



GLOBAL VISION TOURS

In conjunction with



South American 2010 Itinerary

OCTOBER 2010

October 2010

Sat 02 Christchurch or Auckland-Sydney-Buenos Aires

6.10am Depart Auckland on Qantas flight QF50.

6.40am Arrive Sydney.

10.30am Connect with Qantas flight QF17.

10.50am Arrive Buenos Aires. On arrival transfer to Hotel Republic for three nights. The hotel is situated in the heart of this large city of 12 million people. Our hotel is the only one with balconies overlooking 'Av 7 de Julio' (the widest street in the world). This city is known as the Paris of Latin America not only for the elegant shops, restaurants & side walk cafes but also for the dress fashion of the people. Argentina is also famous for their steaks, we can sample one tonight. After dinner we can visit one of the famous Tango clubs, cost US\$60-80 (optional).

During the afternoon we will meet in the lounge for our briefing we can discuss any questions you have.

Sun 03 Buenos Aires

9.00am This morning we will have a city tour where you will be able to visit some of the elegant 19th century buildings and churches. You can lunch at one of the side walk cafes, take a walk down "Florida" a street closed to traffic, where good quality cashmere jerseys and soft leather are worth looking at (anything you buy can be left at our hotel and collected on your return). (B)

Mon 04 Buenos Aires

Free day at leisure or take one of the optional tours:

1. Fiesta Gaucho, we visit a large ranch on the Pampas where their famous beef cattle are bred, it will be explained how they raise their beef to be one of the best in the world. You will then be able to try it on the barbeque for lunch (Horses are available for those who like riding) \$50
2. The famous Colon Theatre and a visit to the mausoleum where Eva Peron was buried. (B)

Tue 05 Buenos Aires-Iguazu Falls

8.55am Depart Buenos Aires on flight LA4022. (B)

10.40am Arrive Iguazu Falls.

We meet our tour guide to begin our tour of the Falls from the Argentina side. Later we will be assisted through customs and transferred to Hotel Bella Italia for two nights.

These falls span 3 km's and border three countries. (Paraguay, Argentina & Brazil.) Without a doubt they are the most spectacular falls in the world.

Iguazu has a sub-tropical climate with a heavy rain fall so a light waterproof jacket will be useful.

Wed 06 Iguazu Falls

The morning starts with a visit to the Tropicana Bird Park where you follow a 1000m winding path through the forest where aviaries have been built. Entering the largest aviary you come into close contact with the birds such as Macaws, Toucans & Conures. In fact the park has over 1000 birds of 150 species. We then enter the national park to view the breathtaking sights of the falls, where we will have lunch (not included).

There are two options:-

1. Helicopter ride over the falls.
2. Maccu Safari

The excitement continues this evening as we are reserved at the famous Rafain BBQ restaurant (all you can eat) plus an exciting non-stop floorshow. (B,D)

Thu 07	Iguazu Falls-Rio de Janeiro
9.30am	Depart Iguazu Falls (Brazilian side) on flight JJ3186.
11.25am	Arrive Rio De Janeiro. Transfer to the Orla Copacabana Hotel for three nights, overlooking one of the famous beaches and Paca de Acur (Sugar Loaf). (B)
Fri 08	Rio de Janeiro
8.30am	We depart this morning for our city tour which will include Paca de Acur. Here we climb by two cable cars to 396m, where we will have breathtaking views of Guanabara Bay, the city and round to Ipanema. Later we drive to Corcovado a jagged peak rising 710m. Here a 40m statue of Christ has been built weighing 1200 tons where we will have lunch (not included). (B)
Sat 09	Rio de Janeiro
	Free day to enjoy one of the optional tours (see notes). (B)
Sun 10	Rio de Janeiro-Santiago
8.00am	Depart Rio on flight LA757.
1.15pm	Arrive Santiago transfer to Sheraton Four Points Hotel where we are reserved for three nights. Santiago was founded in 1541 by Pedro de Valdivia and is the fifth largest city in South America with over 4 million people. The snow capped Andes rising to 6000m are less than 100kms away and will be in full view. (B)
Mon 11	Santiago
9.00am	This morning we will be picked up from our hotel for a city tour. We will have lunch at Parque Aroco (a large shopping center). Your afternoon is free to explore this interesting city. If museums are your fascination then you have 21 to choose from. (B)
Tue 12	Santiago
8.30am	Today we travel 120km north of Santiago through vineyards and lush fruit orchards to Chile's main seaside resort at Vina del Mar. We also visit Chile's main port and now the seat of Congress at Valparaiso, built on a crescent of hills, in a maze of winding streets and alleys, lunch of fresh sea food will be by the sea and I will introduce you to the most perfect red wine called Camanere (not included.) (B)
Wed 13	Santiago-La Paz
4.00am	Depart hotel.
6.00am	Depart on flight LA964.
10.10am	Arrive La Paz. We are reserved at the Hotel El Rey Palace for three nights, situated right in the heart of this most unusual city, the highest capital in the world at 4000m. If you need oxygen it is always at hand, even at the airport. (B)
Thu 14	La Paz
9.00am	This morning we tour this fascinating city, shaped like a large mixing bowl, with the poor people living on the top edges and the wealthy in the lower parts. We will visit the famous markets around San Francisco Square close to our hotel, this is where you can buy Alpaca jerseys for around \$35. The afternoon is free to explore this colourful city. (B)

Fri 15	La Paz
8.30am	Today we have an all day tour to Tiwanaka, Pre-Inca ruins dating back to 800 ^{BC} with a local English speaking guide. (B)
Sat 16	La Paz-Copacabana-Puno (Lake Titicaca)
8.00am	This morning we will be picked up from our hotel to start the overland journey to Copacabana. We arrive in time for lunch (not included) before we start our journey to Puno. We are reserved at Plaza Hotel for two nights, situated close to the shops and cafes. There will be an introduction to spiced hot wine and pizzas tonight. Puno is on the shores of Lake Titicaca (the highest navigable lake in the world). Time changes forward one hour. (B)
Sun 17	Puno
9.00am	This morning we board our boat for the Uros Islands to meet the people who live on floating islands made of reeds, we will also be able to sail in one of their ancient reed boats. Take plenty of change as the people have good tapestry and other interesting crafts they make, but you will have to bargain. (B)
Mon 18	Puno-Cuzco
7.30am	Today we take the First Class Tourist Bus to Cuzco, a buffet lunch is served enroute. We make four stops at interesting tourist sites on the way (one is El Raya the highest point at 4300m. An English-speaking guide is with us on the bus. On arrival in Cuzco we will be met by my friends Enrico and Luz Marina and transferred to the Casa Andina Plaza Hotel (or similar) for four nights. (B,L)
Tue 19	Cuzco-Pisac-Cuzco
9.00am	This morning we journey to Pisac, located over the mountains in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, where we visit the famous Indian market. Here there are many bargains, including ceramics, Alpaca carpets, Indian silver jewellery and leather, plus all the colour of spices and local fruits, a photographers paradise. (B)
Wed 20	Cuzco-Machu Picchu-Cuzco
6.00am	Today we take one of THE GREAT TRAIN journeys of the world. We go by bus to the train station where we join the Deluxe Vistadome train on our way to one of the wonders of the world, Machu Picchu. This lost city of the Incas was only found in 1925 by Captain Bingham. Breakfast will be served on the Deluxe Vistadome train.
5.50pm	Arrive Cuzco and transfer to hotel. (B)
Thu 21	Cuzco
	Cuzco tour and time to revisit places or explore the many small alleys with interesting shops. An optional city tour to visit more Inca sites can be arranged. (B) TONIGHT WE WILL HAVE OUR FAREWELL DINNER (for people not going to the Amazon) AT DON ANTONIO'S RESTAURANT HERE YOU WILL ENJOY A BUFFET DINNER AND PERUVIAN MUSIC (not included)

Fri 22	Cuzco-Lima-Iquitos
	Day at leisure. (B)
3.15pm	Depart Cuzco on flight LP34.
4.40pm	Arrive Lima.
5.15pm	Depart Lima on flight LP376.
7.05pm	Arrive Iquitos. We will be met at the airport by Explorama staff and transferred to our 4* hotel for overnight. The hotel is situated close to the main square and just a short stroll to the Amazon River. At night there are a number of markets where local handicrafts are sold.
Sat 23	Iquitos-Ceiba Tops
8.00am	We will be met by Explorama staff after breakfast and transferred to their private dock for our 25 mile journey down the Amazon River to Ceiba Tops for two nights, where private rooms with air-conditioning and hot water are provided. After lunch we have our first hike in the beautiful primary rainforest reserve surrounding Ceiba Tops which includes many huge trees festooned with Epiphytes. After dinner there may be local flute or guitar music at the El Toucan Bar or the guides are always ready to relate some of the many legends of the Amazon forest. (B,L,D)
Sun 24	Ceiba Tops
	Morning boat ride spotting for dolphins, then visit a small village of Yagua Indians. Here your guide will explain their Indian culture and how it has been affected by the arrival of the Europeans. There will be an opportunity to buy some of their local crafts and a demonstration of the blowgun which some of the Yagua elders still use for hunting. We return to Ceiba Tops for a quick dip in the pool before our buffet lunch, later we walk to a neighbouring town of Indiana, originally a Franciscan mission which has grown into a large river community with its own market which you'll enjoy exploring for souvenirs. This evening we enjoy more music & stories after our buffet dinner. (B,L,D) NB: The Amazon program is subject to change due to local conditions.
Mon 25	Ceiba Tops-Iquitos
	Morning program to Monkey Island, here you will be amongst many kinds of tame monkeys. Return to Iquitos after lunch by launch and check into our hotel for overnight. (B,L,D)
Tue 26	Iquitos-Lima
	Day at leisure exploring this interesting Amazon town, the square comes to life on Sundays. We will be transferred to the airport by Explorama staff.
9.15pm	Depart on flight LP379.
11.00pm	Arrive Lima Airport. In transit. (B)
Wed 27	Lima-Buenos Aires-Sydney
1.25am	Depart on flight LA2427.
7.45am	Arrive Buenos Aires. A day room has been reserved for you.
2.00pm	Depart on Qantas flight QF18.
Thu 28	Sydney
6.50pm	Arrive Sydney.

Fri 29 **Sydney-NZ**

9.30am Depart Sydney on Qantas flight QF18.
2.30pm Arrive Auckland

TOUR COST \$10,975 per person share twin.

Subject to airline and currency fluctuations until paid in full.

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Return economy class fares Auckland or Christchurch/Sydney/Buenos Aires
- Airpass economy class Buenos Aires-Iguazu-Rio de Janeiro-Santiago-La Paz-Lima-Iquitos-Lima-Buenos Aires
- All transfers to/from airport
- All ground transport
- Sightseeing: All city tours/ Rio to Corcovado & Sugar Loaf/Puno to Uros on Lake Titicaca/Iguazu to Bird Park, entrance fees to the National Park & Rafael BBQ dinner/Cuzco to Macchu Picchu & Pisac Market
- Private bus La Paz-Copacabana-Puno
- First class tourist bus Puno-Cuzco
- Accommodation with private facilities – 3* & 4* hotels – share twin
- Breakfasts daily
- 4 lunches
- 4 dinners
- Travel notes

TOUR EXCLUSIONS

- Personal Expenses
- Insurance (compulsory)
- Departure and airport taxes
- Visas if required
- Optional tours
- Meals other than specified
- Additional departure taxes – in USD
Peru \$5 domestic/Peru \$30 international/Argentina \$7 domestic/Argentina \$18 international
Tipping – my usual practice is to tip the necessary people on your behalf. This normally amounts to USD70pp. I will collect this at our first briefing meeting in Buenos Aires

Hotel Websites:

Santiago www.fourpoints.com/santiago
Rio de Janeiro www.orlahotel.com.br
Iguazu www.bellaitali.tur.br
 www.rafainshow.com
Buenos Aires www.hotelrepublica.com.ar
La Paz www.hotelrepalace.com
Puno www.punoplazahotel.com
Cuzco www.casa-andina.com
Ceiba Tops www.explorama.com/ceibatops.htm



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Optional Tours:

Rio de Janeiro

1. A full day tropical island tour which takes you to a southern fishing village of Itacuruca aboard a schooner cruising away from the green coast of Rio, you can relax in the crystal clear water. Cost USD65 including buffet lunch.

Iguazu Falls

1. Maccu Safari, we travel on an open car for 3km through the forest, our guide will explain the fauna and flora as we go. We walk the last few meters to the river boarding our powerful twin engine inflatable boat to the Garganta do Falls, the view is breathtaking (if a little wet). Disneyland has nothing to compare with this. Cost USD75.
2. Helicopter flight over the falls. Cost USD65.

NOTES:

Hotel check-in/out times are normally IN: 2pm/OUT: 12noon

The only way to guarantee an early check-in or late check-out is to pre-book the night before (early check-in) or night after (late check-out). Otherwise early check-in and late check-out are subject to availability when you are there.

Double Beds Please note we have requested a double bedded room but cannot guarantee one will be available. Please ask on check-in to see what is available.

Non Smoking Rooms: As a policy Innovative Travel request non smoking rooms for all guests. These rooms are requested and are subject to availability.

Tipping

Please remember that tipping is an accepted practice throughout the world. In the majority of countries tipping acts as a supplement to a basic wage.

On a lighter note

Please remember that religious beliefs, traditional customs and daily manners may differ from country to country, these may seem quite strange at first. These idiosyncrasies are part of what makes travelling a special experience. Please be patient if you think things are happening a different pace than you are used to and respect the differences in culture.

Tour conditions, cancellation and amendment fees as per Ancient Kingdoms brochure.

Travel Advisory Information can change at any time and we suggest clients refer to The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Travel Trade Advisory website at www.safetravel.govt.nz prior to departure for the latest up to date information and general advice regarding the countries you are visiting.

100% cancellation fees will be charged for all bookings cancelled less than 14 days before departure. No refund is available for cancellation after commencement or on any services not used.



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