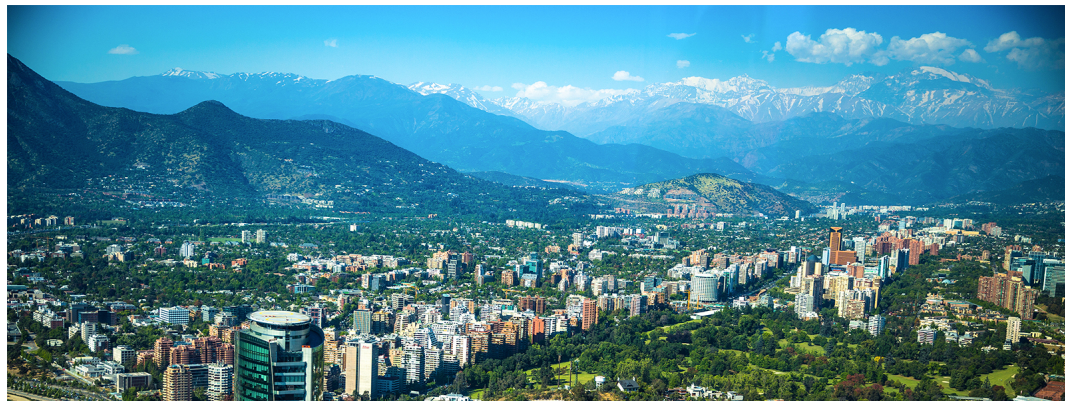


CHILE - HIGHLIGHTS OF CHILE



INTRODUCTION

Join a journey highlighting Chile's best and greatest beginning and ending in Santiago. Explore this incredible city before heading off into the depths of Torres del Paine National Park. Enjoy the serenity of Puerto Varas and the harsh yet spectacular Atacama Desert. Take some time to enjoy the wine region of Chile in this all encompassing 14 day itinerary.

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.



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DURATION

14 Days

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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.



DAY 3: Hotel Las Torres - Arrival

You will meet you at your arrival point and transferred to Hotel Las Torres, located inside Torres Del Paine National Park. This transfer is up to 5 hours in length on good paved and dirt roads and offers a great introduction in the wide open expanses of the Patagonian pampas. Pick ups at 9am and 3pm from Punta Arenas City and 9.30am and 3.30pm from Punta Arenas Airport.



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DAY 4: Exploring Torres del Paine National Park

Hotel Las Torres have a set of activities where you can choose from onsite, allowing you to create your own personalised experience deep in Torres del Paine National Park. Below are suggested options you may like to choose from through-out your stay. After breakfast you may choose to walk the park's main trail to a famous viewpoint, situated on the shores of a Glacier lagoon, from where you can observe the slender, granite peaks that give the national park its name. The excursion begins at Hotel las Torres, where you will begin a hike through Ascencio Valley, crossing a beautiful forest of Lengas and later arriving to a rocky area (La Morrena), the most difficult section of the trail, and finishing at the spectacular Torres Base Viewpoint. After a snack and allotted time for photography, we will follow the same trail back to the hotel. After your morning excursion, relax and enjoy the hotel's facilities before visiting the world's southernmost, as well as one of the region's oldest, organic kitchen garden at Reserva Cerro Paine. In less than half a hectare, the garden produces seasonal fruits and vegetables using bio-intensive, sustainable methods that produce food for our restaurants. Our garden has developed immensely since its origin in the early 1950s. With this history in mind, we aim to strike a balance between conserving old fashioned, heirloom varieties and meeting production goals. The farm has nine types of fruits and more than twenty-five types of vegetables, along with an ever-growing group of culinary and medicinal herbs. Visitors have one or two hours in the garden, during which you can stimulate your senses, sample fresh goods, and learn the history of the world's southernmost organic garden. In addition, visitors can help with some daily harvesting tasks, such as planting and weeding. Extra hands are always welcome! Enjoy dinner back at the hotel.



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DAY 5: Exploring Torres del Paine National Park

Hotel Las Torres have a set of activities where you can choose from onsite, allowing you to create your own personalised experience deep in Torres del Paine National Park. Below are suggested options you may like to choose from through-out your stay. This morning start your journey to the park's most spectacular waterfall and an astonishing viewpoint. The adventure starts with a 45-minute drive to Pudeto in the heart of the park's lake district. The trail leads us through a portion of the park impacted by the great forest fire of 2011- 12. Between the remains of the fire-ravaged trees, new life is already sprouting from the rich Patagonian soul. The path continues to Sendero Mirador Cuernos. Possibly the Park's most spectacular viewpoint, the panorama features the "Los Cuernos" (Horns), Mount Paine Grande and the French Valley and Glacier rising straight up from the other side of Nordenskjöld Lake: a breathtaking spectacle of rock and water. From this point we continue the trail to Salto Grande, a raging aquamarine cascade that channels water between lakes Nordenskjöld and Pehoé. The roundtrip hike from car park to viewpoint takes about two hours. Given the open terrain, high winds are possible during this trek. Those who don't want to undertake the complete hike can opt for a shorter version that features just the brief hike to Salto Grande waterfall (about 30min round trip). Enjoy lunch back at the lodge and get refreshed for your afternoon exploration. This afternoon, you may choose to go for a leisurely trail ride to the famous Lake, 'Lago Nordenskjöld', at the base of the Paine Massic named after a famous Swedish-Finnish explorer who dedicated himself to the study of Antarctica, Greenland, Chile and Peru. Leaving from Pesebrera, your excursion follows the famous W Trail, passing the northern shores of the lake and Mount Almirante Nieto. Cross various rivers and forests, having the opportunity to appreciate various viewpoints and Patagonian flora. In addition, you will have the opportunity meet the baqueanos and live a unique and authentic experience in Patagonia. Dinner at hotel.



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DAY 6: Hotel Las Torres - Departure

Early this morning you will depart Las Torres Hotel aboard their shuttle service transfer. Departure times will be reconfirmed to you directly by the hotel the evening prior to your departure. Please note journey times are as follows however they are dependant on weather and road conditions: El Calafate via Cerro Castillo (border crossing) will be approximately five hours and 30 minutes departing at 7am. Puerto Natales will be approximately two hours departing at 2pm. Punta Arenas will be approximately five hours departing at 7.30am and 1pm.



DAY 6: Arrival transfer in Puerto Varas

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. This service includes a driver and local English speaking guide who will provide you with any useful information needed for your stay.



DAY 7: Puerto Montt: Peulla

From Puerto Montt, head along the southern shore of Lake Llanquihue to reach the Petrohué National Park where you will find the incredibly beautiful Lago Todo los Santos (All Saint's Lake). Sitting neatly in the foothills of the Andes surrounded by lush forests, the lake's constantly shifting colours and incredible beauty will mesmerise you. Crossing the lake by boat, enjoy views of the Osorno Volcano, Mount Puntagudo and Mount Tronador before reaching the tiny hamlet of Peulla where you have time to wander and explore before beginning the return journey.



DAY 8: Puerto Varas Free Day

Free day to enjoy Puerto Varas.



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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. Please note this service includes a local English speaking guide.



DAY 10: Moon Valley Tour

This afternoon, you will be collected from your hotel to travel across Cordillera de la Sal (Salt Mountain Range) to reach the Valle de la Luna (Valley of the Moon), one of the main attractions of this region. Located 19km from San Pedro de Atacama, the valley's landscape resembles the surface of the moon with small but sharp crested hills created by the wind. This tour is available only in the afternoon when the setting sun brings out the best of the valley's incredible colours. On completion of this tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



DAY 11: Atacama Tatio Geysers

Early this morning you will be collected from your hotel for your full day tour to the Tatio Geysers. Located 90 km northwest of San Pedro, the Tatio Geysers sit at an altitude of 4,320 metres above sea level and are said to be the highest geothermal field in the world. See the 100 geysers erupt water and let off steam to heights of up to 50 metres. Surrounded by spurts of water and vapor, enjoy the beauty of the Andes in its natural scenery. Then visit "Pozón Rústico", where you will delight in the thermal waters the mountain range provides. On the way back to your hotel, drive downhill through a wonderful landscape where you can spot guanacos, vicuñas, flamingos and other wildlife. Please note this is a small group tour.



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DAY 12: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time for the transfer to the airport for your outward flight from San Pedro Atacama. Please note this service is a shared service with driver only.



DAY 12: 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.



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DAY 13: Full day Valparaíso & Casablanca valley

This morning you will be collected from your hotel and travel west towards the Pacific Ocean. Our first stop will be in the Casablanca Valley, famous for its many wineries and towns full of Chilean traditions. Vines were first planted here in the mid 1980's and the area is known for its cool climate white wines, most notably Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay, as well as Pinot Noir. The region's world class wineries are mostly located along the road and we will visit one of them to enjoy a premium wine tasting before continuing on to Valparaíso. Valparaíso is a historic port and is known as the "Jewel of the Pacific" and the cultural capital of Chile with festivals every year and a number of street artists and musicians. Its charming, picturesque and colourful houses are set on cobblestone alleyways in the hills that surround the city, creating a natural amphitheatre. In the 19th century, Valparaíso saw an influx of European immigrants. The historic quarter of Valparaíso was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2003 based on its unique architecture and urban design. The city's system of funicular lifts was declared one of the world's most endangered historical treasures by the World Monuments Fund in 1996. A short drive along the coast will allow us to have a perfect view of the hills and the city. We walk around the town to discover hidden treasures such as art galleries, small cafes and breweries. Lunch is not included but restaurants will be recommended to you with time allowed for you to enjoy lunch. In the afternoon, return to Santiago and you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



DAY 14: 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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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Accommodation | Standard |
| Inclusions | Airport transfers Internal flights as mentioned in itinerary Accommodation with breakfast Tours as detailed in itinerary Other meals where stated Exclusions International flights Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel insurance Beverages Gratuities for tour guides and drivers Any items not mentioned as included |
| Difficulty Rating | 1 (easy) |
| Single Surcharge | Available upon request. Contact us for more details. |
| Notes | All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. This is a Tailor-Made itinerary which can be customised to create your own unique journey. Contact us to discuss your travel plans. |
| Price Dependent upon | Season and availability. |

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as

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much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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