



GROUP TRAVEL



IN BOLIVIA DANCE THE DEVIL

South America Roundtrip with the Carnaval de Oruro

22.02.2018 – 13.03.2019

20 days – Half board

It is afternoon. Lima flickers at 30 degrees in the shade; everywhere people are using their umbrellas as sun protection. At the same time, shake the streets around the Plaza Mayor with drums and trumpets, echoing chants along with the colonial balconies. It is Carnival in Lima!

People of all ages move in a seemingly endless Diablada -the devil dance- to Carnival, through the capital city of Peru. Their elaborate, shimmering costumes bristling with detail in all colors of the prism. Added to this, thousands of spectators at the roadsides. Main thing loud, colorful, the main theme seems to be the dance.

The city of Puno on Lake Titicaca, with its earth-colored houses and streets boasts to be the carnival's capital of Peru. The otherwise rather bleak city with its 125,000 inhabitants may otherwise not have many attractions. Nevertheless, every year in February/March shines Puno in many colors, when the devil dancers parade through the streets go on...

Oruro, Bolivia's folklore capital city

In Bolivia, the city of Oruro at 3,700 meters above sea level, reaches a similar role as Puno. The few sights of the old mining town tell the story of former tin barons and for the most, Oruro is merely a stop on the journey to the Uyuni Salt Flats.

Only once a year, during Carnival, the city of Oruro, quivers under the drums of the Altiplano people. Hotel rooms must be booked weeks in advance for the colorful spectacle of the Diablada. There are other dances such as Caporales, Moreno, Tobas... more than 100 clubs... but the devil dances here lead by Archangel Michael.

The Diablada is one of the finest and most original dances of Bolivia and a symbol for the Carnival of Oruro, which was declared in 2001 by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. In this dance, there is a strong amalgamation of the Andes with the Christian belief, a stylized battle between good and evil. This is represented by the cult of the evil "Supay" to "Huari" the god of the mountains, the Archangel Michael and the figure of mother earth, the Pachamama.

Key elements of Diablada are the figures of Lucifer, the Archangel Michael, the devil and the devil women, the seven deadly sins, the bear and the consort of the devil, the "China Supay".

The forced labor in the mines of Bolivia pledged Aymara Indians worshiped in the depths of the mines on their God "Huari" that is now reinterpreted as the Lord of the caves, "Tio". It took the "Tio" to benevolent traits and the miners began to sacrifice him chicha, alcohol and coca in return for wealth and seek for protection....

DAY 1 Friday 22 February DEPARTURE

Evening flight to Santiago de Chile.

DAY 2 Saturday 23 February SANTIAGO DE CHILE

Arrival in Santiago de Chile and transfer to your hotel. Lunch. Afternoon city tour with visit of the city and excursions to Mount San Cristobal for a beautiful view of the city and the Andes Mountains. Welcome and information meeting. (L)

DAY 3 Sunday 24 February SANTIAGO - CALAMA - SAN PEDRO

Early transfer to the airport for your flight to Calama. Reception at the airport and drive to San Pedro de Atacama to the hotel.

Lunch. Afternoon visit to the 17th Century church in the village, and its archaeological museum Padre le Peige. (B) (L)

DAY 4 Monday 25 February ATACAMA SALT FLATS AND LOS FLAMENCOS NATL. PARK

In the morning visit to the Atacama Salt Lake and Laguna Chaxas. Then visit the Quebrada de Jere. Lunch in San Pedro de Atacama. In the afternoon, we visit the Cordillera de la Sal (Salt Mountain) and the Valley of the Moon. We will experience an extraordinary sunset there in this bizarre, lunar-like valley, with its bright colors (B) (L)



DAY 5 Tuesday 26 February

TRIP TO BOLIVIA: LAGUNA VERDE - LAGUNA COLORADA

After breakfast, we travel by private bus up to Hito Cajón border town between Bolivia and Chile. On this trip, we reach the highest point of our adventure. Continue by jeep to the Laguna Verde at Licancabur volcano (5930 m). The emerald green lagoon has a high concentration of calcium carbonates, lead, and sulfur. The trip continues to Laguna Blanca and the geysers Sol de Mañana: You will see there, mud pools and fumaroles. Nearby, you can bath in hot springs. Continue to the red Laguna Colorada. On our way, we will look for a cozy corner for a memorable picnic. Overnight at our Los Flamencos Hotel near the Laguna Hedionda. After a short break, you will be able to walk around and admire the different varieties of Andean Flamingos. Dinner at the Hotel and overnight. **(B) (L) (D)**

DAY 6 Wednesday 27 February DESIERTO LIPEZ (LIPEZ DESERT)

In the morning, we continue with our expedition. This time we cross the Siloli desert, one of the driest deserts in the world. Then we visit the Cañapa lagoon and the Dali Desert with a rich mix of colours and rock formations. Enjoy a picnic in beautiful surroundings. Then we drive through the Salar de Uyuni (Salt Lake) to our hotel on the outskirts of the Uyuni Salt Lake. The Hotel Tambo Coquesa Lodge lies at the feet of the Thunupa Volcano, it is built of salt blocks on fundamentals of an old Tambo, indian refugee for merchandisers crossing the region. Dinner **(B) (L) (D)**

DAY 7 Thursday 28 February SALAR DE UYUNI

On this day, we drive on the Uyuni Salt Flats. With seemingly endless stretches of more than 12,000 sq. km, Uyuni is the largest salt flat in the world. Free speed ahead through the salt flats, on which there is no visible highway, towards Isla Pescado (Fish Island), an oasis with giant cacti and unusual flowers. Continue to the city of Uyuni and visit on the way a salt factory in Colchani. Registration at the Salt Hotel in Colchani. Dinner **(B)**

DAY 8 Friday, 1 March UYUNI - ORURO

Today we have a long drive to the city of Oruro before us. Oruro was founded in 1606 and it's famous for its carnival. Arrival in Oruro and check in. Lunch. At the evening, after a detailed presentation about the various dances of the carnival, get together for one of the many fiestas Carnavaleras (a special comparse party) **(B) (L)**

DAY 9 Saturday, 2 March CARNAVAL DE ORURO

The Carnival of Oruro is one of the most famous cultural and religious carnivals of South America. In the morning, we'll go to our reserved Tribune, and from there experience the unique traditional dances with colorful costumes, such as the Diablada, Morenada or Caporales. Thousands of dancers show their loyalty to the Mamita del Socavón, the Madonna of miners. Explanation of the various dances. The carnival parade takes longer than 18 hours, but you have free movement; that is, you may wish to consider watching the various dances and/or relaxing at the hotel and go in between to the parade. Dinner at the hotel. Fancy party? No problem, you will find plenty of events in the city. Our tour guide will find us a great party in one of the most famous comparsas (dancers' brotherhoods) **(B) (L) (D)**.

DAY 10 Sunday, 3 March ORURO - LA PAZ

A very long tradition in Oruro is expected this day with the sunrise and indeed, in front of the Cathedral of Oruro named El Socavón (the mine entrance). Thousands of visitors wait all night, accompanied by dozens of musical bands, the first rays of the sun. Then, every minute will be louder and louder until the sun is at the top of the sky. Stunning and unique experience, which will definitely impress you very much. From 8:00 o'clock, breakfast at the hotel and around 10:00 we will continue to La Paz. Upon arrival, check in at the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. **(B) (L)**

DAY 11 Monday, 4 March LA PAZ

Morning city tour of La Paz, one of the highest cities in the world (3,600 m). We will experience the historic district and the lively market town. We will also use of of the cable car lines at the city with spectacular views from above. The afternoon is at leisure. Go shopping or just relax after hard previous days. Overnight in La Paz. **(B) (D)**

DAY 12 Tuesday 5 March LA PAZ - HUATAJATA - ISLA DEL SOL

Early drive to Huatajata on Lake Titicaca. Breakfast at Hotel Inca Utama. After visiting a local museum starts our hydrofoil cruise on Lake Titicaca to Sun Island, the largest inhabited island in the lake. Lunch at the Restaurant Uma Kollu, located at one of the existing original Inca terraces. At the evening light walk through the town and experience the Sunset with one of the most beautiful views of Lake Titicaca. Dinner and overnight at the Hotel Posada del Inca. **(B) (L) (D)**





DAY 13 Wednesday 6 March SUN ISLAND - COPACABANA - PUNO

In the morning we head to Copacabana, perhaps the most important catholic shrine in South America. Visit the Cathedral with the "Virgin of Copacabana," a wooden statue from the 16th Century. After lunch, we cross the border between Bolivia and Peru to Puno on the Peruvian side of Lake Titicaca. Overnight in Puno. **(B) (L)**

DAY 14 Thursday 7 March PUNO - CUSCO

We continue our trip by private bus from Puno to Cuzco (about 400 km. away). On the way we will visit the necropolis of Sillustani, visit the Temple of Viracocha Raqchi and the Church of Andahuayllas. By good weather, we can see the snowcapped peaks of the Andes Cordillera. **(B) (L)**

DAY 15 Friday 8 March CUSCO AND SURROUNDINGS

In the morning, we get on a tour of the city visiting some of the places of interest: Catedral, the temple of the sun and the monastery of Santo Domingo, Plaza de Armas (Main Square), the cathedral and the old town with the stone of 12 angles. After lunch, we continue by bus and visit the ruins of Sacsay Huaman, Qenqo, Puca Pucara and Tambo Machay. Return to Cusco. **(B) (L)**

DAY 16 Saturday 9 March SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS

In the morning, we drive towards the Sacred Valley. There we will visit the Indian market of Pisac and its archaeological site, as well as the fortress of Ollantaytambo. After lunch, our trekking begins

on one of the famous Inca trails to the hotel in Aguas Calientes. Overnight. Dinner in hotel **(B) (L) (D)**

DAY 17 Sunday 10 March MACHUPICCHU

Today's visit of Machu Picchu is on the agenda. After breakfast, we take small buses to the archaeological site of Machu Picchu. Advantage is that we arrive early in the ruins so that the crowd of tourists has not yet arrived. Our guide will explain to us the details of the citadel. Free time to explore the ruins on your own. After lunch, return to Cuzco via Ollantaytambo. **(B) (L)**

Day 18 Monday 11 March CUSCO - LIMA

In the morning, flight to Lima. After lunch, City Tour and visit of the historic center, Plaza de Armas (main square) on which the government palace, the Palacio de Gobierno (Casa de Pizarro) lies, the church and monastery of San Francisco and its catacombs. We will also visit the Gold Museum. Get together for a farewell dinner. **(B) (D)**

DAY 19 Tuesday 12 March LIMA - AIRPORT TRANSFER

The whole day is at leisure. Time for Shopping or to relax. Just in time, you will be taken to the airport for your return flight home. Individual requests for day trips from Lima (such as the Nazca lines or Ballesta Island -the small Galapagos Islands), or extensions in South America are possible. **(B)**

DAY 20 Wednesday, 13 March ARRIVAL

Arrival at home and individual departure. End of our services.

(B) Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(D)** Dinner

THE MOST INTERESTING SERVICES

- ✈ Inner South American flights in Economy Class
- ✈ Airport and aviation security charges
- ✈ Private transfers, excursions and tour in country-specific coaches
- ✈ Drive from San Pedro de Atacama to Oruro with 4-wheel-drive
- ✈ 17 nights in hotels (bath or shower / wc)
- ✈ 17 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 7 dinners
- ✈ All the excursions as appointed in the program.
- ✈ Tickets and seat reservations for the Carnival parade in Oruro
- ✈ Bilingual tour guides (Spanish/English) in all aforementioned excursions
- ✈ All entrance tickets and park fees
- ✈ Travel money security certificate

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Personal expenses
- Tips to guides, drivers and porters
- Other meals not specified in the program
- Other excursions or optionals not mentioned in the program

**TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON IN
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
USD 4.265.- – EUR 3.661.-
Surplus SINGLE USD 670.- EUR 575.-**

THE HIGHLIGHTS

- English speaking guide in the following excursions:
- VISIT OF LOS FLAMENCOS NATIONALPARK (CHILE)
 - 3 CITY TOURS IN SANTIAGO, LA PAZ AND LIMA
 - EXPEDITION IN 4WD VEHICLES THROUGH THE LIPEZ-DESERT AND THE UYUNI SALT LAKE
 - CARNIVAL IN ORURO
 - 2 DAYS CRUISE ON LAKE TITICACA WITH OVERNIGHT (CRILLON TOURS) (Day 12 and Day 13)
 - CUZCO AND SACRED VALLEY (Days 14 - 18)
 - FULL DAY MACHUPICCHU (Day 17)
 - TREKKING AT THE INKA TRAIL IN MACHU PICCHU