



Orphanage Volunteers

Highlights

- Becoming a key member of a happy and fun volunteer project. The staff will appreciate your help and the children will love having you around!
- Living and volunteering in the beautiful city of Sucre – it will feel like home in no time!
- Exploring exciting Bolivia during your free time!

About The Project

Sadly, Sucre, as in other parts of Bolivia, is home to many children whose parents have either abandoned them or are unable to care for them. In some cases, the children have been separated from their parents due to issues such as alcoholism, child abuse and economic factors. The orphanage provides a safe haven for these underprivileged children, but resources are limited and they are crying out for volunteer assistance. Help bring a smile to the faces of these wonderful children by offering your time, affection and support. The orphanage currently cares for approximately 65 children, from newborn babies, up to the age of six years old. The centre takes responsibility for the overall care of the children, including feeding, nutrition, clothing, hygiene, education and care when sick. Some of the children are later fostered by families who take them into their homes, and others move to a new institute for further care after the age of six.

Volunteer Role

The first Monday at the Academia is an orientation day. All new students and volunteers go on a city tour of Sucre to get to know the city and learn how to get around and use the public transport system. In the afternoon there's an information session in which you will learn about the Academia, as well as about important issues such as security, do's and don'ts in Sucre, accommodation, volunteer work etc. Your volunteer placement commences on Tuesday of the first week.



There are two areas of work for volunteers to get involved in. You can either help to care for the babies and very young children – newborn to two years old, or for the slightly older children – three to five years old. With the babies, you will be feeding, washing, changing nappies, changing their clothes, putting them to bed, encouraging them to crawl and walk, and keeping them stimulated and entertained by playing with them.

The older group of children have more of a routine and you will assist with taking them to kindergarten, providing lunches, playing, offer educational support, washing them and washing their clothes.

Location

The project is a 20 minute walk form the Academia in Sucre.

Sucre is a beautiful city set in a valley and surrounded by low mountains. It has a rich colonial heritage and is also known as ‘the white city’ due to its numerous colonial buildings, all of which are painted white and topped with shiny red roofs. In 1991, it was granted ‘UNESCO Cultural Heritage’ status.



Sucre is home to many museums, a lively central plaza, shops, bars and restaurants. Locals and visitors alike are also attracted to markets where food, textiles and an assortment of other products are sold in barter fashion! The charming colonial town and its nearby villages feature a sizeable indigenous population and they have managed to maintain their customs and colorful dress.

Accommodation

You will stay either at the student residence or with a host family. Host family accommodation includes a private room, breakfast, dinner and laundry service. Singles, married couples and parents with children can all be accommodated. It is also possible to stay in a student residence – one is located within the school grounds, and there are two very nearby. Here you will self cater - there are shops and markets very nearby and a fully equipped kitchen.

Requirements

Volunteers must be able to commit to at least 4 weeks at the project in order to build up a trusting relationship with the children and staff.

All volunteers must hold an intermediate level of spoken Spanish. If your Spanish is at a lower level, you must join our Spanish language school prior to commencing your volunteer work.

When choosing to volunteer in a developing country such as Bolivia, it is important to remain flexible as the needs of the project are constantly evolving. This is what makes volunteering so rewarding – the fact that you are on hand to lend your support when and where it is needed. By choosing Academia Latinoamericana de Español you will have a comprehensive safety network behind you as we are here to help throughout the duration of your entire stay!

Programme Fee Includes

- Accommodation
- 2 meals per day if staying with a host family
- Project Support
- A donation that goes directly to your project
- Orientation and city tour
- Pre-departure information
- Laundry service if staying with a host family
- 24 hour emergency support

Programme Fee Does Not Include

- International flights
- Meals if staying at the student residence
- Laundry service if staying at the student residence
- Visas
- Travel Insurance
- Inoculations
- Excursions over and above the itinerary

Travel Ideas

We are fully equipped to help you with making weekend travel arrangements, and onwards travel arrangements following your time at the Academia. We work with the best tour companies to offer safe, reliable and competitively priced trips. Some of the most popular trips include:

- La Paz – The World's highest capital city at 3660m above sea level! Wander the markets, visit the museums and sip coffee in the plazas. Good day trips from La Paz include: the Valle de la Luna - a maze of canyons and pinnacles, and Tiwanaku – Bolivia's most significant archeological site.
- Salar de Uyuni – Go on a 4WD adventure of the incredible lunar landscape of the world's largest salt flat. See giant cacti, red lakes, pink flamingo and steaming geysers!
- Pampas – visit the wetland savannas to spot a vast array of wildlife including caimans, monkeys, sloths, pink river dolphins and maybe even anacondas! Stay in riverside lodges, watch incredible sun sets and sun rises and sway the day away in hammocks!
- Lake Titicaca – South America's largest Lake which borders Peru and Bolivia. Stay on one of the floating islands for a true insight into the lifestyle and culture of the local communities.
- Potosi – scabble and crawl through the shafts of Potosi's mines and even let off a stick of dynamite!

Apply Now

If you have some further questions about this project, please feel free to contact us at info@latinoschools.com.

If you would like to book this programme, please [click here](#) to complete the booking form. We will be in touch within one week of application to confirm your booking!