

# experience quest



## BOLIVIA AND BRAZIL ADVENTURE MOUNTAINS, JUNGLES AND SACRED LAKES

*"Bolivia is a challenging country to visit. The roads are basic, the altitude can be exhausting, but the rewards more than make up for the sacrifices. This trip is an assault on the senses, taking us from Amazon to Andes, visiting some fantastic projects, as well as enjoying sights which will literally take your breath away!"*

Matthew Brimble, Bolivia Country Director

- ❖ Work in the world famous Inti Wara Yassi animal refuge
- ❖ Cross the Uyuni Salt Flats in 4x4s
- ❖ Trek from Andes to Amazon along an old Inca trading route
- ❖ Sleep on the shores of Lake Titicaca
- ❖ Relax on the beaches of Rio de Janeiro

Dates: **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2011** – Three weeks

Cost: **£3,550** – Includes all costs on the ground (except evening drinks, souvenirs and a few lunches), travel insurance and a £250 donation to our charity Quest4Change. International flights are separate.

Find out more or make a booking. Contact us on 01273 777206 or email [info@experiencequest.com](mailto:info@experiencequest.com)

## Your Quest

Bored of hearing all those wonderful anecdotes from your friends? Green with envy after yet another set of mind blowing photos from their latest travels? Here's your chance to surpass all their stories, and with that little extra bit of luxury. This is an active adventure, trekking through the forests and mountains of Bolivia, working with endangered species in the Amazon basin, crossing the largest salt plans in the world in 4x4s before arriving in Rio for a bit of beach relaxation.

### Further information

**Food and drink** Included in the cost of the trip are meals in some fantastic restaurants, sampling some of the best food South America has to offer. While we will cover drinks during meals, we may ask you to chip in if it turns out to be a particularly thirsty night.. Also, there will be a couple of occasions while in towns when the group will be free to explore and as such we will leave lunches to your own discretion. This will be only 2 or 3 occasions though.

**Accommodation** We have carefully picked some real characterful hotels whenever we are in towns and cities, with all the comforts you would normally expect, but not in the cold style of a high rise hotel block. There are some parts of this trip where conditions are quite basic. For example, the only accommodation options on the salt flats are adobe huts, and we will be sleeping in tents on the Choro Trail. We will always make sure you are warm and dry though, and the hotels at the end of each of these adventures will bring you back to normal in no time!

**Weather** October is the end of the dry season, so the weather should still be stable and dry on the whole. As we are travelling from jungles to mountains to islands though, you should be prepared for a whole range of temperatures.

**Leaders** You will be accompanied by only our best and most experienced staff. We have always said that it's our leaders which bring the trip to life for you – and you will not be disappointed here! Their knowledge, professionalism and enthusiasm are unparalleled.

**Preparation** Once you have booked onto the trip, we will be with you every step of the way in the build up for departure, helping to sort flights, insurance, providing recommendations on kit, anything you should need.

**Traveling alone** Not a problem. Our price is based on two people sharing, and if you are joining this trip on your own, you will be sharing a room or a tent with someone of the same sex. If you would prefer to have your own room and tent, you can pay our single supplement of £200.

**What to do next** If you'd like to find out more, just give us a call and we can fill you in with some more information. To book a place on this trip, get in touch and we will send you a booking form together with a copy of our terms and conditions. Any questions just call us on 01273 777206

## Giving back

The Parque Machia sanctuary is home to some of the most endangered animals on the planet. You will be getting hands on with pumas, jaguars and a variety of monkeys assisting with feeding and caring for these incredible species. With natural habitats being destroyed at an alarming rate and animals arriving at the park daily your help is much appreciated. Endangered species must be protected and saved so that future generations can experience their presence and value. Each person will be given responsibility for their own animal, are you a bird, monkey or cat person?!



## Adventure Itinerary

### Days 1-2: Departure from London to Bolivia

We make our way across the Atlantic into the magical country of Bolivia. Arriving in the lowland city of Cochabamba, 4x4s will be waiting for us to take us into the heart of the rainforest. The Chapare region is the home of the Parque Machia wild animal sanctuary. Plenty to explore, but let's have a good night's sleep and a dip in the hotel pool first after that long flight.

### Days 3-4: Exploring and working in the Machia wild animal sanctuary

After a leisurely breakfast under our palm thatched dining area, it's time to head into the jungle and see the inspirational work which the Bolivian staff of the Inti Wara Yassi foundation have achieved over the past 15 years. A day to explore the park gives us a good feel for the project, as well as a taste of what waits for us the following day. Our second day in the park is down to work. The park survives thanks to support from volunteers working with the different animals rescued from circuses and the pet trade; this is your chance to muck in! Whether it's spending a day with the monkeys, the parrots, or even walking a puma, this will certainly be an experience you will never forget.

### Days 5-11: Sucre, Potosi and the Uyuni Salt Flats

We say goodbye to the jungle and fly up to the country's capital, Sucre. At 2,800m above sea level, this city is a bustle of activity, and is also the first start to our acclimatization. Moving on, we head up in altitude some more, to the city of Potosi. During the colonial period, this was the richest city in the continent, with tons of silver being extracted from the nearby mines. The mines are still in operation, and a visit into them gives an eye opening realization of the extent some people have to go to in order to feed their families. From here, we should be suitably acclimatized and ready to head up to the Uyuni Salt Flats. Four days in 4x4s, taking us past red lakes, green lakes, volcanoes, flamingo colonies and thermal baths will give you enough photos to bore your friends for weeks!

### Days 12-17: La Paz and the Choro Trail

La Paz is a city for whom it seems time stood still half a century ago. Two million people live here and although there is no apparent order to the place at all, it seems to work! We have the chance to explore the city and sample some of the delights it has to offer, before heading out into the wilderness.

This time we will be stretching our legs a little, three days along the magnificent Choro Trail. An ancient Inca trading route, it linked the lowlands with the mountains. We'll be doing it the other way though, downhill of course! Our finishing point is the sleepy town of Coroico, with warm weather, swimming pools, saunas and good food waiting for us – and this time we've earned it!

### Days 18-20: Lake Titicaca

The legendary origin of the Inca civilization, Lake Titicaca is a much revered site by many of the local indigenous population. Boating onto the lake will help give us a feel for this and heading onto some of the islands lets us see some truly traditional customs. Sleeping by the shores of the lake as well (in a hotel this time) is a peaceful experience no one can fail to appreciate.

Then it's back to La Paz before heading out to the next step of our adventure – flip flops at the ready!

### Days 21-23: Rio de Janeiro & return to London

What a difference, but equally mind blowing! From the mountains of the Bolivian Andes to the samba fuelled beaches of Copacabana in Rio de Janeiro. Two days exploring the city, relaxing on the beach and dancing the night away in one of the biggest party cities on the planet is a great finale to this adventure.