

SOUTH AMERICA - SOPHISTICATED SOUTH AMERICA



INTRODUCTION

This popular 14-day journey offers you an insight into the sophistication and culture of Argentina, Chile and Brazil. You will start in Chile's modern capital of Santiago before flying to Mendoza. This winemaking region is famous for its Malbec and you will enjoy some world-class wines. Following Mendoza, you will head to Buenos Aires, the vibrant capital of Argentina where you will spend time visiting the colourful streets of San Telmo and La Boca. Why not enjoy a personalised shopping trip, wine and cheese tasting or gourmet experience whilst in town? You will continue to the awe inspiring Iguazu falls before finally making your way to Rio de Janeiro, South America's most vibrant city, a perfect end to this magnificent two week journey.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival transfer in Santiago

On arrival at Santiago Airport, please make your way through Customs and Immigration and only exit from the green doors marked 'Meeting Point'. Our representative will be holding a sign with your name on it and waiting for you outside this exit. Please only make contact with our representative. This service includes a driver and local English speaking guide who will provide you with any useful information needed for your stay.



TRIP CODE

LATSSSA

DEPARTURE

Daily

DURATION

14 Days

LOCATIONS

Argentina, Brazil, Chile



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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.



DAY 2: Santiago Panoramic City Tour

This morning, you will be collected from your hotel for your tour of Santiago. Visit both the old and new areas of the city. Highlights include the Plaza de Armas, the city's central square and the heart of the city's old colonial core. The Plaza de Armas is home to the beautiful 18th century Metropolitan Cathedral, the early 19th century Royal Court Palace that houses the Natural History Museum and the Central Post Office completed in 1882. Will continue along the Government Palace and where we will have the opportunity to walk through some of the most traditional streets and neighbourhoods. Visit Cerro Santa Lucia, the hill on which Santiago was founded in 1541, now a park with fountains and stairs leading to a fort and panoramic viewpoint across the city. On completion of your tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is small group tour and only operates in the morning.



DAY 3: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight. This service includes a Spanish speaking driver only.



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DAY 3: Arrival transfer in Mendoza

Arrive at Mendoza airport and transfer to hotel.



DAY 3: Mendoza

Mendoza, in a region of foothills and high plains, is the heart of Argentina's wine country, famed for Malbecs and other red wines. The city has wide, leafy avenues, atmospheric plazas and cosmopolitan cafes. The city has five central plazas, the four smaller plazas surrounding the main Plaza Independencia.



DAY 4: Maipu Wines and Flavours

Towards the east of the city, Maipú transports us to the past. You will experience the origins of wine in Argentina, stopping in the historic, restored Bodega Trapiche, the Sinfin winery and the prestigious Zuccardi bodega. These wineries paved the way for viticulture in Argentina, and still today conserve their family traditions. Through them you will learn the history of winemaking in Mendoza. Note: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 09hs to 16.30hs. Wineries subject to change without warning.




DAY 5: Mendoza Free Day

Today is a free day to enjoy Mendoza and the surroundings.



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DAY 6: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to your onward flight from Mendoza. Please note this service is with driver only.



DAY 6: Arrival transfer in Buenos Aires


On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Please note this service is with driver only.



DAY 6: Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires, Argentina’s elegant, historic and cosmopolitan capital, is known as the “Paris of the South” due to its European atmosphere with glamorous avenues lined with fashionable shops and Parisian-style restaurants and cafes. Located on the western shore of the estuary of the Río de la Plata, Buenos Aires has many fascinating neighbourhoods to explore including the colourful and lively La Boca, home to art galleries and tango shows; San Telmo with its restored mansions and antique stores and Recoleta, the city’s most exclusive area.



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DAY 7: Highlights of Buenos Aires City Tour


You will be collected from your hotel for your three-hour tour visiting the most important highlights of the city of Buenos Aires. Discover the history of the Plaza de Mayo Square, the site of Argentina’s most important historical events - see its surroundings and the most emblematic buildings and learn all about them. Then enjoy Mayo Avenue and wonder in awe at the oldest residential neighbourhood in Buenos Aires: San Telmo. Live and feel the original Tango in the neighbourhood of La Boca: walk along Caminito Street and enjoy the Dancers and souvenir shops. See the mythical Boca Juniors soccer stadium. Contemplate the modernization of the city whilst traveling along Puerto Madero and its exclusive docks, full of excellent restaurants and large offices. Pass through the Retiro neighbourhood and move on to see Palermo and its most exclusive residential area before finally arriving at Recoleta. Here, discover the final resting place of Eva Peron, “Evita” and wander through Recoleta Cemetery where she is to be found. On completion of your tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



DAY 7: El Querandi Tango Show & Dinner

This evening you will be collected from your hotel to experience a Tango Show with dinner. This is an intimate & passionate tango show, housed in a cozy wood-panelled 19th century building with a colourful history as a meeting point for poets and students in the heart of Buenos Aires's historic centre. After being abandoned in the late 1970s, the bar was restored and reopened in 1992 as El Querandí Tango Hall. The show is directed by Claudio Campos, with musical arrangements by Ado Falasca, and it smoothly charts the history of Argentina's most authentic artistic expression from its origins to the modern day. The dinner is better than many, and at just over an hour long, the show is the perfect length. The three house singers, six dancers and four musicians put on a great show. Dinner will be served from 8.30pm followed by the show commencing at 10.00pm. Please note timings are subject to change and will be confirmed directly to you. On completion of the show, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



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DAY 8: Ranch & Countryside Tour

This morning you will be collected from your hotel for an authentic day in the countryside at an exclusive estancia in San Antonio de Areco. Travel by road from Buenos Aires to San Antonio de Areco across the endless pampas. This journey will take approximately an hour and half. On arrival at San Antonio de Areco you can take a short walking tour of this charming gaucho town, which includes a walk around the historical plaza. Continue to the exclusive 'El Ombu de Areco' Estancia. Once at the estancia, choose to either have a short horse ride, or ride in a sulky carriage perhaps! There is a typical welcome/starter of cold cuts, cheeses and beverages, and for lunch you will enjoy a typical Argentine country style asado prepared using only the finest quality meats. Dessert is accompanied by a folklore show, which is followed by a demonstration of gaucho skills. On completion of the tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is small group tour.



DAY 9: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight. This service includes a driver only.



DAY 9: Arrival transfer in Iguazu

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. Please note this service is with a driver only. *Please note the Iguazu Tourist Tax will now be charged on check out at all Iguazu hotels. The amount is currently ARS50 (USD3.40) per person per stay. Please note this tax is subject to change without prior notice.



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DAY 9: Iguazu Falls


The spectacular Iguazu Falls that straddle the Argentine-Brazil border, are made up of 275 individual waterfalls lining a 2.7km wide horseshoe-shaped gorge. The Falls are located where the Iguazu River cascades over the edge of the Paraná Plateau. The Falls can be viewed from both the Argentinian and the Brazilian sides, the Brazilian side offering a broader, panoramic view, with the Argentinian side offering a series of catwalks that allow you to experience the Falls from close range.



DAY 10: Iguazu Argentinian Falls

Early morning pick up from your hotel for your full day of exploring the Argentine side of the falls. This tour always starts early in order to beat the crowds and get the first train to the Devil’s Throat. There are walkways over the islands which take you to a balcony over the falls and the most spectacular view of the entire Devil’s Gorge. You will then have plenty of time to walk the 800 metres of paths on the upper circuit. These new suspended walkways are detached from the jungle surface so as to protect the fauna by preventing disruption of the natural trails. From this circuit you have a higher sight of the falls, providing you with a magnificent panoramic view. It takes around one hour to cover the upper circuit. The lower circuit contains 600 metres of walkways, also detached from the jungle floor, and has great views from below and around the falls. Once you have finished all the circuits, return to the visitor centre where your vehicles will be waiting to transfer you back to your hotel. Please note there is some degree of difficulty as the path includes many stairs, particularly on the lower circuit. National Park fee is included. On completion of the tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is small group tour.



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DAY 11: Iguazu Brazil Falls Tour & Transfer to IGU (Apt)

After checking out, you will be collected from your hotel for your tour of the Brazilian Falls and transfer to the airport. See see the falls from the Brazilian side of the border. After arriving at the visitor centre, we board buses for a tour of the park. Equipped with panoramic windows, the buses are designed to maximize your views of the falls, while the walkways and steps allow you to get up close to the spray. Views of the Floriania Falls, the Devil's Gorge Canyon and the Iguazu River are spectacular and are guaranteed to impress. National park fee included. After the tour you will be transferred to the airport in time to check in for your flight. This is a small group tour and transfer.



DAY 11: Arrival transfer in Rio de Janeiro

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Please note this service is with a driver only. Please note, once you arrival at your hotel you will receive a welcome pack, which will provide you with all the useful information you will need about your trip in Brazil.



DAY 11: Rio de Janeiro

Known as the "Cidade Maravilhosa", or Marvellous City, Rio never fails to amaze with its sandy beaches, carefree lifestyle and unparalleled natural beauty. As the capital of Brazil until 1960, Rio is today one of the most culturally and economically prominent cities in the country, receiving more tourists than any other part of Brazil.



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DAY 12: Corcovado & Sugarloaf with Lunch

After an early pick up from your hotel, this tour makes its way to the bottom of Corcovado Hill, where we ascend the mountain by vehicle. Climbing 4km through the Tijuca Forest, the world’s largest urban National Park, we will arrive at the statue of Christ the Redeemer. After taking in the panoramic views, continue to the Maracana Stadium. We also pass the Sambadrome and the Metropolitan Cathedral, before passing through the bohemian neighbourhood of Lapa and its famous arches en-route to Copacabana. Enjoy a traditional Brazilian BBQ lunch (beverages not included) before visiting the famous Sugarloaf Mountain with views across the entire city. After descending the mountain, you will be dropped off at your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



DAY 13: Rio de Janeiro - Free Day

Today is free to enjoy the rhythm of this vibrant, bustling city. From spotting the “beautiful people” on the legendary beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema, to exploring the famous favelas on a tour there is always something to do in Rio.




DAY 14: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotels
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Inclusions	Accommodation Daily breakfast Tours with professional English speaking guide Airport transfers where stated Most entrance fees and local taxes (some exclusions apply) Domestic air tickets as stated on the itinerary Not included: Any meals not mentioned in the itinerary Travel Insurance and tips International air tickets
Difficulty Rating	1 (easy)
Single Surcharge	Available Upon Request
Notes	Estancia Susana is closed on Mondays.
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.
- 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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