

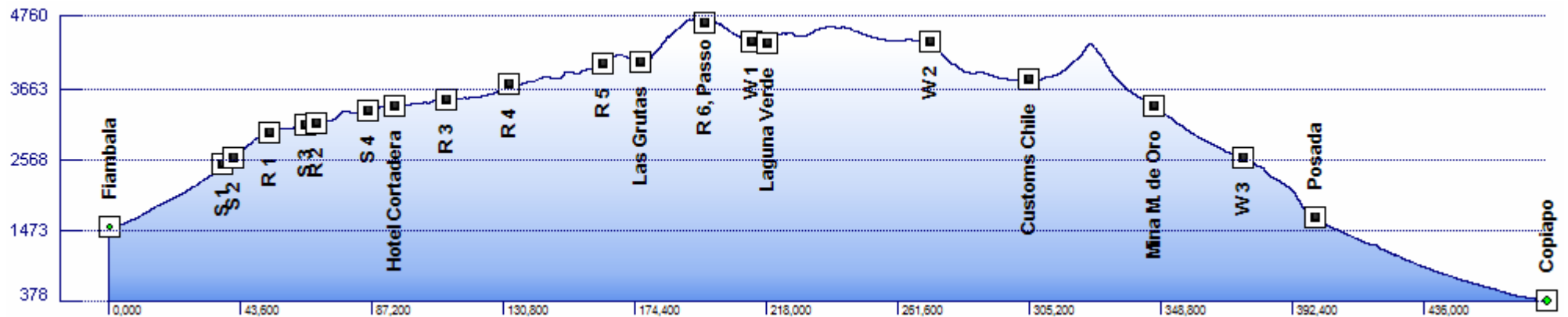
# Elevation Profile - Argentina - Passo San Francisco

- Statistics:** Length: 479 km, av. ascent: 977 m / 100 km
- Road quality:** Fully paved on the Argentinean side. On the Chilean side salt-road. Good to ride. Until May 09 all the way should be prepared with the nice salt-surface.
- Refugios:** R1, R2... These are emergency shelters with solar powered emergency radio. Small huts of concrete and steel, approx. 5x4 meters large, with fireplace (but not always wood). Very nice place to escape the wind for a night.
- Shelters:** S1: simple house besides the road; S2: hut of road construction workers, will be turned into shelter after work is finished; S3: old dirt house, not very nice; S4: house some hundred meters off the road.  
Hotel Cortaderas: a huge, modern hotel, opens Jan 09.  
Las Grutas: Argentinean boarder station. Refugio with beds, warm shower, not sure with food.  
Laguna Verde: simple camping spot. Food not sure. Awesome thermal springs!  
After Laguna Verde (approx. km 235) the Refugio of Ojos del Salado can be seen some kilometers off the road.  
Customs Chile: ridiculously huge terminal-like hall for customs. Sleeping in there was possible for us.  
Mina Mantos de Oro: several buildings for mine workers  
Posada (km 403): Simple hotel, water available
- Water:** Riding from the Chilean side was said to be difficult due to the lack of water. Not true! There is water at the Posada, then at W3 (little creek, horses, some houses), Mina Mantos de Oro, then Chilean customs. W2 is a nice waterfall besides the road, W1 is a creek right before Laguna Verde.  
On the Argentinean side there is always a little creek flowing along the road. Exception: water ends some 6 kilometers before (under) R5. Don't forget if you want to stay at R5!  
Water from thermal springs at Laguna Verde is drinking water too.

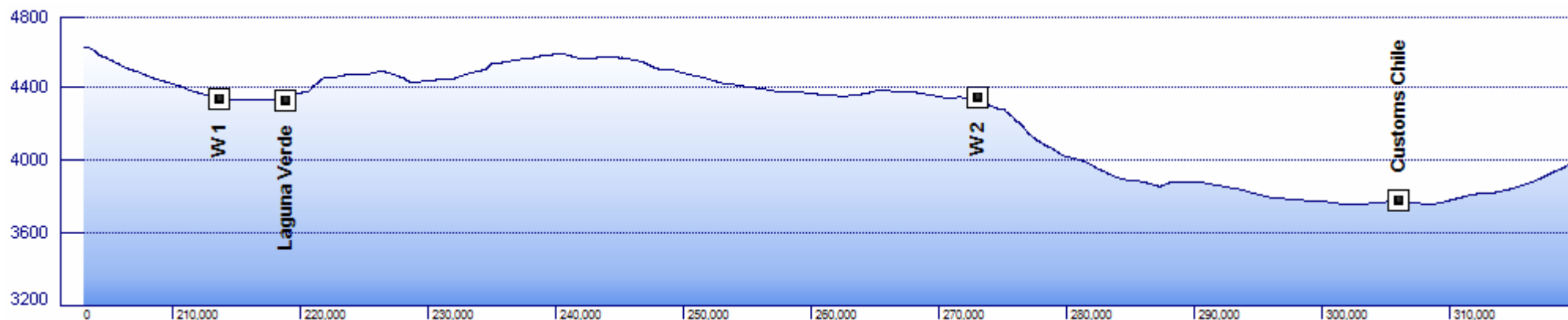
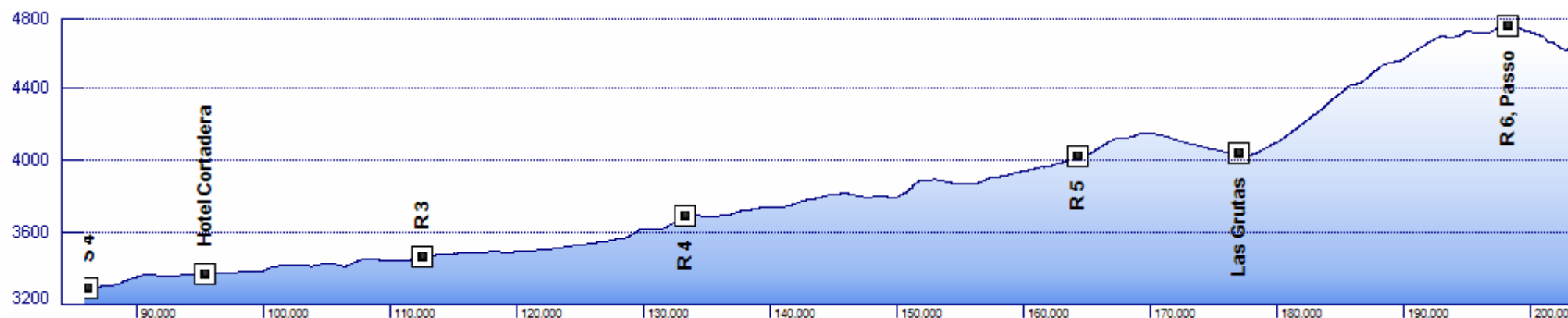
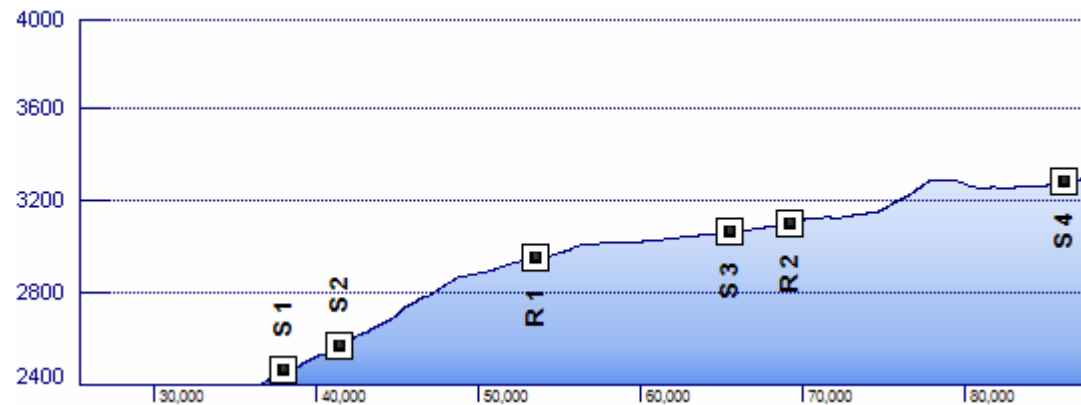
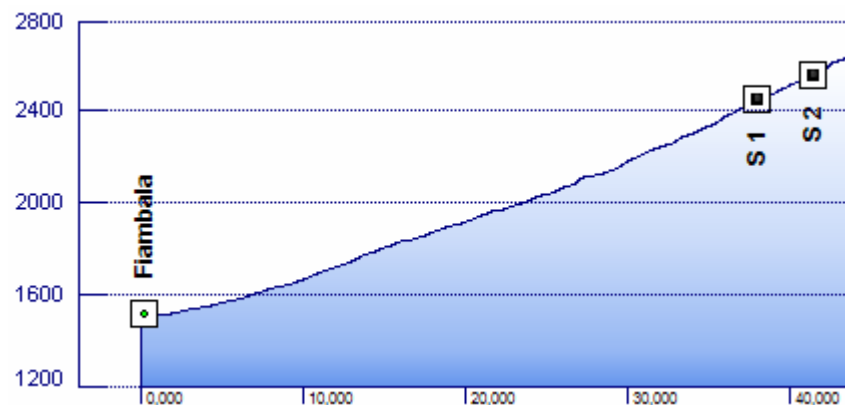
## Elevation Profile - Argentina - Passo San Francisco

**Wind:** Crazy! Wind from the west. We had tailwind till R2, then crazy wind from the side till Las Grutas, then full power headwind till Laguna Verde. Wind at Laguna Verde starts at about 10 am, becomes strong at midday. We pedaled approx. 120 of the 150 kilometers downhill to Copiapo...

**Comments:** Riding from Chile to Argentina brings many advantages. The wind is with you and you have a nicely paved downhill. After (and also before) Fiambala there will be headwind though. The situation with the water should be ok as there are enough spots with water on the Chilean side.



# Elevation Profile - Argentina - Passo San Francisco



## Elevation Profile - Argentina - Passo San Francisco

