

MENDOZA – SAN JUAN 365 CURVES TOWARDS STARS

Two night – three days
Total kilometers 1.000

DAY 1

375 km.

We commence our trip crossing the majestic **Andes Mountain Range** which is a truly unique experience as one feels dwarfed by the huge individual mountains and peaks which make up this extensive mountain range.

The **32 bends climb** to the border crossing offers a unique landscape and a certain dose of adrenalin.

Immediately after crossing the border we will stop and view the **Bridge of the Inca**, a territory with a rich history which is wrapped in numerous legends.

A little further down the road we will visit the "**Graveyard of the Mountaineers**". In this graveyard rest those mountaineers who challenged The Aconcagua. This Argentine Mountain is known as the Roof of the Americas as it is the highest summit of the American continent and with its 6952 meters of altitude it attracts climbers from all around the world.

After lunch in Uspallata we will head off towards Tupungato, where we will lodge in a beautiful vineyard in the heartland of the Mendoza Wine Region. Shortly after our arrival and once we have had a chance to clean up, we will go on a short wine tour and have the opportunity to do a little wine tasting.

In the evening we will share a typical **Argentine barbecue** which will not only consist of the world famous Argentine meat but also cooked in their traditional way – "cordero al espada" (lamb on a sword). This meal will be accompanied with wines from the local vineyard.

Lodging and Dinner in Mendoza Vineyard.

DAY 2

300 km.

We will start our day with a short ride around the wine district

Every year, as of early January, the climate starts to change throughout the Province and everybody prepares to start the most important of all the Mendoza festivities, the **National Grape Harvest Feast**. The great feast consists in honoring the fruit and the wine laborers of Mendoza, and

the relationship of man with this land and with nature; in short, it is the great feast of wine, which marks a successful harvest of the vine

After touring the vinyards, we will commence our trip towards our destination for the day, Barreal which is located in the Province of San Juan. To reach the village of Barreal, we will climb up a series of **365 bends** on a gravel road (**los Caracoles**) which will delight us with some very interesting flora and fauna and a spectacular view of the Andes mountains range. We should get to see some wild vicuna!!

After conquering the amazing Caracoles we will reach a plateau of 3000m and ride through some fantastic scenery on a gravel road until we reach the **old Paramillo mine** which was discovered and worked by the **Jesuits** in 1614. We will stop here for a short mine tour and for lunch.

After lunch we will head towards Barreal which is reknown for its clear skies, hence the location of the Leoncito Astronomical Observatory which is installed a few kilometers outside of town.

Optional night guided tour to the **Observatory** where you will observe through a telescope the heavenly bodies that are in the sky that night, i.e. planets, moon, double stars, galaxies, etc.

Night guided visit to the Observatory. Opcional

Lodging and dinner in Country house- Barreal.

DAY 3 **325 km.**

After a great breakfast at the Posada (and an early morning swim should you dare) we will commence our return to Santiago via Uppallata and shortly afterwards (once we crossed the border) the lovely Chillian township of Los Andes. We will stop for a picnic lunch at the Puente del Inca.

Our approximate return time to Santiago will be 4.00 pm.

END OF TOUR

Prices (Based on double occupancy)

Rider with BMW R 1200 GS 2008 / 2009 Model	- US\$	1,620
Pillion passenger / support vehicle passenger	- US\$	622
Single room supplement (optional)	- US\$	135

*** Based on 6 riders**

Includes

- Bilingual Motorcycle guide (English and Spanish) for the entire tour
- Lodging in Argentine vineyard with american breakfast included
- Dinner (Entrée, main course, desert, two glasses of wine)
- Two lunches
- Guided wine tour with tasting
- Lodging and breakfast in country house in Barreal
- Fuel and oils for entire trip
- 4 x 4 Support vehicle with driver
- One spare motorbike towed on a trailer
- Motorbike Spare Parts
- One celular phone per rider
- Coffee, tea, soft drinks, biscuits
- Motorbikes with panniers and tank bag
- Maps of Chile, Argentine
- Documents for borders crossing
- Insurance in Argentina for third parties.
- Insurance for third parties in Chile
- Satelital phone for emergiencies
- Personal gift from South Amercia Motor Bike Tours