

## Bolivia: The Eastern Frontier Tour (M-ID: 3314)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/3314-bolivia-the-eastern-frontier-tour>



**from \$2,060.00**

Dates and duration (days)

On request

10 days

**We start out by maneuvering our way around the city of Santa Cruz and then head straight east on a beautifully paved highway on the way to our days destination, the town Santiago de Chiquitos located just a couple of hours from the boarder with Brazil.**

In Santiago, we hike up to one of the best vantage points in eastern Bolivia allowing us to look out over the valley as far as the eye can see, before relaxing in natural hot springs in the late afternoon. Next, we begin our tour of the old Jesuit mission churches and the original site of the city of Santa Cruz. We leave the pavement and head off-road on a beautifully maintained dirt road to continue our explorations, spending the night at a beautiful hotel in San Ignacio de Velasco. Crossing through cattle country, we visit two more old mission towns and even drop in on some woodcarvers at work. The tour wraps up after crossing the flood plains of the Rio Grande River on our way back home.

### Day To Day Guide:

#### DAY 1 (SUNDAY) - WELCOME TO BOLIVIA!

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) - TO THE GARDEN OF EDEN (70KM./43MI.)

We take the bikes on a 70km. (43 mile) roundtrip practice run up to the Jardin 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 head to our hotel where we can freshen up or take a dip in the pool before dinner, then it's time for a good night's sleep before a long ride tomorrow.

#### DAY 3 (TUESDAY) - FROM GREEN HILLS TO RED: EL TORNO TO SANTIAGO DE CHIQUITOS (465KM./289MI.)

Leaving El Torno we take the new highway straight east,

passing through the old mission town of San José de Chiquitos, situated in the plains, and then continue to our days final destination, the quaint town of Santiago de Chiquitos in the red hills of the Sunsas range. We sleep at a rustic hostel that used to serve as an indigenous school.

**DAY 4 (WEDNESDAY) - RIDGE WITH A VIEW (80KM./50MI.)**  
A moderate hike up to the Cerro de Santiago reveals one of the best views in Eastern Bolivia, overlooking the still-virgin Tucavaca valley. Then we go down to Aguas Calientes for a relaxing soak in the hot springs.

#### DAY 5 (THURSDAY) - SANTIAGO TO SAN JOSE (155KM./96MI.)

The hiway back to San Jose winds through the red hills down to San Jose, where we visit Santa Cruz la Vieja (the remains of the first city of Santa Cruz) and the lovely 17th century church, the only one in Eastern Bolivia built of stone.

#### DAY 6 (FRIDAY) - MAKING TRACKS: SAN JOSE DE CHIQUITOS TO SAN IGNACIO DE VELASCO (200KM./125MI.)

Forget the pavement, we head north to San Ignacio de Velasco on a beautiful dirt road through farm communities recently carved out of the forest. We stop along the way to take a swim and then upon arrival we'll head out to the reservoir to see the communities water source before taking a peak at the church on the corner of the plaza. We stay at an upscale hotel just off the plaza.

#### DAY 7 (SATURDAY) - TWO MAJESTIC MONUMENTS: SAN IGNACIO TO SAN JAVIER (232KM./145MI.)

We slip out of San Ignacio and follow the recently paved road through cattle country to Concepcion and San Javier,

two sleepy mission towns boasting beautifully restored Jesuit churches from the 1600s, both on UNESCO's World Heritage list. We visit the native Chiquitano woodcarvers at work and tour the churches.

#### DAY 8 (SUNDAY) - THE LAST HURRAH: SAN JAVIER TO EL TORNO (263KM./163MI.)

We enjoy the last curves between San Javier and San Ramon before hitting the flats on our way across the broad flood plains of the Rio Grande, before skirting the urban sprawl of Santa Cruz to reach "home" once again back at our base in El Torno where our journey began.

#### DAY 9 (MONDAY) - CITY STREETS OF SANTA CRUZ

It's a decompress day before returning to life as usual, so we relax the pace, we'll pack our bags and say goodbye to El Torno and head into the city for a day of sight-seeing —last minute souvenir shopping, open markets and good food are a few of the options. To cap off the day and the tour we'll celebrate with a "farewell" dinner in the evening.

#### DAY 10 (TUESDAY) - DEPARTURE DAY

We'll take you from the hotel to catch your flight home at the airport. 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)	\$2,060.00
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)	\$3,141.50
per pillion passenger in a shared twin/double room (pillion passengers cannot book without an accompanying rider)	\$2,060.00
per person single room (surcharge - only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	\$206.00

## 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: 1470 km / 910 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.

Arrival:

When you arrive we'll be waiting to pick you up at the airport with a clearly marked sign. If another participant will arrive soon after you, we'll wait for them as well, otherwise we'll head straight to your hotel near our base in El Torno, about an hour's drive from the airport. The rest of the day is simply for resting and shaking off the jet lag before the adventure starts the following morning. The hotel is equipped with a nice pool or you could take a walk outside if you'd like, to help unwind after the long trip.

Luggage/What to Bring:

Feel free to bring a 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 not to take we'll store it for safekeeping 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
- sun block/screen
- bathing suit
- warm/hot weather clothes is 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

#### Insurance:

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. If your insurance provider doesn't cover you for such activities, you'll need to purchase traveler insurance.

In the event that a motorcycle is damaged by the participant, while on tour, 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.

#### 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 valid motorcycle driver's license/endorsement from your country (except for passengers)
- possess an international driving permit with a motorcycle endorsement to accompany your motorcycle driver's 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 km<sup>2</sup> (424,164 mi<sup>2</sup>) 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) device, meaning that we're never further away from help than the click of a button. 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.

Note: Our bikes are not available for use on scheduled non-riding days, we often use these times to conduct routine bike maintenance.