



**RAILWAY
ADVENTURES**

2023

RAILWAY ADVENTURES AND RAIL SOUTH AMERICA PRESENT

JOURNEY FROM BUENOS AIRES TO LIMA

With Peter Lauffer and Rail South America

3 - 23 SEPTEMBER 2023

**• BUENOS AIRES • CAFAYATE • SALTA • HUACALERA • UYUNI • LA PAZ •
• COPACABANA • PUNO • CUSCO • MACHU PICCHU • LIMA •**

INTRODUCTION

This South American adventure will take you on a three-week trip from Argentina and through Bolivia, finishing up in Peru. Travel from the iconic city of Buenos Aires to Tucuman and visit the famous wine region of Cafayate. Traverse the country on the iconic 'Tren a las Nubes' and continue the journey through the incredible landscape of the Uyuni Salt Flats to La Paz in Bolivia. In Peru, visit the highest navigable lake in the world, Lake Titicaca, and the UNESCO World Heritage-Listed site of Machu Picchu. This journey will bring you to many of the region's must-see sites, but you'll also explore some rare and fascinating off-the-beaten-track tourist destinations.

Andes Mountain Range



HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the iconic capital city of Buenos Aires
- Enjoy a wine-tasting in Cafayate, one of Argentina's major wine regions
- Discover the incredible Purmamarca and Quebrada de Humahuaca in northern Argentina
- Travel on the Wara Wara Express train across southern Bolivia
- Witness the astounding Uyuni Salt Flat in Bolivia
- Cruise the scenic Lake Titicaca in Peru, the highest navigable lake in the world
- Journey on the Perurail Titicaca Train from Puno to Cusco
- Explore the Imperial City of Cusco and the surrounding Inca ruins
- Witness the Sacred Valley of the Incas and the iconic Machu Picchu

MEET YOUR **TOUR LEADER**



Peter Lauffer

Peter is a Tour Leader, a Rail Enthusiast, and a Tour Organiser specialising in Railway Journeys in South America. He is a Swiss resident who has been living in Quito in Ecuador for almost 15 years, and he loves organising unusual travel experiences both for rail enthusiasts and adventurous travellers alike.

With Rail South America, the journey is more important than the destination. While we do visit famous tourist destinations, the attraction is in the journey itself, as well as in the remote regions most travellers have never seen.

Sunrise reflection on salt flats, Uyuni, Bolivia



TOUR MAP



WHY TRAVEL WITH US

The joy of travel is not confined to the destination. How you travel is a large and rich part of the experience. Railway Adventures offers a truly unique perspective on some of the world's most spectacular destinations, with the confidence that the journey will be just as magical and memorable as what is discovered at the end of the line.



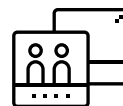
Unique
itineraries



Authentic local
experiences



Expert local
guides and operators



Fully
escorted



Small
group sizes



Customer
satisfaction

SOME WAYS YOU'LL TRAVEL

The best train trips possible, private luxury coach for off-train travel, guided walking where suitable, and other appropriate and appealing options to make exploration easy.



Perurail Titicaca Train, La Raya Peru



Wara Wara Express, Bolivia

Day 1 • Sunday 3 September - ARRIVAL IN BUENOS AIRES

On arrival in Buenos Aires you'll be met by your driver and transferred to our hotel. For the rest of the day and night you'll have free time to explore the city and settle in.

Overnight: Hotel Anselmo, Buenos Aires

Day 2 • Monday 4 September: BUENOS AIRES

Discover the most important neighbourhoods and landmarks in Buenos Aires during a half-day city tour. Admire the Obelisk, the symbol of Buenos Aires, and the many open squares of colonial Spanish descent. Enjoy a drive on the widest street in the world, containing 22 lanes. The visit to La Boca neighbourhood and a walk on the "Caminito Street" is another highlight of the tour. In the evening, we celebrate our welcome dinner at the Tango show of "El Querandí".

Overnight: Hotel Anselmo, Buenos Aires (B, D)

Day 3 • Tuesday 5 September: BUENOS AIRES - EL TIGRE RIVER CRUISE - BUENOS AIRES

Board our boat at Puerto Madero and head to Tigre. The cruise goes along the Costanera Navigation Canal, parallel to the Buenos Aires shoreline, passing the River Plate Stadium and the University of Buenos Aires. Then, we cruise through the canals of the delta, one of the largest in the world. We have lunch before heading to the Tigre train station, where we will take a train back to the city of Buenos Aires and enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Anselmo, Buenos Aires (B, L)

Day 4 • Wednesday 6 September: BUENOS AIRES - TUCUMAN - CAFAYATE

Transfer to the airport in Buenos Aires this morning for our flight to Tucuman in North Western Argentina. After a short panoramic city tour in Tucuman we continue our journey through the Calaqui Valley to Colalao del Valle before we reach Cafayate, famous for its exquisite wines. Near Cafayate, check into our hotel for an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Asturias, Cafayate (B, L)

Day 5 • Thursday 7 September: CAFAYATE VALLEY

We do a walk inside a vineyard under the guidance of a local wine specialist. Discover the famous Malbec and Tannat grapes. We have a wine degustation in one of the best-known wineries of the valley followed by lunch in a magnificent country house, within walking distance of our hotel. The rest of the afternoon you have free time.

Overnight: Hotel Asturias, Cafayate (B, L)

Day 6 • Friday 8 September: CAFAYATE - SALTA

Depart Cafayate this morning, following the breathtaking natural reserve of Rio Las Conchas. Travel through striking reddish rock formations and past the impressive Conchas River towards the city of Salta. We arrive in this northwest provincial capital later in the day and check in to our hotel. We'll then embark on a city tour, beginning with the Plaza 9 de Julio and continuing to visit the glorious Cathedral, the Cabildo, the Casa de Uriburu, the Convent of San Francisco, the Convent and the Cerro San Bernardo, the monument to Guemes and February 20, the Quebrada de San Lorenzo and the handicraft market. Relax with a free evening after this full day of exploring.

Overnight: Hotel Alejandro I, Salta (B, L)

Day 7 • Saturday 9 September: SALTA - TREN A LAS NUBES - SALTA

Depart Salta this morning, heading to the small village of Alfarcito. The journey continues through the Quebrada de las Cuevas to San Antonio de Cobres. Here, we embark on the iconic Train to the Clouds and travel to the impressive Polvorilla Viaduct. The journey takes an hour in total to reach the viaduct, and, at 4,200 meters above sea level, showcases unforgettable views. The train stops for 30 minutes at the viaduct, giving you ample time for pictures and do some souvenir shopping. We have lunch in San Antonio de Cobres, before our last stop in Santa Rosa de Tastil. We'll return to Salta in the evening.

Overnight: Hotel Alejandro I, Salta (B, L)

Day 8 • Sunday 10 September: SALTA - QUEBRADA HUMAHUACA - PURMAMARCA

North of Salta lies the Quebrada de Humahuaca, a UNESCO listed valley. The valley is characterized by stunning, steep rock faces that literally change colours depending on the hour of the day and from where you view them, their distinct stripes constantly morphing from one breathtaking colour to another. Authentic, dusty indigenous villages are spread along the route north and we'll travel past on our way to our hotel.

Overnight: Hotel Manantial del Silencio, Purmamarca (B, L)

Day 9 • Monday 11 September: HUACALERA - WARA WARA EXPRESS - UYUNI

In the early morning we continue the Route No 9 to the north, reaching the Bolivian border before midday and enjoy lunch at Villazon. If time permits, we'll do a short tour of Villazon before we board the "Wara Wara Express" train to Uyuni. The train travels through the scenic highlands of Bolivia and reaches Uyuni in the early evening. A local guide welcomes us at the railway station and brings us to our hotel. We'll enjoy dinner with the group.

Overnight: Hotel Palacio de Sal, Uyuni (B, L, D)

Day 10 • Tuesday 12 September: UYUNI

We begin our day with a tour of an artisanal salt processing plant and witness traditional salt extraction methods. At the Incahuasi Island (known as Fisher Island) in the middle of the world's largest salt flat, you see amazing giant cactus, and if you wish you may hike to the highest point of the island for fantastic views out over the salt flats. A picnic lunch will be served in the middle of the salt flat, before heading back to our hotel and enjoy dinner.

Overnight: Hotel Palacio de Sal, Uyuni (B, L, D)

Day 11 • Wednesday 13 September: UYUNI - LA PAZ

In the morning, we drive to a place where you can watch the intriguing process of salt excavation before visiting a viewpoint above Coquesa Village. From here, you have awe-inspiring views over the salt flat. Lunch today is a Picnic on the central square in Coquesa. After lunch, we visit the train cemetery in Uyuni, where we explore various oxidized steam engines and wagons on this spectacular site surrounded by amazingly unique scenery. After an early dinner in town we'll take an evening flight to La Paz. On arrival, settle into our hotel and enjoy dinner.

Overnight: Hotel Europa, La Paz (B, L, D)

Day 12 • Thursday 14 September: LA PAZ

Embark on a tour of this fascinating city today. Discover the indigenous Cosmo-vision and their mystical rituals at the Witches Market. The San Francisco Church, the historical district around the main square and the "Plaza Murillo" with the Legislative and the Government Palace are other sights of interest that we'll visit. Enjoy breathtaking views of La Paz from the Killi Killi viewpoint. We'll return to the hotel in the afternoon and the rest of the evening is at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Europa, La Paz (B, L)

Day 13 • Friday 15 September: LA PAZ

Enjoy a free day to explore and relax in La Paz today.

Overnight: Hotel Europa, La Paz (B)

Day 14 • Saturday 16 September: LA PAZ - COPACABANA

Farewell La Paz today and travel to Copacabana, a small town on the Bolivian side of the Lake Titicaca. Stroll through Copacabana's handicraft stalls and food markets. From Copacabana, we cruise to the Sun Island where we have an Aptapi, a typical lunch. In the afternoon, we cruise along the Sun Island to visit the ruins of the Pilkokaina Inca temple before we return to Copacabana.

Overnight: Hotel Rosario del Lago, Copacabana (B, L)

Day 15 • Sunday 17 September: COPACABANA - PUNO

In the morning you have free time in Copacabana. For those who want can participate in a tour with our guide where we visit the Sanctuary of the Virgin of Copacabana. We have lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon, we cross the nearby border to Peru and after a 2 hour drive, where we reach the city of Puno. The rest of the day is at your leisure. We stay overnight at the Hotel Jose Antonio in the outskirts of Puno.

Overnight: Hotel Jose Antonio, Puno/Lake Titicaca (B, L)

Day 16 • Monday 18 September: PUNO - "PERURAIL TITICACA TRAIN"- CUSCO

In the early morning, we head to Puno railway station where we board the "Perurail Titicaca Train" to Cusco. This fascinating journey travels through the scenic high Andean countryside, its highest point reaching over 4000 metres above sea level, in La Raya. The downhill train ride to Cusco plunges through endless pastures and calls at remote villages, reaching the city in the evening. Our driver awaits us at the railway station and brings us to our hotel for the next few nights.

Overnight: Novotel, Cusco (B, L)

Day 17 • Tuesday 19 September: SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS

We visit the picturesque small town of Pisac. Walk on cobblestoned streets and buy souvenirs for your family and friends at home. On the way to Ollantaytambo, we stop at the rural Inca sites of Moray and Salinas. We have lunch at a local restaurant. Characterized by narrow streets and street canals, Ollantaytambo is the oldest continuously occupied settlement in the Americas.

Overnight: Novotel, Cusco (B, L)

Day 18 • Wednesday 20 September: MACHU PICHU

We travel on the Inca Rail First Class Train from Cusco San Pedro Station to Machu Picchu; the train journey takes about 4 hours. We have lunch on the train. We explore Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas with an expert guide. In the evening, we have to be at the railway station in Aguas Calientes to board the "Belmond Hiram Bingham Train" to Porro. We have a gala dinner on the train. From Porro, we return to Cusco with our private vehicle.

Overnight: Novotel, Cusco (B, L, D)

Day 19 • Thursday 21 September: CUSCO

Enjoy a tour of this incredible city this morning, a highlight being the Santo Domingo Convent, which is built over an ancient Inca Palace. Outside of Cusco, visit the Inca military fortress Sacsayhuaman. Later, we'll have a look at the Inca ruins of Qenko, Puca-Pucara and Tambomachay. The evening is at leisure tonight.

Overnight: Novotel, Cusco (B)

Day 20 • Friday 22 September: CUSCO - LIMA

We transfer to the airport in Cusco this morning, boarding our flight to Lima. On arrival, transfer to the hotel to check-in before enjoying an interesting city tour of Lima's colonial past. Discover the Plaza San Martin and the Plaza Mayor with the Government Palace, the Archbishop's Palace and the Cathedral. We'll drive through the modern district of San Isidro and Miraflores on our way back to the hotel. During the city tour we invite you to our celebratory farewell lunch at the beautiful Larco Museum.

Overnight: Hotel Doubletree Pardo, Lima (B, L)

Day 21 • Saturday 23 September: DEPARTURE (B)

After a morning at leisure, farewell Lima and transfer to the airport for your flight home or onwards for other travels!

****THIS TOUR IS OPERATED BY RAIL SOUTH AMERICA IN ASSOCIATION WITH RAILWAY ADVENTURES****



WHAT'S **INCLUDED**

- 20 nights' accommodation in comfortable, centrally located hotels
- Breakfast daily, lunches and dinners as specified in the program
- Chartered coach throughout the tour
- Comprehensive sightseeing with expert local guides
- All excursions and entrance fees to attractions, as listed in the itinerary
- Internal flights (Buenos Aires-Tucuman, Uyuni-La Paz and Cusco-Lima), 15Kg luggage
- English speaking tour leader and English-speaking local guides

WHAT WE **DON'T INCLUDE**

- International flights
- Meals and services not mentioned in itinerary
- All other personal expenses such as drinks, phone calls, laundry services, camera fees where applicable
- Excursions listed as optional and extra in the brochure
- Drinks with welcome and farewell dinners
- Tips for local guides and drivers

FITNESS **RATING**

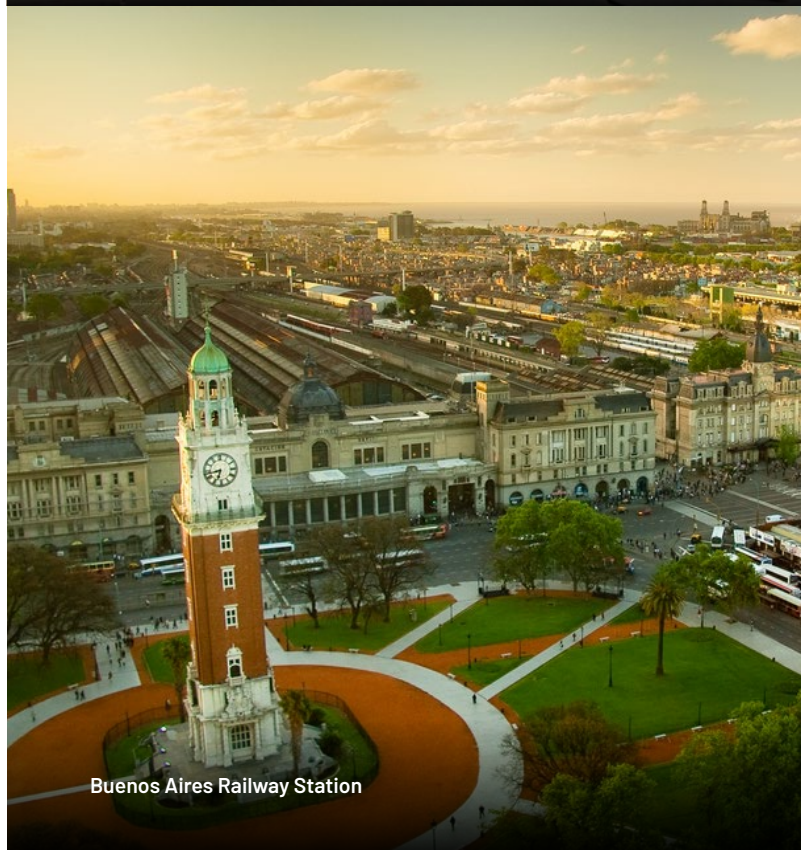


Two 'Locos'

The most common grading for our tours. Two loco itineraries offer many activities that require a little extra fitness – walking on uneven ground, climbing hills to enter towns or historic sites, walks of 1-3 kilometres as well as getting on and off transport. You need to have good mobility and aerobic fitness and be able to manage your own luggage.



State Cuzco Cathedral



Buenos Aires Railway Station

SOME PLACES **YOU'LL STAY**

Hand-picked hotels and resorts based on location, customer feedback, value and atmosphere.

Please Note: Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted.



Hotel Rosario del Lago, Copacabana



Hotel Palacio de Sal, Uyuni



Novotel, Cusco



Hotel Asturias, Cafayate

PRICE

Per person twin share **\$12,750****
Single supplement **\$1,585****
Deposit (per person) **\$1000 at time of booking**
Final payment due by **5 July 2023**

Tour Code: 2309RSA

**** Please Note: for deposits prior to 30 November 2022**

IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER

Bear in mind that the high altitude doesn't suit everyone! The effects of high altitude to humans can be considerable. Before you confirm the tour consult with your medical doctor the effects that a journey over several days at an altitude between 3500m (11'483ft) and 4000m (13'123 ft) above sea level might have on your body. Apart from the high altitude, the trip is physically not particularly challenging, a healthy level of fitness is enough to participate. The most challenging part is the visit of the citadel of Machu Picchu with lots of ups and downs on well-marked paths and stairs, visited by millions of people of all ages every year.

SUGGESTED FLIGHTS

We have suggested flights for this itinerary depending on your departure point from Australia, any preferred stopovers en-route and/or your planned pre- and post-tour activities. We can also investigate your preferred airline and offer you a solution based on connection times and prices. Contact 1300 800 977 to discuss your options.

HOW TO BOOK

Download a booking form from our website and follow a few easy steps to get on board. Alternatively, contact Railway Adventures on 1300 800 977 or at info@railwayadventures.com if you'd prefer a form to be sent to you. Complete the form and submit it, along with your \$1,000 pp deposit, to secure your place on the tour.

DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

We endeavour to have all the details of our tours correct at the time of printing. However, sometimes factors beyond our control may affect the final inclusions and prices. These factors may include, but not be limited to; significant fluctuations in currency exchange rates, individual hotel/ restaurant decisions that may affect bookings, weather events forcing a change of itinerary, unexpected trackwork on rail lines, unexpected closure of site attractions and so forth. Therefore, items mentioned in the brochure such as quoted prices, hotels and inclusions are subject to change. If a change is imposed on us, we will endeavour to ensure the substitute is of the same quality that you've paid for.

TOUR PACE / LEVEL OF FITNESS

Our itineraries are designed to make the most of each destination, so a reasonable amount of activity is built into most days, which is why we call them adventures. Our philosophy is to offer you the best experience possible, while leaving you, our guest, the flexibility to pace yourself and choose how much or how little you want to do. Each Railway Adventures tour incorporates periods of free time for your own exploration and relaxation.

While you don't need to be a 'gym junkie', a reasonable level of fitness is required for most of our tours. The ability to manage your own luggage, get on and off all manner of trains and coaches, walk for extended periods, stand comfortably, and climb steps and stairs will ensure you get the maximum enjoyment from your adventure.

ADDITIONAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to assisting with flight suggestions and bookings, we can also give you some ideas of what you could do before and after your Railway Adventure.

We can also organise your all-important Travel Insurance for you. Call our office on 1300 800 977 if you would like to discuss options.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For more information on factors such as travel insurance requirements, fitness levels, fees and charges, tour cancellations, payment schedules and so on, please refer to our Terms and Conditions, which accompany the booking form. They can also be found on our website.



**RAILWAY
ADVENTURES**

1300 800 977
railwayadventures.com



Travel Accredited Lic #A14416



CATO
Council of Australian Tour Operators

ATAS
travel accredited

THE RAILWAY ADVENTURES **STORY**

Railway Adventures was launched in 2012 by well-known Australian TV personality and self-confessed rail fan, Scott McGregor. A lifelong passion for travel has taken Scott to scores of countries and his preference for rail has seen him exploring many of the world's great train journeys, confirming his belief that the most relaxing, romantic and engaging way to see a country is by rail. He even has his own life-sized, fully restored opulent train accommodation atop the Great Dividing Range near Mudgee, offering guests a rare and special bush retreat experience.

Since 2012 Railway Adventures has thrilled and delighted more than 1200 travellers on over 100 tours from Sweden to Sri Lanka, Tasmania to Transylvania, Britain to Burma, Venice to Vietnam and all manner of shorter adventures in our own wonderful country. Scott's numerous rail-themed TV documentaries, his ongoing involvement in rail heritage and his extensive connections with private train owners around the world, guarantee that every Railway Adventures tour is exclusive, entertaining and authentic. 14 October 2022.

MEET OUR **TRAVEL PARTNER**

Rail South America offers train travel in South America and tours which would be next to impossible to organize from abroad. Whether you're a rail enthusiast or a traveller who wishes to see more than the usual agency would offer, Rail South America's adventures will have something to entice you!

Your travel agent