

05
DAYS

NORTHWEST
VALLEYS
AND PUNA



NOT
INCLUDED



MONDAYS
AND
THURSDAYS.
ALL
YEAR ROUND

NORTHWEST



BREAKFAST



SPANISH
AND
BILINGUAL
(English
German
Italian
French)

Northwest Valleys and Puna



DAY 01 SALTA

Reception at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Accommodation. In the afternoon, city tour visiting the 'Cabildo', the Cathedral, San Francisco church, San Bernardo monastery and San Carlos hill. Return to the hotel.

DAY 02 SALTA / CALAFATE / SALTA

Breakfast. Early departure from the hotel for a full day tour to Cafayate, a beautiful colonial village located in the most wonderful landscape, in the very heart of the Calchaqui Valleys. We will drive through a number of small towns and villages such as: Cerrillos, El Carril, a typical village at the Lerma Valley, Ampascachi, Talapampa, Alemania and Las Conchas river gorge, also known as Cafayate river gorge, with reddish sandstone walls, curious rock formations that have been masterfully carved by the erosion of wind and weather. All these formations have been baptized by locals according to its fancy shapes with names such as: the Amphitheater, the Devil's Throat, the Obelisk and the Castles. Surrounded by rivers and vineyards stands Cafayate, where it is possible to admire its nice old houses that gracefully combine colonial and baroque styles. It is worth a visit to its parish church, the Town Hall and the Regional and Archeological Museum. The region is well known for its wine production among which stands the 'torrontés' variety. Visit a famous winery to get in touch with the traditional production techniques and seize the chance to taste some of the finest Argentine wines. On our way back to Salta we will stop by the Parador de las Cabras to taste some delicious home-made jams.

DAY 03 SALTA / SAN ANTONIO DE LOS COBRES / PURMAMARCA

Breakfast. Early departure following the Train to the Clouds rails towards the Quebrada del Toro (Bull's River Gorge). Travelling this route you will see this impressive engineering masterpiece viaducts, switch-backs and loops. Visit the Ruins of Santa Rosa de Tastil, ancient pre-Inca settlement situated at 3,000 meters (9,842 feet)

above sea level. The place, which housed up to 2,000 inhabitants, has the aspect of a huge beehive spread over a hundred hectares. There are also some petroglyphs in the nearby ruins. Continue to the small village of San Antonio de los Cobres, located 163 km (101 miles) from Salta. Its has a population of 3,500 inhabitants and its main economic activities are weavings and handicrafts. Continue crossing the Puna up to Salinas Grandes to follow our trip descending through the Cuesta de Lipan to Purmamarca, typical village at the foot of the Seven Color Hill. Accommodation at Manantial del Silencio hotel.

DAY 04 PURMAMARCA / HUMAHUACA / SALTA

Breakfast. Departure to Humahuaca, located at 2,939 meters (9,642 feet) above sea level, founded by Indians in 1594 and unique for its pure colonial style with its mud-made houses, its narrow cobblestones streets and colonial style street lamps. Visit the most important buildings and monuments such as the church, the old Town Hall, and the Monument to the Wars of the Argentine Independence (currently known as Monument to the Aborigine) and the city fair. Continue to Tilcara. Visit the Pucará de Tilcara, old pre-Colombian native fortress partially rebuilt, and the Historic Museum of the Province in front of the main square, which counts with an interesting asset of Inca art coming from different sites in Argentina, Peru, Bolivia and Chile. In Uquía, we will visit the local parish church which holds the oldest altarpiece in the region and a collection of paintings coming from Cuzco, representing the harquebusier angels. On the way to Salta we will shortly visit San Salvador de Jujuy and its main buildings which, as in most Argentine provincial cities, gather around the main square: the Cathedral, the Town Hall, the Government House, and also San Francisco Church. Arrival to Salta. Accommodation.

DAY 05 SALTA

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport.