

Iconic Journey

NOA Experience




Socompa

ADVENTURE TRAVEL
ESTABLISHED 2004

Travel Itinerary

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Itinerary Day by Day

Day 1: Salta | Cuesta del Obispo | Cachi | Molinos (-)

Distance: 122 km paved road. 81 km earth track and gravel road.

Altitude: Highest point 3.457 m./ 11.342 feet. Molinos 2.020 m. / 6.627 feet.

Estimated driving time: 4 hs.

The road between Salta and Molinos is one of the most spectacular paths of the Argentinean Northwest. We will pass through four different ecosystems, from the green jungle of the Yungas to the semi deserted Calchaquí Valleys. 33km of mountain will bring us closer to *Paso Piedra del Molino* at 3457 meters: condors flying in the blue sky, guanacos and wild burros amongst thousands of Cardones, the local species of giant cactus. There will be time for a walk in a small red desert rarely visited and a moment to relax under a cozy *Molle* tree in the white colonial village of Cachi, where the sun shines almost all year round. We will spend the night in the small Village of Molinos in a secluded valley with a rich history.

Day 2: Molinos | Angastaco | Quebrada de las Flechas | Cafayate | Quebrada de las Conchas | Salta (B)

Distance: 200 km paved road. 130 km gravel road.

Altitude: Highest point 2.300 m./ 7.546 feet. Salta 1.200 m. / 3.937 feet.

Estimated driving time: 6 hs.

Route 40 is one of the most famous and longest routes in the world. Between the towns of Molinos and Cafayate we will find many little villages populated by local winemakers and farmers, we will drive across the *Quebrada de las Flechas*, a desert formed by dust of limestone and quartz, eroded by wind and water creating the shape of thousands of Arrow Peaks. Cafayate is the perfect place for lunch or to visit a traditional winery. On the way back to Salta, we will explore the Conchas' Gorge, at the best time of the day. The Gorge features 70 km of a deep ravine built in the last 50 million years with huge deposits of minerals (clay and sandstone in particular) molded by water and wind that comes from an age when the region was dominated by a humid and warm climate. It is inhabited by completely different wildlife, including crocodiles and turtles.



Day 3: Salta | Quebrada del Toro | San Antonio de los Cobres | Salinas Grandes | Purmamarca (B)

Distance: 142 km paved road. 179 km gravel road.

Altitude: Highest point 4.170 m./ 13.681 feet. Purmamarca 2.192 m. / 7.192 feet.

Estimated driving time: 6 hs.

The Toro's Gorge is a natural lift that connects the green valley of Salta (Lerma Valley), rich in tobacco and horses, with an arid plateau at more than 3500 meters, called Puna. In less than 100 km, along the old railroad known as the Train to the Clouds, we will cross the eastern chain of the Andes to enter the Puna. El Mojon, a small settlement lost in this high desert, is an extraordinary example of the strength of the people inhabiting the Puna and how they can live in the XXI century without forgetting their ancestral traditions. Salinas Grandes, is an open white space of more than 100km surrounded by volcanoes, where the horizon seems endless. Finally, crossing the highest point of the itinerary, we will enjoy the best views of the Eastern Andean Range going down via Cuesta de Lipan. At sunset, we will arrive at the Andean village of Purmamarca, built in the surroundings of the Cerro de los 7 Colores.

Day 4: Purmamarca | Humahuaca | Hornocal | Tilcara | Salta (B)

Distance: 320 km paved road. 70 km gravel road.

Altitude: Highest point 4.300 m./ 14.108 feet. Salta 1.200 m. / 3.937 feet.

Estimated driving time: 6 hs.

The Humahuaca Gorge is a large valley that ends at the border with Bolivia and it is located in the province of Jujuy in the far north of Argentina. It is quite a young Valley, given that its formation dates a million years. The Gorge is famous for its colourful mountains, its geological formations and its historical villages. During our trip we will visit the best places in the region in order to get a true feeling of this part of Argentina: the Humahuaca Market, a walk in the Colorado's Gorge, the sacred garden of the Cardones (cactus species) at 3200 meters, and the impressive 14 coloured mountains of Hornocal and the Pucara of Tilcara – a pre-Inca fortress. We will also visit the villages of Tilcara, Humahuaca and Purmamarca with their typical artisanal markets. In the afternoon we will return to Salta.

End of our services.



The Itinerary is subject to weather conditions in the region to be visited, to flight schedule changes, roadblocks or any other unforeseen circumstances. In any of these cases last minute changes may take place in order to ensure a safe trip. Any expenses derived from these situations of force majeure must be paid by the passenger.

Food references: | B: Breakfast | L: Lunch |D: Dinner

The Tour Includes



Accommodation

1 Night in Hacienda de Molinos www.haciendademolinos.com.ar

1 Night in Finca Valentina www.finca-valentina.com

Finca Valentina is the Country House of the founder of Socompa and his wife, both from Milan, Italy. Located 20 minutes away from the City of Salta, it is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the landscapes of the foothills of the Andes mountains. It is also only a few minutes away from the Salta airport.

1 Night in Marques de Tojo Boutique Hotel www.marquesdetojo.com

Notes:

1. *Breakfast is included in every hotel.*
2. *Accommodation in Standard Category, upgrade can be quoted upon request.*
3. *Accommodation in these properties is subject to availability. If there is no availability, we will suggest options of the same category.*



Entrance Fees

- Entry ticket to archeological site "*Pucará de Tilcara*".
- Visit fee to "*Serranías del Hornocal*" viewpoint.



Logistical Support

Pick up 4WD vehicle of Socompa comprising of:

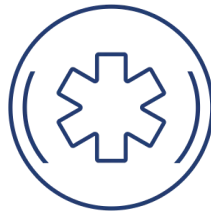
- Professional guide/driver.
- Permits for passenger's transportation.
- Insurance for transported passengers and drivers..
- Water (1 ½ liters per day per person) and snacks on board.
- Special equipment for overland trips (first aid kit, satellite communication, extra tools, fuel and extra tyre).
- 24/7 Logistics support from the Salta office with daily monitoring.
- Oxygen tube.



Suggested packing list



- Water bottle (1lt) to avoid the use of plastic bottles for mineral water. Our guide will make sure to refill your bottle whenever necessary. All year round!
- Sunblock and sunglasses (protection against UV) All year round!
- Hat. All year round!
- Gloves (made of wool or similar material). In winter
- In autumn/winter (May to August), clothes must be reinforced: winter jacket, sweatshirts, polar long-sleeve shirt, scarf, etc.).
- Windproof Jacket (it's important because the area is windy). In winter only
- Waterproof jacket during Summer (Mid-December to Mid-March)
- Trekking shoes (comfortable). All year round!
- Moisturizing cream. All year round!



Passenger Information Form

- All passengers must fill in the Information Form and it is compulsory for them to inform about health conditions and/or any other relevant information regarding health. The form must be sent through email before the departure date.

VAT Refund Regulations (Applies to accommodation and breakfast only)

1. This quote is only valid if guests are eligible for the VAT reimbursement benefit.
2. The VAT Refund benefit is exclusive for foreign visitors with proven residence outside Argentina. A copy of each passport is required to confirm reservations. If the country of residence is different from the country of citizenship please confirm details by email. Bookings with no passports provided will be re-quoted to add the applicable VAT rate.
3. When passports are not provided at time of booking, the accommodations with breakfast will be re-quoted to include applicable VAT (currently 21 %) to be collected with payment.



4. VAT Refund applies only to accommodation and breakfast (if included in the room rate). Other services provided by the hotel are excluded from the VAT Refund policy.
5. VAT Refund will not be applicable in the event of cancellation fees or no-shows charges.

General Conditions

1. All services were quoted as per the itinerary above described; the rates are Net, expressed in US Dollars and include Taxes (VAT).
2. The accommodation does not include early check in or late check out.
3. The itinerary proposed can be modified according to changes in flight schedules or weather conditions in the area to be visited.
4. The rates do not include air fares.
5. Extras and tips of any kind are not included in the rate
6. The meals included in the itinerary include one soft drink. Alcoholic Beverages are not included.
7. The rates are subject to modification due to changes in the policies of our suppliers or due to unforeseen circumstances.
8. For tours on the 25th December or 1st January there is an extra fee of USD 100.- per tour and per guide.

Cancellation Policy

1. Cancellation 7 days before departure: 100% penalty for services provided directly by Socompa. As for the accommodation and rent a car services, the penalty amount will be informed according to the cancellation policy of each local supplier.
2. Cancellation 15 days to 8 days before departure: 50% penalty for services provided directly by Socompa. As for the accommodation and rent a car services, the penalty amount will be informed according to the cancellation policy of each local supplier.
3. Cancellation 16 days or more before departure: 25% penalty for services provided directly by Socompa. As for the accommodation and rent a car services, the penalty amount will be informed according to the cancellation policy of each local supplier.



4. **Important:** VAT Refund benefit will not be applicable in case of cancellation or no-show fees and charges. If cancellation is subject to charges, the VAT tax will be calculated and invoiced at the time of receiving the cancellation.