

Flight & airport arrival information: FSD Cochabamba

General Information

Your responsibilities: Participants are responsible for making their own flight arrangements to and from the program site. Participants are also solely responsible for any airfare or other travel fees, charges, expenses or penalties, that might result from any cancellation of or change in the Participant's program, whether the Participant cancels the program or it is cancelled or altered by FSD. With this in mind, it would be prudent to consider purchasing flight insurance when buying your ticket abroad.

Arrival: All participants need to arrive at the Cochabamba airport on the designated session start date IF they wish to be picked up from the airport and escorted to the orientation site. The FSD program fee only covers travel costs for those being picked up at on the specified start date. Those arriving prior to the session start date will be responsible for arranging their own travel and accommodation, as well as any expenses incurred. Please make sure to keep this information in mind when booking your flight.

Departure: Please keep in mind your program end date when booking your flights. FSD will only cover the cost of transport and accommodation up until the program end date; travel arrangements following the program end date will be the responsibility of the participant.

Frequently asked questions (regarding airports and flights):

What airport should I fly into?

You should fly into the Aeropuerto Internacional Jorge Wilstermann in Cochabamba; Airport code CBB.

Which airlines are recommended?

You will need to book two separate flights. The first flight is international, from the United States to Bolivia. You should research flights in and out of La Paz (LPB), in and out of Santa Cruz (VVI), and into La Paz and out of Santa Cruz. This will provide more options for pricing, flight times, and routes. You are encouraged to find the most convenient flight for you, as long as you arrive by the scheduled date and time for orientation. American Airlines, LAN, COPA, and BOA (Bolivian company) are all recommended airlines. Please try to choose a flight with the shortest layover at an airport, which is safe and comfortable.

The FSD site team in Bolivia recommends to land in La Paz and departure from Santa Cruz for convenience of schedules especially if you decide to use American Airlines

The second flight is a local flight to Cochabamba (CBB). The airlines we recommend for your local flights are Boliviana de Aviación (BOA) <http://www.boa.bo/bolivia/inicio> and TAM Militar <http://www.tam.bo/>. The online site for BOA is more user friendly than that of TAM, and you are able to purchase flights online.

If you are having trouble booking your flight within Bolivia please let us know. The FSD Site Team can purchase your flight for you, using your passport number and name as it appears on your passport. If FSD purchases your in-country airfare, you will be expected to reimburse the Site Team upon arrival for the cost of the flight plus an additional 10% administrative fee.

When should I schedule my flight to arrive?

Your FSD Site Team will contact you before the start of your program with the start time of your orientation. It is your responsibility to schedule your flights and arrive prior to the start of orientation. Typically orientation begins at 3:00 pm on the program start date, and many participants choose to arrive on the first flight into Bolivia so they can rest a few hours prior to orientation.

How far is the orientation site from the airport? How will we get from the airport to the orientation site?

The average travel time from Cochabamba airport to the orientation site by taxi or private transportation is approximately 15 minutes, but can vary due to traffic. The FSD Site Team will contact you directly to arrange your pick-up time and date. If you arrive separately outside of that date you will be required to arrange your own transportation to the orientation site.

If I cannot meet the group for the scheduled pickup how will I get to the orientation site?

It is very important to contact your site team to **coordinate** your arrival if you cannot meet the group for transport. They will be able to give you important directions and tips to help ensure your safety and comfort. The site team can reserve a recommended and trusted taxi driver to pick you up from the airport. It is not recommended to travel alone at night, especially upon arrival when you are unfamiliar with the country. A taxi from the airport to the orientation site is 30-35 Bs (4-5 dollars), or a taxi from the bus terminal is around 25 Bs.

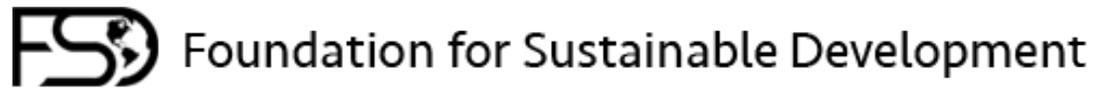
What time should I book my return flight and how do I return to the airport on my day of departure?

You can choose to buy your local return flights (Cochabamba-to departure city) while you are in Bolivia, or online at BOA's website. If you are leaving early in the morning (before 9:30) from La Paz or Santa Cruz, we recommend that you fly from Cochabamba to your departure city a day early. Departure flights that leave in the early afternoon/evening are preferable.

Are there any other tips for arrival?

Please make sure to keep the FSD Site Team's phone numbers and the address for the FSD office on you at all times so if you are delayed or have any questions, you can easily contact us! If your flight is delayed you need to contact the Site Team from the airport. We recommend text messaging or calling on your US cell phone, emailing, or using a pay phone to call the site teams on their cell phones.

If your luggage is delayed you can give the airline the FSD Office address and phone numbers of your FSD Site Team. It is wise to pack some toiletries and a change of clothes in your carry-on in case of lost luggage.



Make sure to contact your families back home once you've arrived and settled in – they're worried about you!