



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Bolivia - Copacabana / Isla del Sol

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** La Paz
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish / Indigenous
- ✓ **Sq km:** 346,5 (Copa) / 5000 (Isla)
- ✓ **Population:** 6000 (Copa) / 14,3 (Isla)
- ✓ **Currency:** Boliviano BS
- ✓ **Country code:** +591
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 110 (police), 119 (fire), 118 (ambulance)
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / DTP / Yellow fever / Malaria prevention

History Recap Over 1 Drink

Aymara's named Isla del Sol *Titi'Kaka*. 1438-1527: Inca's in west (Copacabana). Isla del Sol: Inca birthplace of sun. Spanish arrived → 1532: Battle of Cajamarca against Inca's. Spanish colonial times: Bolivia 'upper Peru' / Charcas. Conversion to Christianity.: Revolt Tupac Amaru II against harsh treatment Indians. 1809: Liberals of rebel armies under the command of Bolivar & Sucre: Battle of Ayacucho. 1825: Independent. During wars Copacabana plundered. 19th century: Peru-Bolivian Confederation → War of Confederation. 1879-83: War of the Pacific: Bolivia lost coast & nitrate rich fields to Chile. 20th century: Discrimination of indigenous people. 1898: Government in La Paz. 1941: Revolutionary Nationalist Movement (Marxist) → 1952: Bolivian National Revolution: include Aymara/Quechua population. 1964: Military junta overthrew president Paz Estenssoro → many presidents. Current: Morales (indigenous): nationalize gas fields.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Wet												
Best												
Budget												

Altitude: 3841m.

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Visit the cathedral, including its Camarin de la Virgen and Capilla de Velas.
- ☺ Witness the Bendiciones de Movilidades: A priest blessing cars. It's very weird indeed.
- ☺ Climb the Cerro Calvario.
- ☺ Trek from Copacabana to Yampupata.
- ☺ Get tanned on the rocky Copacabana beach and enjoy the views of the stunning Lake Titicaca.
- ☺ Stroll around the market for a sneak-peek in Bolivian culture.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👉 Take the boat to Isla del Sol or Isla de la Luna. An entrance fee for the islands is charged.

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Olas del Titicaca, +59128622205, Calle 16 de Julio.
- ❖ Hostal Leyenda, +59170674097, Av. Busch/Constanera.
- ❖ Camp for free just outside town (best views!).

Tourist Trap Alert

☹ The whole village of Copacabana is a tourist trap. Avoid if you're not keen on mass tourism.

Nights Best Spent

◆ [Waykys](#), Av. 16 de Julio.

Free-Riding?

- Copacabana exists of a few streets: Everything is walkable.
- The bus system is used for long-distance travel. In the close surroundings (dirt cheap) *collectivos* are used. On the front you can find the destination.
- Boats leave to the islands. Arrive on time and buy your tickets at the harbour (not at a travel agency).
- Taxi's are cheap, but can be very dangerous in Bolivia. Armed muggings are common. Only use official companies, let your hostel call a radio taxi. Never go in a cab with strangers. As a woman, go with men you know.

Tip: Download the free Triposo Bolivia app for an offline map, offline guide & more.

Budget Bites

⌘ Streetfood is dirt cheap (less then €2). Try it at the central market. Tasty: salteñas, tucumanas, choclo, llauchas, anticuchos, saice.

⌘ Go to local restaurants and order *almuerzo* (lunch) or *menu del dia* (3-course meal). The signature dish is *trucha* (trout) and can be eaten at the food stalls along the coast.

⌘ El Condor & The Eagle Café, Av. 6 de Agosto.

Mama Said

- ☠ Don't trust an un-uniformed police. It's a scam.
- ☠ Watch your bag, buy a lock. Smartphones are popular. Take extra care during festivals.
- ☠ NEVER take an unofficial taxi or go in a cab with strangers. Let your hostel call one. Kidnapping, assault and robberies are a serious threat.

Festivals

- ⚙ Alasitas: Festival of Abundance (religious), 24-Jan.
- ⚙ Independence Day: National, begin-Aug.

Next?

- ➔ In Bolivia: La Paz, Sorata, Coroico, Uyuni, Potosi.
- ➔ International destinations closeby: Peru, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay.

The Earth Becomes My Throne