



## TRIP CODE

CLTSCIV

## DURATION

4 Days

## LOCATIONS

Chile, Patagonia



## INTRODUCTION

This tour is a suggested itinerary designed by our specialist team! Choose this itinerary or alter it to design your own Journey.

Chiloé Island is the second largest island in Chile and the fifth largest in South America. Beautiful, wooden Jesuit churches are dotted all over the island. Castro, the capital of Chiloé province is the third oldest city in Chile, founded in 1567. It is famous for its colourful stilt houses, market and St. James Church, declared a National Monument. The population of Chiloé Island is descended mainly from the mixing between Aboriginal peoples (huilliches, Cunco, bumpkins and chonos) and the Spanish colonisers. Chiloé is famous for myths and legends with roots in its native population but with some European influence and you're likely to see regular evidence of these beliefs whilst in the area.

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: Transfer Castro Airport to Hotel

Arrival into Castro airport and transfer to the hotel.



### DAY 1: Castro Half Day City Tour

During the afternoon take a city tour of Castro. Explore the main attractions of the city of Castro which include the local farmer's market, Millantuy mountain's look-out point, palafitos (houses on stilts) located in Isabel Riquelme neighbourhood, coffee houses and the local handcraft market fair along with its artisans. Visit World Heritage churches, San Francisco and Nercón and the Municipal and Modern Art Museums. Return to the hotel after the city tour.



## DAY 2: Castro to Achao: Route of churches and craftsman

Breakfast at the hotel. This route will take you to see Chiloé's cultural, agricultural and religious heritage by touring Dalcahue, Curaco de Veléz and Achao villages where you will find World Heritage churches, small but interesting museums, artisans and an attractive cuisine. While exploring back roads you will understand why FAO recognized Chiloé as a World Agricultural Heritage (SIPAM), exemplified in the work of many generations of farmers who developed ingenious practices for the use and conservation of natural resources. Finally, depending on the time of year, stop at some of the viewpoints this route offers where you will see some birds both endemic and migratory among which are the straight-billed curlew and the attractive Chilean flamingo. Lunch in a typical restaurant before returning to the hotel.



## DAY 3: Chiloé National Park

Breakfast at the hotel. This excursion will show nature as Charles Darwin saw it and was amazed by, discovering Huillinco Lakes, Cucao and the Pacific Ocean. The tour includes a visit to the city of Chonchi, known as the "City of Three-Stories" for their different slopes upon which stands the Church Heritage, the Museum of Traditions and the crafts market. Continue to the town of Huillinco where you will see a cemetery of houses characteristic of Chiloé. The visit to Chiloé National Park includes a tour of the Visitor Center and an attractive walk. Lunch will be in a typical restaurant. Conclude the journey at the Pacific Ocean with a walk along the beach before returning in the evening to the hotel.

## DAY 4: Transfer to airport for your onward destination

Breakfast at the hotel and then transfer to the airport for your outward flight.

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## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

### Accommodation

Standard

<b>Inclusions</b>	All transfers 2 Full Day excursions with lunch (Achao & Darwin Route) 1 Half Day city tour (Castro). English speaking guide. 3 nights lodging with breakfast
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	1 (easy)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	Available upon request
<b>Notes</b>	Contact us for more details
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	Season and availability

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## SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structured to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.