

May 2023

*Dreaming of
South America with Akorn*




Akorn

Akorn DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

RECOMMENDED BY AKORN

Back from Buenos Aires, where I had a chance to meet with many of you, and then off to Cartagena for our Regional Management Meeting, I always try my best to make time to explore my homeland a bit more. Cool speakeasys and foodie experiences in Buenos Aires, rum and chocolate tasting with an expert and private navigation in Cartagena, it's never a dull moment in South America. Even if you have been many times like myself, there are always new ways to rediscover these vibrant lands. Continue reading for some inspiration, our teams are ready to help you design an amazing journey for your clients in the blink of an eye and, we still have plenty of availability for the rest of the year, even in the Galapagos Islands on a private charter! And please check out our new Patagonia Active Program for New Year's Eve, this is all you need to start off 2024 on the right foot. And, yes! Peru is back! With the Belmond Andean Explorer back on track and many new experiences in the land of the Incas (one of them our Andean women-led Inca Trail which I will be hiking in three weeks, very exciting!). I hope you enjoy this month's issue of our e-magazine!

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Our Recommendation of the Month

Galapagos Charter for the Summer

There is only one way to bring your Galapagos experience to another level, and that is by chartering one of our hand-picked vessels to cruise the Enchanted Islands. Contact our team in Ecuador and let them tell you about the Akorn-exclusive availability that they have worked out for you, with great dates and the best vessels in the archipelago. We still have dates available for the summer and the holidays to enjoy the "Enchanted Islands", on board the M/Y Origin, M/Y Theory, M/Y Evolve, M/Y Stella Maris, M/Y Aqua Mare, M/C Elite, M/C Petrel, M/Y Natural Paradise, and M/T Galapagos Horizon. Contact our local team! Remember that all the spaces are subject to availability, and they are all on a first come, first served basis.



Our Recommendation of the Month

Snow Activities in Argentina

If you are all about snow and winter activities, you definitely need to visit us in Argentina during your summer, which is our winter! With the Patagonian mountain ranges starting to dress in white and the landscapes changing into their winter fashion, we know it's the right time to gear up and enjoy the beautiful southern winter! Let us take you to Bariloche or Ushuaia and enjoy a wide array of activities that range from skiing to snowboarding, quad biking, exploring the End of the World on board a 4x4 at sunset, and more! Contact us, and let our team of experts tell you all about our winter activities, designed for all types of travelers and ages, and how to bring them to the highest level with Akorn!



WHAT'S NEW IN SOUTH AMERICA

New Year in the Chilean Patagonia with Akorn

Akorn Chile has designed this incredible active journey in one of the most remote areas of Patagonia. A challenge not for everybody, but we take you places.

It is all about unique insider access, WOW experiences and location, location, location. With amazing views of the iconic towers from your comfy bed, and close enough to adventure on serious hikes all the way to the best viewpoints, kayak your way on glacier waters in and out the pristine Torres del Paine national park and ice hike in an immersive experience on glacier Grey with just a few travelers. Ending each day, back to the comfort of a sustainable, efficient, and cozy lodge, indulging in a gourmet meal from the farm to the table paired with top Chilean wines. This is everything, you are looking for in Patagonia to start off your New Year on the right foot!

Click [here](#) to see or download the full itinerary, and contact us to benefit from this Akorn-exclusive program.

Travel Plan

- December 28th
Arrival at Torres del Paine
- December 29th
Torres del Paine Base trekking
- December 30th
Kayaking in Grey lake and Serrano river
- December 31st
Ice Hiking on Grey Glacier
- January 1st
Departure

Featured Activities



Catamaran Navigations



Glacier Hikes



Patagonian Treks



River Kayaking

PERU IS BACK!

A must on every discerning traveler's bucket list, the Land of the Incas is a destination full of emotions, flavors, and adventures. And today we are happy to share that Peru is back stronger than ever and ready to put at your disposal the most exciting adventures and experiences. Learn more about what we can arrange for you in this exciting destination and contact our local team to learn more about our options [here](#).

Our Groups Are Back!

After preventively interrupting operations in Peru and with our guests' safety and peace of mind as our highest priorities, we are now happy to announce that, following an evaluation, we have officially started welcoming groups again in the Land of the Incas!

Thanks to our standards and careful itinerary design, we are happy to share that all our groups are now operating normally and enjoying happy travel experiences, with the benefit of fewer crowds and Akorn's classic exclusive service.

Belmond Andean Explorer Resumes Operations
We're happy to share that South America's first luxury sleeper train, the Belmond Andean Explorer, officially resumes operations, starting May 18th, with longer and even more memorable itineraries.

Contact us and learn how to best include this option in your Peruvian experience with either of the following schedules:

- *Cusco-Puno-Medellin: 3D/2N
- *Medellin-Puno-Cusco: 2D/2N

Juliaca Airport is Open

Peru's second busiest airport and an important connection point between Lima, Cusco, and Arequipa, the Inca Manco Cápac Airport in Juliaca is without a doubt a strategic asset to deeply explore the wonders of Peru. For this reason, we are most happy to share that the airport is officially and regularly operating all its routes.

Travel Advisory for Peru

If you've been checking your embassy's travel advisory, you must have noted that Peru is once again listed as a safe-to-visit country, meaning that you can resume your plans to come to the Land of the Incas. Whether you are looking to explore Machu Picchu, pamper the palate in Arequipa, navigate around the Titicaca, or let your Amazon journey begin, our local team will be happy to assist you with options to make this the trip of your life.

OUR TEAM IN SOUTH AMERICA

Our Managing Team in Cartagena, Colombia

Twice a year, our Managing Team meets to discuss the progress of our goals and set new objectives that allow us to improve and create inspiring experiences for your clients visiting the region. This year, the meeting took place in Cartagena, and we are happy to tell you that we have big surprises coming your way. Stay tuned for more news!

However, it wasn't all about work. Our team also had the opportunity to enjoy the natural and cultural beauty of the city, while actively taking part in our Philanthropy Division's Move-It-May Challenge. This is an initiative that for three consecutive years now has had all Akorn employees around the world walking and counting their steps, in order to get moving and more closely getting to know our philanthropic projects! This is how we've kept walking between projects, from Uganda to Zambia, from Egypt to Kenya, or from Chicago to Cusco!



Brigitte Lämmle Visits Patagonia

Last month, our Akorn Chile Country Manager, Brigitte, visited Patagonia and stayed at the Explora Patagonia National Park, which has already proven to be one of our favorite properties, thanks to its high commitment to nature and top-notch service. Nestled in a remote place on the renowned Austral Road, the lodge offers breathtaking views of the area, thus making it a great place, especially for photographers and those wishing to relax before the peace of Patagonian beauty. However, the property isn't just about the location but about the wide array of explorations on offer, including trekking and biking for the most adventurous and soft hikes or visits to the nearby communities for those wishing to enjoy at their own pace. However, one thing that was definitely a highlight and speaks of the lodge's great location was the opportunity to actually spot guanacos, rheas, huemuls, condors, and even a puma! Without a doubt, this visit wasn't just an opportunity to see the lodge's operation up close, but now to keep on recommending it to you, thanks to the great service, unparalleled location, and important focus on nature and conservation. Contact us and book your stay in Patagonia. You might be as lucky as Brigitte and get to spot one—or all—of Patagonia's big 5.



OUR EXPERT ADVICE ON MEDELLIN

About Medellin

Population: 2 569 000
Weather: 24°C (75°F) average
Good for: food, culture and families



Camilo Rodriguez

"My name is Camilo. I was born and raised in Bogota, the capital of Colombia, and obtained a degree in business administration with a focus on tourism and hospitality, which has allowed me to see and enjoy the exciting travel industry from many perspectives. Throughout my professional career, I have continued to build on my knowledge and expand my skills in the areas of logistics, tourist operations, and problem-solving, which has found me in the active position of Operations Manager at Akorn. It is my dedication to helping clients experience unforgettable journeys in Colombia and help them fall in love with this wonderful destination what moves and inspires my local team!"

OUR EXPERT ADVICE ON MEDELLIN



My Favorite Local Thing to Do in Medellin:

While I always enjoy being in Medellin and Antioquia in general, for the activities and sites, I must confess that my favorite local thing to do is treat my palate to the local flavors! While here, take the time to explore the local gastronomy and enjoy a substantial bandeja paisa, which has a lot rather than a little bit of everything, and complement it with a delicious aguardiente tasting.

Top 5 Things to Do in Medellin:

1. Take a ride on Medellin's famous cablecar.
2. Visit the iconic Guatapé and Peñol town.
3. See the Flower Fair and parade.
4. Visit Comuna 13.
5. Take a social-transformation city tour.

My Favorite Akorn Experience?

While Guatapé is a must-see in Medellin and an iconic postcard of Colombia, at Akorn we have found the way to bring it to a higher level, with a private helicopter overflight. Enjoy the turquoise views and take enviable pictures and videos for your friends back home!

My Favorite Hotels to Stay at?

El Cielo Hotel.

My Favorite Restaurant in Medellin?

El Cielo, Carmen and In Situ.

What to Bring on Your Trip:

With such changing weather and so many places to see, I recommend staying comfortable and versatile. I suggest bringing sunscreen, a hat, a camera, comfortable footwear, shorts, pants, a windbreaker, and a water-proof jacket.

My Local Advice:

We totally understand how curious guests might be about Pablo Escobar. While your guide will be happy to answer questions related to this, I'd suggest addressing the topic respectfully and prudently, as many locals can get very sensitive about it. And remember, Medellin is more than that! It is one of Colombia's most important cities, and its many quaint cultural expressions make it a true jewel to be explored!

FLAVORS OF SOUTH AMERICA

Brazilian Bolo de Rolo

Golden rule: if it's sweet and Brazilian, it's good! Today we bring you a typical, easy-to-make Brazilian dessert that you and your loved ones are going to love!

Enjoy!

What you will Need

For the dough:

- 250 gms sugar
- 250 gms sifted flour
- 250 gms butter, softened
- 5 Large eggs at room temp.
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- A pinch of salt

For the filling:

- Guava paste, chocolate spread dulce de leche, jam or similar.

Instructions

1. In a clean and dry bowl, beat the egg whites until they double in volume. The texture of the beaten egg whites should be such that they form stiff peaks.
2. In a separate bowl, mix the sugar, the egg yolks, and the butter until the mixture is pale yellow.
3. Add the yolks, vanilla extract, and salt into the cake mixture. Then add the beaten egg whites and the sifted flour and fold into the roll mixture.
4. Divide the roll mixture into five and spread thinly into shallow pans, which should be lined with parchment. In a pre-heated oven (180 °C - 356 °F), bake one cake at a time until light golden.
5. On a clean kitchen towel, turn out the warm baked cake. Trim the borders of the cake. Spread a layer of the filling you've chosen and wrap quickly, with the help of the towel. Repeat the same process with every layer.
6. After 20 minutes, unroll the towel. Place the roll on a serving dish, slice, and enjoy with a cup of coffee.



How would you like to enjoy the Christ Redeemer complex privately, at sunrise, and with an Akorn breakfast to start off the day with? Contact our Brazil team and let them tell you all about this exclusive experience that we can arrange for you!

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