



**COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM**

**INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AND THE MISSIONS**



**Route:** Live culture, history, ecotourism  
**Duration:** 4 days / 3 nights  
**Starts and ends in** Santa Cruz  
**Guide:** Spanish-speaking  
**Difficulty:** Easy

**DAY 1 SAN ANTONIO DE LOMERÍO**

This trip, meant for meeting the Chiquitanía people, starts heading to San Antonio de Lomerío, across the almost depopulated Chiquitano woods where, if lucky, you will view a wide range of wild animals. In San Antonio the community people are your hosts and they will show you the riches of Mankox culture. Local guides will take you through the village and you will learn to weave, make necklaces and bracelets, and other San Antonio handicrafts. At night there will be an autochthonic dance and music cultural show in Lomerío. You will spend the night at the village people’s homes.

**DAY 2 CONCEPCIÓN**

Next day we head to Concepción, where we visit the Mission Ensemble: the Cathedral of Concepción built about the middle of the XVIII century and considered the most spectacular of all. Its architecture, as well as the paintings and sculptures it holds, perfectly show the devoted symbiosis history between the Chiquitano indigenous people and the Jesuit missionaries. Accommodation in a high class hotel equipped with a swimming-pool and an orchid nursery.

**DAY 3 CANDELARIA**

The third day we’ll go for a walk through the Chiquitano Woods around Candelaria village where you will discover its natural riches and especially its wide range of orchids. Community members will serve you a typical lunch. In the afternoon you can ride on a horse into the woods together with Candelaria community members and watch local fauna and flora. You also can enjoy a swim in the village lagoon before going to spend the night in Concepción.

**DAY 4 SANTA RITA – SAN XAVIER**

During the morning of your last day we visit the coffee and yucca fields of Santa Rita village community members. In the afternoon we visit the oldest site of the *Misiones*: San Xavier. There you will enjoy another neo-baroque Chiquitano architecture jewel and meet ceramics craftsmen. After that we return to Santa Cruz around dinner time.

**ADVICES**

We recommend you to take fresh clothing, comfortable shoes, repellent, sunglasses and sun-block cream.



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