NAYARA
ALTO ATACAMA
Atacama Desert, Chile

EXCURSIONS

ALL OF OUR TOURS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO ALLOW A GENUINE CONNECTION WITH THE DESERT HIGHLAND PLAINS.



EXCURSION CATEGORIES

CULTURAL

* LICAN ANTAI CULTURE
ROCK ART
RAINBOW VALLEY

CONTEMPLATIVE

* VALLEY OF THE MOON
* ATACAMA SALT FLAT AND TOCONAO VILLAGE
TATIO GEYSERS
THE SALT LAKES
* ANDEAN LAGOONS
PECAN MONKS
SUNSET IN CKAMUR
SUNSET CACTUS

ASTRONOMICAL

ANDEAN ASTRONOMY

ADVENTURE

* THE COLORADOS
CACTUS HIKE
DEVIL'S THROAT
* VILAMA / DEVIL'S THROAT
* KARI GORGE
JAUNA TREK

*These excursions may not be available at the time of the trip due to the closure of parks and reserves as per COVID restrictions.

What to bring?

A RECOMMENDED


First and second layer


Shorts / Short trekking trousers


Hiking shoes


Backpack and personal carry bag


Camera


Binoculars


Water bottle



Factor 30+ sun cream

B DURING SUN EXPOSURE


Hat


Sunglasses

C LOW TEMPERATURES


Jacket


Third layer


Windbreaker


Wooley hat


Snood


Gloves/mittens


Balaclava

CULTURAL_EXCURSIONS

The first traces of human activity in the area date back more than 10 thousand years. Since then, the Atacama Desert has continued to be a hub of human interaction, a commercial crossroads for Andean peoples and a proud craddle of Ancient cultural heritage. These tours offer guests the opportunity to explore the legacy left by indigenous populations, from the Lican Antai, to the Tiwanaku peoples, and later the Inca. This is a chance to understand the heritage of these local hosts a little better.

1 LICAN ANTAI CULTURE

2 ROCK ART

3 RAINBOW VALLEY



Ⓐ









We travel back in time along the San Pedro River to find the first traces of the Atacamenian villages. We visit the 2,400 year old archaeological site of Tulor and return through the Ayllu de Coyo until we reach a breathtaking view of the Pucará de Quitor, a 13th century fortress.

Duration: **Half day** | Difficulty: **Easy**
Altitude: **2,480 m** | Acclimatization: **None**
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:

500 m / 0,3 mi
11 km / 6,83 mi



Ⓒ











The walk begins when you reach the Cordillera de la Sal. Passing through the Plain of Patience and after a 2km ascent you will find a privileged view of the iconic formations of the mountain range, and you will recognize the history and worldview of the first in habitants of the desert through petroglyphs over 1,500 years old.

Duration: **Half day** | Difficulty: **Easy**
Altitude: **2,630 m** | Acclimatization: **None**
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:

3 km / 1,86 mi
10 km / 6,21 mi

The trip begins in the Hierbas Buenas region where we will recognize the life of local grazing and agriculture, then we visit the Rainbow Valley, named for the multicolored nature of its hills and streams, each one formed by different mineral deposits which are reflected with sunlight; and from there you get to the Jones sector, where you can see the pukará of the place.

Duration: **Full Day** | Difficulty: **Easy**
Altitude: **3,250 m** | Aclimatación: **None**
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:

4 km / 2,48 mi
115 km / 71.45 mi



CONTEMPLATIVES_EXCURSIONS

5 VALLEY OF THE MOON

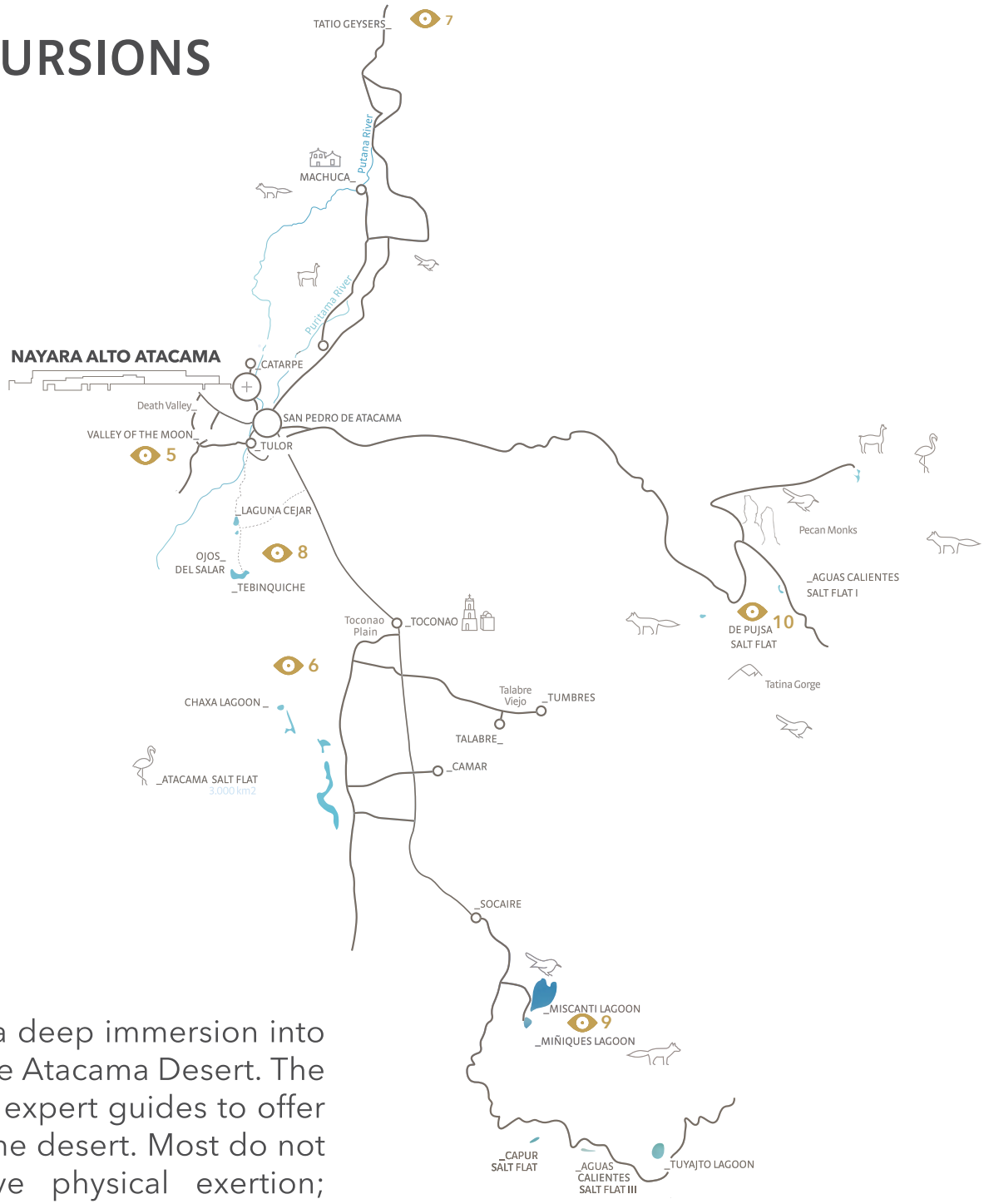
6 ATACAMA SALT AND TOCONAO VILLAGE

7 TATIO GEYSERS

8 THE SALT LAKES

9 ANDEAN LAGOON

10 PECAN MONKS



Our contemplative tours are designed to allow a deep immersion into the diverse topography, nature and culture of the Atacama Desert. The varying routes were carefully considered by our expert guides to offer guests the chance of exploring the enigmas of the desert. Most do not require extensive acclimatization or excessive physical exertion; however some are best enjoyed once completely acclimatized.

Ⓐ RECOMMENDED

Ⓑ DURING SUN EXPOSURE

Ⓒ DURING LOW-TEMPERATURE TOURS



This tour allows guests to enter a sanctuary of nature and geology. The Valley of the Moon is a spectacular geological formation created through the conflicting pressures of the Andes and the Cordillera de Domeyko. As one of the most breathtaking and iconic views in the entire region, travellers from all over the world migrate here to enjoy the sun setting over the Valley.

* Includes aperitif.

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: Easy
Altitude: 2,550 m | Acclimatization: None
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:
25 km / 15,53 mi



This varied tour starts with a visit to Toconao, a local village known for its masonry and architecture which is typical of the area, as well as its important agricultural heritage. Next, we continue to Tamarugos forest, a woodland region en route to the National Reserve of Los Flamencos, one of the most iconic and memorable spots to enjoy the renowned sunsets of the Desert.

* Includes aperitif.

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: Easy | Altitude: 2,300 m
Acclimatization: None | What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:
64 km / 39,76 mi



"Grandpa crying" is the local name used to describe the Tatio Geysers, a geothermal field sitting at 4,321 meters above sea level.

You will explore the Geysers, which consist of large pools of boiling water and mud, fumaroles, and natural hot springs. This is also a good chance to appreciate the unique flora and fauna adapted to flourish in this extreme environment.

On return, you will pass through Machuca, a traditional village previously used by local shepherds.

* Includes lunch.

Duration: Full Day | Difficulty: Medium
Altitude: 4,321 m | Acclimatization: 2 days
What to bring: Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓔ | Distance covered:
100 km / 62,13 mi



THE SALT LAKES

The tour of Ojos del Salar takes us to two incredibly deep freshwater pools which emerge unannounced from the arid desert plains. This trip is noteworthy for its conclusion on the banks the Turquoise Lagoon of Tebinquinche; we will arrive just in time for sunset. Tebinquinche is known as a unique location to experience the pallet of colours associated with Andean volcanic waters and surrounding mountains as the sun sets and the light morphs across the ever-changing landscape.

* Includes aperitif.

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: Easy | Altitude: 2,410 m
Acclimatization: None | What to bring: A B C | Distance covered:
32 km / 19,88 mi



ANDEAN LAGOONS

This excursion will take guests through the southwest region of San Pedro. The first stop will at a crossroads with the old Inca Trail, the main way that linked this poweful empire from Ecuador to Chile. The tour continues to Socaire, a local village known for its traditional church and historical terraced plantations of quinoa and purple potatoes. Next, on to the high Andean Lagoons of Miscanti and Miñiques. Formed as a result of ancient ice thaws, these crystal waters provide a sanctuary to observe the immensity of the mountains. The region is also a showpiece for the unique flora and fauna adapted to these high altitude conditions.

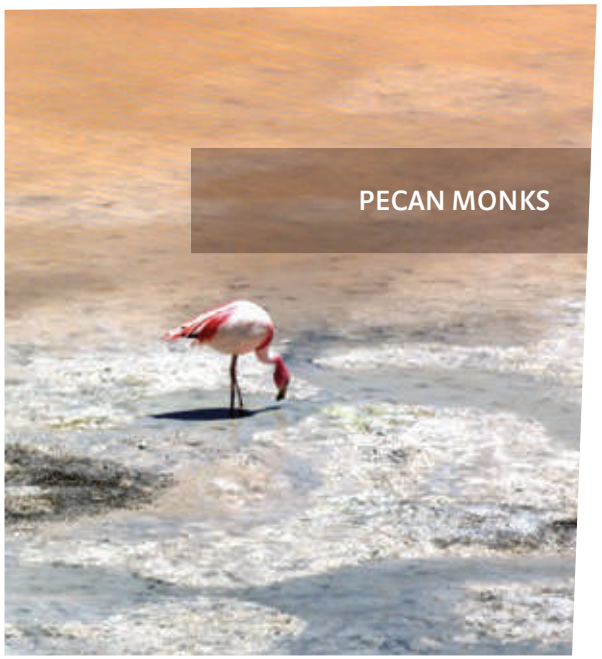
* Includes lunch.

Duration: **Full Day** | Difficulty: **Medium** | Altitude: **4,120 m**
Acclimatization: **2 days** | What to bring: A B E
Distance covered:
126 km / 78,29 mi

A
RECOMMENDED

B
DURING SUN EXPOSURE

C
DURING LOW-TEMPERATURE TOURS



PECAN MONKS

The Wetlands tour offers the chance to delve deep into the Andean landscape, observing a variety of wildlife. The first stop is the wetland park of Quepiaco, an important protected area in the region, and a great place to spot native bird species. Next it is the Salar de Pujsa, the largest reserve of its kind and the migration point for nesting flamingos to lay their eggs. Finally, guests visit the immense rock formations known as the 'Pecan monks', noted for their sheer size and sudden emergence from the Desert floor.

* Includes lunch.

Duration: **Full Day** | Difficulty: **Medium**
Altitude: **4,500 m** | Acclimatization: **2 days**
What to bring: A B C | Distance covered:
115 km / 71,45 mi



SUNSET IN CKAMUR

One of the most scenic places in the area, located at the Salt Mountain Range and about 22 km away from San Pedro de Atacama. We will visit a set of landscapes of incomparable beauty, which resemble a fragment of the lunar landscape. The valley also presents an indescribable aspect, full of majesty and silence, coldly beautiful and imposing.

Duration: **Half Day** | Difficulty: **Medium**
Altitude: **2,600 m** | Acclimatization: **None**
What to bring: A B C | Distance covered:
45 km / 27,9 mi

RECOMMENDED

B DURING SUN EXPOSURE

C DURING LOW-TEMPERATURE TOURS



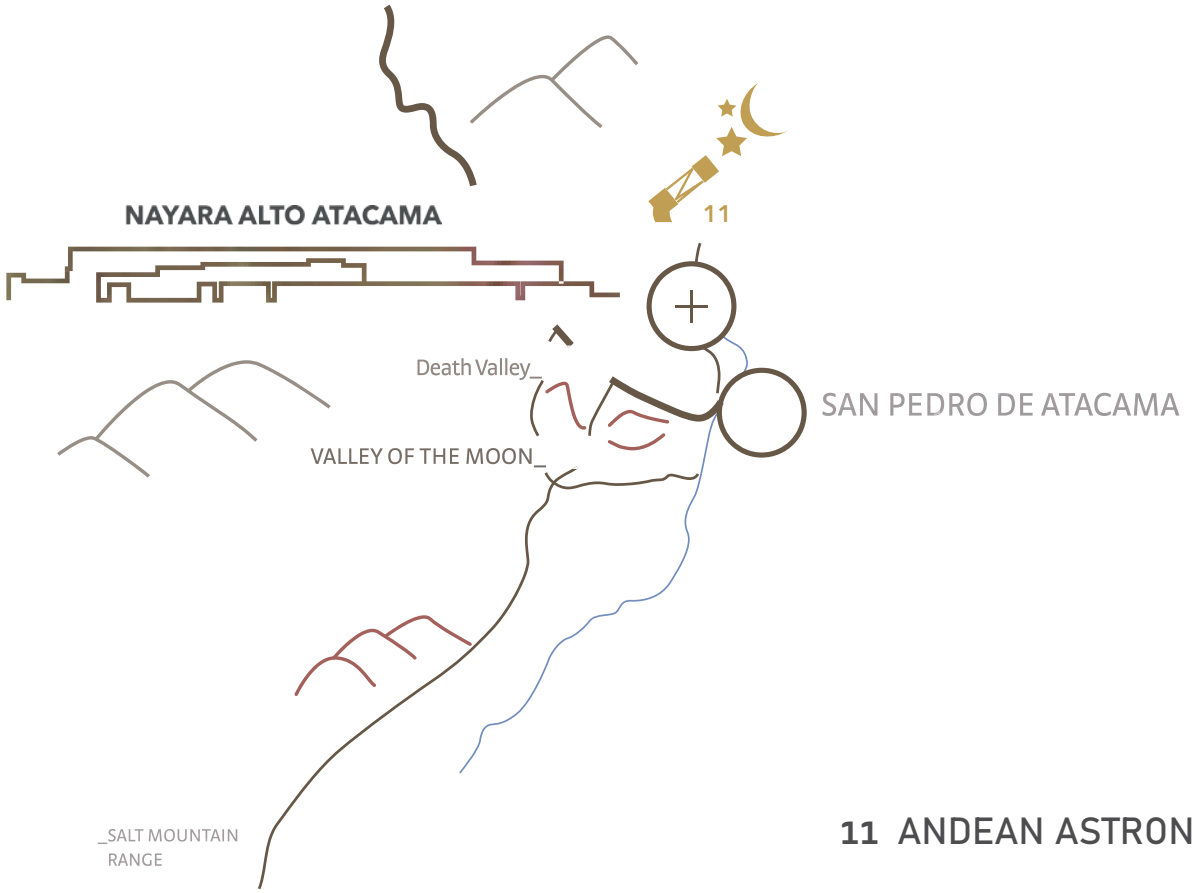
SUNSET CACTUS

If you are one of those who seek to connect with the interior and the peace that the nature of the Atacama Desert provides, the Sunset Cactus excursion is perfect. This 2 km walk in the Puritama river sector leads us to the Guatin viewpoint that allows you to enjoy a privileged view of the sunset, surrounded by a forest of native desert cactus.

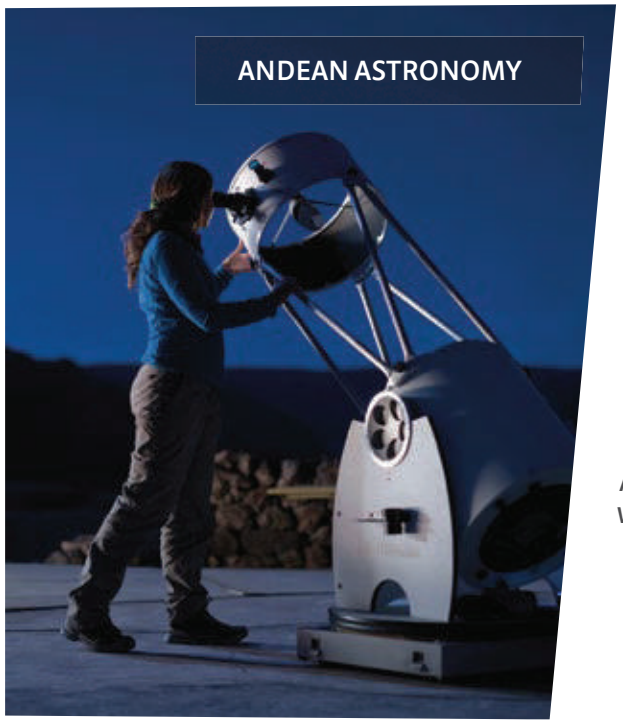
Duration: **Half Day** | Difficulty: **Medium**
Altitude: **2,700 m** | Acclimatization: **None**
What to bring: A B C

EXCURSIONS_ASTRONOMICAL

The skies of the Atacama Desert are a window to the universe. Recognize worldwide as one of the best for the practice of astronomy, here the night gives way to an intense show of lights and shapes whose tracks lead to the stellar times where it all began. The experience of connecting with the universe through the skies of Atacama is a true spectacle of discovery and wonder.



11 ANDEAN ASTRONOMY



ANDEAN ASTRONOMY

To make the most of our privileged position in the desert, we have installed the only open air observatory in the region. It sits atop one of the many hills near the hotel. There, eight swivel chairs and a powerful telescope will enable guests to take in the intricacies of our universe with real clarity while here. You will also have the knowledge of one of our expert guides to answer questions and give information on the long history of human astronomical discoveries.

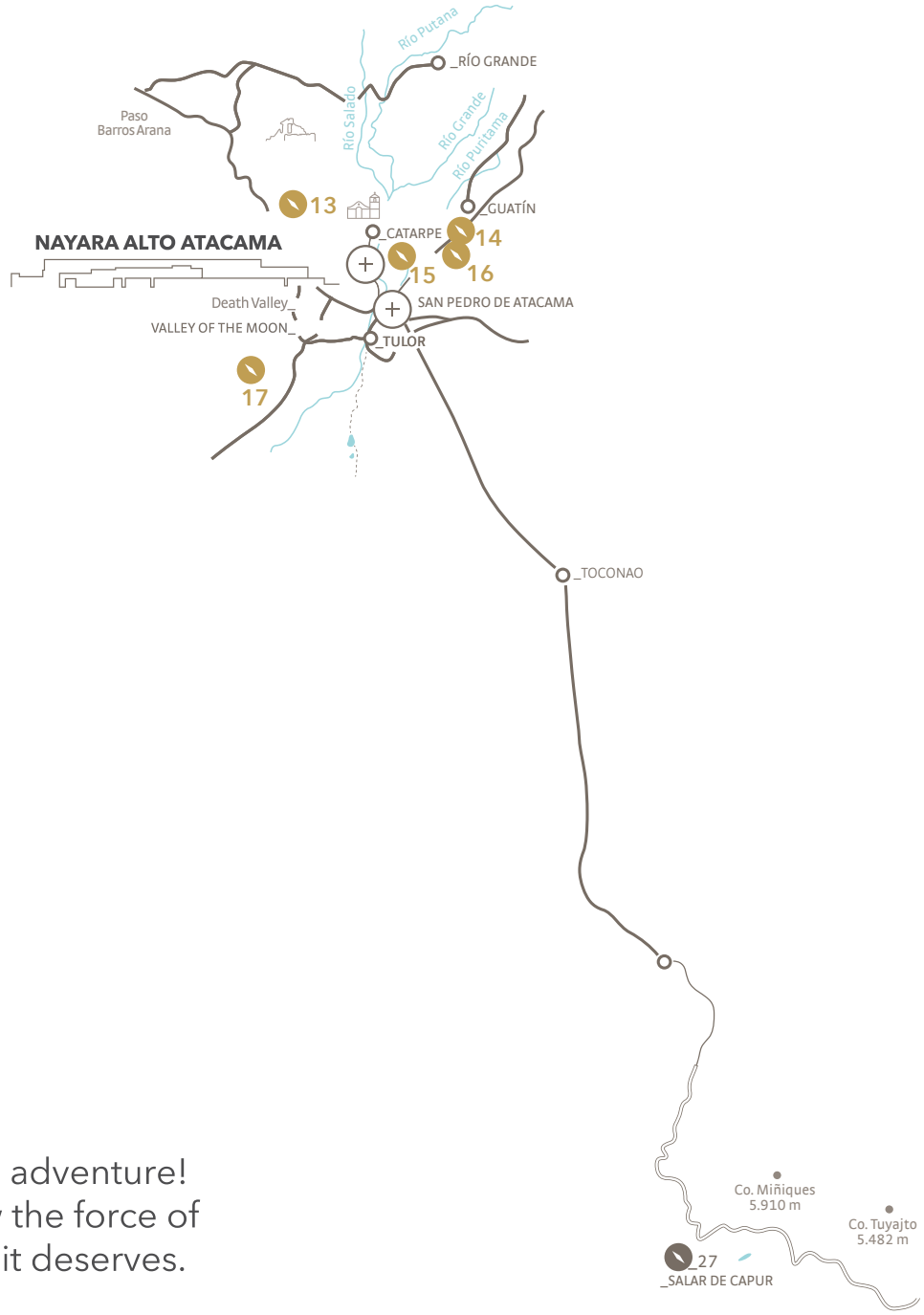
Duration: 1 hour | Difficulty: Easy
Altitude: 2,490 m | Acclimatization: None
What to bring: Ⓐ Ⓒ

Ⓐ
RECOMMENDED

Ⓒ
DURING LOW-TEMPERATURE TOURS

ADVENTURE_EXCURSIONS

13 THE COLORADOS
14 CACTUS HIKE
15 DEVIL'S THROAT
16 VILAMA / DEVIL'S THROAT
17 CKARI GORGE



Our adventure tours will offer guests just that – an adventure! This range of walking and biking excursions allow the force of the desert to be revealed with the natural energy it deserves.



THE COLORADOS (*)

This route crosses one of the most important ancient thoroughfares used by local shepherds thousands of years ago. Next, you will pass through the daunting tunnel formerly used to connect San Pedro with Calama. The walk continues along the cliffs of the Cordillera de la Sal, the perfect place to observe the Catarpe Valley, the oasis of San Pedro, the Salar de Atacama, the Andes, the Cordillera de Domeyko, and even Nayara Alto Atacama itself! Finally, on the way back, we will cross a path which rolls down in the middle of high dunes, a well known feature of Mars Valley.

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: Medium
Altitude: 2,550 m | Acclimatization: None
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:
3 km / 1,86 mi
+
6,3 km / 3,91 mi

* Excursion available in short or extended versions



CACTUS HIKE

This hike begins in Guatín, at the point where the Puritama and Purifica rivers meet, turning into the mighty Vilama River from Guatín onwards. Trek through diverse rock formations and vegetation, including ancient cacti standing at over seven metres tall. The region was once populated with an abundance of shepherding communities so you will pass through former settlements as you walk.

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: High
Altitude: 3,166 m | Acclimatization: None
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:
35 km / 21,74 mi
+
4 km / 2,48 mi

This excursion begins on mountain bike from the Ayllu (settlement) of Quitor. From here the path winds through the spectacular gorges of the Cordillera de la Sal in the Catarpe Valley. The tour continues on the Garganta del Diablo (Devil's Throat), named in connection with ancient myths of the local people. Finally, you will bike to visit San Isidro and its perfectly situated church as an ideal end to the ride.

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: Medium
Altitude: 2,500 m | Acclimatization: None
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:
18 km / 11,18 mi



DEVIL'S THROAT

Ⓐ RECOMMENDED

Ⓐ RECOMMENDED









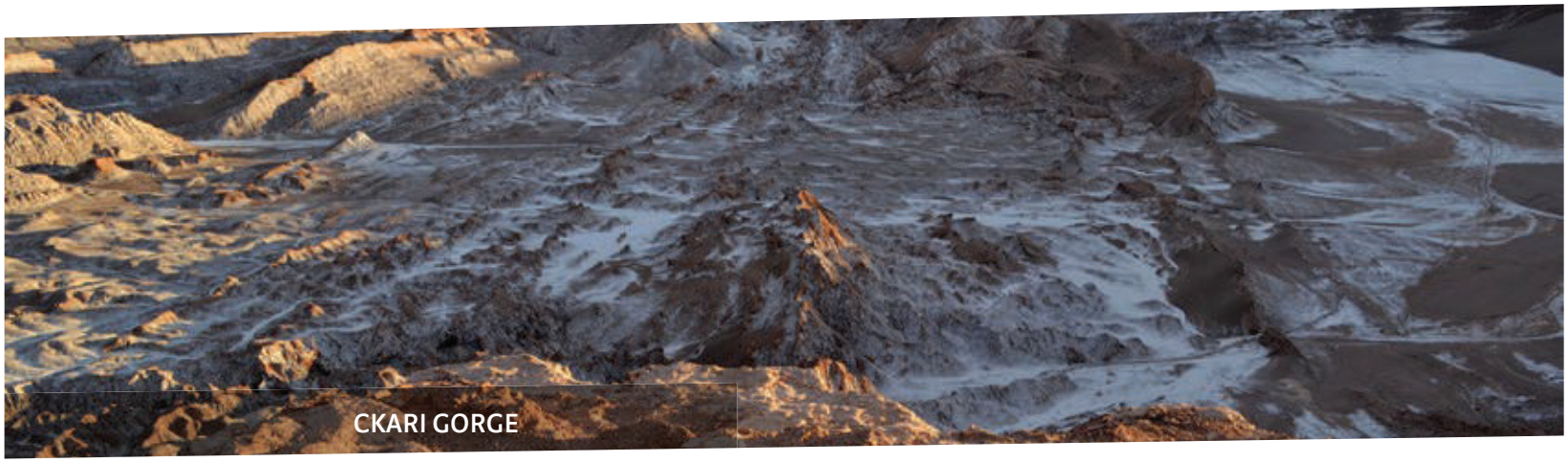
VILAMA / DEVIL'S THROAT



This varied hike takes in a mix of both intriguing archaeological history and captivating landscapes, carved out predominantly by the ferocious flood waters **of the Vilama and San Pedro Rivers over many millennia. Starting at the Vilama sulphur mine, the route then follows in the footsteps of local shepherds of times gone by, until reaching the ancient petroglyphs of Lican Antai, a real-life history lesson and glimpse of the past. Finally, it is onward to the ominously named Devil's Throat Canyon, which offers sublime views across the Cordillera de la Sal.**

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: **Medium**
Altitude: 2,700 m | Acclimatization: None
What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:

10 km / 6,21 mi + 6 km / 3,72 mi



CKARI GORGE

The ever-majestic Cordillera de la Sal never fails to entice and excite, with jagged caverns, steep cliffs and narrow passes in fine display at Quebrada de Kari. Walking first across open, expanding plains, which lead into tight passageways and **formidable mineral mountains, the hike to Quebrada de Kari offers a beautiful insight into the historical geological processes which have shaped these lands. We are also taken into one of the rare habitats frequented by high-altitude birds, which enjoy the protection offered by high salt concentrations in the rocks during cold winter nights.**

Duration: Half day | Difficulty: **Medium | Altitude: 2,550 m**
Acclimatization: None | What to bring: Ⓐ | Distance covered:

25 km / 15,53 mi + 4,9 km / 3,04mi



JAUNA TREK

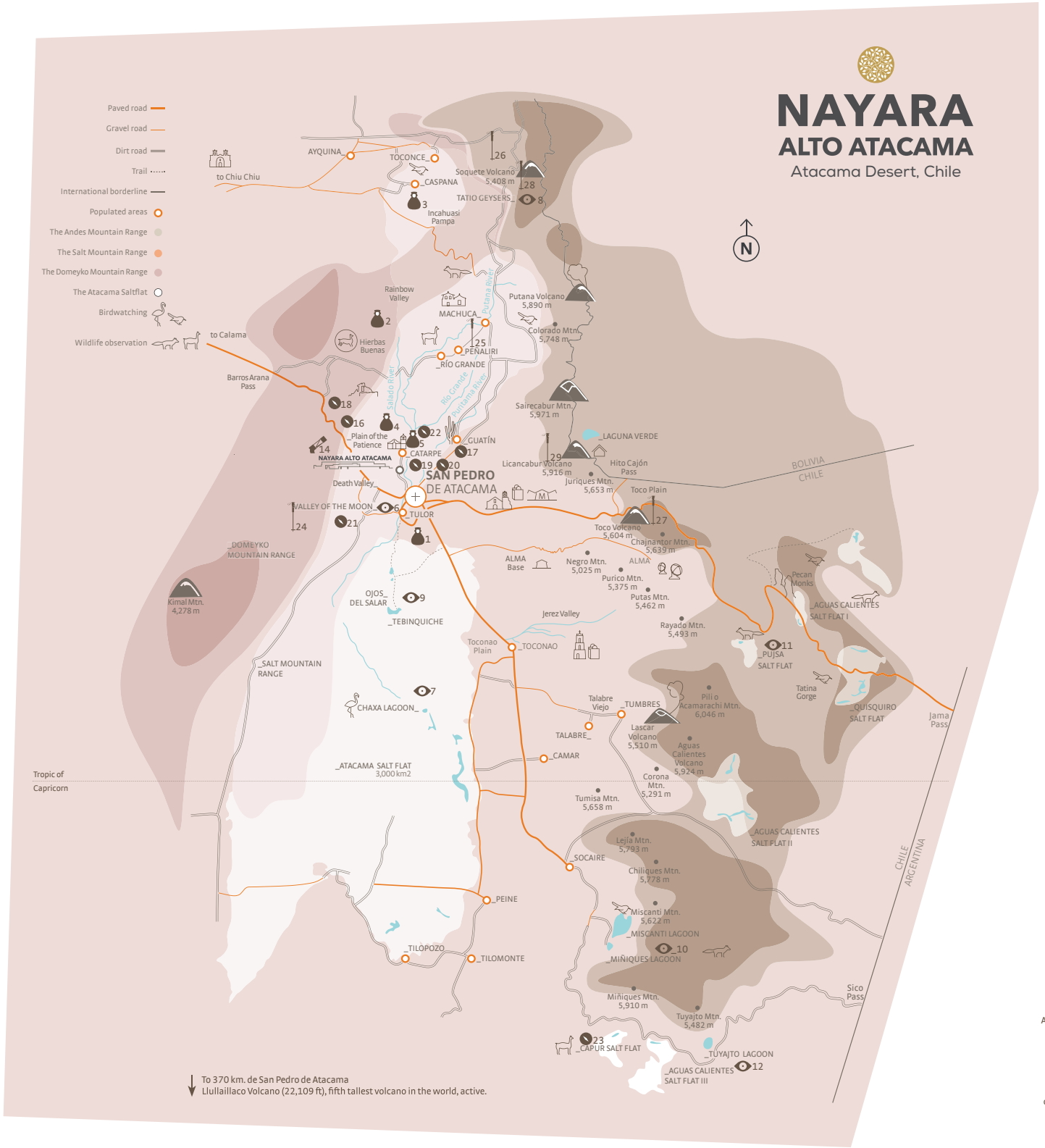
It is a full day hike in the highlands. Jauna is located about 65 km north of San Pedro de Atacama. Starting at an altitude of 4200 meters above sea level, we will go through its wetlands to observe its unique flora and fauna.

Duration: Full day | Difficulty: **Medium**
Altitude: 4,500 m | Acclimatization: 2 days
What to bring: A B | Distance covered: 8 km / 4,97 mi

100 km / 62.14 mi

A

B



Authorized and circulated in accordance with Resolution Nº 12, January 13, 2017 of the National Bureau of Borders and State Limits. The edition and circulation of maps, geographical locations or other forms of documentation which refer or relates to the boundaries and frontiers of Chile, do not compromise the State of Chile, in accordance with Article 2, letter g) of DFL N ° 83 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.