

SOUTH AMERICA - MAIPO & CASABLANCA VALLEY WINE TOUR



TRIP CODE
CLTSMCV
DURATION
4 Days
LOCATIONS
Chile


INTRODUCTION

Heading out to the east, west and south of Santiago takes you through the stunning and fertile wine valleys of Chile. This gently rolling countryside, now covered in ancient vines, represents the heart of Chilean wine production and is a must see for wine lovers.

Join us on this 4 day itinerary and let us surprise you with our selection of hand-picked vineyards in the Maipo & Casablanca Valleys.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival in Santiago

On arrival in Santiago you will be met and transferred from the airport to your hotel.



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DAY 1: Santiago de Chile

Santiago, Chile’s capital and largest city, lies in a valley surrounded by the snow-capped mountains of the Andes and the Chilean Coastal Range. Founded in 1541, Santiago has been Chile’s capital since colonial times. It is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city and although it features many colonial buildings, it has grown into a modern metropolis and the cultural centre of the country. *Please note Australian passport holders are required to obtain a Chilean tourist visa or if transiting for longer than 8 hours before arrival.



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DAY 2: Maipo Valley Wineries

After breakfast at the hotel, we drive to the Maipo Valley to discover some of the wineries. 10:30am: We begin our Maipo Valley wine tour with a visit to Santa Rita Winery. Viña Santa Rita was founded by Domingo Fernández Concha in 1880, a prominent business man and public figure of the time. He introduced very fine, French grapes in the privileged grounds of the Río Maipo, and employed wine specialists from France. The techniques that he used enabled him to produce wines of a much higher quality than usual in Chile. Since the end of the last century up until 1970, the vineyard was developed under the García Huidobro family property managed by the don Vicente García Huidobro (Domingo Fernández Concha´s son in law). In 1980, the Claro group and the Owens Illinois company, main producer of glass packaging, bought the Viña Santa Rita. Santa Rita produces Carmenere, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah, and Merlot. Lunch is included at Santa Rita. 15:30pm: The afternoon sees us visiting Cousino Macul winery, where we journey through the history of the vineyard, seeing where the wine was processed over the years. We visit the vineyards, the century-old winery, the museum and the current winery where Cousino Macul´s iconic wine, Lota is produced. Founded in 1856, Cousino Macul is the only winery amongst those established during the nineteenth century that continues in the hands of the founding family. The family still has 100% ownership of the company, a company with history, tradition, character and identity. For years this winery has tried to be a leader in wine production, with the aim of producing world-class wines that are unmistakably Chilean, with a character that expresses the unique taste of the Maipo Valley. The tour lasts one hour and includes a visit to the vineyards and the winery, ending with a wine tasting. At the end of the tour you are driven back to your hotel in Santiago. In the evening you are taken to Puerto Bellavista Restaurant for dinner, and returned to your hotel after the meal.



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DAY 3: Casablanca Valley

After breakfast at the hotel, we drive to Casablanca Valley and begin our winery tour of this region. 10:30am: We begin with a visit to the Emiliana Winery. The Emiliana winery firmly believes that using sustainable, organic and biodynamic agricultural practices results in better-balanced, healthier and more productive vineyards, which in turn results in better quality grapes and therefore better wines. Energy efficiency and climate change are priority issues at Emiliana, and they are addressed in a variety of ways. These include reducing carbon emissions, improving the vineyard and production management practices to minimise the impact on the ecosystems, and increasing the interaction of native species on their properties. Emiliana produces Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Viognier, Marsanne, Roussanne, Pinot Noir, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Carmenere and Merlot. 12:30pm: Next we visit Casa Del Bosque winery where lunch is included. Viña Casa Del Bosque was founded in Casablanca Valley in 1993 by Juan Cuneo Solari. It is one of the few family wineries of the valley. Being a boutique winery and working on a small scale, they maintain the necessary practices to produce the best quality wines. The production reaches 75,000 cases per year and over 80% of it is exported to the most demanding markets abroad. Casa Del Bosque produces Chardonnay, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Syrah, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Carmenere, and Cabernet Sauvignon. After our visit to Casa Del Bosque we transfer to Matetic Vineyards. Matetic Vineyards are located in Fundo Rosario, 120 km from Santiago. The north part of the property is located in Casablanca Valley and the south part of the property is part of San Antonio Valley. In 1999, the Matetic family decided to diversify their business ventures and enter the world of wine, confident in the virtues of the climate and soils in the Rosario Valley. With a firm conviction in the vital importance of maintaining a strong professional team to guide every step of the project, the family incorporated external consultants into the project in 2000 to ensure that Matetic wines achieve the highest quality. Matetic produces Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc, Syrah, Gewürztraminer and Riesling. Accommodation tonight is at Matetic Casona with dinner included.



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DAY 4: Depart Santiago

After breakfast at the hotel you will be transferred from the hotel to Santiago Airport in time for your onward flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Standard
Inclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodation as mentioned in the itinerary. Daily breakfast in the restaurant of the hotel. Lunch were is mentioned. English Speaking guide for transfer and excursions. <p>Not included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air fares and airport taxes are not included Other services not mentioned in the itinerary Extras Early check-in or Late check-out Tips (Airport, Hotel, Restaurant, guides etc.)
Difficulty Rating	1 (easy)
Single Surcharge	FROM US\$395 - supplement for private room based on 2 passengers traveling together. Subject to season and availability, contact us for more details.
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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.

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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 structures 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.

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