

# LatinDiscover.com

rediscovering the New World

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## TRIP DETAILS

14 days / 13 nts - Argentina

Departures Daily

Trip Ref 2328

## ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Mendoza 2 nts

El Barreal 2 nts

Villa Union (La Rioja) 2 nts

Chilecito 1 nt

Quilmes 1 nt

Cachi 1 nt

Salta 3 nts

Tilcara 1 nt



PRICES FROM \$3,682

## Mendoza to Salta Discovery

The province of Mendoza is well known for being one of the main wine producing areas in the world and for being home for the highest peak in the American Continent, Mount Aconcagua (6962m). This trip will show you one of the most fascinating and little known west and northwest regions of Argentina, an area of high mountains, exquisite wines, indigenous culture and colonial style buildings.

### Day 1 – Mendoza

Upon arrival you will be met and taken to your hotel in Mendoza. Accommodation in Mendoza.

### Day 2 Full day Mendoza



Visit one of the oldest wineries in Mendoza with its museum. You will have the chance to taste these fine wines and realize why they are considered to be one of the best in the world. We will also visit an olive oil producing factory, another of the main products grown in this region. Accommodation in Mendoza (B)

### Day 3 Mendoza / El Barreal

After breakfast, we will commence our overland trip by heading towards the high mountains, along the Uspallata Valley until we reach Puente del Inca, base to most Aconcagua expeditions. We then continue our way south to Pampa del Leoncito, a white mud flatland 14 kms long and 5 kms wide. Arrive to El Barreal, in the Province of San Juan, late afternoon. Accommodation in El Barreal. (B)

### Day 4 El Barreal – San Juan

This day we follow grape cultivating valleys towards Calingasta. All along these valleys we will also appreciate the immensity of the Andes with its snowcapped peaks. Arrive to the city of San Juan, founded in 1562. This is a wine and fruit producing area. We will have time to explore this picturesque city. Accommodation in San Juan. (B,L)

### Day 5 San Juan / Villa Union (La Rioja)

The trip continues north along the Jachal Valleys and the colourful sand deserts of southeast La Rioja. Arrive to Villa Union in the afternoon. Accommodation in Villa Union. (B,L)

### Day 6 Talampaya National Park & Moon Valley Provincial Park

We visit this morning the colourful Talampaya Canon with its impressive reddish walls and strange formations produced by wind and water erosion. During the afternoon we visit the Moon Valley (Valle de la Luna) or Ischigualasto, as the indigenous people used to call it, to observe its rich variety of fossils and rocks which date back to the Triassic era. Return to Villa Union. Accommodation in Villa Union. (B,L).



### Day 7 – Villa Union / Chilecito

Start towards Chilecito along the colourful Cuesta de Miranda. Early afternoon arrival and visit the "Museo de la Mejicana", well known for having the longest cable cart in America which reached 4,400 mts on the foothills of Famatina hill. Accommodation in Chilecito (B)

### Day 8 – Chilecito / Quilmes

Following the National Road nbr 40 which stretches from north to south along the Andes range, we reach the Quilmes area located within the Province of Tucuman. This is home to impressive Pre-Inca ruins and is a superb archaeological site. Accommodation in Quilmes facing the ruins (B,L).

**Day 9 – Quilmes / Cachi**

Time to explore these ruins including its fortress. Drive along the Calchaquies Valley visiting the town of Cafayate, with its exquisite “Torrantes” wines. Taste one of these delicious wines at a local winery and continue then along the Quebrada de las Flechas, Molinos and its historical church, arriving to the indigenous village of Cachi in the afternoon after driving across an incredible mountain scenery with mountain peaks over 6000 mts. Accommodation in Cachi. (B)

**Day 10 - Cachi / Salta**

Time to visit the 17th century church and the archaeological museum to then drive along the National Park Los Cardones (Cacti) passing the Cuesta del Obispo (3340) until we reach the colonial and beautiful Hispanic city of Salta (1200 mts). (B).

**Day 11 – Salta**

Morning city tour of Salta and its rich Hispanic architecture, including historical buildings like the Cathedral and Cabildo (Old City Hall), both built in the XIX century. Drive to San Bernardo Hill for superb views of the city. Time to walk and enjoy its beauty and tranquility. Accommodation in Salta. (B).

**Day 12 – Salta / Purmamarca /Tilcara**



Today we drive north along the Humahuaca Ravine until we reach the small indian village of Purmamarca. We make a short stop to visit its market and admire the Seven Colours Hill. Continue ascending along the Cuesta del Lipan (4200 mts) until we get to the huge White Salt flats to visit its mines. Descend along the same way and continue to the village of Tilcara. Time to relax and walk around this beautiful place. Accommodation in Tilcara (B)

**Day 13 – Tilcara – Salta**

Visit the Tilcara Fortress and Museum and continue along the Humahuaca Ravine to the village of Humahuaca. Return to Salta. Accommodation in Salta (B).

**Day 14 –**

Transfer out to the Salta airport. (B)

**Price per person**

Code	Validity	Price
ADV0-001	March to December	\$3,682

(Prices can change without notice)

**Included :** Meals where specified (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch or Box-Lunch, D=Dinner), Private transportation throughout, English / French / Italian-speaking guide, local guides where necessary, entrance fees to Talampaya, Moon Valley, Quilmes Ruins, Cachi Museum, Pucara and Museum in Tilcara, accommodation in nice and comfortable tourist class hotels, hosterias, lodges on a twin and multishare basis.

**Not included:** Domestic flights, departure taxes, meals not shown in the itinerary, gratuities, hotel extras.

**Notes:**

- Prices per person in USDollars, minimum 2 passengers
- All prices may vary for Holy Week, Long Weekends or special holidays
- Programmes are not private, even when reaching the minimum number required.
- Private groups can be arranged on different dates; please enquire.
- English speaking guide included; for other languages please enquire.
- Type of accommodation (hotel,hosteria,camp,estancia,lodge) will depend of the selected package
- Difficulty: EASY: Activity is usually at altitudes lower than 2000 m and is suitable for almost anyone with an average level of fitness. Walks can be up to 7 hrs with some ascent and descent. No technical expertise is required to complete the trip successfully.

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