



BQEF's QUAKER STUDY TOUR BOLIVIA 2018

We'll explore Bolivia's history and culture from the pre-Inca traditions to the emergence of the Plurinational State of Bolivia. We'll visit those who have dramatically improved their lives with the educational support of trip-sponsor Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (BQEF) and the development projects of Quaker Bolivia Link (QBL). We'll learn about the cultural revolution taking place and make warm personal connections with local Friends.

Tentative Itinerary

July 26. *Our tour begins in Sucre, Bolivia.* American Airlines Flight 922 from Miami to Santa Cruz makes a one-hour stop in La Paz en route. Boliviana de Aviación (BoA) has a direct nonstop flight. Both are night flights, arriving around 6 a.m. to connect with BoA flight OB582 leaving Santa Cruz at 9:20 a.m. and arriving Sucre at 10:05 a.m. We will meet that flight at the Sucre airport. Ask us for info about your BoA ticket purchases.

July 26-28 *Sucre and Potosí*

July 26-27 Rest from your travels and adjust to the 9200' altitude while enjoying Sucre, Bolivia's second capital city. Sucre is home to South America's oldest university and was the site of Latin America's first call for independence from Spain.

July 28 Day trip to Potosí, location of the world's richest silver mine; see how pieces-of-eight were made in the old Spanish mint.

July 29-Aug 1 *Sorata*

July 29 Fly from Sucre to La Paz on BoA flight OB565. Bus directly from the airport to Sorata, with altitude similar to Sucre.

July 30-Aug 1 Spend time with students at BQEF's Student Residence Project which enables young people from isolated communities to attend middle and high school. Share your interests and talents with the students such as computer skills, music, chess, art, English lessons, etc. Visit QBL projects that helped transform life in a Quaker community.

Optional day hike to Laguna Chilata and Inca tombs on Mt Illampu.

Aug 2-5 La Paz

Aug 2 Bus to La Paz.

Aug 3-5 Share a traditional lunch with BQEF scholarship students and graduates. Visit the Quaker International Bilingual Center led by a BQEF graduate. Meet another grad who introduced Alternatives to Violence Project workshops into major Bolivian prisons. Optional visit to San Pedro prison.

Visit the Las Gregorias weaving group, originally funded by QBL. Enjoy their hospitality with a sumptuous lunch, then shop for fine alpaca woolens.

See an impressive museum of Bolivian art filled with the lifetime collection of Antonio Paredes Candia, one of Bolivia's most prolific authors.

Aug 6-8 Tiwanaku, Lake Titicaca (Huatajata, Copacabana, Isla del Sol)

Aug 6 Bus to Tiwanaku to tour the archeological site and learn about the ancient Andean cosmology. Then bus to Huatajata on the shore of Lake Titicaca to visit reed boat builders and a cultural center with Inca history.

Aug 7 Bus to Copacabana on Lake Titicaca, home of Bolivia's patron saint. Boat to Island of the Sun, legendary origin of the first Incas. Optional hike to Inca site and Sacred Rock.

Aug 8 Return from Copacabana to La Paz **or** meet your Peruvian guide for your extension to Cusco, Machu Picchu and elsewhere.

Aug 9 Depart on a morning flight or stay on to spend more time with Friends, volunteer in the Student Residence or in a Quaker school in La Paz, or visit other amazing tourist sites in Bolivia.

The trip fee of \$1150 is based on 10 participants, double occupancy. It includes all land and water transportation in Bolivia, admission fees, hotels with private bath, all breakfasts, a few lunches and dinners. Please contact us with any questions and for information about purchasing your airline tickets.

Barbara Flynn 707.823.6034 US Pacific time qst.bolivia@gmail.com