

# South America: Coast to Coast

42 Days

This extraordinary ride takes us from the shores of the Atlantic to the high plateau of the Altiplano and across the deserts to the Pacific. From the “cidade maravilhosa” (marvellous city) of Rio, we will ride the emerald coast, one of the worlds most beautiful coastal rides, then the amazing rollercoaster ride at Serra do Rio do Rastro through some wonderful jungle scenery. The world’s greatest waterfalls, isolated deserts, snow capped volcanoes, legendary Incan ruins and the hauntingly beautiful Altiplano, all await us as we traverse this dynamic continent. A highlight of this extraordinary ride is the incredibly stunning, otherworldly, remote and challenging Salar de Uyuni, four days are spent crossing the high altitude Salar (salt pans) passing active volcanoes, colourful flamingo filled lagoons and geyser fields, these days will stay with you forever. This is an epic ride from the Atlantic to the Pacific. A truly unique ride not offered by any other operator, join with us and experience this ride with a difference.

## Week One

No other city has such a vibe, such a setting and such instantly recognisable sights as Rio. We spend two nights here before riding out and hug the coastline to enjoy one of the most beautiful rides imaginable, the Costa Verde, bound for the colonial town of Paraty. Colourful stone buildings line the cobbled streets of this beautiful port town, we spend two nights here. We sail around the tropical islands that dot the bays or explore the surrounding countryside on bike; the choice is yours. We follow the coast road toward Bertoiga where we can enjoy an ice cold beer or a refrigerated coconut. Next port of call, literally, is the wonderful port town of Antonina we can explore the colonial centre and scenic beach of Baia de Paranagua. We ride into the Vale do Itajai and stop at the Germanic city of Blumenau.

## Week Two

From Blumenau we ascend into the Serra do Rio do Rastro toward brazils highest city of Sao Joaquim sitting 1355m/4445ft but not before riding the amazing mountain road that stretches from Bom Jardim to Sao Joaquim through stunning Araucaria forests. Continuing east we ride across Brazil before arriving at one of the world’s greatest sights, Foz do Iguaçu. With 275 waterfalls plummeting over 80m/262ft you will hear the roar long before you see the mighty Iguaçu falls. This is one of the world’s great sights, one that will leave you awestruck. We spend three nights visiting the falls from both the Argentinean and Brazilian sides.

## Week Three

Riding west we stop at the laid back village of San Ignacio Mini home to some well preserved Jesuit Mission ruins. Through the Chaco region we ride en-route to the wonderful city of Salta in Northern Argentina where we spend two nights for the chance to stretch our legs in this beautiful city, after the long ride across the Chaco. Climbing into the Andes we cross into Chile at the remote Paso Sico and onto the wonderful desert oasis of San Pedro de Atacama. We have two nights here for a chance to explore the great surrounding Atacama desert landscapes and enjoy the adobe style open air restaurants, we wont get wet, we promise, it hasn’t rained here in over 400 years. From San Pedro we enter an incredible world of expansive salt flats, coloured flamingo filled lagoons, geyser fields and still active volcanos as we ride across the largest salt flats on earth, this is one of the most extraordinary rides on earth and will leave you with a lifetime of memories, its that good.



Discover the Extraordinary



## Week Four

We arrive at the wonderfully remote Uyuni, home to Bolivia's fleet of abandoned steam trains parked in the desert, before continuing on across the Andes through beautiful canyon lands to the, UNESCO listed Potosi which also happens to be the highest city in the world at a breathless 4016m/13,170ft. An eye-opening underground mine tour is included. A full days ride back on paved roads will see the week out as we ride into the ramshackle La Paz, spectacularly set at the foot of the snow capped Mt Illumani. Three nights are spent here wandering the steep cobble stoned streets and visiting the amazing local markets.

## Week Five

Leaving the city of La Paz we cross the border into Peru, riding along the shores of the world's highest navigable lake, Lake Titikaka until will arrive at the lakeside city of Puno where we spend two nights enabling us to visit the amazing floating reed, Uros Islands and spend time out on the stunning lake that is bordered by the Snow capped Andes off in the distance. Travelling west the ride will take us into the Andes crossing the 4319m/14,170ft pass at La Raya, before reaching the wonderful city of Cusco, where we spend the next five nights. We ride the incredible Sacred Valley dotted with enormous Incan ruins before catching the train to the legendary Machu Picchu, nothing can prepare you for this legendary Incan city where we spend a full day wandering the complex. Another day will be spent exploring the magical city of Cusco perhaps enjoying a beer and meal at Norton's Rats which overlooks the wonderful Plaza de Armas.

## Week Six

We hit the dirt roads as we ride toward the world's deepest canyon at Chivay, home to the giant Condors. The ride is magnificent as we get well off the Gringo Trail riding amongst volcanoes and mountains in this spectacular desert landscape. It is these very mountains that the mighty Amazon begins its journey. The hot springs of Chivay are a perfect way to relax and unwind after a hard days ride. Descending out of the Andes we arrive at the "White City" of Arequipa with the snow capped volcano of El Misti looming above. We have the day to explore this beautiful city with arguably South America's finest Plaza de Armas and visit the fabulous Santa Catalina Convent and the frozen Incan mummy known as "Juanita the Ice Princess" sacrificed over 500 years ago. The route from Arequipa leads us to the coast as we ride the stark, impossibly rugged coastline on the road that clings to the mountainsides. We spend a night at Puerto Inca surrounded by the moonlike landscape as the Pacific pounds our beachside resort. Next we ride to the famous town of Nazca via the macabre Chauchilla cemetery. We enjoy a flight over the mysterious Nazca lines, the only way to really appreciate them., before riding onto the wonderful Huacachina Oasis

## Last Two Days

It's a short half days ride into Lima on four lane freeway, we stop en-route to catch a jet boat out to the Ballestas Islands where we will see huge flocks of Cormorants as well as Peruvian Pelicans, Humboldt Penguins and herds of sea lions. Our last



## Tour highlights

- Rio de Janeiro
- The colonial beauty of Paraty, full day yacht cruise
- Riding the Serra do Rio do Rastro
- The thundering roar of Iguacu falls, including helicopter flight
- Oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama
- Extraordinary three day ride across the Salar de Uyuni
- The wonderful chaos of La Paz
- Lake Titikaka and boat trip to floating islands
- Ancient Incan capital of Cusco
- Sacred valley tour
- Machu Picchu
- Colca Canyon
- Arequipa



## What's included

- Airport transfers
- Motorcycle rental **BMW F650 GS**
- **GPS** unit on bike, programmed with waypoints for the entire expedition
- Fuel
- Tolls /ferries
- Border paperwork
- Services of ride leader and support vehicle driver
- Support vehicle with passenger carrying ability
- Non alcoholic drinks on support vehicle
- Breakfasts all days and lunches and dinners on all riding days
- Accommodation in excellent small hotels
- Bonus night accommodation
- All camping equipment
- Pre departure material and route maps
- Access to satellite phones, pay per minute
- Compass Expeditions dress shirt and baseball cap
- Entrances to all National Parks
- Yacht trip around Paraty
- Excursions to both Brazilian, Argentinean side of Foz do Iguacu
- Helicopter flight over Iguacu falls
- La Paz city tour
- Lake Titikaka and boat trip to floating islands
- Cusco visitors ticket
- Entrance to Machu Picchu
- Flight over Nazca lines
- Entrance to Chauchilla Cemetery

## What's not Included

- International flights
- A small number of lunch and dinners
- Travel insurance
- Visas
- Personal Items
- Tips & Gratuities
- Sleeping bag liner

## The route



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# General Tour information

The following information is relevant to this tour, please read carefully and if you have more questions please email us on [info@compassexpeditions.com](mailto:info@compassexpeditions.com)

## Ride profile

### Grade Four



Please refer to FAQ page on our website for full details on our grading system

**Total distance:** 7700ks/4785miles  
**Days on bike:** 28

70% of this ride is on pavement, some sections of pavement can be potholed and narrow. Traffic can be heavy near cities.

30% of this ride is on dirt, most is hard packed but some sections has loose gravel and can be rutted with some very small sections of sand. One day is spent riding salt

**Suitable for off-road novice and two up riding.**

On this ride we will cross a 4500mt/ 144700ft pass and some time will be spent at an altitude over 3000mts/ 9800ft.

## Accommodation

- 38 nights hotels, 4 nights wild camp & 1 bonus night.
- Accommodation ranges from basic dwellings on the Salar through to 4 star hotels, for a list of our accommodation styles please refer to our FAQ page on our website.
- A flexible attitude is needed as standards are not always what we are accustomed to.

**Single supplement : US\$ 1990**

## Included meals

**Breakfasts:** 43  
**Lunches:** 28  
**Dinners:** 28

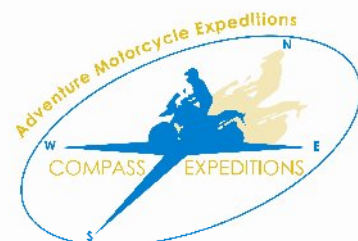
On everyday of the tour we provide breakfast, on all ride days we provide a picnic lunch that we prepare ourselves from our mobile kitchen, on all ride days we provide dinner in a reliable restaurant that we have used many times before. On nights we are wild camping a camp dinner is provided.

## General info

- Please note that you will need to be in **Rio do Janeiro** one day prior to start of expedition
- Passengers are required to bring along a sleeping bag liner, only.
- All prices are based on rental of **BMW F 650 GS** for **1150 GS** add **US\$ 2490**
- For bookings of 60 days or less that have an **"included flight"** a surcharge of **US\$ 200** is added



## Great accommodation



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