



The Republic of Bolivia (GMT - 4 hours)

Geographic Overview: Landlocked Bolivia is the highest country in South America, and is divided into 3 distinct geographical areas: the high Andean mountains (cordillera); the intermediate valleys (between the mountains and low lands); and the eastern plains of the Amazon and Plate river system. The country is home to Lake Titicaca, the world's highest navigable lake.

Area: 1.28 million sq km (425,000 sq miles)

Capital City: Sucre (Constitutional), La Paz (Seat of Government)

Language: Spanish, Quechua, Aymara and Tupi Guarani

People: Indigenous (primarily Aymara, Quechua, and Guarani), Mestizo and a small minority are European/White.

Religion(s): Roman Catholic (95%), Protestant (Evangelical Methodist)

Currency: Boliviano (BOB)

Major political parties: Movimiento Al Socialismo (MAS); Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario (MNR), Movimiento Izquierda Revolucionaria – Nueva Mayoria (MIR – NM), Acción Democrática Nacionalista (AND), Nueva Fuerza Republicana (NFR).

Government: Democracy with elections held every five years. The 1964 constitution (revised in 1994 and 2004) provides for an executive and a legislature consisting of a 27-member Senate and 130-member Chamber of Deputies.

International Direct Dialling Codes

Bolivia 00 591; La Paz 00 591 2; Santa Cruz 00 591 3

Fixed Date National Holidays (NOTE: Many local holidays)

1 January, 22 February (Oruro), 15 April (Tarija), 1 May, 25 May (Sucre), 16 July (La Paz), 6 August, 14 September (Cochabamba), 1 November, 10 November (Potosi), 25 December

Bolivian Embassy (London)

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London

SW1W 9AD

Tel: 020 7235 4248 or 020 7235 2257

Fax: 020 7235 1286

British Embassy (Bolivia)

Avenida Arce 2732, Casilla 697, La Paz

Tel: 00 591 2 433 424

Fax: 00 591 2 431 073

UK Trade & Investment - Country Manager (Bolivia)

Tel: 020 7215 4820

Fax: 020 7215 4980

Anglo-Bolivian Society

1 Bournemouth Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3AR

Tel: 020 8543 1797

Friends of Bolivia

26A Belsize Grove, London, NW3 4TR

Tel: 020 8660 2655

Bolivian Newspapers

<http://www.laprensa.com.bo/noticias/08-06-07/index.php> - La Prensa

<http://www.lostiempos.com/> - Los Tiempos

<http://www.eldiario.net> - El Diario

http://www.la-razon.com/versiones/20070611_005934/ - La Razon

<http://www.eldeber.com.bo/> - El Deber

<http://www.elmundo.com.bo/> - El Mundo

<http://www.opinion.com.bo/> - Opinión

http://www.el-nuevodia.com/versiones/20070611_007123/ - El Nuevo Dia

Bolivia - other useful contacts

<http://www.boliviabiz.com> - Bolivia Business Online

<http://www.ine.gov.bo/> - National Institute of Statistics

http://www.bcb.gov.bo/sitio/introduccion_f.html – Banco Central de Bolivia

<http://www.rree.gov.bo/> - Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto