafting: 700 ARS

Mendoza Trekking

Half Day Trek: 500 ARS

Half day trek with abseil: 700 ARS

Explore the vineyards of the Mendoza and Maipu region either on an organised tour or by cycling between the bodegas

Bike tour: 950 ARS

Day 19 - Santiago (1st October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive over the stunning Cristo Redentor pass in the high Andes, passing Aconcagua (the highest mountain in the Southern Hemisphere) and heading to the Chilean capital of Santiago.

Day 20 - Santiago (2nd October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today is a free day to explore the cosmopolitan Chilean capital.

Day 21 - Santiago (3rd October 2020)

Border information: if you are joining in Santiago, you will most likely enter Chile at Santiago Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport (IATA code: SCL).

Welcome to Santiago, the cosmopolitan Chilean capital! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this meeting.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Discover all of Santiago's sights on a hop-on/hop-off bus around the city

Tour: 21,000 CLP

Learn more about Santiago and its history on a free walking tour of the centre from a knowledgeable local guide

Tour: Free

Take in the breathtaking vista of the city skyline backdropped by the mighty Andes from the viewpoints at Cerro San Cristobal or Cerro San Lucia

Cable car: 2,500 CLP

Day 22 - Buchupureo (4th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will leave the bright lights of Santiago behind and head to San Javier to take a wine tour at one of the famous vineyards of the region. After lunch, we will head to the laid back farming village of Buchupureo on the Chilean coast, where we can relax by the beach for a couple of hours.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Whet your palette during wine tasting at a vineyard in San Javier

Included

Day 23 - Pucon (5th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we continue our journey to the town of Pucón, set on the shores of Lago Villarrica.

Day 24 - Pucon (6th October 2020)

Today is a free day to enjoy a range of optional activities, such as an expedition to climb the Volcano which looms over Pucón, heading out horse riding through the surrounding forests, or an evening visit to the nearby natural hot springs.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take part in a fantastic canyoning expedition through the gorges of the Chilean Lake District near Pucón

Canyoning tour: 25,000 CLP

Horseriding or hikes around Pucon

Horse riding (3hrs): 35,000 CLP

Explore the stunning views and hiking trails of the nearby Huerquehue National Park

Entrance to NP and public bus fare : 7,000 CLP

Head on an exciting white-water rafting trip on the rapids of the Trancura River near Pucón

Rafting : 25,000 CLP

Relax in the soothing waters of the Pozones natural hot springs

Entrance : 12,000 CLP

Learn all about Pucón and the history of its people on a free walking tour of the town

Tips only : Free

Trek up the snowcapped volcano Mt Villarica

Chairlift : 10,000 CLP

Tour: 95,000 CLP

Day 25 - Bariloche (7th October 2020)

Border information: Exit Chile at Mamuil Malal, enter Argentina at Mamuil Malal.

Today we journey through the Andes into Argentina and to the picturesque town of Bariloche via the scenic Ruta de los Siete Lagos (Seven Lakes Route).

Day 26 - Bariloche (8th October 2020)

Today we have a free day to enjoy the beautiful mountain town of Bariloche and the stunning surrounding lakes, mountains and forests. We have options to explore the area by foot, mountain bike, kayak or boat.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Discover the incredible scenery of the Nahuel Huapi Lake and the Victoria Islands on a boat trip from Bariloche

Full day trip: 1,800 ARS

Hire mountain bikes to explore the forests and hills surrounding Lake Nahuel Huapi and Bariloche

Full day hire, including helmet: 900 ARS

Visit the interesting Fenoglio Chocolate Museum in Bariloche and learn all about the towns tradition of chocolate making

Entrance: 200 ARS

Horse riding around Bariloche

Half day riding: 1,750 ARS

Explore the nearby Lago Gutierrez and take in its amazing views from the water on a half-day tandem kayaking trip

1/2 day: 790 ARS

Day 27 - Futaleufu (9th October 2020)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: Exit Argentina at Rio Futaleufú, enter Chile at Rio Futaleufú.

Today we cross back into Chile and drive to the rafting mecca of Futaleufú. From this point we will join the famous Carretera Austral, probably one of the most stunning roads in South America, surrounded by gorgeous mountain and forest scenery. Please note that the road from here to El Chaltén is rough and mostly unpaved meaning that the going is slow.

Day 28 - Futaleufu (10th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Free day for optional activities or just enjoying the scenery.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Head out for an exhilarating rafting or kayaking trip on the Grade 5 white water rapids near Futaleufú (if time allows)

2-6 hours. 5 pax minimum: 65,000 CLP

Day 29 - Puyuhuapi (11th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will leave Futaleufú and drive through the Chilean fjords to Queluat National Park. Here we can take a walk to see the incredible hanging Glacier.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the stunning Queulat National Park and take a trek through the 'Enchanted Forest' to view the magnificent Hanging Glacier

Included

Day 30 - Cerro Castillo NR (12th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we drive south through the magnificent Chilean scenery to the beautiful area of Cerro Castillo National Reserve.

In Cerro Castillo we will camp in a lovely family-run campsite with basic facilities, where we will enjoy a Chilean BBQ.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Enjoy a traditional Chilean BBQ

Included

Day 31 - Cerro Castillo NR (13th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a free day to hike to the stunning turquoise waters of Laguna Cerro Castillo or to go horse riding.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Explore the beautiful mountain scenery of Cerro Castillo on a horse riding trip

2hr 15min ride: 18,000 CLP

Hike to the stunning Laguna Cerro Castillo

NP entrance: 10,000 CLP

Day 32 - Rio Pinturas (14th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: Exit Chile at Huemules, enter Argentina at Huemules.

Today we will cross into Argentina's Patagonia region and continue our journey south along the famous Ruta 40 (Route 40).

Tonight we will wild camp somewhere in the Rio Pinturas area.

Day 33 - El Calafate (15th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Today we continue our journey south to the town of El Calafate, the gateway to the Perito Moreno Glacier, where we will stay for two nights in this busy Argentinian town.

Day 34 - El Calafate (16th October 2020)

Today we will head out on an included full day guided visit to view the stunning Perito Moreno Glacier, one of the most spectacular sights in Patagonia.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided full day trip to the Perito Moreno Glacier

Included

Optional Activities

Boat trip beneath the Perito Moreno Glacier

1 hour: 1,000 ARS

Learn all about glaciers at the fantastic modern Glaciarium Museum in El Calafate and visit its cool ice bar in the basement!

Entrance to museum and ice bar: 600 ARS

Day 35 - Tierra Del Fuego (17th October 2020)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Border information: Exit Argentina at Integracion Austral, enter Chile at Integracion Austral

Continuing south, we head back into Chile to cross the Magellan Straits over to the island of Tierra del Fuego.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Head out to the remote corner of Chilean Tierra del Fuego. If time allows, visit the King Penguin colony at Bahia Inutil, the only colony of these type of penguins outside of Antarctica

Included

Day 36 - Ushuaia (18th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Border information: Exit Chile at San Sebastian, enter Argentina at San Sebastian.

Today we cross over to the Argentine side of Tierra del Fuego and drive to the incredible port town of Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world!

Day 37 - Ushuaia (19th October 2020)

We will have a free day in the remote town of Ushuaia, with time for optional activities such as a visit to the hauntingly beautiful Tierra del Fuego National Park, boat trips to see the scenery and wildlife of the Beagle Channel, or heading out horse riding along the coast.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Beagle channel boat trips

4 hours: 2,040 ARS

Take a journey along the Rio Pipo on the Train to the End of the World. Once built by prisoners at Ushuaia's old penal colony

Train trip: 44 USD

Delve into Ushuaia's past and learn about it's maritime tradition and former prison colony at the Maritime Museum

Entrance: 400 ARS

Learn all about Tierra del Fuego's history and nature at the Museum of the End of the World in Ushuaia

Entrance: 300 ARS

Explore Tierra del Fuego National Park on a day tour from Ushuaia

4 hour guided tour: 1,450 ARS

Day 38 - Tierra Del Fuego (20th October 2020)

Meals: Dinner

Border information: Exit Argentina at San Sebastian, enter Chile at San Sebastian.

Today we start heading back north on a full day drive back across the Magellan Straits and up the Chilean side of the mainland.

Day 39 - Torres Del Paine NP (21st October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive to the world-famous Torres del Paine National Park. This is one of the most outstanding areas of natural beauty in the world and a main highlight of the trip for many of our passengers and leaders! We will stop en route in Puerto Natales to stock up on supplies and pick up our local guides and cook who will accompany us during our time in the National Park.

Tonight we will camp at Camping Pehoe, a stunning campsite inside the National Park with incredible views of Los Cuernos mountains, which we will refer to as our 'base campsite'.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

4 days in the rugged Torres del Paine National Park, trekking the W walk with a local guide

Included

Day 40 - Torres Del Paine NP (22nd October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Embark on the W-Walk with a local guide. Places at the campsites are limited by the National Park, so we book them in advance of your trip. We will be trekking the W-Walk from West to East, to enjoy the spectacular views.

This morning we will wake early and transfer by truck for the morning Catamaran to cross Lago Pehoe. We will then set up camp at Paine Grande, before continuing on our hike towards the lookout for Glacier Grey. The walk returns by the same route.

Day 41 - Torres Del Paine NP (23rd October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we depart from our camp at Paine Grande and hike into the stunning French Valley. In the afternoon, we will make our way to Camp Cuernos.

The hike is approximately 8 hours

Day 42 - Torres Del Paine NP (24th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a slightly easier day, we will hike from Camping Cuernos along the edge of Lago Nodenskjold, around Almirante Nieto and stay just outside Valley Ascencio. We will arrive at Camp Central after approximately 5 hours hiking.

Day 43 - Torres Del Paine NP (25th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This is our final day of the W-Walk and the most spectacular. The day begins with a steady climb from our camp site up Rio Asencio. Be prepared for the final hour which is a relatively steep scramble up to the Tarn and Mirrador Las Torres, affording great views of the iconic Towers.

Our hike today is approximately 8 hours for the return trip (16km).

Day 44 - El Chalten (26th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will head north to reach the small town of El Chaltén, situated in Los Glaciares National Park and famous for its incredible mountains, glaciers and world-class trekking opportunities.

Day 45 - El Chalten (27th October 2020)

We will have two free days to enjoy the stunning Los Glaciares National Park and the incredible scenery of the nearby Mt. Fitz Roy. There are lots of trekking and walking opportunities here, as well as boat trips, horse riding, and many other fantastic options.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Horse riding and trekking around El Chalten

2 hours ride inc transfer: 60 ARS

Take a boat out onto the stunning Viedma Lake and get up close to the Viedma Glacier to see its impressive facade.

2.5hr boat trip: 1,100 ARS

Visit the majestic Lago del Desierto, a remote and serene lake surrounded by stunning forests and mountains

Full day cycling tour: 500 USD

Day 46 - El Chalten (28th October 2020)

Second free day for optional activities and exploration.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Enjoy a spectacular kayaking trip down the Rio de las Vueltas taking in some incredible views of the surrounding mountains

Min 2 passengers: 150 USD

Head on a rock-climbing course in the magnificent landscapes surrounding El Chalten

Full day course: 163 USD

Day 47 - Jaramillo Petrified Forest (29th October 2020)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have a full day drive across the plains of Patagonia towards the South Atlantic coast.

Day 48 - Camarones (30th October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we continue our drive north up the Atlantic coast to the small town of Camarones.

Day 49 - Puerto Madryn (31st October 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we have an included visit to the incredible remote colony of Magellanic Penguins in Cabo Dos Bahias (Cape Two Bays), close to the town of Camarones. After seeing the phenomenal sight of thousands of penguins nesting on the shore, we will continue our drive north to the coastal town of Puerto Madryn.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the penguin colony at Camarones

Included

Day 50 - Puerto Madryn (1st November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have a free day for optional activities in and around Puerto Madryn. There is the opportunity to take a tour to the Valdes Peninsular to see its desolate scenery and abundant marine life, head out on a boat trip in search of dolphins and whales, or perhaps go for afternoon tea in a Welsh tea house in the nearby towns of Gaiman or Trelew.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Set off on a boat trip from Puerto Madryn in search of playful Commerson's dolphins (all year) or Dusky dolphins (December to March) and Southern Right whales (May to December)!

3hrs: 47 USD

Visit the fascinating modern marine interpretation centre of EcoCentro Mar Patagonia and learn all about the unique ecosystems of the Patagonian sea

Entrance: 125 USD

Explore the intriguing Welsh village of Gaiman near Trelew and visit one of its iconic tea houses. Transfers by bus.

Teahouse entrances: 12 USD

Discover the incredible colony of sea lions at Punta Loma near to Puerto Madryn

Entrance: 100 ARS

Explore the incredible shipwrecks and rocky reefs under the water on a scuba diving trip in the Golfo Nuevo off the shore of Puerto Madryn

3hrs: 150 USD

Guided visit to the Valdes Peninsula to meet the elephant seals and sealions

Full tour incl. entrance fee: 64 USD

Visit the outstanding Museum of Paleontology in the Welsh town of Trelew and see the impressive ancient remains

MEF Entrance: 95 USD

Day 51 - Bahia Blanca (2nd November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a full day's drive heading north towards Buenos Aires. We will see a definite change in the landscape today as the vegetation becomes more and more lush and green as we come out of the Patagonia region and into the pampas of Buenos Aires.

Day 52 - Buenos Aires (3rd November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Another full day drive will take us across the beautiful grasslands of Buenos Aires province and to the cosmopolitan Argentine capital itself.

Day 53 - Buenos Aires (4th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today is a free day to explore the incredible city of Buenos Aires, soak up the atmosphere of its streets, and discover its amazing culture, art, and music.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Head out to a tango show in Buenos Aires' oldest cafe the Gran Cafe Tortoni - seeing a slice of iconic Argentine culture in an ideal and intimate setting

Show: 650 ARS

Enjoy a free city tour of Buenos Aires

Tour: Free

Visit the strangely beautiful cemetery of Recoleta the final resting place of many ex-presidents and Argentine icons most famously including the tomb of Eva Peron

Entrance: Free

Try your hand at the art of tango dancing with a private lesson in Buenos Aires

Lesson: 25 USD

See a different side to Buenos Aires on a tour of its incredible street art with some of the local artists

Tour: 20 USD

Learn all about the cuisine of Argentina on a food tour of Buenos Aires visiting several incredible local top-class eateries that you won't find in the guidebooks!

Tour: 85 USD

Day 54 - Buenos Aires (5th November 2020)

Border information: if you are joining in Buenos Aires, you will most likely enter Argentina at Buenos Aires Ministro Pistarini International Airport, also known as Ezeiza Airport (IATA code: BUE/EZE).

Welcome to Buenos Aires, the wonderful capital of Argentina! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting.

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Buenos Aires before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Buenos Aires.

In Buenos Aires we will stay in a centrally-located hotel.

Day 55 - Buenos Aires (6th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today will be a free day to explore the incredible city of Buenos Aires, soak up the atmosphere of its streets, and discover its amazing culture, art, and music.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Learn all about the cuisine of Argentina on a food tour of Buenos Aires visiting several incredible local top-class eateries that you won't find in the guidebooks!

Tour: 85 USD

Watch a football game at La Bombonera

Entrance: 300 ARS

Enjoy a free city tour of Buenos Aires

Tour: Free

Explore the beautiful area of Palermo Viejo see the incredible modern sculpture of Floralis Generica and head out to the area's bars and restaurants at night

Entrance: Free

Visit the strangely beautiful cemetery of Recoleta the final resting place of many ex-presidents and Argentine icons most famously including the tomb of Eva Peron

Entrance: Free

Head out to a tango show in Buenos Aires' oldest cafe the Gran Cafe Tortoni - seeing a slice of iconic Argentine culture in an ideal and intimate setting

Show: 650 ARS

Day 56 - Yapeyu (7th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a full day drive north through the provinces of Entre Rios and Corrientes, aiming to reach the beautiful village of Yapeyú on the banks of the River Uruguay. Yapeyú is very famous amongst Argentines for being the birthplace of their national hero General Jose de San Martin, one of the liberators of South America from Spanish colonial rule.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Visit the remains of the house of José de San Martín, one of the main liberators of South America (if time allows)

Entrance: Free

Day 57 - Foz do Iguacu (8th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border information: Exit Argentina at Tancredo Neves, enter Brazil at Tancredo Neves.

Today we cross the border into Brazil and drive to the city of Foz do Iguacu.

Day 58 - Foz do Iguacu (9th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will visit the Brazilian side of the phenomenal Iguazu Falls, to get some incredible panoramic vistas of the mighty waterfalls. There is also plenty of time to visit the bird park, take a helicopter ride over the falls, see the incredible Itaipu Dam, or quickly stop into Paraguay to pick up some bargains in the nearby Ciudad del Este.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Discover the unbelievable Iguazu Falls from the Brazilian side

Included

Day 59 - Foz do Iguacu (10th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will take a day trip back into Argentina to see the incredible Iguazu Falls from the other side. This is well worth doing as the views are even more spectacular, and you'll be able to look right down into the mighty Garganta del Diablo (the largest waterfall here) from a gantry walkway viewing point). We will have a full day at the Argentine side of the falls, allowing us lots of time to freely explore the site, hike some nature trails, or perhaps take an exhilarating (and very wet) boat ride!

We will return to our base in Foz do Iguacu tonight.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Spend the day exploring the amazing Iguazu Falls from the Argentinian side

Included

Optional Activities

Get a soaking on a boat trip to the Falls

Boat: 1,500 ARS

Day 60 - Bonito (11th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a full drive day north to the Brazilian eco-tourism capital of Bonito.

Day 61 - Bonito (12th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We have two full days in Bonito to take part in the plethora of incredible optional activities here. You could go out on a world-class snorkelling trip, explore the nearby caves, or go abseiling down some of the largest waterfalls in the area, amongst many other possibilities!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take an incredible snorkelling trip through the crystal clear waters of the Rio da Prata getting a phenomenal view of the fish and aquatic plants underwater

Snorkelling trip and transport: 290 BRL

Day 62 - Bonito (13th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Second free day for optional activities in Bonito.

Day 63 - Pantanal (14th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a short drive to Brazil's amazing Southern Pantanal region, where we have a visit a local eco-tourism ranch (or 'fazenda').

We will spend 2 nights here and have a fantastic package of included activities such as exploring the beautiful surrounding countryside on horseback, trips down the wildlife-abundant rivers in boats and canoes, and safaris on the ranch's trucks and on foot where we hope to spot capybaras, caimans, and (if we are very lucky) jaguars and ocelots. Our stay here is an incredible highlight!

In the Southern Pantanal we will stay in dorm accommodation in a well equipped lodge with all the meals and activities included.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Spend 2 nights in the Pantanal, the world's largest tropical wetland area, exploring the flora and fauna with local guides

Included

Day 64 - Pantanal (15th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Full day in the Pantanal.

Day 65 - Campo Grande (16th November 2020)

After our morning activities and one final lunch in our beautiful ranch, it is time to leave the Pantanal. We will start driving east towards Sao Paulo state, and wild camp or stay in a local pousada at the end of the day.

Day 66 - Brotas (17th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive to the remote town of Brotas in southeastern Brazil.

Day 67 - Brotas (18th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today is free to take part in optional adventure activities such as white water rafting or canyoning, or to simply relax by the pool!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Go on a half-day canyoning trip through the gorges of the Jacare River near Brotas

Activity: 270 BRL

Head out white-water rafting on the fast moving waters of the Jacare River (approximately Grade 3-4)

Activity: 150 BRL

Day 68 - Paraty (19th November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have a full day drive to the colonial town of Paraty on the Emerald Coast of the Atlantic!

Day 69 - Paraty (20th November 2020)

Today we will have an included boat trip around the incredible islands and beaches off the coast.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Boat trip out to islands and beaches

Included

Optional Activities

Learn all about the fascinating history of Brazil and the Gold Trail on an excellent walking tour of the old colonial town of Paraty

Walking Tour: 35 USD

Enjoy some of the best and most scenic treks in the country on the coastal trails hills and 'tropical fjords' near Paraty

Walking Tour: 50 USD

Explore the ocean islands beaches and mangroves of Atlantic coast in a more serene and tranquil fashion on a sea kayaking expedition around the bay of Paraty

Kayaking: 80 BRL

Day 70 - Paraty (21st November 2020)

Today we will have free time to explore the town, take a historical tour, walk along the stunning scenery of the coastline, head out snorkelling or diving, or simply relax on the idyllic beaches.

Day 71 - Rio de Janeiro (22nd November 2020)

This morning we will drive to the incredible Rio de Janeiro, one of the most beautifully situated cities in the world!

In Rio de Janeiro we will stay in a great hotel in the Flamengo district, close to the beach and the metro station.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Relax and explore the world famous beaches of Rio de Janeiro including Ipanema Arpoador and of course Copacabana

Entrance: Free

Visit the world famous statue Christ the Redeemer

Train and entrance: 83 BRL

Day 72 - Rio de Janeiro (23rd November 2020)

Meals: Breakfast

Border information: if you are leaving in Rio de Janeiro, you will most likely exit Brazil at Rio de Janeiro Galeão International Airport (IATA code: RIO/GIG).

Today is the end day for passengers finishing their trip in Rio de Janeiro. Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact your sales agent if you are interested in booking extra nights of accommodation in order to fully explore and take part in some of the optional activities listed below.

Accommodation:

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Explore the magnificent Botanical Gardens of Rio de Janeiro with over 54 hectares and 6500 species of plants and flowers

Entrance: 8 USD

Take a hike into the Tijuca Rainforest, one of the largest Urban Rainforests in the world.

Hike: 65 USD

Take a cable car up Pão de Açúcar (Sugarloaf Mountain)

Cable car (return ticket): 85 BRL

ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564

A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk.

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

IMPORTANT NOTES

OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overlanding trip works, please see the Essential Information document.

SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.

VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

ALTITUDE WARNING

Warning - this trip goes above 2800m.

Please note that this trip spends time above 2800 metres/9200 feet where it is possible for travellers to experience some adverse effects on your health due to the altitude, potentially including Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS), High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE) and High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE). Because of this it is very important that you make yourself aware of the cause and effects of travelling at altitude and monitor your health during this trip.

For further information please [download our AMS information sheet](#) or refer to the following website: www.high-altitude-medicine.com. If you are starting your trip in a destination above 2800m/9200ft we strongly advise reading this information prior to arrival. Your leader will also hand you a copy of the AMS information sheet during your trip as well as holding a short meeting prior to travelling to altitudes above 2800m/9200ft for the first time.

Some travel insurance companies will stipulate a maximum altitude limit. Please ensure that you are covered and if necessary pay the additional premium of extended cover.

HIGH ALTIPLANO NOTE

Because of its nature, this itinerary may vary – occasionally the road conditions are too adverse during the rainy season (January-February) to make the crossing from Uyuni to Argentina, and we may have to change the route.

During the winter months in Argentina and Bolivia, we will spend a higher proportion of nights in hotels and less time camping. Kitty may be higher than expected and you should allow extra funds for this and personal funds for more meals out. There may well be snow and you should be aware that it can get very cold at night. Please ensure that you bring a decent sleeping bag and adequate clothes, including thermals.

We will also be travelling to very high altitudes (over 5,000m if you take the crossing from Uyuni to Argentina or vice versa), so please be aware of the effects of altitude sickness.

PATAGONIA NOTES

This trip will be travelling to the southernmost point of South America, and you should expect extreme weather conditions. It can be bitterly cold and very windy with heavy rain at any time of the year, even during the summer. The weather changes extremely fast so you should expect four seasons' weather in one day. Therefore please remember to prepare accordingly – this is a tough trip and should not be taken lightly.

We suggest you take plenty of good quality warm, waterproof and windproof clothing and use the layering system to keep warm. As you will spend a number of nights camping, we recommend you bring a good camping mat, a good quality 4 season sleeping bag, a sleeping bag liner and a small pillow to keep comfortable.

Patagonia's peak season is the summer (Mid November to February). The days are long, typically temperatures are around 20°C during the day, dropping to 8°C at night, though whilst generally warm in the summer, it can often be very windy, with rain. If you are travelling during the peak season be aware that activities and camp sites sell out fast and you will be sharing the trails with a greater number of fellow trekkers. Please note that due to the popularity of the region, we also find that prices can increase significantly during high season.

In the shoulder season the days are much colder, but often clearer and brighter, with fewer people on the trails, though be aware that some activities may not have opened fully. Springtime (October to November) brings the colourful spring blooms. March to May is the best time to see the autumn foliage and makes for stunning photographs. If you choose to travel at this time, be sure to pack a good down jacket and a 4 season sleeping bag and liner, as the nights can be very cold. During the shoulder season there is an option to upgrade into basic cabins or hostels at some of the campsites that we stay in along the way. Please budget an extra USD10-15 per night for such upgrades.

THE W WALK

We include the full 4 day W walk in Torres del Paine NP as standard in our kitty. This includes transfers to the start and finish points, camping equipment, full board and the services of an English speaking local guide throughout the trip.

The W walk involves 4 days of trekking and 3 overnight stays away from the truck. Your tents will be set up at pre-booked campsites at Paine Grande, Los Cuernos and Las Torres, and meals included. It is important to bear in mind that you will have to carry your own personal effects for the duration of the trek, e.g. sleeping mat, sleeping bag, clothes, toiletries, snacks, water, etc. Some days of the W walk can be shortened for those wishing to trek slightly shorter distances, for example on Day 2 it is possible to trek to the first view point and return to Paine Grande via the same route, reducing the trek by half. It is possible to hire porters for the W walk at a cost of CLP150,000 per porter. Their maximum load is 15kg. We recommend that you put your bag into a waterproof liner or dry sack before giving it to a porter. In high season (mid November to mid March) we recommended contacting your travel consultant to book your porter in advance.

For anyone who wishes to stay at our base camp, this can be arranged in advance through your travel consultant. This package will include camping and full board at our base camp at Camping Pehoe, as well as the opportunity to join the W walkers for guided single day hikes to Glacier Grey and the Las Torres viewpoint. Transfers will be provided your crew in the truck.

Please note that the price is the same whether you choose to stay at the base camp, or take part in the full W walk; however in order for us to make arrangements for meal provisions, you must tell us in advance if you will not be trekking the W walk.

BOLIVIA NOTES

CHILE NOTES

ARGENTINA NOTES

BRAZIL NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 6th April 2020**