

# South America MOTORBIKE TOURS

An **adventure** which can only be described as Authenticity at its very best. Discover some of the highest, most isolated, coldest, warmest, windiest, spots on earth. Combine it with the most indigenous country in South America and you have a true **adventure**.

## ALTIPLANO **tour** Chile - Bolivia - Peru

A CHALLENGE REACHABLE TO ONLY A FEW

LIFE IS NOT - WITHOUT A PASSION

**Total Kilometers 3.500**  
**Fourteen nights - fifteen days**

For bookings please contact:  
[contacto@samttours.com](mailto:contacto@samttours.com)  
Gabriela Zampini  
Mobil: + (56 9) 8 156 66 30



**SAMt**  
[www.samttours.com](http://www.samttours.com)

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TRAMO EN  
CONSTRUCCION

# ALTIPLANO tour

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### DAY 1

Fly from Santiago to **Iquique**.

During the flight we will admire the spectacular views where the international borders of this thin "but long" country can be clearly seen. To one side of the plane is the pacific coastline and on the other side, the majestic Andes Mountain range which divides Chile and Argentina.

Our first night will be at the edge of the **Atacama Desert** where we will overnight in an ecological camping lodge, an ideal place to enjoy our dinner with the group for the first time.

**Overnight in the Atacama Desert, Chile.**

### DAY 2

**316 km.**

We depart **Iquique** towards **Arica** riding through the famous Atacama Desert which is renowned for being **the driest desert in the world**.

Half an hour after leaving Iquique we will stop and make a short tour of the famous mining ghost town of **Humberstone** which was a **Salitre mine** (Sodium Nitrate) dating back to the 1850's. The notable attractions in Humberstone are the old theatre and church, both built of Oregon pine, and its hotel, which boasts a full sized swimming pool, built of iron. It takes only a little imagination to see the splendor of this important period in the Chile history.

Upon entering Arica we will stop to admire and take some photos of the fantastic landscape of the hills which have unusual shapes and a variety of colors due to the combination of numerous minerals within the region.

We arrive to Arica just after lunch time to enjoy this relaxing coastal town.

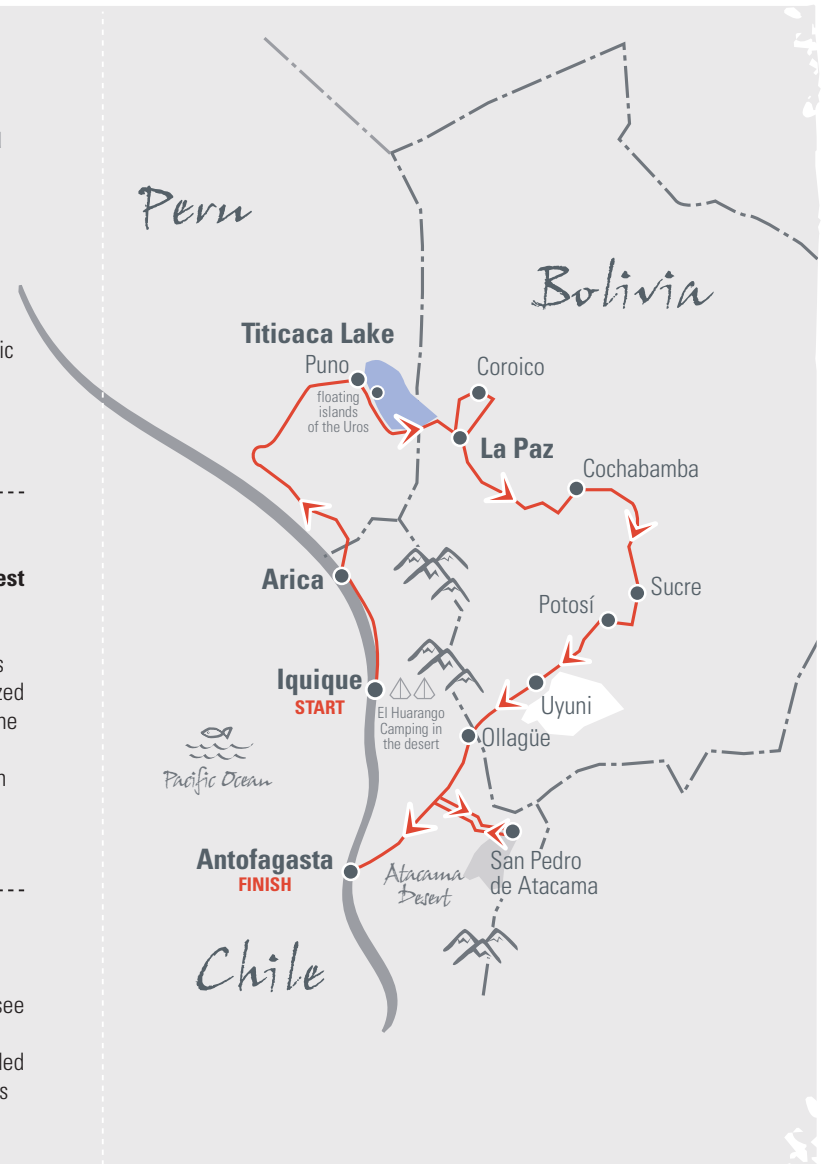
**Overnight in Arica, Chile.**

### DAY 3

**432 km.**

An early start to the day, as we get to experience our first border crossing, when entering **Peru** from Chile.

After spending much of the morning riding through the remaining part of the Atacama desert, we will slowly see it disappear behind us before entering the **Peruvian plateau** (Altiplano or as we would say in English, the "Highlands"). Our final destination for the day will be **Puno**, located on the shores of **Lake Titicaca**; a city founded in 1666 by the Spaniards. Lake Titicaca is one of the most beautiful and mysterious lakes in South America. Its waters are home to an indigenous population who still live by many of the traditions of the Inca Empire.



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This is a land where past and present come together to make one of the most symbolic places of the Inca culture; with all its mysteries which continue to amaze us.

During an expedition that involved divers from the Navy and Peruvian oceanic experts in October 2002, remains of what could have been a lost city were discovered. It has been said that those remains could have belonged to a culture even older than the Incas. This is only one of the many legends surrounding Lake Titicaca.

**Overnight in Puno on the shores of this famous lake.**

DAY 4

### Non riding day

On the shores of Lake Titicaca, at 3860 mts in altitude is **Puno**, a captivating city that manages to charm with the strange magnetism that seems to emerge from its hills and from its lake that looks more like a sea.

Visit to the **floating islands of the Uros**, one of the most unique attractions of world tourism. The urban legend had it that the islands of the Uros float magically as a blessing of the Gods nowadays, however, we know that the islands float because they are built on blocks of cattail roots which upon decomposing produce gases which are trapped in the maze of roots and aid the floating.

The boat excursion begins at 9 am. and ends around noon.

**Overnight in Puno on the shores of this famous lake.**

DAY 5

### 300 km.

We depart the island early to return to our hotel in Puno to eventually get back on the bikes and begin the ride towards Bolivia, our final destination: **La Paz**.

After an easy ride alongside **Lake Titicaca** we finally arrive at the Bolivian Customs post which shortly thereafter takes us to the **Tiquina strait** where our bikes will be ferried on a wooden barges (one could argue that they are actually barges!). After this entertaining experience, we will enjoy the next few hours getting our first real glimpses of the Andes Mountain range in their full splendor.

After our arrival to La Paz, you may visit the surroundings of the city that has a variety of tourist attractions such as ancient churches and museums that flaunt a fascinating colonial architecture. You cannot miss visiting the **Market of the Sorcerers** (witches) in a narrow cobblestone street where traditionally, for many years, the witch doctors or Yatiri (in Aymara language) kept shelves full of countless elements from the three kingdoms of nature.

**Overnight at the Radisson Hotel, La Paz.**



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DAY 6

**150 km.**

For those of you who are looking forward to "full adrenaline" combined with an incomparable landscape, today is your day!

Leaving La Paz we will head towards **Coroico** and the famous "**Death Road**". It is one of the few roads that connect the country's northern Amazon jungle with the city of La Paz.

There are not many places in the world where you start riding your motorcycle in a land surrounded by high snow capped mountains and reach a tropical jungle one and a half hours later.

Because of the steep cliffs and narrow width (3 mts in some places), and the lack of road guards, this road can become extremely dangerous at times. The landscape is a mixture of green slopes, gorges, rivers, waterfalls, and overwhelming vegetation.

Nowdays (fortunately) there is a much more modern, safer road connecting La Paz to Coroico, so the traffic and number of accidents have decreased considerably. What you see on the famous death road these days are mostly bicycles (tourists) along with their support vehicles, nevertheless, still entertaining.

**Lunch in Coroico.**

**Overnight at the Radisson Hotel, La Paz, Bolivia.**

DAY 7

**383 km.**

Today's route is every rider's dream. The road is just an endless downhill of curves. On one side of the road there are cactus, cows and an earthy colored land. On the other, pigs, charming small homes built of mud and clay that get lost in the middle of the valley and women dressed in colorful dresses carrying large quantities of firewood on their crouched over backs; without a doubt: this is **the Bolivian Plateau (Altiplano)**.

**Overnight in Cochabamba, Bolivia.**

**Dinner in a typical restaurant in the city.**

DAY 8

**230 km.**

The route for the day is designed for off road lovers. During the ride we will encounter several small indigenous populations. Half way to our final destination we will stop for lunch in a small village called Totora. **Totora** is characterized by its rich colonial architecture which consists of old houses and wonderful churches. This village is a jewel in the history of Bolivia, a lovely place that will take you to the past while inviting you to enjoy the beauty that time has painted on its streets.



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Our final destination: **Sucre, capital of Bolivia**. Founded in 1540, on an Indian settlement, has been declared a World Cultural Heritage by the Unesco for being a living museum of what life would have been like during the Spanish colonial aristocracy.

**Overnight in Sucre, Bolivia.**  
**Dinner in the city.**

DAY 9

**280 km.**

Today, we have an easy ride towards the city of Potosí. Located at an altitude of 4,070 mts. above sea level, Potosí is the highest city in the world. We stay at **Hacienda Cayara**, located just outside the city boundaries.

The Hacienda is a real museum; with original historic pieces of art and furniture that date back to the 15th century. After a light lunch at the Hacienda, a private bus will pick us up to take us to the **Potosí mine**.

Once there, we go down the mine and see how Bolivian miners work!

The working conditions in the mine are very precarious, people work without adequate lighting or equipment, no gloves, little air, and under extreme conditions.

Once you are inside, the miners will come to visit and chat with our group, something they appreciate as it is the only thing that will distract them from their exhausting routine for a few minutes.

If you do not suffer from asthma or claustrophobia, this will be an unforgettable experience.

Those not wishing to enter the mine may opt for a city tour or stay at the Hacienda and simply relax.

**Overnight at the Hacienda Cayara, Potosí, Bolivia.**

DAY 10

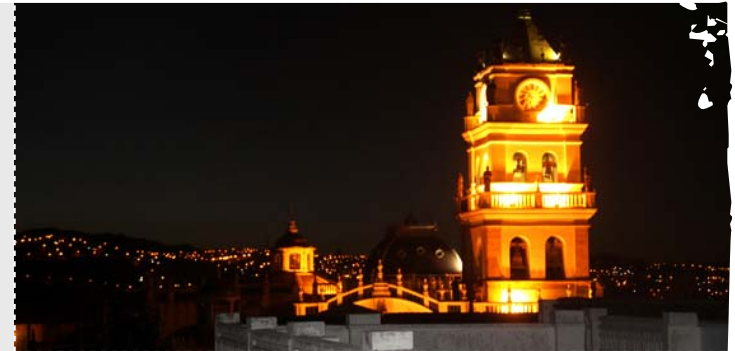
**280 km.**

Today's destination is certainly one of the most exciting of all: **El Salar de Uyuni. (Uyuni Salt Flats)**

With an area of 12.000km<sup>2</sup>, and situated in the southwest of Bolivia, Uyuni is the world's largest salt flat. It lies at an altitude of 3.700 meters just west of the township of Uyuni and extends like a huge flat white desert.

We stay in a hotel built entirely of salt located on the edge of this enormous Salt Flat. We arrive just in time to come together on the terrace of the hotel to share a drink whilst watching a magnificent Uyuni sunset.

**Accommodation and dinner at Uyuni Salt flats, Bolivia.**



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DAY 11

**180 km approx.**

Today we will enjoy riding the Uyuni salt flats.

Surrounded by mountains and volcano's, the dimensions of this vast plain of salt transmits a set of mixed feelings to the riders; surprise, novelty, admiration and enchantment, while their bikes ride on the shiny hard salt crusts. A silent landscape of salt stretching in all directions bringing the riders to a powerful state of mind; for many an opportunity to experience their lifetime desired to truly feel: freedom!

Lunch will be at **Incahuasi Island**. Built on the remains of an ancient volcano of petrified limestone, the island hosts a forest of cactus and is located in the middle of the salt flats.

In the afternoon we continue this adventure riding towards the **Thunupa Volcano**. After a short journey through the volcano we will reach a small cave where five **mummies from 700 AD** where found and preserved. Part of their skin, hair, nails, and the mantle covering them are almost intact. Around them are tools and personal items such as bowls, which were placed there to enable them to travel safely to their next life. The most interesting part of this visit is that these mummies are until today without any government protection.

**Dinner and overnight at the Luna Salada Hotel, Uyuni, Bolivia.**

DAY 12

**270 km.**

We leave the beauty of the Bolivian salt flats to begin our return journey to **Chile**. Slowly we are welcomed back into the Atacama Desert by its amazing range of colors: reds, oranges, browns, bronze and beige that will surprise the riders at each bend of the road.

Immediately after customs we arrive to **Ollagüe**. Located 3500 meters above sea level, this small town owes its origin to the old railroad station Antofagasta - Bolivia on the border between Chile and Bolivia.

The transport of minerals and passengers by railroad across this border was the creator of this small village known as Ollagüe.

**Dinner and overnight at Ollagüe, Chile.**

DAY 13

**340 km.**

We now continue riding through the Atacama Desert to reach our next destination, the enchanting village of **San Pedro de Atacama**. The colors of the mountains as they slowly blend into the desert are a sight to be seen.

**Dinner and overnight in San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.**



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DAY 14

### No riding day

**San Pedro de Atacama** is considered the archaeological capital of Chile.

Today, you can have the morning off to walk around the town. In the afternoon, a private transfer will pick us up to go to the **Moon Valley**, where you will have the opportunity to enjoy the most beautiful sunset. This is an interesting area with stones and sand formations that per millennia, the floods and the winds, have given it a series of colors and texture to the desert, it presents an extraordinary attractive by its similarity with the moon surface.

The Moon Valley has also dry lakes, in where the salt composition of these covers with a beautiful white mantle; escarpments of all green, blue, red, yellow colors surprising with the most diverse and surprising forms and which the sun makes vary its tones in thousand different forms during the day, especially in the twilight hours that reaches its best beauty.

In full moon nights, the valley also presents an indescribable aspect, plenary of majesty and silence, coldly beautiful and imposing.

**Dinner and overnight in San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.**

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DAY 15

### 315 km.

We begin our final day of our journey, towards the city of **Antofagasta**.

After a coffee-break in the heart of the Atacama Desert, we reach our final destination of this tour. After a dust down and a good leans up, we will make our way to the airport to catch our flight to Santiago.

END OF TOUR



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### Rider based on double twin room:

- BMW F 800 GS :USD 7,700
- BMW R 1200 GS :USD 7,950
- BMW F 1200 GS Adventure :USD 8,200
- Pillion Passenger :USD 3,150
- Single room supplement :USD 775

\* Prices subject to change without notice.

### INCLUDES

- Motorcycle guide (English and Spanish) for the entire tour.
- All airport / hotel transfers.
- A combination of 3, 4 and 5 star hotels and lodges, with breakfast.
- Motorcycle BMW R 1200 GS BMW R 1200 GS Adventure or BMW F 800 GS.
- **Full insurance for the Motorcycle. Deductible USD 2,500.**
- Storage and parking for the motorcycle.
- Fuel.
- Transportation of the motorcycles from Santiago - Iquique / Antofagasta - Santiago.
- Insurance for third parties in Chile and Peru and Bolivia.
- Documents for borders crossing.
- 4 x 4 Support vehicle.
- Coffee, tea and soft drinks, provided by the company all the way.
- 4 Dinners including farewell dinner (alcohol not included).
- 11 lunches.
- Private guided tour to the floating islands.
- Entrance fee to the old Humberstone mine.
- Entrance fee and guide to Isla Pescado at Uyuni salt flats.
- Potosi mine tour with bilingual guide or city tour.
- Entry and guide for the private tour to the Moon Valley.
- Satellite phone for receiving calls and emergencies.
- Video of the tour in high definition.
- CD photos.
- T-shirt and hat.

**We suggest that you take travel insurance that provides coverage against personal accidents, sickness, etc. South America Motorbike Tours has included in the rental contract third party liability and comprehensive motorcycle insurance.**



**For bookings please contact:**  
**contacto@samttours.com**  
**Gabriela Zampini**  
**Mobil: + (56 9) 8 156 66 30**