



Santa Cruz & Gran Chiquitania

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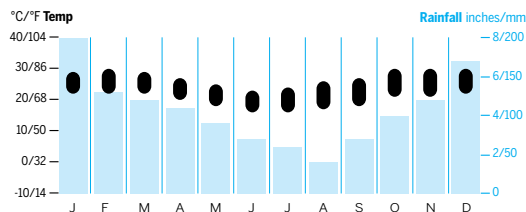
Why Go?

The Bolivian Oriente is not what you generally see in Bolivian tourist brochures. This tropical region, the country's most prosperous, has a palpable desire to differentiate itself from Bolivia's traditional highland image. The region's agriculture boom in recent years brought about a rise in income and a standard of living unequalled by any other Bolivian province. This is the part of Bolivia that defies the stereotype.

Santa Cruz is Bolivia's most populous city with a cosmopolitan population, yet it still retains a small-town atmosphere. From here visit the charming Jesuit mission towns with the country's loveliest examples of Jesuit architecture, the pre-Inca ruins that hide near the village of Samaipata, or embark on a revolutionary pilgrimage to where Che Guevara met his maker around Vallegrande. Prefer nature? There are miles of trekking and tons of wildlife at the little-disturbed Parque Nacional Amboró.

When to Go

Santa Cruz



Jan Give in to desire at the Buena Vista Chocolate Festival on the last Sunday in January.

May–Aug The best time to visit lowland Chiquitania to avoid the worst of the heat.

Oct Join the faithful at Vallegrande's Che Festival, in memory of the legendary revolutionary.

