



Salar de Uyuni and south Lipez region – 4x4 overland tour

Day 1 – 11.1.19 - Salar de Uyuni

Doña Gladys (cel: +591 72422140), in charge of the logistics will meet you at 9 a.m. At your hotel. During the first day of the tour, you will visit the train cemetery, the salt extraction site of Colchani, the huge Salar itself and the Cactus Island. You will have enough time to hike to the top of the Incahuasi Island, while lunch is prepared. In the afternoon there will be one more stop in midst of the salt flat to take the optical illusion pictures. You'll spent the night in the luxurious Hotel "Luna Salada", on the shores of the Salt Flat.

Day 2 – 12.1.19 - Flamingos and Lagoons

In the morning you will start by crossing the salt flat towards the south, and then the less impressive "Chiguana" salt flat, before you reach the outlook point with views on the active Ollagüe volcano. Then come 4 different lagoons along the way and its flamingo. The most common one is the James flamingo, but Andean and Chilean flamingos might be spotted as well. In the afternoon you will cross the Siloli desert, before you reach the comfortable lodge "Ojito de Perdiz".

Day 3 – 13.1.19 - Geysers and thermal Waters

This day prepares lot of nice surprises. After a short drive, stop to watch some Viscachas (chinchillas), the nearby famous stone tree and enjoy the reddish "laguna Colorada", just after entering the National Park Avaroa. Move on to the impressive geysers before you enjoy yourself in the thermal bath of Polques. After Lunch, you will head towards the little village of Qetena Chico, across the Altiplano and through eroded lava fields. There are no better accommodations in the village, and you will thus sleep in a simple one.

Day 4 – 14.1.19 - Uturuncu 6010m

After an early breakfast, one hops into the vehicle around 5 a.m.. Within a 1h30 long drive, the 4x4 takes you up the highest road in the world. Whereas the road did go higher up in the past, its current states allows to drive up to 5500/5600m altitude, from which you will follow a well marked trail accompanied by a local guide from Qetena. At the saddle between the two summits, you will see the fumorales and smell sulfure. Due to the little altitude difference, people most often make it to the summit, unless there is too much wind. You should be back at the village fro lunch, leaving the afternoon for another beautiful drive towards the Chilean Boarder. On the way you will see the Dali stones, Laguna Verde and Laguna Blanca. You will spend the night in a simple accommodation at Hito Cajon.

Day 5 – 15.1.19 - Licancabur 5923m

I recommend you leave with the vehicle and local guide, at 5 a.m., to start walking at 4600m altitude at dawn. Whereas the summit is a little lower than Uturuncu, please do not underestimate the 1300m altitude difference. There is a well trodden trail up to 5650, from where you will have to cross a large boulder field, where you will have to make a few larger steps. From the highest point of the crater, you can have a look into the 6th highest lagoon in the world, located in the crater. On the way down it might be recommendable to follow the trail that you took on the way up, as the loose scree slope can become dangerous due to rolling rocks. It is approximately an hour drive to the Bolivian border, from where a private vehicle with Chilean number plate takes you 2000m lower to the Chilean border of San Pedro de Atacama. Make sure that you do not bring any fresh product into Chile as you might get fined for it.

You can get a daily updated rather accurate weather forecast at the following address:

<https://www.mountain-forecast.com/peaks/Uturuncu/forecasts/6008>

items we recommend you to take along

cat. 4 sunglasses

sun cream (SPF 50+)

camera

headlamp

Sleeping bag

sneakers

sandals / crocs / flip flops

warm socks

long sleeved thermic underwear

mountaineering pants

warm gloves

polar fleece jacket

down jacket

hard shell jacket

2L liquid container

buffs

warm hat

small day pack to take inside the vehicle

backpack/duffel/suitcase

(will be stored on the roof of the vehicle)

For the volcano ascents:

gaiters

trekking poles

warm mountaineering boots (Scarpa GTX Mt-Blanc are fine)

the price of 1450 USD **per person** (group of 2) includes:

private vehicle (Toyota Land Cruiser or Nissan Patrol) with driver

meals (4 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 4 dinners) and non alcoholic beverages during the meals

Good hotels (one double room) for 2 nights

simple accommodations (2 nights)

Avaroa National Park and Incahuasi Island entrance fees

Local guide on Uturuncu and Licancabur

private transfer to San Pedro de Atacama.