CHILE - ALTO ATACAMA EXTENSION



TRIP CODE
CLTSAA
DEPARTURE
Daily
DURATION
4 Days
LOCATIONS
Chile

INTRODUCTION

The luxurious Alto Atacama is blessed with a spectacular and private location. Tucked away in a valley of scenic beauty, in the shadow of the Pukara de Quitor ruins and with the San Pedro River winding its way discreetly alongside, it is the perfect base for exploring the desert, having cultural encounters, or simply absorbing the breathtaking landscape. The rooms are spacious and comfortable, all of them well-equipped to soothe your body after an action packed day. Decorated with local handicrafts, the rooms are simple yet elegant. The definition of peacefulness takes on a new meaning after a couple of nights here. The landscape embraces Alto Atacama with silence - let silence embrace you too.

Highlights Include:

Cactus Hike- This hike begins in GuatÃn, at the point where the Puritama and Purifica rivers meet, turning into the mighty Vilama River from GuatÃn onwards. Trek through diverse rock formations and vegetation, including ancient cacti standing at over seven metres tall. The region was once populated with an abundance of shepherding communities so you will pass through former settlements as you walk.

Valley of the Moon- This tour allows guests to enter a sanctuary of nature and geology. The Valley of the Moon is a spectacular geological formation created through the conflicting pressures of the Andes and the Cordillera de Domeyko. As one of the most breathtaking and iconic views in the entire region, travellers from all over the world migrate here to enjoy the sun setting over the Valley.

The Salt Lakes- The tour of Ojos del Salar takes us to two incredibly deep freshwater pools which emerge unannounced from the arid Desert plains. This trip is noteworthy for its conclusion on the banks the Turquoise Lagoon of Tebinquinche; we will arrive just in time for sunset. Tebinquinche is known as a unique location to experience the pallet of colours associated with Andean volcanic waters, and surrounding mountains as the sun sets and the light morphs across the ever-changing landscape.

Sunrise in The Atacama- The crystal clear salt waters of the Tebinquinche Lagoon,

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surrounded by the imposing Cordillera mountains, are our preferred location to witness the intense contrast of colour, texture and shadow of a high Andean sunrise. Here, you will see the landscape shift and change as the sun rises, and the light levels move across the plains.

Andean Astronomy- To make the most of our privileged position in the desert, we have installed the only open air observatory in the region. It sits atop one of the many hills near the hotel. There, six swivel chairs and a powerful telescope will enable guests to take in the intricacies of our universe with real clarity while here. You will also have the knowledge of one of our expert guides to answer questions and give information on the long history of human astronomical discoveries.

GREEN POINTS!

â¢ All materials on site are purchased locally and use local workers. Local materials were used in the construction of all facilities.

â¢ Aesthetically, the architectural design of the lodge is entirely made by local craftsmanship that utilises architectural design to reduce the need for air conditioning.

â¢ Solar power and water treatment facilities encourage less wastage and energy consumption

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DAY 1: Arrival Alto Atacama

Welcome to the Atacama Desert. Upon arrival in Calama, you will be transferred to San Pedro de Atacama (1.5 hours, shared with other hotel guests). The small oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama lies on an arid high plateau in the Andes Mountains in the heart of some of northern Chile's most spectacular scenery. Overlooking the Licancabur Volcano, its dramatic surrounding landscape ranges from desert, salt flats, steaming geysers and hot springs to fascinating rock formations. The church, dating back to 1774 and featuring adobe, cactus wood and leather-bound beams and the Archaeological Museum are both worth a visit. Alto Atacama is nestled at the base of the awe-inspiring Cordillera de la Sal (Salt Mountains), near the ancient ruins of Pukara de Quitor. Situated a mere 3 kilometres from the renowned oasis of San Pedro de Atacama, this village hotel seamlessly blends the raw beauty of nature with unparalleled comfort and convenience. It is the perfect sanctuary where one can restore both body and soul. Our knowledgeable guides will present you with a selection of included activities available for the days ahead. Dinner will be served in the evening, ready for your first nights stay. *Nayara Alto Atacama includes one full-day or two half-day excursions daily in a small group, as well as stargazing at our open air observatory. Additional activities outside of those that are included in the program will incur additional costs, to be paid and organised locally by the client.



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DAY 2: Explore the Atacama Desert

At Alto Atacama, a diverse range of onsite excursions await you, catering to your specific interests and allowing the creation of a personalised experience in the incredible Atacama Desert. Offering contemplative excursions, thrilling adventure experiences, or engaging cultural activities, there are a wide range of activities for you to choose from throughout your stay. Designed to immerse guests in the unique wonders of the region, ensuring an unforgettable and tailor-made journey during your time at Alto Atacama. Select from one full-day or two-half day excursions, contemplative, adventurous or culturally immersive. Ranging from Atacama's Salt Flat and Toconao Village, where natural beauty and cultural heritage converge. Tatio Geysers, setting off before dawn to witness one of the most extraordinary geothermal displays. High Plateau Lagoons, featuring bright turquoise waters framed by towering volcanoes. Mars Valley, another incredible contemplative option, a stunning rugged desert canyon, with incredible views at sunset. Adventure options offer experiences like a challenging bike ride through canyons and sand dunes, a strenuous hike through volcanoes and mountain ranges, or a relaxing, picturesque sunset on Tebequinche Lagoon. Whether by foot, bike, or vehicle, we promise you the desert adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy the freedom of selecting what's right for you.



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DAY 3: Explore the Atacama Desert

Continue today with another full-day or two half-day excursions. Culturally you can choose to discover the ancient Licanantay, the desert's earliest inhabitants, as you explore 2,400-year-old petroglyphs depicting animals etched into the rock. Or visit the hilltop fortress of Pukará de Quitor, following the routes of ancient traders who crossed the Altiplano to the Pacific coast. Wander the historic streets of San Pedro de Atacama, where Spanish colonial influence remains visible in its charming plazas and whitewashed churches. In the evenings, you will have the opportunity to participate in an astronomical class and immerse yourself in the captivating world of Andean astronomy. Located atop a scenic hill near the hotel, our exclusive open-air observatory offers an unmatched viewpoint. The Atacama Desert is known as one of the best places on earth for stargazing. With no artificial light pollution at night, the glittering stars and constellations are visible to the naked eye.



DAY 4: Departure - Alto Atacama

After breakfast, your Alto Atacama experience comes to an end. Bid farewell to the desert as you are transferred to Calama Airport for your onward flight.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	All Inclusive Luxury Lodge

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Inclusions	**Inclusions** Return transfers from Calama airport or Bolivian Border to the hotel All meals daily Accommodation in selected room category Non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks (excluding premium brands) Free use of mountain bikes Free access to spa and swimming facilities Complimentary transfer service between the hotel and the village of San Pedro de Atacama Two half day or One full day excursions daily in small groups per day National Park/Reserve Fees if applicable **Based on a Full Experience/All Inclusive rate* **Exclusions** International and internal flights unless mentioned Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel insurance Personal expenses Gratuities for tour guides/drivers & lodge staff Spa treatments Any items not mentioned as included
Difficulty Rating	2 (Light Adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Prices are based on per person, twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality and availability at time of booking.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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