

SALAR'S COMMUNITY II



Route: Ecotourism, live history
Duration: 4 days / 3 nights
Starts and ends in Uyuni
Guide: Spanish-speaking
Difficulty: Regular
Comfort: Regular



DAY 1

In the morning we meet in Uyuni and start our route. At first we visit the **train cemetery**, a trace of the region's industrial history. Then we meet some local families that live on **processing and sale of salt** from the *Salar* (Salt marsh). After that we cross the **Salar de Uyuni** until reaching **Inca Huasi island** where we have lunch and then a walk watching its millennial cactus. In the afternoon we head to **Huanaque village**, near to the Chilean border. We walk up to the village mirador and visit its **archaeological site**. Dinner at the village's **Club de Madres (Mothers Club)**. We spend the night at Huanaque community hostel.



DAY 2

The second day in the morning we have a walk through the **quinoa fields** where we will learn everything about its growing process. We also will learn about **llama and alpaca** breeding, another very important activity for the village community. In the afternoon we have a walk to the **Huanaque mine**. On the way we will learn more about the community history. After dinner we will organize a small party together with the villagers, enjoying their traditional Huanaque music and dances. Once more we spend the night at the **community hostel**.



DAY 3

In the morning we have llama *charque* for breakfast and then we say goodbye to our Huanaque friends and again cross the Salar to Alcaya village, located in the Northeast of the Salar. We have lunch at the village and then visit its **archaeological site**. Our local guide will explain about the history of the Chullpas, their ancestors. We will learn about their history, their tools and textiles, and we will say hello to the mummies that are the site-keepers. We have dinner and accommodation at the Alcaya community hostel, a comfortable place with private bath and hot water. At night we **get together with local families** and share their efforts as to the community-based organization of sustainable and fair tourism.

DAY 4

In the morning we say goodbye to our Alcaya friends and head to **Coquesa village community**, located on the edge of Salar de Thunupa (Salar de Uyuni) at the foot of **Thunupa Volcano** that overlooks the region. We have a walk on the volcano foothills in order to enjoy the wonderful view from there. After that we cross the Salar once more on our return trip to **Uyuni town**, where we visit the llama charque (sun-dried meat) processing plant, an economical peasant community-based organization called La Potosina.

ADVICE

We recommend our visitors to take warm clothing, walking shoes, a hat, sun-block cream and a sleeping bag..



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