

South America Salsa 49 days



This epic journey begins in the lively city of Rio de Janeiro and covers the amazing Iguazu Falls, the marshlands of Pantanal and the Bolivian altiplano. Marvel at the salt lakes of Uyuni, Lake Titicaca, Colca Canyon and the magnificent Amazon Jungle before discovering the fabled Inca city of Machu Picchu.

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Rio de Janeiro / Ends in: Lima
- Departs: Year round
- No local payment required
- Breakfast: 19, Lunch: 6, Dinner: 8
- Hotel Rating: Simple hotels, hostels & guesthouses
- Tour Guide: Yes - tour leader escorted

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - [click here](#)
- To book this trip - [click here](#)
- To enquire about this trip - [click here](#)

TOUR MAP:



QUICK WEB LINKS

[Trip Prices](#) :: [Why Us](#) :: [Inca Trail](#) :: [Top Spots](#) :: [Hotels & More](#) :: [Useful Info](#) :: [FAQs](#) :: [Visas](#) :: [Photo Gallery](#)

South America Salsa 49 days

Day 1:

Welcome to Brazil and the start of your holiday. After checking in to our hotel the remainder of the day offers free time. This evening our group welcome meeting takes place. Overnight - Rio de Janeiro

Days 2 - 5:

Rio de Janeiro – Parati – Sao Paulo. We follow the stunning coastline north to the old pirate town of Parati. Explore the nearby beaches and local hippy markets or opt for a full day boat cruise around the bay. We continue to the sprawling metropolis of São Paulo where we can enjoy an optional visit to a snake farm and the Latin American Exhibition Centre, designed by famous architect Oscar Niemeyer. Overnight - Parati (2), Sao Paulo (2)

Days 6 - 9:

Sao Paulo – Curitiba – Foz do Iguacu. Next we arrive at the university town of Curitiba, an attractive and exceptionally well-planned city with many pleasant squares and parks. An overnight bus journey brings us to Foz do Iguacu, our base for visiting the famous Iguazu Falls. We'll get to see this impressive waterfall from both the Argentinean and Brazilian side. In Brazil, board a speedboat that takes you right under the falls, whilst on the Argentinean side you'll find the famous 'Devil's Throat'. Overnight - Curitiba (1), bus (1), Foz do Iguacu (2)

Days 10 - 14:

Foz do Iguacu – Asuncion – Ponta Pora - Bonito. Travelling through fertile land we reach Asuncion, Paraguay's charming capital. Asunción sits on the banks of the Paraguay River and its duty free zone makes it an ideal shopping destination. We travel across the Paraguay pampas to the border of Brazil and the town of Ponta Pora. Leaving Paraguay behind, we travel to Bonito in the Sierra do Bodoquena Mountains. Enjoy caving and river activities, including snorkelling, or opt for forest walks with amazing mountain scenery. Overnight - Asuncion (2), Ponta Para (1), Bonito (2)

Days 15 - 21:

Bonito – Pantanal – Corumba – Santa Cruz – Sucre. We next make our way to the fabulous Pantanal, a huge wetland in the centre of South America that is a birdwatcher's paradise and home to a variety of other wildlife. The port city of Corumba on the River Paraguay serves as our base.

From Corumba we cross the frontier into Bolivia where we fly to Santa Cruz to enjoy some free time sightseeing. Another flight will take us to the capital of Bolivia. Sucre retains much of its colonial charm and is famous for its warm and sunny climate. Visit the cathedral and its jewel encrusted painting of Sucre's patron, the Virgin of Guadalupe, or indulge in a spot of shopping at the

bustling Tarabuco market. Overnight - Pantanal (2), Corumba (1), Santa Cruz (1), Sucre (3)

Days 22 - 29:

Sucre – Potosi – Uyuni – La Paz. The UNESCO-listed city of Potosi is home to one of the world's longest continually operated silver mines. An optional excursion will give you the opportunity to descend down a working mine and witness archaic mining methods that are still practiced today. We continue to the world's largest salt lake, Salar de Uyuni. Explore the stunning landscapes between the salt lake and Chile's Atacama Desert by four wheel drive vehicle. The area's unusual landscape of mountains, active volcanoes, colossal cacti and geysers is like nowhere on earth. Leaving this surreal terrain we head towards La Paz via an overnight train journey. The highest city in the world, La Paz is built in the basin of a canyon with the snow-capped Mount Illimani in the background. Wander through the vibrant Indian street markets and the fascinating Witches' Market or visit attractions further afield like the rock formations of Moon Valley or Coroico, the gateway to the Bolivian jungle region. Overnight - Potosi (2), Uyuni (1), Salar de Uyuni (1), train (1), La Paz (3)



Days 30 - 32:

La Paz – Puno – Lake Titicaca – Puno. Departing La Paz we cross the border into Peru and head to Puno on the shores of Lake Titicaca. In Puno we will learn about the culture of the Uros people with a boat visit to the floating reed islands. We continue to the island of Amantani where we'll enjoy the hospitality of native Aymara/Quechua families. The next morning we visit Taquile Island where you can buy unique handicrafts at the local cooperative shops. Overnight - Puno (1), Lake Titicaca (1), Puno (1)

South America Salsa 49 days



Days 33 - 36:

Puno – Cuzco – Amazon Jungle – Cuzco. Leaving Puno we head to Cuzco passing hot mineral pools, snow capped mountains and traditional Native Indian villages where locals sell their wares. We begin our visit to the mighty Amazon with a flight to the jungle community of Puerto Maldonado. Once settled in our Amazon lodge, we will begin to explore the jungle with plenty of free time to enjoy the rich landscapes diverse flora and fauna. We visit Monkey Island, home to a great variety of monkeys as well as an array of birdlife. We will trek through the rainforest and along the way our guide will point out the many different species of bird and explain the use of plants in local medicine with an optional canoe ride later in the day. Observe the abundant birdlife of the Amazon from our lakeside-viewing platform.

We depart this jungle haven and make our way back to Cuzco where you have time to discover this fascinating ancient capital. If you choose not to visit the Amazon Jungle, you will have free time in Cuzco and a portion of your tour cost will be deducted. Overnight - Cuzco (1), Amazon Jungle (2), Cuzco (1)



Days 37 - 42:

Inca Trail Trek or free time in Cuzco. For those who have chosen to hike the Inca Trail Trek, we begin a once in a lifetime journey on the ancient trail of the Incas. During your hike you will cross spectacular passes and visit more Inca ruins en-route to Machu

Picchu. Enjoy free time to explore Machu Picchu on your own. Later you will have the chance to soak your tired muscles in the hot springs at Aguas Calientes before returning to Cuzco by train. If you are not participating in the trek then you will visit Machu Picchu by train and have plenty of free time to enjoy the activities available in and around Cuzco. Overnight - Cuzco (1), Inca Trail (3), Cuzco (2)



Days 43 - 45:

Cuzco – Arequipa – Colca Canyon – Arequipa. After a short flight we have time to explore the beautiful colonial city of Arequipa with stunning architecture, cobbled streets and inviting local cafes. Next we visit the nearby Colca Canyon, considered to be one of the deepest in the world, where we'll walk along the canyon's edge spotting soaring giant condors and enjoy a relaxing soak in neighbouring hot springs. Overnight - Arequipa (1), Colca Canyon (1), bus (1)

Days 46 - 48:

Arequipa – Nazca – Pisco. We travel to Nazca where an optional flight will give the best views of the strange lines and geometrical figures etched into the desert floor. Visit the underground aqueducts, gold mines and ceramic shops, and the extraordinary Chauchilla Cemetery where you can see the ancient mummies which still have skin and hair intact. Travelling deep into the desert we have the chance to try sand boarding before crossing the Atlantic coast to the town of Pisco. From here we explore the Ballestas Islands, teeming with wildlife, by boat.

We arrive at our final destination, Lima, where you can spend a day visiting the city's fine museums, the vibrant markets or the catacombs of San Francisco Church. Overnight - Nazca (1), Pisco (1), Lima (1)

South America Salsa 49 days



Day 49:

Our amazing cross continent holiday comes to an end today. Spend the day relaxing or hunting for souvenirs before taking your flight home.

WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

Trip Highlights

- Rio de Janeiro - the party capital of the world
- Sao Paulo - free time. Opt to visit the snake farm!
- Parati - an old pirate town by the sea
- Iguazu Falls - viewed from both Brazil and Argentina and the Devil's Throat
- Asuncion - charming capital straddling the Paraguay River
- Bonito - in the Sierra do Bodoquena mountains. Go caving, boating, outdoor pursuits
- Pantanal National Park - see Piranha
- Sucre - official capital of Bolivia
- UNESCO-listed Potosi - silver mining town
- Salar de Uyuni - salt flats and unusual geography and Fish Island
- La Paz - a colonial city. Vist the Presidential Palace or the Witches Market
- Lake Titicaca & Puno - floating reed islands, Uros islanders and Amantani island, Taquile Island
- Amazon Jungle - guided tour of the rainforest, trekking and Monkey Island
- Cuzco - Sacred Valley of the Incas, Pisac ruins, the temple of Ollantaytambo and local markets
- Machu Picchu ruins
- Colca Canyon and Arequipa
- The Nazca Lines
- Lima - free time to explore the capital's vibrant markets and spanish colonial museums

What's Included

- 19 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 8 dinners
- 41 nights hotels, hostels and guesthouses, 2 overnight buses, 1 overnight train, 3 nights camping, 1 overnight homestay.
- Excursions to Iguazu Falls – Argentina, Iguazu Falls – Brazil, Pantanal, Salar de Uyuni, Lake Titicaca, Amazon Jungle, Sacred Valley, Inca Trail Trek, Machu Picchu, Colca Canyon, Huacachina Oasis and Ballestas Islands
- Excursion to Pantanal National Park
- 3 day Inca Trail hike with local guide and touring of Machu Picchu
- Guided tour of Sacred Valley and Pisac ruins
- Boat trips in the Amazon and on Lake Titicaca. Guided tours of Amantani and Taquile Islands.
- Escorted by a tour leader and specialist local guides at some sites
- Relevant transport by public bus, train, boat, 4X4 and taxi.
- Economy class flights from Puerto Suarez, Bolivia to Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz - Sucre, Cuzco - Puerto Maldonado, Puerto Maldonado - Cuzco and Cuzco - Arequipa

What's Not Included

- International flights to/from our tour start/end points and visas
- Items of a personal nature and additional meals

BOLT-ONS:

Make the most of your time away! Listed below are the optional activities that are available on this trip. Please note that you will need to book these prior to travel as we cannot always guarantee availability of these activities once you are on holiday.

Rio Carnival - 4 night Package - USD \$970

Join us at the Rio Carnival this year with our Rio Carnival bolt-on. The bolt-on includes 4 nights hotel with breakfast daily in Rio and a ticket to the famous Sambadrome parade on Sunday evening. The most extravagant parades take place on the Sunday and Monday night of the carnival whilst outside of the parade ground, free street pageants and block parties revel from dusk till dawn. A variety of themed carnival balls are also on offer.

PRICES AND DATES: from USD \$6,540

Prices shown are per person travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies to travellers who would like the comfort of their own room (on all or many of the tour nights) and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price. If travelling solo and you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the

South America Salsa 49 days

same sex on your tour, this can be arranged provided there is another single traveller booked on the tour date of your choosing. When booking a trip that includes the Inca Trail, this section of the holiday can not be confirmed until an Inca Trail Permit is obtained. It is essential at time of booking that you provide us with your full name as it appears in your passport, date of birth, nationality and passport number. We will then reply to you within 72 hours as to whether the Inca Trail Permit has been obtained. Once the permit has been obtained we cannot make any changes to it what so ever. If ammendments are required you would need to pay for the cost of a new permit. Booking your holiday more than 3 months in advance greatly increases your chances of obtaining one on the 500 Inca Travel permits allocated per day! If the Inca Trail is not available you will then be given options of hiking the Lares trek or visiting Machu Picchu by train. For us to operate the Lares Trek we require a minimum of 4 participants. If the minimum number of travellers is not achieved an additional Lares Trek supplement and a single supplement will apply and is payable at time of booking. Should at a later date a second or third traveller from your tour group book the Lares Trek, the supplement will be divided equally between all participants and an amount refunded to you. If the Lares Trek group reaches a total of 4 persons or more, the entire supplement will be refunded to you. Please contact us for further information. Deposit - If trekking the Inca Trail or Lares Trek please note that you will need to pay our standard tour deposit plus a non-refundable Inca Trail/Lares Trek deposit. This is not an extra payment and will be deducted from your final tour payment. Please contact us for further details.

2012

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
12 JUN - 30 JUL	USD \$6,540	USD \$420
10 JUL - 27 AUG	USD \$6,540	USD \$420
18 AUG - 05 OCT	USD \$6,540	USD \$420
30 OCT - 17 DEC	USD \$6,540	USD \$420
28 NOV - 15 JAN	USD \$6,540	USD \$420

2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
05 JAN - 22 FEB	USD \$6,540	USD \$420
12 FEB - 01 APR	USD \$6,630	USD \$420
27 APR - 14 JUN	USD \$6,540	USD \$420

Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
Deduction: Without Inca Trail Trek/Lares Trek	USD \$-110	USD \$0