

Ultimate South America:100 days

2021 Client Information Kit

The ultimate South American adventure, from riding through the frozen wonderland of the far south of Patagonia, the wonder of the Andean altiplano to the endless twisties of Colombia



"This trip took me out of my skin in the best way possible. It was diverse, sometimes (often) tough and sometimes outright luxurious, but always incredibly fun "

- John, South America



A little about the expedition

Welcome to Compass Expedition's "Ultimate South America" info Kit. Within these pages you will be introduced to one of the world's most amazing continents. This kit will detail everything you need to know to participate in this exceptional ride. Read on and dare to dream.

An epic ride from the bottom of South America to the top, and a lot in between, this timeless ride shall uncover the real South America and discover an untrodden path by one the most experienced South American tour operators in the business. Beginning in Santiago we shall ride south passing advancing glaciers, snow capped peaks, absolutely stunning Andean national parks and the vast empty, silent landscapes of Patagonia before reaching Ushuaia. From the world's southernmost city, we ride north through Argentinean gaucho country to the vibrant city of Buenos Aires, then on the greatest waterfalls on earth at Foz do Iguaçu. We enter wonderful Brazil and reach the tropical Brazilian coastline and ride the legendary Costa Verde coastal road into one of the most iconic cities on earth, Rio de Janeiro.

Leaving Rio, we head west to the Pantanal, which is home to the world's largest tropical wetland area, renowned for the unbelievable blue of its rivers and cave lakes and amazing wildlife. Back into Argentina we ride the sparsely populated, semi-arid lowland region of the Rio de la Plata basin, between eastern Bolivia, Paraguay and northern Argentina, known as the "Chaco".

Into the Badlands of Bolivia, we shall visit the world's highest city of Potosi, the incredible salt flats around Uyuni and the chaotic and very unique city of La Paz.

Puno is our base for Lake Titicaca where we have an excursion out to the floating reed islands. We are into the Andes and the Incan heartland for a train journey to Machu Picchu before we have a wonderful two-night excursion into the mighty Amazon jungle in Peru (flights included), where we stay at an incredible Amazon resort deep within the jungle.

Leaving Cusco, we visit the world's deepest canyon, of Colca Canyon and watch the giant Condors soar on the morning thermals, before continuing onto the beautiful "white city" of Arequipa.

We take the roads less travelled as we ride north through Peru under the shadow of the towering snow-capped Andean peaks before reaching the pre-Colombian city of the ancient Chan Chan people on the Pacific coast at Trujillo.

Entering the wonderful Ecuador, we spend 3 days and 2 nights in the remarkable Galapagos Islands before continuing north to Cuenca and Baños, located under the, still active, Tungurahua Volcano before arriving into the capital of Quito.

Our last weeks will see us explore the endless twisties and stunning villages of Colombia finishing this epic ride on the breathtaking Caribbean Coastal city of Cartagena.

Expedition Route



Week One

Departing Santiago, we shall ride south on the Pan American Highway before reaching the stunning Chilean Lakes District which is centred around the resort town of Pucon. We cross into Argentina and ride onto the spectacular Seven Lakes Drive to Bariloche, a Swiss style town surrounded by Alpine forests and snow-capped peaks. We enter Patagonia now as we ride further south toward Esquel, the terminus of the legendary Patagonia Express. We are now riding the famous Ruta 40 and round off the first week of this expedition at the remote and authentic Estancia La Angostura, where we will enjoy a real Asado (traditional Argentinean BBQ).

Week Two

Continuing through Patagonia on Ruta 40 the Andes become larger. At days end we are in the mightiest mountain range on earth. We overnight at the magnificent El Chalten, nestled at the foot of the Mt. FitzRoy Range. We spend another two nights at El Calafate, home of the unbelievable Moreno Glacier a massive wall of advancing ice that terminates at Lake Argentina, affording some incredible calving action if we are lucky. Back in Chile we are at what some consider the most scenic and impressive National park on earth, Torres Del Paine. Riding amongst these immense mountains surrounded by epic scenery is truly biking nirvana. We shall ride back into Argentina and cross the Magellan Straits before entering the southernmost city on earth, Ushuaia. This beautiful city is nestled on the banks of the Beagle Channel where Charles Darwin made his voyage. Tierra del Fuego lies just south of the city; we ride to the very end of the Pan America Highway.

Week Three

We now turn north and ride through the vast emptiness of Patagonia before stopping off at Pt. Madryn where we spend a day riding this amazing peninsular viewing a wealth of sea life, we might be lucky and spot whales. Leaving Pt. Madryn, we shall ride north into Buenos Aires where we shall spend three nights. This vibrant city is one of the greatest in

South America and certainly the most fashionable. We shall watch a traditional tango show and visit the wealth of sights within the city, including La Boca, the colourful port precinct and the famous football Stadium, home of Boca Juniors.

Week Four

Continuing north we shall reach the most amazing waterfalls in the world at Foz do Iguaçu. We shall see the rising mist and hear the thunder long before we see the falls, all 275 of them, it's an inspiring sight. Ample time shall be spent at Foz do Iguaçu allowing us to visit the National park that surrounds the falls. This is one of the premier sights of South America.

Week Five

The expedition now turns towards the Atlantic Ocean where we eventually reach the coastal township of Paraty. This UNESCO listed town is stunning with its cobblestone alleyways and traffic free streets. More than forty islands surround the coastline off Paraty where we enjoy a day on a schooner exploring some of these islands. We shall ride what has often been described as the most beautiful coastal road in the world, the Costa Verde, before reaching one of the world's most iconic cities of Rio de Janeiro. While in Rio we shall enjoy all the renowned sights that this city has to offer including the cable car to Pao do Azucar where we can see incredible views of the city and the ocean, Copacabana and the Samba Drome, home to the legendary Rio Carnival, the greatest party on earth.

Week Six

Leaving Rio, we head to the UNESCO listed Pantanal, a region National Geographic calls "Brazils best kept secret". The Pantanal is the world's largest tropical wetland area which is renowned for its unbelievable diversity, fantastic wildlife & blue of its rivers and cave lakes. Leaving the mighty Pantanal, we ride back to Foz do Iguaçu

Week Seven

We cross back into Argentina and pass though San Ignacio and Posadas. We ride into the region known

as the "Chaco". This area is home of the Gauchos, traditional Argentinean cowboys. Salta is the capital of the region and one of Argentina's finest cities with incredible colonial architecture and a magnificent Plaza de Armas. Our last night in Argentina is spent in Purmamarca, a small town with beautiful adobe style buildings. We head into what is referred as the "Badlands of Bolivia" due to the stunning, rugged landscape that abounds. We pass amazing rainbow coloured rocks, canyons and mountains as well as small remote villages. The tranquil settlement of Tupiza is the ideal place to spend the night in this wild remote region. Of historical interest is its proximity to the reputed site where the demise of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid took place. Two nights are spent in Potosi, a UNESCO listed city, which was once one of the largest and wealthiest cities in the world due to the abundance of silver.

Week Eight

We start the week off at the utterly breathtaking Salar De Uyuni where we take a 4x4 across the Salar to Fish Island to view the giant cacti and enjoy a picnic lunch. The drive across here can be hallucinogenic; being out on the vast expanse of the Salar, everything is a reflection of everything else, it's like nowhere else on earth. We will also see a train cemetery, a wonderful collection of old steam trains simply driven into the desert and left to rust. Arriving to the city of La Paz, we enter via El Alto. La Paz has to be seen to be believed. Located in a crater, the city is set at just under 4000m / 13000ft and is home to some remarkable witch's markets complete with Llama foetuses for sale. A city tour is included and there is the opportunity to ride the infamous Death Road.

Week Nine

Leaving La Paz, we skirt the shores of Lake Titicaca, we enter Peru and continue onto the town of Puno, which is our access point for Lake Titicaca. We include a boat excursion out to the amazing "Uros", the floating reed islands of Lake Titicaca. The views across the world's highest navigable lake are astounding and the reed islands have to be seen to be believed, just don't stand in the one spot for too long. We arrive at the "White City" of Arequipa with the snow-capped volcano of El Misti looming above. There is a day to explore this beautiful city with arguably South America's finest Plaza de Armas. Visit the fabulous Santa Catalina Convent or the frozen Incan mummy known as "Juanita the Ice Princess" sacrificed over 500 years ago by the Incas. An amazing ride across the Andes we reach the world's deepest canyon at Chivay, home of the giant Condors. The ride is magnificent as we get well off the Gringo Trail riding amongst volcanoes and mountains in a spectacular desert landscape. It is in these very mountains that the mighty Amazon River begins its journey. Next is South America's oldest continually inhabited city, Cusco. A treasure trove of Incan antiquities Cusco is considered the "naval of the universe" by the Incans. We take a local flight to the river port city of Puerto Maldonado; Puerto Maldonado is the stepping off point for us to visit the unspoiled Amazon Rainforest. Twenty foot long roofed canoes will transport us into another world of river and jungle for the next two days of adventure. You will have local English speaking guides to show you the true Amazon, the people, the flora and the fauna. An experience you will remember forever.

Week Ten

After the return flight to Cusco we ride the impressive Sacred Valley, dotted with enormous Incan ruins of Saqsaywaman, Pisac and the Quechuan village of Ollantaytambo with its massive fortress looming above. This is a stunning ride as we follow the course of the mighty Urubamba River with the

Highlights

- The tranquil lakeside setting of Pucon, Chile
- The world famous Seven Lakes Drive, Argentina
- Accommodation in an authentic still working Argentinean estancia (sheep farm)
- Moreno Glacier
- The unparalleled beauty of Torres del Paine & Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego
- Puerto Madryn for sea life viewing
- Buenos Aires one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities
- Foz Do Iguazu waterfalls
- Rio de Janeiro and its white sandy beaches
- Yacht cruise off the coast of Paraty, Brazil
 - Riding the Emerald Coast of Brazil
 - Pantanal, Brazil - The world's largest tropical wetland area
- Wild west town of Tupiza, where Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid met their demise
- Once the world's wealthiest city and still the highest, Potosi, Bolivia
- The hallucinogenic salt flats of Bolivia, the Salar de Uyuni
- La Paz and the infamous Death Road
 - Floating islands of Lake Titicaca
- Ancient Incan Capital of Cusco, the Sacred Valley and the amazing Machu Picchu
 - Amazon Jungle excursion
 - Colca Canyon
 - The Peruvian Andes
 - Galapagos Islands
 - Ville de Leyva, Colombia
 - Cartagena



towering peaks of the Andes all around before leaving our bikes at Ollantaytambo then catching the train to Agua Calientes, the stepping off point for the legendary Machu Picchu. Perhaps a defining moment of your ride; nothing can prepare us for the splendour of the sight of the iconic "Lost City" of Machu Picchu. A half day will be spent exploring this magical antiquity with an included guided tour before catching the train back to Ollantaytambo, reuniting with the bikes and riding back to Cusco, perhaps enjoying a beer at the famous Norton's Rats biker bar that overlooks the beautiful Plaza de Armas. Leaving Cusco the week is rounded out as we take the road less travelled through the Andean towns of Abancay, Ayacucho and Huancayo in the Apurimac region of Peru.

Week Eleven

The weeks starts off spectacularly as we reach the breathtaking Huaraz in Peru's stunning Cordillera Blanca, a towering range of snow-capped peaks, before we descend from the Andes to the Pacific shores, all in one day. We stay for two nights in Trujillo allowing us time to explore the huge adobe complex of Chan Chan, an abandoned city once home to the ancient Chimu kingdom and the fantastic Huacas del Sol y de la Luna complex. Moving ever north we overnight at Punta Sal renowned for its left-hand breaks, apparently something great in the surfing world! before we cross wonderful Ecuador. We will see the week out in the superb city of Cuenca, a spectacular colonial laid back city, curiously known as the birthplace of the Panama Hat.

Week Twelve

The next three days are spent at the internationally renowned UNESCO listed Galapagos Islands, known the world over as one of the worlds foremost destinations for wildlife viewing, much of which is found nowhere else on earth. Our days here in the Galapagos will stay with you forever. Back on the mainland we ride into the Andes again and overnight at Baños, a beautiful town located at the foot of the still active Tungurahua Volcano, with luck we may see a fiery lava flow at night. We continue onto the Ecuadorian capital of Quito located in the foothills of the Andes at 2,850m / 9,400ft and spend three nights here allowing us time to explore this wonderful city with its 16th and 17th century old town precinct and take a trip out to the nearby legendary Otavalo Markets.

Week Thirteen

Crossing into Colombia we overnight at Ipiales and visit the amazing Las Lajas towering Gothic-style church and its arched bridge that spans the Guáitara River, it's an impressive sight. Riding into the Colombian interior we overnight at Popayán, a wonderful city of cobblestone streets and whitewashed buildings. Onward we spend the days riding a seemingly endless series of twisties before visiting Salento, a beautiful colonial town within the Coffee Triangle, the perfect place for a superb coffee. We ride further north east and spend two nights in the Colombian capital of Bogota. A must see is the Amazing Museo de Oro (Gold Museum). Quickly back into the countryside we ride valley after verdant valley visiting the jewel in the "colonial town crown" Ville de Levy. We see the week out in beautiful Doradal with its amazing rock formations.

Week Fourteen

Our final week will see us head ever further north through this amazing country; we overnight near the legendary, for all the wrong reasons, Medellin and visit Pablo Escobar's former mansion. We ride triumphantly into UNESCO listed Cartagena; the absolutely stunning medieval fortress city located on the Caribbean. Renown as one of the most beautiful cities in all of Colombia we spend the last 4 nights of our 100-day epic ride exploring this fantastic city and preparing our bikes for their onward journey home.

The Schedule

The schedule above is a guide only and we will endeavour to remain faithful to the itinerary. However, during an expedition of this magnitude, things sometimes go wrong, events that are completely beyond our control; border strikes, landslides, road closures, surly border guards, local conflict, even being forbidden to ride a motorcycle into a city (it has happened) all may have an effect on our expedition. We will endeavour to get back as per itinerary as quickly as possible. The final decision as to what course of action to take lies with the Compass Expeditions crew.

A Day in the Life

No two days are the same, nothing can be assumed but we do follow a certain routine. Each morning we arise at a reasonable hour and have a filling breakfast before going over the day's ride. You will be fully briefed the night before of our next destination, route to be taken, road conditions, sights to see, and things to do. Depending on location, availability and need we will first fill the bikes before riding out toward our next destination. Arriving at our overnight destination we perform minor safety checks of the bikes as well as any routine maintenance that may be needed before having a shower and a cold beer or wine.

Weather

We shall be leaving Santiago late February and will be anticipating good weather that can be on the colder side, as we head south towards Patagonia; it's autumn and some of the best time to ride Patagonia with average temps of 15° C / 60° F. A little rain should be expected, and it can be cool to cold at night. The prevailing winds, from the southwest, are dry, cold, and can be very strong at times. Riding north we shall be hitting warmer weather especially in northern Argentina where rain generally appears in the afternoon and is usually short-lived. We can expect tropical conditions as we venture into Brazil as the rainy season is at an end. Days can be an average of 27° C / 80° F. Riding into the Andes (Bolivia and Peru) we can expect beautiful sunny days with an average of 20° C / 68° F with very cool nights and early mornings. Further north in Ecuador we can expect temps of around 20° C / 68° F in the highlands and a little rain should be expected on the Galapagos. Colombia we can see an increase in rain, but this is usually restricted to the afternoons. The temps will be hotter and more humid as we reach the coastal lowlands.

In summary ALL weather conditions need to be planned for.

Road Conditions

The road conditions vary wildly on this expedition, from the wonderful pavement of the Pan-American Highway through Chile to the gravel stretches of the legendary Ruta 40. We can expect some dirt roads through the Andes and especially as we enter Bolivia. These dirt roads can be corrugated, with gravel heaps in the centre and have loose gravel sections with occasional muddy sections if recent rains have been experienced. The roads vary between long straight sections to tight twisties, some roads have large rim destroying potholes and tall shoulders. Riders must be aware that the South Americans have a slightly different view to road rules to us, and it is paramount to expect the unexpected.

On this expedition, you should expect to encounter many different types of road surface, except for sand.

This ride is completely achievable by anyone with motorcycling experience. At no times do we include extreme moto-cross style riding, we always chose the least difficult option and the majority of riding is very easy, although there will be some challenging sections, particularly in Patagonia. We all know that if there were not some challenges along the way it wouldn't be worth doing.



Food

The food is much like the weather and roads, always changing; just about every conceivable cuisine can be experienced during this journey. South America, particularly in the south, is very big on meat and to a lesser extent fish. As we travel into the Andean countries fresh produce is more readily available, except certain areas of Bolivia, and salads are plentiful. Brazil is laden with fresh fruits, seafood and the excellent churrascaria, a meat feast. In Ecuador Ceviche is popular as is "Roasted Guinea Pig" better known as Cuy, same can be had in Peru, while Colombia it's the Paisa Platter a mix of white rice, red beans, shredded meat, chicharron (pork rind), chorizo etc. Dietary preferences from carnivores to vegans can be catered for on this ride. This ride is not the place to start a diet.

Breakfasts

Breakfasts in South America are usually hearty and filling with eggs, sausages etc, however on some occasions' breakfasts might be minimal and, on those occasions, we shall supplement breakfasts with our own supplies of cereals etc.

Lunches

On ride days we shall either prepare fresh, out of our mobile kitchen, a hearty filling lunch or eat in a local restaurant depending on location and supplies availability. Lunch usually consists of a choice of salads and a platter of luncheon meats with a choice of fruits and non-alcoholic drinks and usually cakes or biscuits. (Everything is subject to availability)

Dinners

We provide one dinner per week, usually from a wonderful local restaurant where you can select from the menu and one where we have eaten at before.

Accommodation

We use hotels for the vast majority of this expedition, usually 3 to 4 stars in standard, however on a very few occasions we must use very basic accommodations as that is all that is available. We have chosen our hotels for the location, friendly staff, security and uniqueness. The accommodations are as varied as the landscapes we ride. We stay in accommodations ranging from fantastic beachside hotels to comfortable thatched huts in the Amazon, farmhouses (estancias) in Patagonia, and wonderful Colonial style lodgings.



ARE YOU UP TO IT?

The Rider

The rider should have at least two years' experience on riding larger motorbikes; this however is not a "set in concrete" requirement as we realize that riding skills differ from person to person. The rider does, however, need to be confident with a larger bike and confident in his/her abilities to ride safely in foreign countries that have a slightly different view of road rules than what we may be accustomed to. If carrying a pillion/co- rider, this expedition is not the time to find out you are not comfortable with it.

The Pillion/Co-rider

The pillion/co-rider needs to have experience in riding as a pillion and have confidence that they can handle some long days on the saddle on some very ordinary roads in sometimes- inclement weather. On the more difficult sections pillions/co-riders have the option of riding in the support vehicle (space permitting).

In Closing

It is in the nature of this expedition that you will at times be tested. There will be times that people will feel exhausted, dirty or simply frustrated. A flexible attitude is paramount as is a good sense of humour and above all a tolerance for things that can and do go wrong, as well as an acceptance of other people and cultures that are completely removed from ours. A willingness to work as a team for the general day-to-day running of the expedition and to "muck in" is essential. The more you put in the greater the sense of achievement at the end. If you are intolerant to riding dirt roads, sometimes lack of choice for lunch supplies/fruit and vegies and the inevitable breakdowns, then for your own sake please consider if this journey is for you. It is paramount that all clients are aware that this expedition is 100 days in length and as such you will be away from family and friends for this time.

The points below are critical and you need to posses these qualities for your own enjoyment

ARE YOU?

- ✓ Good humoured
- ✓ Tolerant
- ✓ Accepting of things that may be different
- ✓ Willing to help out for the success of the expedition
- ✓ Have the drive to keep going when everyone else has long since given up

GREAT THEN READ ON!!

CHOOSING YOUR BIKE

Choosing to ride a Compass bike

If you choose to ride one of Compass Expeditions bikes you will be riding the new BMW F 750, F 850 GS or R 1250 GS. These bikes come from a stable of the world's finest touring bikes and as such we have chosen them for this epic ride. Unencumbered by luggage these powerful bikes are ideally suited for the demands of riding this challenging expedition of the South American continent.

Additional Accessories for Compass Expeditions bikes

- » Crash bars
- » Aluminium Bash Plate

- » Top box
- » Radiator protector
- » Bark busters (hand guards)

Bringing your own bike

There is no doubt that just about any bike could feasibly attempt such a journey, but for the sake of the expeditions success we must insist you leave your step through 50cc at home. Bikers will insist that they, and they alone, have the most suitable bike for doing the Ultimate South America they could be right, but we have compiled a "by no means complete" list of the bikes we have owned over the years and that would be more than capable of completing this expedition. Please be aware below is not a definitive list

Suitable bikes

- » BMW 750GS, 850GS or 1250GS
- » AFRICA TWIN
- » YAMAHA TENERE
- » KAWASAKI KLR 650
- » KTM 990 ADV or 690
- » TRIUMPH TIGER 800XC
- » Suzuki DR 650 / V-Strom

Modifications that need to be considered

- ✓ At least 650cc
- ✓ Range of at least 350 km / 250 miles
- ✓ Have protective equipment such as crash bars, aluminium bash plate, headlight protector, Bark-busters (hand protectors)
- ✓ Top box for personal day use items
- ✓ Bike alarm and/or disc lock
- ✓ Heated hand grips
- ✓ GPS unit (Compulsory)

All bikes must be in a roadworthy condition, be fully serviced with new chain sprockets (where necessary) & new tyres immediately prior to shipping. We reserve the right to refuse participation for any bike we believe simply won't make it; the timely success of the expedition is our priority. Contact us on info@compassexpeditions.com for any questions concerning your bike.

Bike shipping

We include all shipping of your bike to and from the South American continent; this means we ship your bike to Santiago (Valparaiso), Chile and from Cartagena, Colombia. It is the rider's responsibility to get their bike to the port of disembarkation of our choice, for example for our Australian clients all bikes are shipped out of Melbourne, it is your responsibility to get your bike to Melbourne, (we can assist with this). Included shipping is port to port, not door to door.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What do I do if my bike breaks down?

If your bike breaks down, we will endeavour to fix it ourselves or get it to a point where it can be fixed, all repair costs are borne by the client (if not a Compass bike). We have never been "stuck" unable to proceed and the locals are masters at getting broken down bikes going again.

Do I need to bring my own spares?

Yes, if riding your own bike, you do need to bring a basic list of spares with you suitable for your bike. These spares need to include, front fork seals, head stem bearings, wheel bearings, front and rear sprocket and drive chain, clutch and brake lever, mirror brackets, brake pads, this is for new bikes. If riding an older bike you will be familiar with what you need, however please contact us at mick@compassexpeditions.com for more info. Our support vehicle will carry all your spares. A more complete list of spares is provided in due course.

What about tyres/tires?

Tyres can be difficult to get and certainly expensive in South America. We will have a tyre change point approximately halfway through the journey. Your tyres should be new at the beginning of the expedition. Contact us with any questions you may have regarding your tyre choice as availability is limited

What about servicing?

There are a few BMW dealerships in South America, and we have scheduled one major service point, Brazil, for this expedition at an authorised BMW dealership (if you are on a BMW). This service point shall also be the same for other brands, but please be aware not all bike manufacturers are represented on this continent. If a service is needed earlier or later, we shall arrange that on your behalf. Service costs for your own bike are at your own cost. It is important to note that some of these dealerships have nothing in the way of spares. Any issues with your bike MUST be notified to your crew ASAP so that we can arrange repair and sourcing of parts as far in advance as possible.

Will it get stolen?

Hopefully not, it's a long way to walk. Seriously though, theft is an important consideration. We park our bikes at secure bike/car parks that are under 24-hour guard or inside the hotel property whenever in a city. A disc lock and/or immobilizer are required. Theft is not something to stress ourselves about; with a little care your beloved bike will be safe.

How do I get to start/finish point?

Easy, there are dozens of airlines that have direct connections to Santiago de Chile, including to and from other cities within South America. Numerous flights operate out of Cartagena, a relatively short flight from the US

Can I get my bike insured?

Good luck, we have never come across an insurance company that will go near you once you mention that you are taking your bike overseas, but at least give your insurer a call, miracles may occur. It is, however, compulsory to purchase 3rd party insurance for your bike in South America, Compass will help you organise your third party insurance.

Do I need a Carnet de Passage en Douane if bringing my own bike?

No, a Carnet IS NOT required for any country we travel through on this expedition in South America.

What about visa's?

This depends on where you come from, but for most nationalities travelling to South America is a visa free experience. The exception to this rule is Brazil for everyone, & Bolivia for US clients; we will assist you with the visa application process.

What about vaccinations?

We highly recommend that you speak with your doctor and/or check out the World Health Organization website at www.who.int/country and have a look at their excellent International Travel and Health book, available online. In Australia visit the Australian Medical Centre website at www.traveldoctor.com.au or phone 1300 65 88 44. For our U.S clients visit www.cdc.gov/travel/ and for our U.K clients go to www.doh.gov.uk/traveladvice/ for travel health recommendations in general go to www.mdtravelhealth.com

WHATS INCLUDED WHEN RIDING A COMPASS EXPEDITIONS BIKE?

Equipment

- ✓ BMW F 750 GS, F 850 GS, BMW R 1250 GS
- ✓ All mechanical spares, servicing, repairs and tyres/tires
- ✓ Top box for personal day use items
- ✓ Crash protection
- ✓ 2 x duffle bags

Expedition support

- ✓ Services of ride leader & support vehicle driver, both crew are either a mechanic* or medic*
- ✓ Support vehicle to carry all luggage (limit of two duffle bags, supplied by Compass, per person), spares etc
- ✓ Satellite phone (pay per minute)

Daily on road costs

- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ All accommodation of a generally 3 to 4 star standard
- ✓ One bonus night accommodation
- ✓ One group dinner each week
- ✓ All breakfasts on every day of expedition
- ✓ Picnic or restaurant lunches on ride days
- ✓ All tolls, ferries and security park costs

Excursions and entrances

- ✓ Entrances to all national parks as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ All entrances to historical sights and museums as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ Off bike activities such as Machu Picchu, boat excursions, glacier trips etc.
- ✓ City guide (this is for city tour only, if extra guiding is asked for by client, such as "take me to a good bar or a BMW dealership" this is at clients costs)

Other stuff

- ✓ A comprehensive medical kit in support vehicle
- ✓ Comprehensive pre-departure booklet
- ✓ Daily briefings on route and destination
- ✓ Major expedition document kit
- ✓ Access to Compass Expeditions App

WHATS NOT INCLUDED WHEN RIDING A COMPASS BIKE?

- ✗ Visa's
- ✗ Fuel
- ✗ Meals not mentioned in "inclusions list"
- ✗ Traffic fines
- ✗ Repair and/or recovery costs to Compass Expeditions bike for loss or damage caused by negligence or failing to heed ride leaders directive
- ✗ Medical costs, it is a pre-requisite that all clients have comprehensive medical insurance that covers for riding a motorcycle over 650cc in foreign countries.
- ✗ Activities not mentioned on the itinerary
- ✗ International flights

WHATS INCLUDED WHEN RIDING YOUR OWN BIKE?

Expedition support

- ✓ Services of ride leader & support vehicle driver both crew are either a mechanic* or Medic*.
- ✓ Support vehicle to carry all luggage, (two duffle bags, supplied by Compass Expeditions, per person), spares etc
- ✓ Satellite phone (pay per minute)
- ✓ Mechanical support if needed
- ✓ 2 x duffle bags

Daily on road costs

- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ All accommodation of a generally 3 to 4 star standard
- ✓ One bonus night accommodation
- ✓ One group dinner each week
- ✓ Picnic or restaurant lunches on ride days
- ✓ All breakfasts on every day of expedition

Excursions and entrances

- ✓ Entrances to all national parks as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ All entrances to historical sights and museums as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ Off bike activities, such as Machu Picchu, boat excursions, glacier trips etc.
- ✓ City guide, (this is for city tour only, if extra guiding is asked for by client, such as "take me to a good bar or a BMW dealership" this is at clients costs)

Shipping

- ✓ Bike shipment to Santiago de Chile & from Cartagena to your home country (port of our choice), port to port, not door to door

Other stuff

- ✓ A comprehensive medical kit in support vehicle
- ✓ Comprehensive pre-departure booklet
- ✓ Daily briefings on route and destination
- ✓ Major expedition document kit
- ✓ Access to Compass Expeditions App

WHATS NOT INCLUDED WHEN RIDING YOUR BIKE?

- ✗ Visa's
- ✗ Fuel
- ✗ Third party insurance, which we will arrange for you
- ✗ Servicing of your bike, repairs, tyres and transport costs to repair point (if needed)
- ✗ Meals not mentioned in the "included list"
- ✗ Traffic fines
- ✗ Repair and/or recovery costs to your bike
- ✗ Medical costs, it is a pre-requisite that all clients have comprehensive medical insurance that covers for riding a motorcycle over 650cc in foreign countries
- ✗ Activities not mentioned on the itinerary
- ✗

An important note: the word "medic" does not imply that our medic is a doctor or paramedic, but our medic will have successfully completed advanced first aid training at the very least.

The word "mechanic" does not imply that our mechanic is a fully qualified BMW technician, but our mechanic will be very experienced with motorcycles in general.

WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE GETTING ON THE PLANE!

Personal documents

All documents must be the original and will be checked before departure so to ensure no nasty surprises while sitting at a far-flung border.

- ✓ Passport, must be valid for at least 6 months after the completion of this expedition, passport must also have at least 10 blank pages
- ✓ Your original local driver's license
- ✓ For riders bringing their own bikes, the original bike registration document, title in the US or the V5 logbook in the U.K
- ✓ International drivers license I.D.P available at your motoring organization e.g.: AAA in the U.S, R.A.C in the U.K, or the AAA in Australia
- ✓ Credit / debit cards, either Visa or Master Card
- ✓ Original travel insurance documents
- ✓ Visa's
- ✓ Please supply to us one photocopy of all documents and keep two copies for yourself
- ✓ A current vaccination certificate showing all inoculations (yellow fever is compulsory)

Things of a personal nature

- ✓ Camera, SLR and/or a small digital one to carry in the jacket
- ✓ Smart phone
- ✓ Swiss army knife

A COMPLETE LIST OF THINGS TO TAKE WILL BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR PRE-DEPARTURE BOOKLET

Recommended Riding Gear

As bikers you will undoubtedly already have your own personal riding gear. The list below is simply a guide to what you need to be comfortable for the duration of the expedition. Please note a ride such as this travelling so far south and north we experience very cold and very hot weather conditions so riding gear must be able to cope with these extremes

✓ Helmet

A full-face helmet is essential; riding with a motocross style and goggles will be extremely uncomfortable for such a long expedition especially in dusty conditions. A silk or thermal balaclava worn under the helmet is also a lifesaver on those cold days.

✓ Clothing

Waterproof gear is absolutely essential, as is removable liners in both the pants and riding jacket. You will be riding through virtually every weather condition so a good jacket and pants that can be adapted to the riding conditions will only enhance your experience. A thermal fleece such as Paddy Palin, Himalaya or Patagonia is excellent for wearing under your jacket on colder days. A set of light coveralls is indispensable.

✓ **Boots**

Again, this is a personal choice, a pair of motocross boots is of course ideal, and this is our recommendation, but they are cumbersome and bulky to carry halfway around the world. A pair of riding boots that provide EXCELLENT ankle / foot protection is paramount. Ankle / foot injuries are the most common injuries experienced.

✓ **Sunglasses**

Don't forget your sunglasses. A good pair of strong sunglasses is essential; the light at high altitude can be intense.

SIGHTS INCLUDED ON THIS EXPEDITION

- ✓ Entrances to all national parks mentioned in the itinerary
- ✓ All museum entrances as per itinerary
- ✓ Moreno Glacier boat trip
- ✓ Puerto Madryn tour
- ✓ City tour of Buenos Aires
- ✓ Foz do Iguaçu
- ✓ Schooner trip off the coast of Brazil
- ✓ Rio city tour, including Christ the Redeemer and Sugarloaf Mountain
- ✓ Entrance to Colca Canyon
- ✓ Excursion to Machu Picchu
- ✓ Two-night Amazon excursion
- ✓ Excursion to the "Uros" floating islands of Lake Titikaka
- ✓ La Paz city tour, Bolivia
- ✓ Potosi mine tour
- ✓ 4 x 4 trip across the Salar de Uyuni, Bolivia
- ✓ Galapagos Islands trip
- ✓ Museo de Oro, Bogota



We are sure you will have a thousand more questions; we hope so. Below are our full contact details. Thanks for spending your time reading this info kit. We hope it has inspired you to challenge yourself, if not riding with us then just riding and enjoying this remarkable world that we live in.

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1300 887 327 (within Australia)

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