Trekking Bolivia's Cordillera Real

14 Days

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL
Trekking Bolivia's Cordillera Real

Venture deep into the Cordillera Real, one of the most isolated, unpopulated mountain ranges in the world. Explore the ruins of Tiwanaku, a pre-Columbian city inhabited by an advanced civilization. Travel on to Lake Titicaca, one of the most sacred places in Andean culture. Then, climb above the ruins into the clouds, where you’ll cross six mountain passes up to 16,552’ and spend seven nights camping under the stars. Experience nature’s grandeur and civilization’s sacred sites on this unforgettable Andean adventure.

Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrive:</th>
<th>La Paz, Bolivia</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depart:</td>
<td>La Paz, Bolivia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>14 Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Size:</td>
<td>4–16 Guests</td>
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<td>Minimum Age:</td>
<td>17 Years Old</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity Level:</td>
<td>Level 5</td>
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Testimonials

“A prominent reason we have chosen MT Sobek as our favorite adventure travel company has been the excellent travel guides.”

Carol

“We have traveled throughout the world, but never experienced a level of service and attention to detail as we did with MT Sobek.”

Dennis G.
Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01
MT Sobek has been designing pioneering high-altitude trekking adventures across the globe for 50 years and is a trusted leader in mountain exploration.

REASON #02
This ultimate challenge adventure has been carefully designed to test your mettle in one of South America’s most beautiful and unexplored mountain ranges.

REASON #03
We work with expert local guiding teams who have over 45 years' experience leading groups through the Cordillera Real.

What to Expect

ACTIVITIES
Strenuous high-altitude hiking between 6 to 8 hours a day, plus boat rides to the islands of Lake Titicaca.

LODGING
Enjoy seven nights in comfortable camps with spacious tents and sleeping pads, bookended by stays in charming, comfortable hotels.

CLIMATE
Summer temperatures are moderate, but it will be cooler higher with potential snow above 13,000'. Daytime temperatures are between 40°F-65°F with nighttime temperatures below 32°F.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips’ success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

A native of México, Sergio is a legendary MT Sobek trekking guide with over 30 years of experience and 300 trips to his name! Besides leading our expeditions in Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, and Argentina’s Aconcagua, he also loves to lead some of our more challenging treks in Nepal and Peru. In 2019, Sergio will be leading a 50th Anniversary Base Camp Trek, a new hiking trip in Chile’s Dientes de Navarino mountains, and an epic hiking adventure in the Dolomites. Sergio has acquired a considerable, loyal following over the years and is one of our most well-loved guides.

Sergio Fitch Watkins

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Itinerary

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN LA PAZ

Meet your MT Sobek representative at El Alto airport and transfer to your hotel. Later, take a walking tour that starts with a short visit to the cemetery and continues on to several local markets. The tour concludes at San Pedro Square, where the well-known San Pedro prison is located. Afterwards, take an unforgettable ride on the Teleférico cable car for an eagle-eye view of the city.

Meals: (D)

DAY 2

HIKE TO CAÑÓN DE PALCA

Transfer to Valle de Las Ánimas, or “Valley of the Spirits,” and begin a 3-hour hike among the eerily eroded canyons and fantastic organ-pipe spires to the Cañón de Palca. The scenery resembles that of Valley of the Moon, but on a larger scale. Lush oases spring up among the dramatic rock formations, adding to this unique landscape.

Activity: 3 hours/6 miles hiking with 1,640’ elevation loss

Meals: (B) / (L)

DAY 3

VISIT RUINS & SACRED LAKE TITICACA

Witness the highlands and the Aymaran way of life during your drive from La Paz to Tiwanaku, Bolivia’s most important archaeological site and the heart of a pre-Inca empire. Visit the fascinating ruins there, including Kalasasaya Temple, Ponce and Fraile monoliths, and Akapana pyramid. Continue driving to Copacabana, a beautiful town on the shores of Lake Titicaca. Visit the church — a Catholic pilgrimage site — and the famous Virgen Morena. Afterwards, boat to the Island of the Sun and see the ruins of Pilkokaina, an Inca temple. Finally, hike to La Estancia with a wonderful view of Lake Titicaca.

Activity: 45 minutes/1 mile hiking with 524’ elevation gain

Meals: (B) / (L) / (D)

DAY 4

EXPLORE THE SUN & MOON ISLANDS

Hike to the village of Yumani and catch a boat to the Island of the Moon — believed to be where the deity Viracocha commanded the rising of the moon — and visit the ruins of Ñak Uyu. Continue by boat to Sun Island, the largest of Lake Titicaca’s islands. The Incas believed the sun god was born here, and modern life still eludes the island. The rocky hills have eucalyptus trees, but no cars or paved roads. Most of the more than eighty ruins are from the 15th century AD. Roam La Chinkana ruins and take a short hike to Challapampa, then travel by boat
to Challa. After visiting a cultural museum, hike uphill to our unique ecolodge. Spend the afternoon enjoying the peace and beauty of this mystical place.

Activity: 2.5 hours/1 mile hiking with 524’ elevation gain
Meals: (B) / (L) / (D)

DAY 5

JOURNEY ACROSS THE ALTIPLANO

Hike to the village of Yumani. From here, take a boat ride to Copacabana and then drive for 6 hours across the expansive high altiplano with views of snowcapped mountains, eventually culminating in the spectacular
Illampu-Ancohuma massif (the northernmost section of the Cordillera Real), which looms above Sorata. Explore Sorata's steep stairways and quaint cobblestone streets, all in the shadow of Illampu (20,892').

**Activity:** 45 minutes/1.5 miles hiking with 524' elevation loss

**Meals:** (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 6**

**HIKE TO LAKATIA**

After a hearty breakfast, begin a 5-hour trek toward the village of Lakatia (12,960'). The views here are exceptional, and many travelers find them similar to the Himalayas. Cross the Rio Lakatia and continue zigzagging uphill to Lakatia, where you will camp under the stars in an open meadow.

**Activity:** 5 hours/6 miles hiking with 4,964' elevation gain & 1,201' elevation loss

**Meals:** (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 7**

**HIKE TO AGUAS CALIENTES**

Leaving the lowland vegetation behind, hike steadily uphill and enter the typical environs of the Andean cordilleras. Cross the high pass of Huila Khota (16,030') and descend to camp at 15,100', the base camp for Illampu ascents.

**Activity:** 5 hours/9 miles hiking with 4,154' elevation gain & 4,639' elevation loss

**Meals:** (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 8**

**HIKE TO COCOYO**

Enjoy diverse scenic views of the Andes. After about two hours of hiking in the surroundings of Illampu, continue on to Cocoyo Pass (15,720'), then descend to a beautiful plain above the village near a stream confluence.

**Activity:** 6–7 hours/6 miles hiking with 2,542' elevation gain & 3,671' elevation loss

**Meals:** (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 9**

**HIKE TO CHAJOLPAYA**

Cross Paso Sarani (15,580') while enjoying amazing views of the Cordillera Real. Descend in the direction of the valley that divides the hills of the Calzada and Umma, Jalanta, and Kasiri peaks. Camp on an isolated plateau (13,214') in the middle of this splendid valley.

**Activity:** 6–7 hours/7 miles hiking with 4,081' elevation gain & 2,323' elevation loss

**Meals:** (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 10**

**HIKE TO LAGUNA SAN FRANCISCO**

Enjoy breathtaking lake and mountain views as we cross another challenging 16,000-foot pass and set up camp above Laguna San Francisco, a beautiful lake near Rinconada and Condor Jahuira. After today's tough hike, Laguna San Francisco is the perfect spot to rest our tired feet.

**Activity:** 6–8 hours/8.5 miles hiking with 5,755' elevation gain & 3,484' elevation loss

**Meals:** (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 11**

**HIKE TO ALTO LOHENA**

Trek northwest toward Laguna San Francisco, cross your last pass at 15,600', and continue in the foothills of the mountain called Jankohuma. Descend to the head of the Millipaya Valley, enjoying a colorful view of the

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terraces, the altiplano, and Lake Titicaca. Arrive at your campsite located just above Alto Lohena (12,770’), close to Millipaya village.

Activity: 6 hours / 3 miles hiking with 186’ elevation gain & 231’ elevation loss
Meals: (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 13**

**TRANSFER TO LA PAZ**

Take a 4-hour drive to La Paz, where a festive and well-deserved farewell dinner awaits at a local restaurant.

Meals: (B) / (L) / (D)

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**DAY 14**

**DEPART FROM LA PAZ**

Transfer to La Paz airport and depart on homeward-bound flights.

Meals: (B)
Dates

Aug 25 - Sep 7, 2019
Pricing

2018

$5,595 per person

Additional Cost

$300 Single Supplement

2019

$5,895 per person

Additional Cost

$500 Single Supplement

PRICE INCLUDES

• Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
• Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
• Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
• Potable water and snacks throughout
• 1 glass of wine or beer at dinner (hotels only)
• All tips and gratuities for support staff with the exception of your lead adventure guide(s)
• All necessary specialty camping gear
• All group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
• Arrival and departure day group airport transfers

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

• International airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
• 1 dinner on Day 2
• Optional tips to your lead adventure guides
• Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
• Airport transfers if arriving outside of the group transfer
• Optional travel protection

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world’s most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite—with opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

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