



RIDE ANDES CHILE
ATACAMA DESERT ONE CENTRE INDULGENCE
Season: March to December

Chile – remarkable desert experience



RIDE ANDES

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Introduction

Ride out on excellent horses from a stunning desert lodge on a variety of day and half-day routes through this fascinating scenery, brimming with curious geological formations – not just huge sand dunes to descend from, but also lunar-esque landscapes to gallop through, and oases to cross.

Testimonial

“I was so impressed by the quality of the horses and the care of them, the professionalism of the staff and the whole totally unexpected desert experience.” (Ride Andes owner’s notes from an October 2019 exploratory trip).

Atacama Desert One Centre Indulgence

Nights are spent at a thoughtfully-built luxury lodge on the edge of the San Pedro oasis. Encircled by horse paddocks and shady native trees, as well open dining and relaxing areas, swimming pools and hot tubs, it is the ideal place to unwind and enjoy the desert.

What You Need To Know?

- Three nights or more, riding out daily into the surrounding distinct desert areas
- Sample itinerary given below that may vary depending on the time of the year and weather conditions
- Luxury accommodation including hot tubs, swimming pools and spa facilities
- The lodge stands at 2,400 metres (7,900 feet) above sea level, the highest elevation on a ride is 3,200 metres (10,500 feet), and several of the ‘non-riding’ excursions take guests to much higher altitudes – the highest of which is 4,690 metres (15,390 feet). These altitudes must be taken into consideration when choosing activities.
- Unique night sky observation opportunities
- Private groups
- Wonderful option for families
- Routes available for advanced and for inexperienced/beginner riders
- Season: All year long
- Plenty of activity options as well as horse riding
- Flexible start day

Atacama Desert One Centre Indulgence Overview:

DAY 1: Arrival San Pedro de Atacama

*Dinner & overnight at the luxury lodge
L, snacks, D & open bar (approx. 2 hours riding,
90 minutes transfer from Calama Airport)*

DAY 2: Luna Like Valley and Ayllus

*Dinner & 2nd overnight at the luxury lodge
B, L, snacks, D & open bar (approx. 6 hours riding)*

DAY 3: Oasis & the Dune System

*Dinner & 3rd overnight at the luxury lodge
B, L, snacks, D & open bar (approx. 4-5 hours riding*
route for advanced riders only, alternative routes
available)*

DAY 4: Departure

B (90 minutes transfer to Calama Airport)

End of services



Arriving/Departing/Extensions:

Start & end point: Calama Airport, Chile. We can help arrange 'extensions'- for more adventures please contact us.



Detailed Itinerary:

DAY 1: Arrival San Pedro de Atacama

Guests are met at Calama Airport and driven to San Pedro, after which there is time to settle into the lodge and enjoy winding down on the cool, covered verandas, which allow excellent views of the distant hills.

An afternoon introductory ride onboard horses bred by the owners offers a choice of English or South American saddles. Once guests are comfortable, a ride out with two guides gives a first taste of this unique environment.

*Dinner & overnight at the luxury lodge
L, snacks, D & open bar (approx. 2 hours riding, 90 minutes transfer from Calama Airport)*

DAY 2: Luna Like Valley and Ayllus

A full day circuit ride begins by heading out to the Valley of the Moon passing clay deposits, through landscapes that seem to be from another world and then continuing out across the desert to an 'ayllu' – a small Indigenous group of dwellings where riders will have lunch. The town of San Pedro itself was once an ayllu, first founded by members of the Aymara Indigenous group. The oasis surrounding this ayllu provides a stark contrast to the desert colours. In the afternoon, guests will notice that the sands whiten due to salt deposits, as the guide takes riders along the beginnings of the vast flats.

*Dinner & 2nd overnight at the luxury lodge
B, L, snacks, D & open bar, (approx. 6 hours riding)*



DAY 3: Oasis & the Dune System

Heading out past the traditional Adobe and thatch houses, riders follow the dirt track along the San Pedro oasis. There are plenty of opportunities for fast-paced riding before the pace slows as the route takes riders up a ledge on the salt ridge. Once at the top, following the ridge, riders enjoy outstanding views of the oasis below, from vast salt flats to distant volcanoes. Dropping off the ridge, riders descend through the deep sand of the dune system – an exhilarating experience, picking up the pace in the arid valleys below as they head back to the lodge in time for lunch*. There will be a number of hikes, mountain bike excursions and visits in vehicles available to guests that afternoon, or the option of another ride out. That evening, guests can join a guide on an astronomy tour at the lodge's own observatory – with Atacama's skies – known as the clearest in the world – offering infinite stargazing.

*Dinner & 3rd overnight at the luxury lodge
B, L, snacks, D & open bar (approx. 4-5 hours riding* route for advanced riders only, alternative routes available)*



DAY 4: Departure

A relaxing morning in the lodge grounds among the distinctive native chañar and algaroba trees before departure.

B (90 minutes transfer to Calama Airport)

End of services

2020/2021 Prices from:

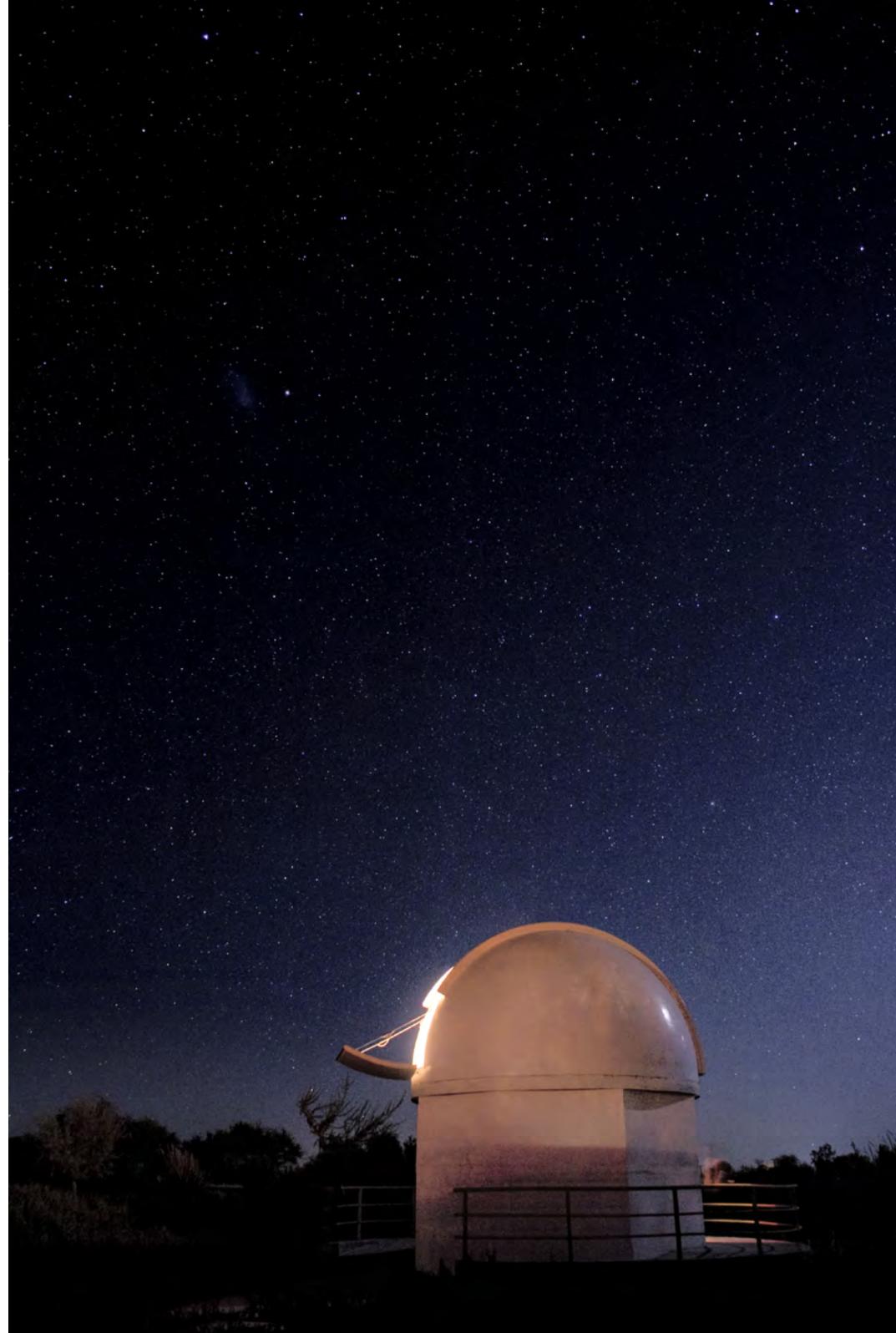
Length	double/twin per person	Single Supplement	Rider Weight supplement (100Kg max)
(4D/3N)	from USD1817	USD 180	Normally 0

Included:

Accommodation; all meals and open bar (from day 1 lunch to breakfast final day); English speaking expert guide & 2nd local guide; riding on 3 days; horses; grooms services; use of swimming pools, hot tubs and access to spa; observatory experience; many other guided activities; all necessary transfers/transport as per itinerary including transfer from and back to Calama Airport; all necessary local taxes, private reserve & national park entrance fees.

Not included:

Appropriate medical insurance (mandatory), visa (as necessary), international or national airport taxes, massages, personal expenditure, tips, and all services not mentioned in the detailed description.



F.A.Q's

Horses & Tack: During this ride, riders will be riding various horses depending on the routes and weather conditions. The horses have been specifically bred by the lodge owners and excellently fill their roles as trusty steeds ideally suited to the terrain and with a wonderful temperament. Guests can choose to use an English or South American style saddle.

Accommodation: The accommodation – large bedrooms or an option to request a suite (extra charge) and the level of service are both exceptional. There are several swimming pools, hot tubs, a spa area and verdant grounds, as well as open-air dining areas and large sitting & bar areas.

Meals: The chefs at the lodge offer a variety of dishes, all produced with top quality ingredients. Vegetarians or any other dietary requirements can easily be catered for, as long as we are warned in advance.

Climate: The weather in the Atacama Desert – as with all over the world – has become less predictable, but in San Pedro you can expect days of clear skies (90% of the year!) and hot sunshine (reaching up to maximum 32C/90F at the hottest times of the year – December to March) and cool nights. Although classed as the driest place on earth, some rain storms can be expected from mid December to early March. More detailed information is given in the travel notes.

Clothes and Equipment: Travel notes will be sent with useful information including a suggested packing list and guide contact details etc. To cope with changing temperatures, as a good idea 'layering' is advised. Space for luggage during the ride will be strictly limited.

Emergencies: In case of an accident, for most of the route communication is via VHF radio at the places we stay at.

Health Services: No special vaccine is currently required for this part of South America but each guest must check the vaccine situation with an appropriate travel clinic. Also depending on where you live/have travelled to recently there may be special entry requirements (yellow fever, etc). Clients with special medication should bring enough for the whole trip since you will not be able to buy medicine during our journey. It is very important that you state on the information sheet if you have suffered from heart disease; if you take diabetes medicine, if you have some kind of blood illness, etc. In certain seasons a wasp species called "chaquetas amarillas" (yellow jackets) appears. If you are allergic to wasp stings, we suggest you take the treatment required with you and warn us so that we can help in the case of an emergency. We do not recommend people who are highly allergic to wasp/bee stings – rather than just a mild allergy, to come on this ride as it is impossible to evacuate people quickly. Each person must evaluate the wasp/'yellow jacket'/bee situation very carefully, please contact us to discuss

Safety: Chile and this area is known for being very safe but we do ask guests to use safe deposit boxes and follow the basic common sense rules while out and about.

**For further information please contact:
rideandes@rideandes.com
www.rideandes.com**

Important Note

- Booking will be confirmed upon receipt of the corresponding deposit (A 30% payment will be required upon confirmation and balance of payment will be required no later than 45 days before beginning of the tour).
- Exceptional postponement/cancellation policy in place due to circumstances directly related to Covid-19, please request full details.
- We reserve the right to alter the itinerary due to circumstances beyond our control.
- Prices can alter without prior notice (preceding a confirmed booking)
- Appropriate medical insurance is mandatory and the responsibility of each guest/booking agent.
- It is the responsibility of the individual guest/booking agent to ensure that participants have the necessary riding skills to take part in the chosen tour.
- Rider weight limits are in place, please refer to each itinerary for details
- Guests are strongly advised to bring and wear their riding helmets while riding during the tour.
- Guests will be required to sign a responsibility release before starting a tour.

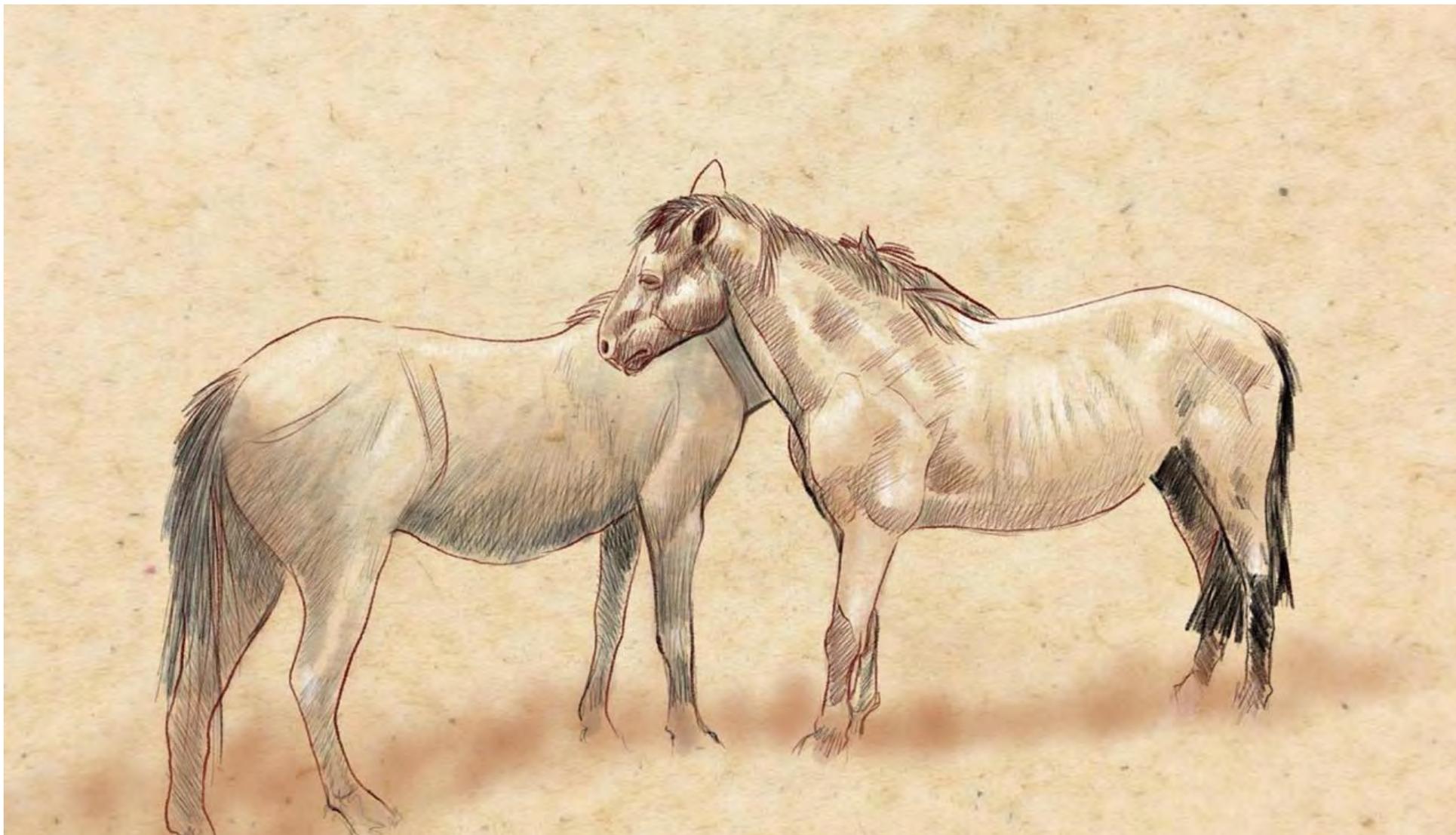
About Ride Andes:

Sally Vergette, an English rider, moved out to Ecuador in 1996 and shortly afterwards founded Ride Andes specializing in tours 'journeying on' through magnificent parts of South America. In 2003, using her knowledge acquired in Ecuador and with a local business partner, she was the first to set up estancia to estancia riding tours in Uruguay.



Ecuador is still our base but Ride Andes is involved in providing spectacular riding tours – many itineraries designed by Sally – in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Chile-Argentina, Colombia and Uruguay. Sally is still very active in all aspects of the rides in these destinations but is now supported by excellent local guides and only leads a few of these tours.

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