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Organization of American States

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Unidad de Investigaciones
Financieras
Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia

**XLV MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS
FOR THE CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING
October 4 and 5, 2018
Santa Cruz, Bolivia**

**OAS/Ser.L/XIV. 4.45
DLOC/LAVEX/INF1/18
August 18, 2018
Original: Spanish**

INFORMATION BULLETIN

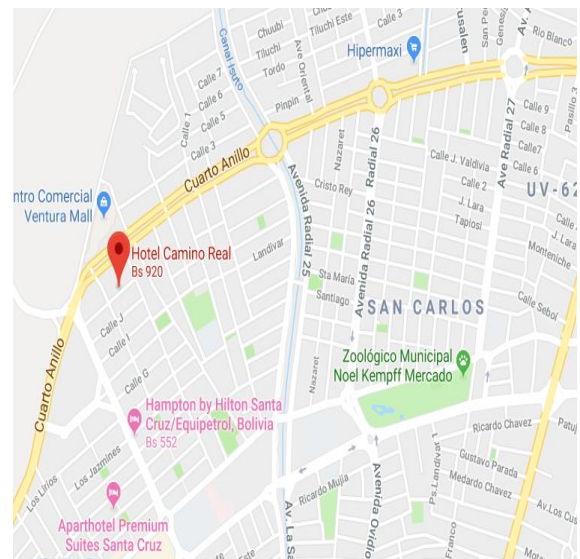
The **XLV Meeting of the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX)** will take place in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, from October 4th to 5th of 2018 (Meeting room **Juayhú** – Hotel Camino Real). The coordinating meeting of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Sub-Working Groups coordinators and the Technical Secretariat will take place on October 3rd in the same venue (meeting room **Aguapé**).

The objective of the Plenary Meeting consists on presenting the achievements accomplished as part of the Work Plan 2017-2018, based on the lines of action defined in the Strategic Plan 2018-2020, and establishing the Work Plan 2018-2019.

In order to properly prepare your trip, please consider the following information:

1. VENUE:

The XLV Meeting of the Group of Experts of the Control of Money Laundering will take place in the **“Meeting room Juayhú of the Hotel Camino Real”**, located at Avenida San Martín & Calle K, Cuarto Anillo, Equipetrol Norte zone, Santa Cruz de la Sierra. For further information please click in the image below:





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Hotel Camino Real - Santa Cruz Bolivia
Av. San Martin y 4to Anillo
Equipetrol Norte
Tel.: (591-3) 3423535 int. 660 - Fax: (591-3) 431515
ventas1@caminoreal.com.bo | www.caminoreal.com.bo

2. COORDINATION OF THE MEETING

✓ **Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTCO) of the Organization of American States (OAS)**

1889 F Street, N.W. 8th floor, Washington, D.C. 20006

Telephone: (202) 370-4591 / (202) 370-4736

E-mail: kmoraes@oas.org / jgrajales@oas.org

✓ **Financial Investigation Unit (FIU) of Bolivia**

Maria del Pilar Gil Pattzi

Phone: +591 2 2188988 ext. 321

E-mail: maria.gil@uif.gob.bo



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3. HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS

Given the characteristics of the event, the hotel and lodging expenses must be arranged by each participant. All reservation requests must be accompanied by the number of a valid credit card for confirmation.

Likewise, it is necessary to take into account that the reservations of rooms must be requested directly by the participants to the hotel of their preference. A list of the hotels that are located near the meeting venue is detailed below. The rates presented in this document have been negotiated by the Financial Investigation Unit Bolivia (UIF) in the indicated hotels.

In the case of accommodating in the hotel where the meeting will be held (Hotel Camino Real), at the moment of making your reservations, we would appreciate mentioning that you will participate in the **"XLV (45th) PLENARY MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS FOR THE CONTROL OF WASHING ASSETS "GELAVEX of the OAS"** or that are invited by the Financial Investigation Unit Bolivia (UIF). Please contact Litci Flores and Darwyn Quiroga at the hotel by email reservas@caminoreal.com.bo.



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It is recommended that participants make their hotel reservations as soon as possible by contacting the following hotels directly:

CAMINO REAL – VENUE		
<p>Tel: +591 3 3423535</p> <p>Address: Avenida San Martin & Calle k, 4to Anillo</p> <p>Check in at 14:00 pm - Check out until 12:00 pm</p> <p>For reservations please send an email to reservas@caminoreal.com.bo, contacting Litci Flores and Darwyn Quiroga</p>	<p>Bs. \$749 (Single) USD. \$ \$110</p> <p>Bs. \$861 (Doble) USD. \$ \$126</p> <p>Rates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Buffet Breakfast from 06:00 to 10:30 am Welcome drink WiFi throughout the Hotel free of charge Vip room upon request and availability Admittance to the Health Club: outdoor pool with slide, play pool, dry sauna and steam room. Indoor parking 	<p>http://www.caminoreal.com.bo</p>

<u>HOTEL NAME</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>LINK</u>
<p>LOS TAJIBOS HOTEL</p> <p>Tel: +591 3 342-1000</p> <p>Address: Avenida San Martín No. 455, 3er Anillo</p> <p>Check in at 14:00 - Check out until 11:00 am</p>	<p>Bs. \$ 896 USD. \$ 128 Breakfast included</p>	<p>http://www.lostajiboshotel.com</p>
<p>HOTEL BUGANVILLAS</p> <p>Tel: +591 3 3551212</p> <p>Address: Av. Roca y Coronado 901 4to Anillo</p> <p>Check in at 15:00 - Check out until 12:00 pm</p>	<p>Bs. \$ 420 USD. \$ 60 Breakfast included</p>	<p>www.hotelbuganvillas.com</p>
<p>HOTEL MARRIOT</p> <p>Tel: +591 3 3424848</p> <p>Address: Av. Las Ramblas 4to anillo</p>	<p>Bs. \$ 763 USD. \$ 109 Breakfast included</p>	<p>Email: Jahel.Weinber</p>



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Check in at 14:00 - Check out until 10:00		g@marriotthotels.com
HOTEL RADISSON Tel: +591 3 3718000 Address: Avenida Segunda #4, Colinas del Urubó Check in at 13:00 - Check out until 12:00	Bs. \$689 USD. \$99 Breakfast included	www.radisson.com

Other suggested hotels near the venue:

MAI SUITES Tel: +591 3 3443993 Address: Calle Los Pinos #522 esquina Los Lirios, 4to Anillo Check in at 14:00 - Check out until 12:00	Bs. \$623 USD. \$89 Breakfast included	http://www.maisuites.com/
YOTAÚ ALL SUITES Tel: +591-3 3367799 Address: Av. San Martín 7, 2do anillo Check in at 14:00 - Check out until 12:00	Bs. \$629 USD. \$ 90 Breakfast included	http://yotau.com.bo

4. AIRPORT





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The Viru Viru International Airport (IATA Code: VVI, ICAO code: SLVR) is located in the municipality of Warnes, 21 km from the city center of Santa Cruz de la Sierra. It is the largest and most important airport in Bolivia with connections of national and international flights.

- Address: Viru Viru International Airport - Carretera al Norte Santa Cruz de la Sierra - Bolivia. Telephone: 181 / 591-3-3385000 Website: www.sabsa.aero/aeropuerto-viru-viru

- Transfer by Taxi: The approximate rate of the Airport / Hotel varies between Bs. \$ 60 to Bs. \$ 80. (\$9 to \$12 USD approximately).

- The Camino Real Hotel (venue) has an airport transfer service with a cost of Bs \$95 (\$13 USD) for one person and for an additional person Bs \$10 (\$1.50 USD).

- Travel distance to the center of the city of Santa Cruz: Approximately 21 km / 51 minutes.

- Distance from the Viru Viru International Airport to the Hotel Camino Real (venue) 20 minutes.

OBS: The distance by car can be affected by local conditions and traffic.

Other transportation options - Rent a car

At the Viru Viru International Airport there you can also rent cars that are available in the airport.

- ✓ Avis Rent-car

City Address: Carretera al norte Km. 3 1/2.

Phone: (591-3) 3433939 - Fax: (591-3) 3451595

Offices in Viru Viru Airport: [International terminal-arrivals]

- ✓ Hertz Rent-car

City address: Av. Cristóbal de Mendoza 286

Telephone: (591-3) 3338823 - Fax: (591-3) 3360750

Viru Viru Airport Offices: [International terminal-arrivals]

- **Currency exchange**

At the **Viru Viru Airport, Santa Cruz - Bolivia**, you will find an exchange house located in the Main Hall of the second floor "International Arrivals".

The current currency of Bolivia is "boliviano". Currency exchange operations are subject to the values of the current exchange rate.



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5. AIRPORT TRANSFER

The Financial Investigations Unit (UIF) will provide participants with transport for your transfer to the Hotel according to your itinerary of arrival in Bolivia. There will be a person at the airport identified with a sign that will carry the UIF logo for this purpose. Please send the complete information of your itinerary to the mail maria.gil@uif.gob.bo and hernan.lucero@uif.gob.bo, specifying name of the airline, flight number, date and time of arrival, as well as the information of departure from the country. In case of not sending the indicated information, the reception and transfer at the airport will be difficult.

Deadline to receive your travel itinerary, September 10, 2018.

6. FOOD AND BEVARAGE

During the days of the event **Coffee breaks** will be served in the morning and afternoon. **Lunch** will be served during the days of the event at noon for all participants.

7. MEDICAL SERVICE

It is recommended that participants obtain health insurance coverage. The hotel has first aid and first aid kit available during working hours.

8. YELLOW FEVER VACCINE

All participants must carry the international certificate of yellow fever vaccine and present them to the Bolivian migration authorities. For participants who have not been previously immunized, the vaccine must be taken at least 10 days before the travel date.

9. TRANSPORT

Radio Móvil VIRU VIRU
Taxi service – Lagunillas
Tel.: 3 3520713



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OTHER RADIO TAXIS

Radio Taxis - Camarapa - 353-6858
Radio Taxis - El Cristo - 353-8585
Radio Taxis - El Señor de Malta - 353-6868
Radio Taxis - El Trébol - 353-5050
Radio Taxis - El Trompillo - 352-9232
Radio Taxis - El Tucán - 333-3222
Radio Taxis - Equipetrol - 332-1111
Radio Taxis - Gorrión - 348-4898
Radio Taxis - La Cuba - 334-0909

10. VISAS

The documents or visas required to enter Bolivia vary according to the country of origin and the existing migratory agreements. It is suggested that each participant verify what these requirements are in their cases by contacting the embassy or consulate of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, in the country of origin of the participant.

<http://www.cancilleria.gob.bo/webmre/node/484>

<http://www.migracion.gob.bo/>

In those countries or jurisdictions in which there is no Bolivian embassy or consulate, a visa can be requested from Bolivian embassies or consulates located in countries or jurisdictions near the country of residence or origin of the participant. Please take into consideration that **passports must have a minimum validity of six months at the date of travel and must contain at least two blank pages.**

Custom letters to apply for a visa

If you require a letter of invitation from the Financial Investigation Unit (UIF) of Bolivia for the visa process or for getting arrival visa for countries that do not have a visa suppression agreement with the Plurinational State of Bolivia, you can send an email to Dra. Maria del Pilar Gil Pattzi E-



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mail: maria.gil@uif.gob.bo, indicating the subject, the name of the event and attaching a copy of the personal information sheet of your passport, your flight itinerary from the departure of your country to the exit of Bolivia, the country that grants the passport and reason for visiting the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

The deadline for such requests is September 10, 2017, so that the visas are processed in time for the event.

GROUP I

COUNTRIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A TOURIST VISA TO ENTER BOLIVIA

Requirements:

1. Andean and Mercosur countries, and associated states:

Carry the passport and / or valid Identity Card.

2. Other countries:

Carry the passport with a validity of no less than six months.

Present vaccine against yellow fever certificate.

Present roundtrip tickets or present travel itinerary.



Argentina (AMERICA)



Canadá (AMERICA)



Colombia (AMERICA)



Ecuador (AMERICA)



Panamá (AMERICA)



Perú (AMERICA)



Brasil (AMERICA)



Chile (AMERICA)



Costa Rica (AMERICA)



México (AMERICA)



Paraguay (AMERICA)



Uruguay (AMERICA)



Venezuela (AMERICA)



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GROUP II

COUNTRIES THAT REQUIRE TOURISM VISA TO ENTER BOLIVIA (WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION TO THE NATIONAL MIGRATION SERVICE, THROUGH THE CONSULAR OFFICE OR BOLIVIAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION).

Requirements:

1. Fill out the "VISA APPLICATION" form, with your personal data, duly signed, enclosing a recent photograph in colors, without glasses, 4x4 centimeters, with a red background.
2. Carry passport with a validity of no less than six months.
3. Present yellow fever vaccine certificate.
4. Present roundtrip tickets or present travel itinerary.
5. Proof of accommodation in Bolivia (hotel or family house)
6. Delivery of the visa on the same day or in 24 hours when it is a group of tourists.

	Antigua y Barbuda (AMERICA)		Haití (AMERICA)
	Bahamas (AMERICA)		Honduras (AMERICA)
	Barbados (AMERICA)		Jamaica (AMERICA)
	Belice (AMERICA)		Nicaragua (AMERICA)
	Dominica (AMERICA)		Rep. Dominicana (AMERICA)
	El Salvador (AMERICA)		Saint Kitts y Nevis (AMERICA)
	Granada (AMERICA)		San Vicente y las Granadinas (AMERICA)
	Guatemala (AMERICA)		Santa Lucia (AMERICA)
	Guyana (AMERICA)		Suriname (AMERICA)
			Trinidad y Tobago (AMERICA)



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GROUP III

LIST OF COUNTRIES THAT REQUIRE TOURISM VISA TO ENTER BOLIVIA (WITH PRIOR CONSULTATION TO THE NATIONAL MIGRATION SERVICE, THROUGH THE CONSULAR OFFICE OR BOLIVIAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION).



Estados Unidos (AMERICA)

Further information: <http://www.cancilleria.gob.bo/webmre/node/484> ;

<http://www.migracion.gob.bo/>

- List of Bolivian Embassies and Consulates: <http://www.boliviaweb.com/embassies.htm>

If you need a letter of invitation to apply for your visa, please ask for the following email:
maria.gil@uif.gob.bo

11. BOLIVIA CUSTOMS OFFICE

Bolivians or foreigners who live abroad and enter the country on a temporary basis are considered international travelers.

Forms to fill out:

All international travelers upon arrival must present the Customs Office the Form N ° 250 "Form of Accompanied Baggage" (Form 250).

When the FOB value of the new articles exceeds the franchise of one thousand 00/100 dollars (USD \$1,000) but does not exceed the amount of two thousand 00/100 dollars (USD \$2,000), the surplus over the franchise must be nationalized by means of declaration of imported merchandise for consumption with the corresponding payment of customs duties.



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The new items of personal use exceeding two thousand 00/100 dollars (USD \$2,000), must be nationalized by presenting the declaration of import goods for consumption with the intervention of a Customs Officer.

Sworn statement is requested for physical entry and exit of foreign currency (*Declaración Jurada*), if the amount carried is more than ten thousand 00/100 dollars (USD \$10,000) and less than fifty thousand dollars (USD \$50,000.). You must detail the amount in the same statement.

More Information

<http://www.aduana.gob.bo/aduana7/content/formulario-de-declaraci%C3%B3n-jurada-de-ingreso-y-salida-f%C3%ADsica-de-divisas-paramontosmenores>

12. ELECTRICITY

In Bolivia, the common electrical voltage is 220V. The frequency is 50 Hz. The plugs and sockets are of type A / C. In the following images you can see the types of plugs (plugs and sockets).



13. CURRENCY

The national currency in the Plurinational State of Bolivia is the Bolivian. The following bills and coins are currently in circulation:

- Bills: 10 Bolivian, 20 Bolivian, 50 Bolivian, 100 Bolivian and 200 Bolivian.
- Coins: 10 cents of Bolivian, 20 cents of Bolivian, 50 cents of Bolivian, 1 Bolivian, 2 Bolivians and 5 Bolivians.



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Recently circulated bills of Bs. \$ 10 and 20



- **Exchange Rate:** 1 US dollar = sale Bs. \$ 6.96 and purchase 6.86 (to date).

Exchange Center:

- At the ViruViru Airport, Santa Cruz - There are also exchange houses in the city of Santa Cruz (preferred).



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- **Exchange Houses:** they are distributed in most places like Shopping centers and near the hotel where the event will be held. All are authorized by the Supervision Authority of the Financial System (ASFI). All commercial premises issue invoices; National currency (Bolivian), American dollars and Credit cards (MasterCard, Visa American Express) are accepted.

Valid credit cards in Santa Cruz - Bolivia:

American Express, Visa, Master Card.

There are ATMs (ATMs) of different Banks located in the main hall, they accept the main credit cards (VISA, Master Card, American Express, Electron, Maestro, Cirrus, etc.), both in national currency and in US dollars.

Banks:

Banks have a currency exchange service. Ask someone from the hotel and / or the UIF Bolivia to find out about the nearest bank where you can exchange money.

ATMs

In Bolivia, most banks have ATMs from which Bolivians and dollars can be withdrawn.

14. BOLIVIA

- **Capital:** Sucre
- **Departments of Bolivia:** Bolivia has 9 departments, in the Altiplanic zone is La Paz (Headquarters of Government), Oruro and Potosí; in the zone of the Valleys is Cochabamba, Chuquisaca (Sucre capital) and Tarija; in the Tropical zone is the city of Santa Cruz, Pando, and Beni.
- **Language:** Spanish
- **Climate:** Bolivia is divided into three regions: Tropic, Valley and Altiplano, for which its climate is varied during the four seasons of the year.
- **Government:** State
- **Political Division:** Divided into 9 Departments.
- **Official time:** GMT -4 hours (normal); -3 (summer)
- **Closest Shopping center to the venue:** Ventura Mall, which has commercial stores with world-class products, restaurants with national and international food and movie theaters.



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Forecast of the estimated time for the date

WED 10/3	THU 10/4	FRI 10/5
		
33° /22°	33° /20°	33° /19°
Mostly sunny; very warm	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny
Hist. Avg. 30°/19°	Hist. Avg. 30°/19°	Hist. Avg. 30°/20°

WED 10/3	THU 10/4	FRI 10/5
		
92° /72°	92° /69°	91° /66°
Mostly sunny; very warm	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny
Hist. Avg. 85°/67°	Hist. Avg. 85°/67°	Hist. Avg. 85°/67°

15. TIME ZONE

Coordinated Universal Time GMT / UTC-4



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LABOR HOURS

✓ Banks

Week days: from 9:00 to 16:00 Hrs.

Weekend (Saturday) from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sunday and Holidays: Closed.

✓ Government Offices and Organizations

Week days: 08:30 Hrs. - 18:30 Hrs.

Weekends and Holidays: Closed

✓ Stores

Daily 10:00 Hrs. - 21: 00Hrs.

16. USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

- Calling code Santa Cruz - Bolivia - (591-3)
- 110 - Radio Patrol
- 119 - Firefighters
- 114 - Transit
- 118 - Hospital San Juan de Dios - Medical Emergencies
- 161 Mobile medical emergencies
- Japanese Hospital - 346-2031 - 346-2037
- Red Cross - 3331965 - 3361122
- Viru Viru Airport 181 - Information - 3852400
- Transit - 3525668 - 352-5659
- Security Guard - 3321826
- Judicial Technical Police - 352-1901
- National Police – 3321826

16. GASTRONOMY

Bolivian gastronomy is based on typical foods of each area such as corn, tunta, yucca or cassava, banana, quinoa, etc. Each region of the country has a different cuisine. In the altiplano zone the dishes with tunta, chuño, potato and corn are the more traditional. In the eastern region, dishes based on cassava, corn and plantain are frequent.



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Bolivian cuisine is a delight of traditional foods and unique in the world as: salteñas, anticucho paceño, chairo, fricasee, silpancho, sonso, masaco, keperi, llauchas (cheese empanadas), marraqueta (a type of bread), trout, api and buñuelo, k'alapurka (soup with stone), pork rinds, pique macho and hundreds of delicious dishes of traditional national cuisine.

Bolivian drinks are also unique and exceptional, traditional drinks are: mate de coca, api, mocoichinchi, chicha morada, chicha and guarapo without forgetting the delicious wines and singanis of Tarija.

18. TOURISM ATTRACTIONS IN SANTA CRUZ

AquaLand, Santa Cruz de la Sierra

AquaLand is a water recreation park. In the park you will find water games, swimming pools - including a wave pool, the only pool with waves in all of Bolivia, and also restaurants.

Address: Km. 12 Carretera al norte, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

Phone: + 591-3-3852500

Website: www.aqualand.lobopages.com



Biocentro Guembé, Santa Cruz de la Sierra



Ecological and Aquatic Park. The Guembé Biocenter is a natural paradise of 24 hectares, located 15 minutes from the city center located in the area of Urubó, surrounded by countless exotic plants, lush forests and animals typical of the region, offers its visitors a number of attractions and recreation and healthy recreation activities such as being the largest butterfly in the world, the most exotic orchid and the most original park that includes: natural pools, lagoons, restaurants, rides in carrozas, fishing,



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ecological trails and many other attractions and activities adventure, where nature is part of your life.

Address: Los Batos Zone, Km. 7 Road to Porongo, Santa Cruz, Bolivia Telephone: + 591-3-3700541-42 Email: info@biocentroguembe.com Website: www.biocentroguembe.com

Cabañas del Río Piraí, Santa Cruz de la Sierra

Fixed on the banks of the majestic water course, traditional weekend walk, and rustic buildings with regional materials where you can taste the traditional food and perform some sports activities.



Catedral Metropolitana, Santa Cruz de la Sierra



Also known as the Minor Basilica of San Lorenzo, it was designed by the French architect Felipe Bertres in 1845, modified to a neoclassical style by the Welshman Leon Musnier and completed in 1915 by the Italian Victor Querezolo.

It was built entirely of brick and lime. On the main altar, part of the original cover was carved in silver

at the Jesuit Mission of San Pedro de Moxos, and has four sculpted high reliefs that were also brought from the same Mission.



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It takes the name of San Lorenzo de la Frontera in honor of him, as it was known since then the city of Santa Cruz after being moved from the original place of its foundation.

Address: Calle Ayacucho esq. René Moreno Street, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

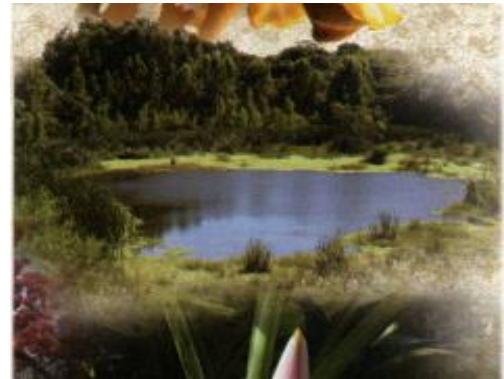
Jardín Botánico, Santa Cruz de la Sierra

In order to preserve and exhibit the great floristic and forestry diversity of Santa Cruz, the new Botanical Garden is projected as a unique ecological reference that must have the support of all the friends of Nature.

The subhumid plain forest and the seasonally flooded Chaco forest of the department of Santa Cruz, are the two large vegetation formations that converge in the 186 hectares garden and represent the great beauty of the Bolivian East

El Sendero Ecológico

When visiting the Ecological Path, the visitor, in addition to appreciating the beauty of the Santa Cruz flora, will be able to compare the difference of the wooded lands through the barefoot and blindfolded path, then will be amazed by the view offered by the mirror box. From the top the forest looks better with the viewpoint, the treetops and the fauna that inhabits it, the cabin above the lagoon, which allows to observe the lagoon, where the Capiguara lives, the lizard and a variety of birds migratory, the long jump of the animals.



Address: Km 8 Carretera a Cotoca, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia Telephone: + 591-3-3623101 Website: www.gmsantacruz.gob.bo/Botanico/index





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La Rinconada, Santa Cruz de la Sierra



A hidden paradise: La Rinconada is a beautiful recreational complex and restaurant located on the west bank of the Pirai River, which gives you the opportunity to be in touch with nature and relax while enjoying the dazzling gardens full of life and color, the entertaining games for adults and children, and above all, the delicious meals that make this place a true paradise of flavors and scenery. A natural lagoon containing colorful fish and several species of aquatic

plants, among which the monumental Victoria Regia, the largest water lily in the world originating in the Amazon, is part of this beautiful recreational park.

Address: Buen Retiro, Km. 7 Road to Porongo, Santa Cruz, Bolivia Phone: + 591-70899708 E-mail: larinconadarestaurante@gmail.com Website: www.larinconada.com.bo

Parque Ecológico Yvaga Guazú, Santa Cruz de la Sierra

Beautiful tourist and educational attraction: Walk along paths and paths with the support of trained guides and specialized in the interpretation of nature. More than 600 species of native and exotic plants, annual and perennial, with a range of flowers and colors 365 days a year.



Diversity of native fauna composed especially of birds and mammals: parrots, toucans, deer, taitetu, whistling monkeys, iguanas, red jochi, sloths, squirrels and others.

Address: Doble Vía a la Guardia, Km. 12 ½, Santa Cruz, Bolivia Phone: + 591-3-3573767 Website: www.parqueyvagaguazu.org



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Plaza 24 de Septiembre, Santa Cruz de la Sierra

It is located in the center of Casco Viejo, Plaza 24 de Septiembre received its name in honor of the date of the uprising by the independence movement of Santa Cruz. In the middle of the square you can find the statue of Ignacio Warnes, a local hero of the War of Independence, started in 1810.



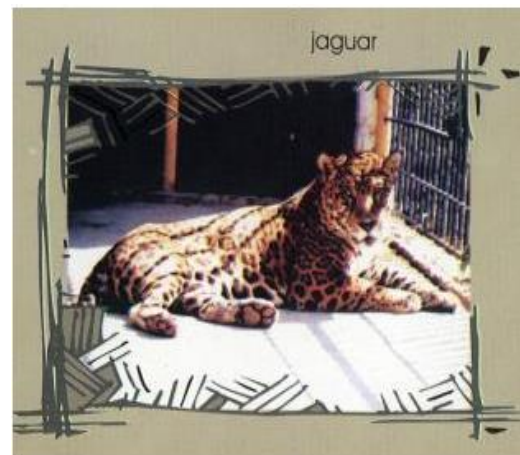
Currently, it is one of the most important meeting places for children, adolescents and adults of all social classes and nationalities. It is also a great place to see people pass by from their banks. It is common to see older people sitting on benches, playing chess and getting their shoes polished.

Around the Plaza 24 de Septiembre are the Cathedral, the Social Club, the Municipal Cultural Center, and other buildings that still maintain the architectural style of the colonial period and are considered historic landmarks and patrimony of Santa Cruz.

Zoológico Municipal, Santa Cruz de la Sierra

The South American Fauna Zoo houses a collection of animals native to South America, considered one of the most complete of its kind.

It is located a little over two kilometers from the center of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, in a land of 66,000 square meters that is already narrow, considering the growth that the population of captive animals has had.



Bolivia is the thirteenth country with the greatest biodiversity, having a fauna heritage endorsed by eminent specialists of the world. An extraordinary sample of this valuable natural resource is found in the Municipal Zoo of Santa Cruz



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de la Sierra Fauna Sudamericana, an institution that materializes the principles of conservation, defense and study of our fauna richness.

Address: Third Ring Internal and Radial 27, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia Phone: + 591-3-3429939 Website: www.gmsantacruz.gob.bo/zoo

El Sud-Este Chiquitano

(Chochis, Santiago de Chiquitos, Aguas Calientes)

This region of singular beauty is still a white spot on the tourist maps of Bolivia, located in the south-east of the department of Santa Cruz. The transportation centers to visit the region are San José de Chiquitos and Roboré, but most travelers pass through the region, without knowing or having heard, on the night train or bus that connects Santa Cruz de la Sierra with Puerto Quijarro on the border with Brazil.



Website: www.chiquitania.com

Las Misiones Jesuíticas



After 300 years, the Jesuit Missions in Bolivia are the only ones that still exist in South America. San Jose, Santa Ana, San Rafael, San Miguel, San Ignacio, Concepción and San Javier are seven of the ten Chiquitanian towns that have been able to preserve missionary buildings to this day. In 1991, the Jesuit Missions of Bolivia were declared as "Cultural Patrimony of Humanity" by UNESCO.

The Missions of Chiquitos were in their time the main missionary settlement of the Society of Jesus in the new world. The main function of the missions was to convert the nomadic tribes into what were known as "settlements of converted Indians", in an attempt to introduce the indigenous populations to a religious, civic and artistic life.