

*Snow-capped volcanoes, spectacular scenery, unique wildlife and natural beauty with a sprinkle of history. Sajama National Park: as Andean as it comes!*

## **SAJAMA NATIONAL PARK AND HIGHLAND CHURCHES**

### **3 DAYS – La Paz to La Paz**

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

### **ITINERARY**

- Day 1 – La Paz, Sica Sica, Curahuara, Sajama
- Day 2 – Sajama Park
- Day 3 – Sajama, La Paz

***A scenic road with highlands plateau churches to get to the Sajama National Park. Visit Bolivia's highest peak and the twin volcanoes towering over Bolivia's oldest park, filled with unique natural and historical beauty.***

## DAY 1 – LA PAZ, SAJAMA

We pick you up in the morning from your hotel in La Paz and head straight southwards to the Oruro department. The drive itself is approximately about 5 hours, but the trip to Sajama it will take us most of the day, as we will rest for lunch and have several other interesting stops for pictures and things to see on our way. The road itself is quite scenic and in between views we will stop to visit the church of **Sica Sica** (Sika Sika in Aymara), a fine temple erected during the colonial period, and the church of **Curahuara de Carangas**, also known as the “Sistine Chapel of the Andes” for its unique murals. Along the road, we will also see and visit the **chullpas**, ancient Aymara burial towers standing alone or in group on top of a hill. At the end of our first day, we will arrive at the Nevado Sajama national park (a lot of photo opportunities as we approach the volcano), where we will have dinner and spend the night.



Various stops on our way to Sajama: high plateau churches, the murals of “Sistine of the Andes”, isolated burial towers on top of hills.

Meals included: Lunch, dinner  
 Transportation: Private car  
 Lodging: Three-star hotel in Sajama

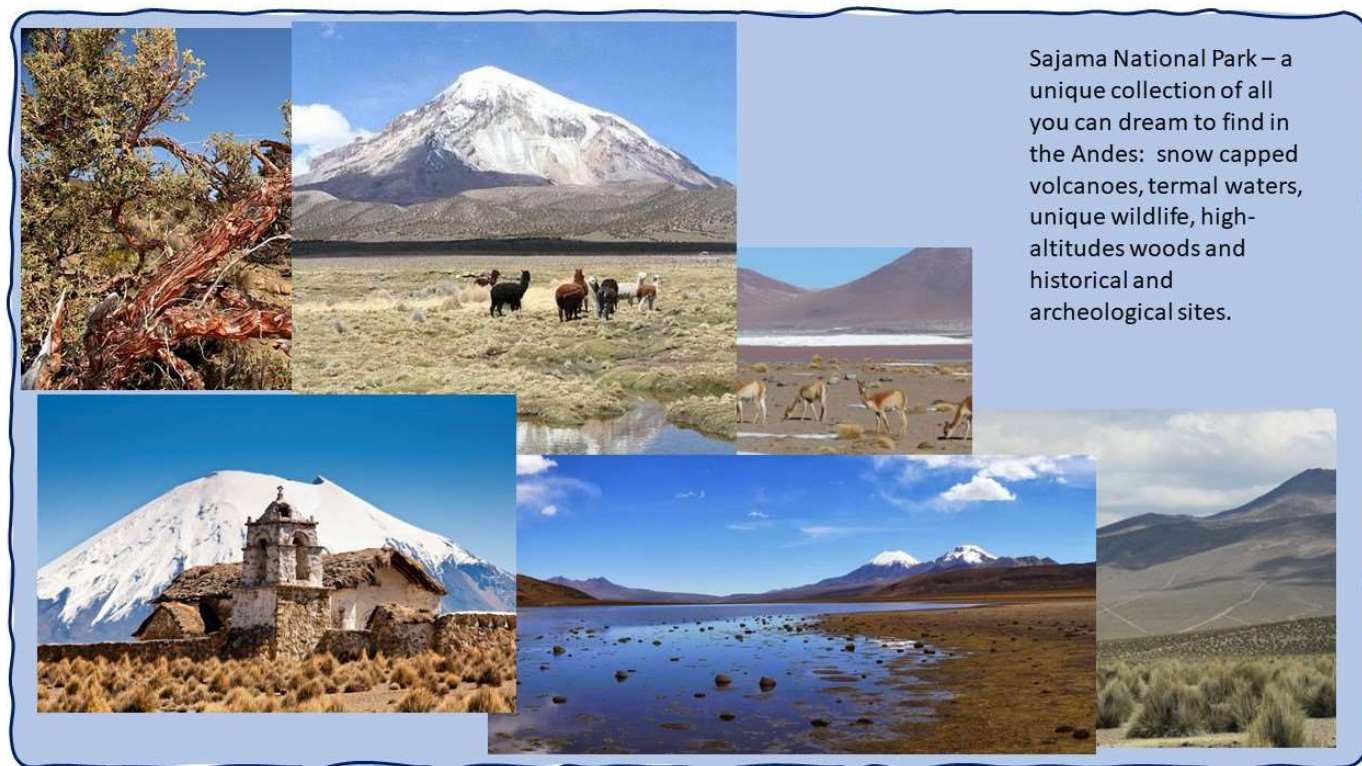
## DAY 8 – SAJAMA

The whole day is devoted to the Sajama National Park, the oldest park in Bolivia. The park is truly packed with natural gems in terms of wildlife, vegetation, views and it also hosts various historical attractions.

We will enjoy great views of the imposing snow-capped **Nevado Sajama** and the **Payachata** volcanic group. At 6,542 mts/21,436 feet the Sajama is Bolivia's highest mountain, and its towering peak is a constant companion throughout the park. The Payachata group includes the two twin Paricanota and Pomerape volcanoes, both above 6,000 meters. We will visit the **Huanakota lagoon** – located at the center of spectacular scenery and home to flocks of pink flamingoes – then volcanic thermal baths and a geyser area.

Throughout the park, the wildlife is amazing; in our wandering we will encounter herds of llamas and likely wild vicunas and alpacas. If we are lucky, we can see condors, vizcachas and other wildlife. Also, the park is home the rare **Queñoa** trees (polylepis tarapacana), a red-barked small tree that grows at high altitude, and only in the Sajama park can be found at over 5,000 meters, forming what are considered the highest woods in the world.

Finally, we will not miss the park's architectural and archeological landmarks: the village of Sajama and its beautiful plateau church – one of the most famous photo opp in all Bolivia - and the mysterious ancient **Sajama lines**, a network of miles-long, perfectly straight lines carved on the ground that were possibly used as footpaths for sacred pilgrimages.



Meals included: Breakfast (at hotel in Sajama), lunch, dinner  
 Transportation: Private car  
 Lodging: Three-star hotel in Sajama





### **DAY 3 – SAJAMA, LA PAZ**

This is our last day at the Sajama Park. We will spend the morning with small hikes. Soon after lunch, we will start our drive back to La Paz, to be at your hotel in the evening.

*Meals included:*    *Breakfast (at hotel in Sajama), lunch*

*Transportation:*    *Private car*

*Lodging:*            *N/A*