

06 Crossing the Andes

DAYS

CROSSING THE ANDES



NOT INCLUDED



FRIDAYS FROM APRIL TO NOVEMBER

NORTHWEST



HALF BOARD



SPANISH AND BILINGUAL (English, German, Italian, French)

Argentina / Chile

Take part in one of the most amazing experiences: crossing the Andes, travelling by the worldwide known 'Train to the Clouds'. You will be impressed by the beautiful landscape and the overwhelming silence of the Puna. Discover the typical town of San Antonio de los Cobres and continue to Chile to visit the Atacama salt pit, where pink flamingos are the main attraction.



DAY 01 SALTA

Reception and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, Salta city tour, visiting the San Bernardo Hill, where the view of the city is magnificent. Return to the hotel. Dinner. Accommodation.

DAY 02 SALTA / SAN ANTONIO DE LOS COBRES

Departure on the touristic 'Tren a las Nubes' (Train to the Clouds). The highlight of this trip is the amazing crossing of the viaduct, the train seems to be suspended on the abyss, on fabulous pillars. Accommodation in the old town of San Antonio de los Cobres. Dinner. Accommodation.

DAY 03 SAN ANTONIO DE LOS COBRES / SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Breakfast. Departure to San Pedro de Atacama, near Toconao, a small village and oasis where different kind of fruits are grown. Finally, after bordering the Salar de Atacama, the largest salt pit in Chile, we will arrive at San Pedro de Atacama. Lunch en route. Accommodation.

DAY 04 SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Early departure to visit the Tatio Geysir (4,300

meters / 14,107 feet above sea level), a geothermic field surrounded by high summits, where intense water spurts from Earth at dawn, and the colour of the soil and sky stands out among the steam columns at the light of the first sunbeams. In the afternoon, tour to the Valle de la Luna (Moon Valley) an outstandingly beautiful geological formation. Lunch en route. Return to the hotel.

DAY 05 SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA / SAN SALVADOR DE JUJUY

Breakfast. Departure from San Pedro de Atacama passing by Susques, a tiny colonial town and Quebrada Mal Paso (Mal Paso Gorge). Finally, we will arrive at Salinas Blancas (White Salt Pit), a place of striking beauty. We will be able to observe the salt plains reflecting the blue sky at this point, as it makes them look like an enormous hill surrounded by sea. Then, it is possible to appreciate Cuesta de Lipán, (Lipán Slope), leading upward to the plateau, at 4,170 meters (13,700 feet) above sea level. We will proceed to Purmamarca, appreciating the Seven Color Hill behind us. Lunch. Then the visit continues to Jujuy city. Accommodation.

DAY 06 SAN SALVADOR DE JUJUY

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport.



CHILE | ATACAMA | CHIU CHIU

04

DAYS

ALONG THE HUMAHUACA GORGE



NOT INCLUDED



WEDNESDAYS FROM MAY TO OCTOBER



ACCORDING TO ITINERARY



SPANISH AND BILINGUAL (English, German, Italian, French)

Along the Humahuaca Gorge

Jujuy, Iruya, Purmamarca



JUJUY | PURMAMARCA | SEVEN COLOR HILL

Tour along the Humahuaca Gorge, a deep valley caused by the erosion of the Grande river. Witness the Indian traditions still alive in some towns like Purmamarca, situated next to the famous Seven Color Hill or the fairly accessible Iruya, and see the influences of Spanish art in some others such as Tilcara, with its narrow streets and colonial style houses.

DAY 01 SAN SALVADOR DE JUJUY

Reception at the airport and transfer to the hotel. City tour of Jujuy visiting the Cathedral, the Government House, the Lavalle Historic Museum, the San Francisco Church and La Cienaga Dam, including lunch. Accommodation.

DAY 02 SAN SALVADOR DE JUJUY / HUMAHUACA / IRUYA

After breakfast, drive into the Humahuaca gorge, a narrow and deep geological fault that gains height northwards along 170 km (105 miles) up to the village of Iruya, a small hidden town that seems to be off the beaten track. Almost hanging on the mountain side, Iruya boasts the silent magnificence of the ancient native culture. The Humahuaca gorge hosts a myriad of small towns where Indian and colonial cultures have mixed for hundreds of years: Tumbaya, Maimará and Uquiá, which we visit on our way. Countless archaeological sites remain next to churches, parks and narrow cobbled streets from the first centuries of the Spanish conquest. Towns seem to have aimed at conserving their ancient traditions and rich past, as is evidenced in the colorful markets, old colonial mansions and neat mud and straw huts where people still live. Accommodation at local inn. Dinner.

DAY 03 IRUYA / PURMAMARCA

Breakfast. Departure to Purmamarca



visiting the typical villages of the Puna. Stop at Tilcara to visit the Pucará de Tilcara, old Indian fortress partially rebuilt, and the Historic Museum of the Province in front of the main square, which houses an interesting collection of Inca art pieces from different sites in Argentina, Peru, Bolivia and Chile. Arrive at Purmamarca, a picturesque town seemingly stuck in ancient times, with the striking Seven Color Hill which frames its adobe parish church devoted to St. Rosa de Lima dating back to 1648 and declared National Historic Monument. Dinner. Accommodation at Manantial del Silencio hotel.

DAY 04 PURMAMARCA / JUJUY

Breakfast. Departure to San Salvador de Jujuy local airport.