

# SERVAS ARGENTINA ANNUAL TRIP 2022

## PUNA



In Servas Argentina we have been organizing an annual trip for 14 years now. We choose places that are hard to visit if you travel on your own.

We hire transportation, guides, hotels or cabins and we provide some meals.

This year, we organized a two-week trip to La Puna, in the Jujuy province, the northwest area of our country and

also the highest. We stayed in small towns of aboriginal people. The accommodation was very basic, and the meals were the traditional ones from those places.



We shared many activities with these communities like learning how to prepare typical tortillas or eating a special dish called Pachamanca which is vegetables and meat cooked for hours in a

hole in the ground. We also attended a festival with typical dancers dressed in the traditional fashion, in which live sheep took part of the festivities. We explored lagoons in the desert. We saw how women do their knitting with their looms. We celebrated the traditional ritual of the Pachamama many times,



since August is the month dedicated to do that. We took an embroidery class. We did and learned a lot.

This trip was something unique because we travelled to places that are not touristic and where people received us with love and dedication.



This was a trip in which we didn't stay at any Servas houses because there aren't any in those locations. These towns are small.

Some people are born there and then emigrate to the big cities but most of them live there all their lives raising llamas and working in the fields. They live with little money but they are very attached to their place and their traditions.

We had to go through some difficulties like high altitude sickness, but we had so many wonderful experiences that made everything worthwhile. This was the best Servas trip we ever had.



Most travelers knew nothing about our organization but they behave as if they did. I'm very grateful to all the people of our group and also to the universe for making everything fall into place so we could have an amazing trip.

*By: Ana Manghi, Servas Argentina*