

Bolivia: 5 Wonders of Santa Cruz Tour (M-ID: 3310)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/3310-bolivia-5-wonders-of-santa-cruz-tour>



from \$1,586.20

Dates and duration (days)

On request

7 days

Staying true to its name, on this tour we set out to see 5 of the best sites that this region of Santa Cruz has to offer.

We'll spend the first couple of days riding dirt roads and crossing numerous streams and rivers near our base in the town of El Torno, not to mention exploring some breathtaking waterfalls. From there we venture out even further as we ascend into the mountains via the old highway, as we go we'll stop to check out an old (read inactive) volcano as well some impressive indigenous ruins. In Santa Cruz's backcountry, we'll reach elevations of more than 2,400 meters (8,000 feet). We then pick up the trail of famous rebel, Ernesto "El Che" Guevara and visit the school house where he breathed his last breath. Then we'll loop back around towards our starting point via some of nicest (read curviest) roads that Bolivia has to offer.

DAY TO DAY GUIDE:

DAY 1 (SUNDAY) - WELCOME TO SANTA CRUZ!

We'll personally pick everyone up at the airport and settle you into a hotel in El Torno. After dinner we have an informal orientation & prep session and a good night's sleep.

DAY 2 (MONDAY) - ESPEJILLOS NATURE RESERVE (50KM./30MI.)

To start our tour off with a bang, we'll take the bikes on 50 km. (30 miles) roundtrip journey to one of the most unique attractions in this region of Santa Cruz, a place known to locals as "Espelijos." After fording the Pirai River, it's all off-road as we weave our way through the countryside to our destination. The main attraction is a beautiful waterfall followed by numerous natural pools that are perfect for swimming or just relaxing as we shake off what's left of the jet lag.

DAY 3 (TUESDAY) - TO THE GARDEN OF EDEN (165KM./103MI.)

Back on the bikes again, we set off on a 70km. (43 mile) roundtrip adventure up to the Jardín de las Delicias, a waterfall on the edge of Amboró National Park. Hanging bridge, dirt roads, stream crossings, photo ops galore and a picnic lunch are just part of today's adventure. Back in town we'll cap off the riding portion of the day with a ride up some curvy new slab to mountain village of Samaipata where we'll spend the night. Along the way we'll take a side trip to see one of the most amazing views of the entire tour.

DAY 4 (WEDNESDAY) - LANDSCAPES GALORE - SAMAIPATA TO VALLEGRANDE (120KM./75MI.)

Departing Samaipata the adventure continues as soon as the kickstands are up. We'll start with a leisurely ride up to "El Fuerte," the site of Bolivia's 2nd most important ruins. After touring the ruins we're back on the bikes this time fixing our sights on the town of Vallegrande. After an early lunch we'll take the backroads to the town of Vallegrande, passing through a few quaint villages tucked away in the valleys along with an incredible waterfall. We'll arrive in Vallegrande in the late afternoon, in time to freshen up and take a walk around the town before dinner.

DAY 5 (THURSDAY) - LA RUTA DEL CHE - VALLEGRANDE TO LA HIGUERA (60KM./38MI.)

After only a couple of kilometers of riding on the pavement today, we'll transition to off-road riding as we make the trek to La Higuera, the lonely village where the Cuban revolutionary war hero Che Guevara was executed in 1967. The road to La Higuera is a pilgrimage of sorts for the more adventuresome historians. Before setting out, we'll spend a couple hours in the morning on a guided tour of Vallegrande, getting to know the historical sites made famous by El Che's time in Bolivia. Reaching La Higuera in the late afternoon we stay at the rustic Casa del Telegrafista, once home to the telegraph operator that

informed the authorities of el Che's presence in the area. The village of La Higuera only consists of a few houses and a small school, however the peace and tranquility that this place offers is second to none, not to mention the incredible dinner that the inn's owner will prepare us.

DAY 6 (FRIDAY) - THE TWISTIES: LA HIGUERA TO EL TORNO (205KM./128MI.)

After a wonderful breakfast we visit the memorial room in the schoolhouse where el Che was executed. The days route takes us through the mountains of Vallegrande and down the old highway. By late afternoon we'll arrive once again back to our base in El Torno where our journey began. After a short trip to our hotel in Santa Cruz we'll cap off the day and the tour with a "farewell" dinner in the evening.

DAY 7 (SATURDAY) - CITY STREETS OF SANTA CRUZ & DEPARTURE DAY

Today's a decompress day before returning to life as usual, so we'll relax the pace as we do some site seeing around the city —last minute souvenir shopping, open markets and good food are a few of the options. We'll treat you to a lip-smacking lunch before taking you to the airport to catch your flight back home. You'll want to stretch out your sore backside before you board your flight and flip through your pics as you grin (and groan) thinking of all the fun that was had. From here it's time to start planning your next adventure!

Countries	Bolivia
Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Combo On-/Offroad
Vehicle	your own motorcycle motorcycle rent optional
Tourguide / Coach	yes (guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar
Flight to / from	no, not incl.
Ferry	yes, incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	yes
Customer payment protection	yes
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

Pricing

per rider in a shared twin/double room, with own motorcycle (the booking of a double room is only available for a booking of two people. All single travelers are asked to choose the single room surcharge or choose to share a twin room with another tour participant)	\$1,586.20
per rider in a shared twin/double room, incl. rental motorcycle (the booking of a double room is only available for a booking of two people. All single travelers are asked to choose the single room surcharge or choose to share a twin room with another tour participant)	\$2,307.20
per pillion passenger in shared twin/double room (pillion passengers cannot book without an accompanying rider)	\$1,586.20
per person single room (surcharge - only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	\$144.20

Included

Motorcycle rental (depending on booking): Kawasaki KLR650 (low-milage, meticulously maintained, with a medium-sized, waterproof case on the rear rack)

Lodging

English and Spanish speaking tour guide

Meals

Fuel

Fees for activities during the tour

Tolls

Ferry crossings

Airport transfers

Support-truck with parts

First aid kit

Auxiliary bike

Not included

International flights

Visas

Alcoholic beverages

Snacks

Riding gear

Vaccinations

Traffic citations

Souvenirs (personal expenses)

More details

Distance: 700 km/435 miles

Minimum number of participants: 3 riders. The tour can take place with less riders and without the support vehicle. Please enquire.

Maximum number of participants: 9 riders. If you are a group with more riders, please enquire.

All of our bikes are insured according to the requirements of Bolivian law. This means that the rider (and passenger) and third parties are covered for medical costs up to \$3,500 per person. That being said, we also require proof of insurance from each participant that covers the participant in the event of an accident or emergency while traveling abroad, specifically riding a 650cc motorcycle.

In the event that a motorcycle is damaged while on tour as a result of a participant, we offer our participants a direct insurance agreement, which can be purchased before the start of the tour at an additional cost of \$15 per riding day, which provides coverage up to \$3,500 of accidental damage. Damage to a motorcycle not caused by a participant is our responsibility.

Lodging: Each participant can choose between single or double/shared room occupancy. Occasionally, on certain tours, single room occupancy may not be available for a night or two on the tour for reasons of availability. Participants that come alone but choose double/shared room occupancy may have to share a room with another participant on the tour that they don't know.

Luggage/What to Bring: Feel free to bring full-sized checked baggage, however when we depart on the tour, we have space in the support truck to accommodate one carry-on size piece of luggage per participant. Whatever you decide to not take we'll store it for safe-keeping until we return. Keep in mind that all of our bikes come equipped with a medium-sized, waterproof case located on the rear rack of the bike, which participants can use to carry items such as rain gear, extra gloves, snacks, and the like. Here's a good starter list of important things to bring:

- adventure motorcycle riding gear – preferably Hi-Viz (minimum: helmet, gloves, boots)
- backpack-style hydration pack
- rain gear
- sunglasses

- sunblock/screen
- bathing suit
- warm/hot weather clothes are a must, likewise, cool-weather clothing is also a good idea in the case of our higher elevation tours where it can get chilly at night
- pain reliever and anti-diarrhea meds
- for liability purposes, tank bags are not permitted

Responsibility waiver: Before you receive your motorcycle you will need to sign a responsibility waiver form where you will agree that we will not be held responsible for any accidents, illnesses, or the loss, theft, or damage of any personal items.

Legal requirements for participants:

- be at least 18 years old (except for passengers)
- possess a passport that upon entering Bolivia has at least 6 months of validity
- possess a motorcycle drivers license/endorsement from your country (except for passengers)
- possess an international driving permit with a motorcycle endorsement to accompany your motorcycle drivers license/endorsement (except for passengers)

Medical: For the most up-to-date information regarding vaccinations for traveling in Bolivia, contact your local health clinic for recommendations. Additionally, some people could experience symptoms of altitude sickness in the higher elevations of some of our tours. Symptoms can take on a variety of forms, some of the most common being headache and nausea. Due to the nature of our location in the foothills of the Andes Mountains, altitude sickness is not a concern upon arrival. Likewise, on our tours that include spending some time up in higher elevations, we will work our way up gradually, allowing our bodies to become acclimated as we travel, which will help in minimizing the symptoms. For participants that experience an uncomfortable level of altitude sickness, drinking lots of fluids, including coca tea oftentimes proves helpful in combatting the symptoms, which typically last no longer than 24 hours. For slightly more severe cases, almost all pharmacies carry an over-the-counter pain reliever, used especially for cases of altitude sickness.

Safety & Security: With a land size of 1,098,581 km² (424,164 mi²) and a population of close to 12 million people, most of which are concentrated in the principal cities, comparatively speaking Bolivia is scarcely populated. For that reason, in addition to cell phones, which will inevitably be without service during stretches of our tours, both guides are equipped with two-way radios. Furthermore, we also carry a satellite-based "Personal Location Beacon" (PLB), meaning that we're never further away from help than the click of a button. Likewise, we also carry a well-stocked 1st aid kit, however, we do ask that participants with diabetes, severe allergies (of any kind), or that react adversely to stings or bites, would bring the necessary medicine or treatments they would need to counteract those conditions. We also ask that you would inform us of these conditions pre-tour so that we may be of assistance if the need were to arise.

Patience & Flexibility: As a developing country Bolivia still experiences many of the pains that go along with that status, which in turn gives it a rustic and adventurous feel. Sometimes things happen that are out of our control, like changes in weather that can deteriorate road conditions or the sudden discovery that our hotel reservations disappeared, etc. We might find it necessary to adjust our route or schedule slightly due to a number of unforeseen circumstances that in the end will just add to the adventure. For these reasons being patient and flexible are important.