



CRUISE HANDLING MANUAL

the art of travel

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*Turnaround port location

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Nature

Trekking (soft)

Trekking (middle)

Trekking (difficult)

Bicycle

Kayak

Wine & Gourmet

Boat Excursion

Horse Riding



travelArt - your first choice for cruise handling in the Chilean Ports

Safe port of call

The travelArt cruise team offers clients of the world's leading cruise companies a huge range of high quality services. We work hand in hand with onboard and corporate teams on seamless coordination and execution of land operations, customized to each cruise line's unique specifications.

Shore excursions

Whether you are looking for a memorable experience and inspiring tours with an authentic local flavor or the latest technology to increase the comfort of your guests, you can rely on the travelArt representatives at all major Chilean ports. Our unique portfolio features a wide range of services for all destinations.

Passenger exchange (Turnaround)

The first and last experiences of any cruise are the most memorable. This is why we individually train and select our multilingual staff so they can handle the logistical challenges of a passenger exchange. This entails a friendly Meet and Greet on arrival at the airport, smart hospitality counters, luggage handling or smooth transfers.

Overland Programs

Port to port services. Furthermore our service includes overland excursions to cities further away from the port like San Pedro de Atacama Village (Atacama Desert) or Torres del Paine (Patagonia).

Pre & Post Cruise Programs

Whether exploring the Atacama Desert or discovering the rich fauna of Patagonia and the exotic Easter Island, we offer the cruise participants the possibility to extend their trip with interesting stays in Chile, before embarking or after disembarking at one of the Chilean ports.

Hospitality Desk Service

We attach great importance to the fulfilment of all special requests of cruise lines that have to be accomplished during embarking or disembarking operation. Our staff will take care of your guests on land.

Arica



Arica, also called the city of eternal spring, has a mild climate with one of the lowest annual rainfall rates worldwide. The port city of Arica is Chile's northernmost city, being located only 18 km south of the border with Peru. Neighbouring Peru lost the city during the Saltpetre War. The about 130 meters high hill Morro de Arica, from which you have a beautiful view over the entire city, played an important role during this war and still has a symbolic character today, which is shown in more detail in the museum there. The Andean Carnival "Carnaval con la Fuerza del Sol" takes place every year during the summer season on three days in January or February.



Excursion city tour Arica and Azapa Valley 🎭 (Half-day)

Experience Arica, the City of Eternal Spring during a city tour! In the admirable city center of Arica Gustave Eiffel's heritage awaits you: The French engineer designed the San Marcos Cathedral and the historic customs office in the main square. Continuing to the popular beaches La Lisera and El Laucho known for its calm waters and round bay shape for relaxing, surfing and diving. Travelling further inland you will reach the Azapa Valley, where the archaeological museum can be discovered, among its unique exhibits are the world's oldest mummies. Rounding up the excursion you will visit the famous Morro rock at the coast. The Morro is a sandstone rock of 130 m / 427 ft, which was stormed by the Chilean army during the war against Peru. An interesting museum illustrates this important point in Chilean history. The viewpoint on top offers a spectacular view of the city, the long beaches and the lush Lluta Valley. Return to the pier in Arica.

Excursion "Chinchorro culture" 🎭 (Half-day)

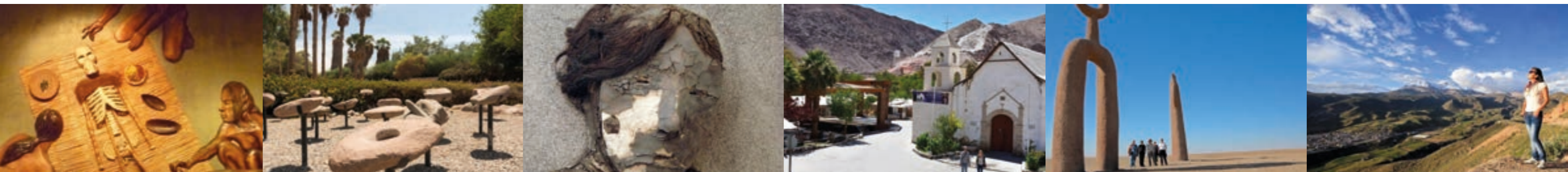
Welcomed at the pier to start. Today follow the tracks of the ancient Chinchorro culture, first heading to the beautiful beaches of Chinchorro and Las Machas. The Chinchorro beach is named after this very old fisherman culture, who also made the oldest man-made mummies in the world. From about 5000 B.C. on, long before the Egyptians, the people of this coastal culture lavishly preserved their dead. Have a walk at Las Machas Beach and observe the vast variety of different seabirds, before reaching a lookout with a great view of the ocean. Here your local guide will explain interesting facts about the Chinchorro culture. Later, the tour goes on to the Azapa Valley, where there is a whole museum dedicated to the Chinchorro Culture, here you can even see some of the mummies close up. After this interesting visit, you head back to Arica, to Latin America's only "in situ" museum. Mummies were found there during excavations, which because of their fragility have been exhibited right there instead of bringing them to another museum. For those who want to, can also visit a small exhibition about local birds in the second floor and enjoy the nice view over Arica, before returning back to the pier in Arica.

Excursion Atacama coastal hike 🎭 🚶 🌿 (Half-day)

Take an active tour from the pier in Arica to the famous seaside resorts of El Laucho and La Lisera. First, enjoy great view and shoot nice photos during a panoramic drive. Then you reach the famous Morro hill, Arica's trademark. The Morro is a sandstone rock of 130 m / 427 ft, which was stormed by the Chilean army during the war against Peru. The viewpoint on top offers a spectacular sight of the city, the long beaches and the lush Lluta Valley. If interested, you can visit an intriguing small museum there, which illustrates this important point in Chilean history. Later, the tour continues southwards along the coast, to the Corazones Beach, where you will go for a walk on the sandy hills and to impressive caves until reaching the Puntilla rock peak. There, you can observe local birds and sea lions from close up. After a break to take photos, enjoy the marine breeze and relax, you walk back to the bus which brings you back to the harbour.

Excursion to Codpa 🎭 (Full-day)

Starting at the harbour, visit the highland village of Codpa, a fertile oasis with a great climate and pure water. In pre-Columbian times the area's "Cacique", the governor and the people of Socorama, Putre, Livilcar and Tignamer resided there. On your way to Codpa you will first visit the "Presencias Tutelares", giant stone sculptures in the desert as well as a lookout with a great view of the Andes mountain range. Upon arrival in Codpa, admire the many mystic petroglyphs, drawn centuries ago by perambulating travelers. Some of them show everyday situations and mirror the influence of the Tiwanaku tribe and the Inka. Visit also the church of San Martin de Tours (1668), a symbol of the Christianization of the indigenous people, which lead to an interesting andine-christian syncretism. In this oasis, time seems to stand still. The grapes and wine presses are still the same as the Spaniards used and are still being used to produce the "Pintatani" wine, once highly valued by the vice king of Peru and the noblemen of Potosí. If you like, you can have the local shaman read your future out of coca leaves or enjoy a folkloric show. Afterwards, return to the harbour in Arica.





Idyllic kayak tour: "Chinchorro route"

 (Half-day)

Your local guide welcomes you at the harbour in Arica before you head to the picturesque Corazones Beach, where you receive a short safety instruction, before starting your navigation. Passing by the sea lions rock, you can observe these impressive animals from close up. From the water, you can also enjoy nice views of the beach and observe different kinds of sea birds. After half an hour of navigation, you return to the shore, where a little snack will be waiting for you, before heading back to the harbour in Arica.

Excursion "flavours of Arica"

 (Half-day)

Your excursion starts at the harbour in Arica, a transfer brings you from there to the green Azapa Valley, a vivid contrast to the dry landscapes all around. This valley is one of Chile's hotspots when it comes to olive production. You will visit the Lombardi Olive Farm, learn interesting facts about olive growing, and of course may try some of their products. Later on, the tour continues to "Asagro", the local fruit - and vegetable market, where you can see what is grown in the Azapa Valley and the nearby Lluta Valley. Try delicious Mangos, Guayabas and Tumbos!

On your way back, you visit the handicraft market in Arica, where you can see how Alpaca wool is woven and buy some nice souvenirs. To round up the day enjoy a "Mango Sour" typical local cocktail while watching a folkloric show. Afterwards, you will be brought back to the harbour in Arica.



Iquique

The port city of Iquique is one of the most important cities in the north of Chile, also known for the boom in saltpetre mining in the 19th century, as can be seen from the abandoned settlements such as the Humberstone and Santa Laura saltpetre works. In the surroundings you can discover geoglyphs and cave paintings, which are important remains of the Aymara culture. The city is also popular for its beaches and water sports. As one of the two Chilean free ports (the other one being Punta Arenas) Iquique has a duty free area which has contributed to the urban development of the city, due to its great commercial activity.

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C H I L E



Iquique city tour



(Half-day)

Just after leaving the port area, visit a city known in the past as the Nitrate port where we will be able to see great Georgian American constructions. Next a visit to some local shops and enjoying some beautiful beaches with nice weather. After sightseeing along the coast we continue along Baquedano Street, declared a National Monument, surrounded by wonderful mansions made of American Oak with interesting ornaments on their structure, showing the magnificence of the nitrate days. Visit the museum, where we can find an important part of the history of the town itself and the importance of the archeologically. The Astoreca Palace shows us the beauty of those days and what we can still enjoy what remains today. After visiting the Plaza de Armas (main square), visit the impressive Teatro Municipal (theater) a real jewel of the city, and just a few steps from the interesting Centro Español. Then return back to the pier.

Ghost towns



(Half-day)

During our ascent from the coast we can enjoy a magnificent panoramic view of this coastal city with its beautiful beaches and the ridged Cerro Dragon (dragon hill). We continue through the magical and wonderful beauty of the Atacama Desert to our destination, the ghost towns of Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpetre Works, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005. In Santa Laura, the processing plant and smokestacks are still visible and in Humberstone, the town itself is the main attraction. Notable highlights in Humberstone are the theater and church, both built of Oregon pine, and its hotel, which boasts a full sized swimming pool, built of iron. It takes a little imagination to picture the splendor of this important period in Chile's history. Return to Iquique and port.

Saltpetre, Pica and Pintados



(Full-day)

An early departure from the port, we take our road to la Pampa, leaving Iquique behind us, having a wonderful view of the town and the coast. Crossing la Pampa we have a stop at the former nitrate office Humberstone, declared a national monument. Next stop will be at the former saltpetre office Santa Laura, where you will be able to discover the magnificence of the saltpetre splendour days revealing its rich architecture. Leaving these ghost towns behind us, we proceed towards the geoglyphs of Pintados, one of the most important archaeological sites, unique in this part of the world: composed by more than 400 figures distributed through all the skirts of the hills on boards, built with different techniques. We'll visit the town of Pica with its church of the 17th century, then we continue along to Matilla Oasis and the pilgrimage town of La Tirana, a small place of great tradition. Return to Iquique and to port.

Saltpetre and geoglyphs



(Half-day)

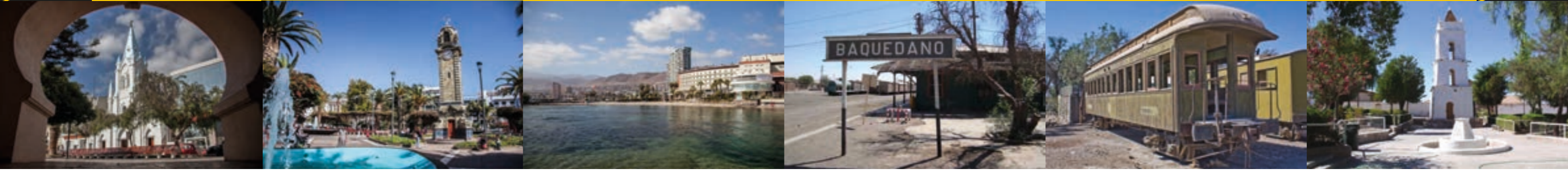
On an early departure to la pampa leaving Iquique behind, we have a wonderful view from the town and the coast line. Crossing la pampa we stop at the Santa Laura Saltpetre Works declared National Monuments. Then after a 10 minute-drive we will arrive at Humberstone, a symbol of the magnificence of the saltpetre splendour days. Leaving the ghost towns behind, we will continue towards the geoglyphs of Pintados, one of the most important archaeological sites, unique in this part of the world: composed of more than 400 figures, that are distributed through all the skirts of the hills on boards built with different techniques. Return to Iquique and to the port.



Antofagasta



The desert and coastal city of Antofagasta, nicknamed La Perla del Norte, is characterized by its beaches, the starry sky and the natural monument La Portada. Perla del Norte (Pearl of the North) is an appellation used by some cities that have become known internationally for their historical or cultural importance and their economic development.



City tour Antofagasta 🎭 (Half-day)

Departure from the pier, view of the center and the mall. We will start the tour along the south coastal road leading to Caleta Coloso, a little fishermen's village which had once an important harbour for copper and saltpetre. Then, back to the north, you will visit the ruins of the former silver foundry Huanchanaca, which still reminds of the long-past silver boom in this region. Back in the city of Antofagasta, you first visit the local crafts market, with some souvenir shops, and then the city centre with the central square, the church, the old customs building (national monument) and the regional museum where you will learn more about how the Antofagasta region's mineral wealth has influenced its history. On our trip back, we will be heading north, aprox. 20 kilometers where we will find La Portada de Antofagasta, a natural rocky arch produced by the ocean erosion and surrounded by cristal clear water. Optional visit to the geological museum to appreciate fossils, the skeleton of a giant cetacean and winkle conchs. Return to pier.

Historia del tren 🎭 (Half-day)

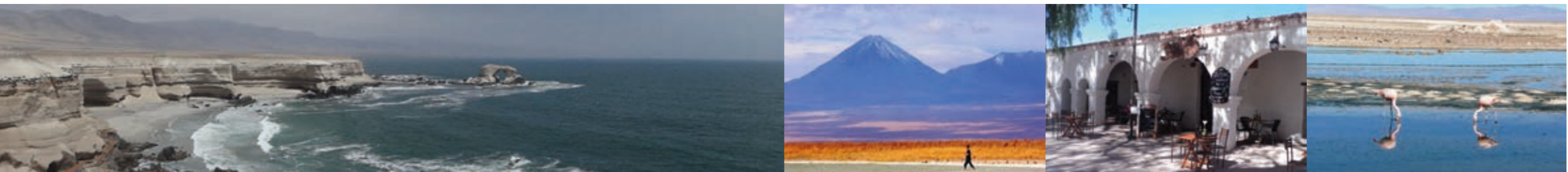
Departure from pier, an immediate view of the center of the city. We will begin our tour going along the south coastal road, appreciating the beautiful landscape to start our rising trip to the deserted Pampa, where we will be moving between the sun and whirlwinds. After an hour travelling we will arrive to the small village of Baquedano, settlement that keeps signs from the golden years of "white gold", as Nitrate was formerly known. Testimony of those years is the train station, with all the machinery and old steam wagons forgotten today. Then, we will begin our trip back to the city, appearing now along the north coastal road of the city. Back in the city, transfer to the historic downtown district where history, urban landscape and recreation get together. Among them: the ex Maritime Governor's House, the historic Pier and the Antofagasta - Bolivia Railway Museum in the ex machine shops of FCAB, where machines, coaches, tools and six british and german locomotives can be seen, standing out a steam wagon still operative and buildings of neoclastic style. Return to pier.

Baquedano and Chacabuco 🎭 (Full-day)

Departure from pier, an immediate view of the center of the city. We will begin our tour going along the south coastal road, appreciating the beautiful landscape to start our rising trip to the deserted Pampa, where we will be moving between the sun and whirlwinds. After an hour travelling we will arrive to the small village of Baquedano, settlement that keeps signs from the golden years of the white gold, as Nitrate was formerly known. Testimony of those years is the train station, with all the machinery and old steam wagons forgotten today. After the tour we will return to the coaches to move on through the pampa to arrive to Chacabuco ghost town. Important village that shows constructions from the old times of the nitrate splendor years. We will visit the theatre and machinery, square and hosting places. At the end of the visit, box lunch in the middle of the desert (optional). Then, we will begin our trip back to the pier, appearing now along the north coastal road of the city. Brief stop to visit the Tropico de Capricornio Monument and the Natural Monument La Portada, a rocky arch located at the Pacific shoreside. From a viewpoint we will be able to enjoy a wonderful panorama. Finally, return to the city and pier.

Full Day San Pedro de Atacama 🎭 (Full-day)

A long trip to San Pedro, small ancient village considered to be the center of the "atacameña" culture. Leaving the city an immediate view of the center of the city. We will begin our tour going along the south coastal road, appreciating the beautiful landscape to start our rising trip to the deserted Pampa, where we will be moving between the sun and whirlwinds. After an hour travelling we will arrive to the small village of Baquedano, settlement that keeps signs from the golden years of the white gold, as Nitrate was formerly known. Testimony of those years is the train station, with all the machinery and old steam wagons forgotten today. Continuation to Calama to get to San Pedro. Short walk around its town centre, Main Square, church, market and Pedro de Valdivia's house. Transfer to Salar de Atacama, the largest salt lake in Chile, located at the National Reserve Los Flamencos at 2.305 m.a.s.l On the route see the impressive Licancabur volcano and the little Toconao village, well known for its construction in Liparita, a volcanic stone quarried nearby. Panoramic view of Jere valley, a stunning, green contrast to the surrounding desert landscape. Arriving at Chaxa Lagoon, opportunity to observe the wide variety of birds that inhabit the lagoon, especially pink flamingos. Return to Antofagasta passing by Salt Mountain Range and panoramic view of Moon valley, an astonishing moon-like landscape. Return to pier.



Coquimbo



The port city of Coquimbo in northern Chile is located 460 km north of Santiago and begins almost seamlessly south of the city of La Serena. Prominent English pirates such as Sir Francis Drake (1579), Bartholomew Sharp (1680) and Edward Davis (1686) landed in Coquimbo Bay and are now protagonists of the port city's cultural heritage. Tourist pirate ships in the harbour invite visitors to go on a short adventure cruise. The monumental 83-metre-high Cruz del Tercer Milenio cross was built on the city's highest hill and is visible from everywhere.



Excursion La Serena and Elqui Valley 🎭 ☀️ (Full-day)

From the port at Coquimbo, you will drive through that city's downtown area, and travel north along the coast toward La Serena, past extensive beaches. La Serena, however, is one of Chile's most appealing cities, with its recent growth and modernization developed in a framework that maintains the city's rich architectural heritage and unique character. The symbol of La Serena is its lighthouse, where you will stop for some picture taking.

From here, the tour continues to the fertile Elqui Valley, a narrow strip of land winding inland from the coast. It is famous for its starry sky, many astronomers and starwatchers come here. Surrounded by cactus-covered hillsides, the river-watered valley thrives with papaya, figs, chirimoya (custard apple fruit), apricots, peaches, and especially grapes. From these last is created the 'pisco' – Chile's famous grape brandy – for which the valley is particularly famous, and during a stopover at a distillery you will learn about pisco production and enjoy a taste or two. Continuing the tour, you will visit Vicuña, birthplace of Nobel Prize-winner Gabriela Mistral, Montegrande and the picturesque village of Pisco Elqui. Following a lunch in a typical restaurant, you will return to the pier in Coquimbo. On your way back, observe how the sinking sun paints the nude rocks in many different shades of pink – a wonderful panorama.

Excursion Valle del Encanto and Tabalí winery 🎭 🍷 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)

From the pier in Coquimbo you drive with your local guide on the Panamericana while you have pleasurable views of the La Herradura, Las Tacas and Guanaqueros beaches. Once you leave behind the coast, observe the dense fog of the coastal clouds, a phenomenon that makes it possible to grow vegetables even in this very dry area.

You go on to Valle del Encanto, a small hidden valley that was inhabited by hunters in 2000 BC. Over 50 petroglyphs and cult stones testify to the fact that this was once an important cultural centre for the pre-Incan Molle Culture. Later you will reach the Tabali, located in Limari and learn more about the vineyard Tabali on a guided tour and a wine tasting. Afterwards, you will have lunch in a local restaurant and then drive back to the pier in Coquimbo.

Excursion city tour Coquimbo and La Serena 🎭 🌞 (Half-day)

Get to know the cities of Coquimbo and La Serena on this half-day tour. You will depart from the port of Coquimbo, passing through the city's downtown area on your way to the nearby resort of La Herradura, on the Bay of Guayacan. You'll have the opportunity for a photo-stop at this beautiful bay – and might even hear some of the legends of the English pirates from the old days. Continuing north along the coast toward La Serena, your tour will take you past extensive beaches that have been developed with tourists in mind, with modern hotels, apartments, pubs, discos and restaurants. Nonetheless, La Serena remains one of Chile's most appealing cities, because the 'Plan La Serena' has ensured that growth and modernization have been developed within a framework to maintain the city's rich architectural heritage, allowing the city to keep its own unique character. The symbol of La Serena is its lighthouse, where you will stop for a picture before proceeding to the archaeological museum, which provides insight into pre-Columbian civilization with an excellent collection of ceramics. Afterwards, the tour continues to the colourful La Recova craft market, where you'll find a variety of souvenirs, including jewellery made from the local semi-precious stone, lapis lazuli. Your tour concludes with a visit to university hill, which offers a fine view over La Serena and the Bay of Coquimbo, before you return to the Coquimbo harbour via the Pan American highway.

Solar cooking at Elqui Valley 🎭 🍷 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)

Leave the pier to drive by coastal road up to the charming Elqui Valley, an area of Diaguita culture, sleepy villages, charming adobe constructions, and beautiful rolling hills. It is also an important agricultural area awash with papaya (pawpaw) groves, olive groves, pear orchards and vineyards. This is also the area where muscatel grapes are turned into Pisco, Chile's national brandy.

Unique in the world this transversal valley features an area of rich agricultural diversity in the midst of a semi-arid desert. The valley is especially famous for having the clearest atmosphere in the world and it is especially suited for astronomical purposes.

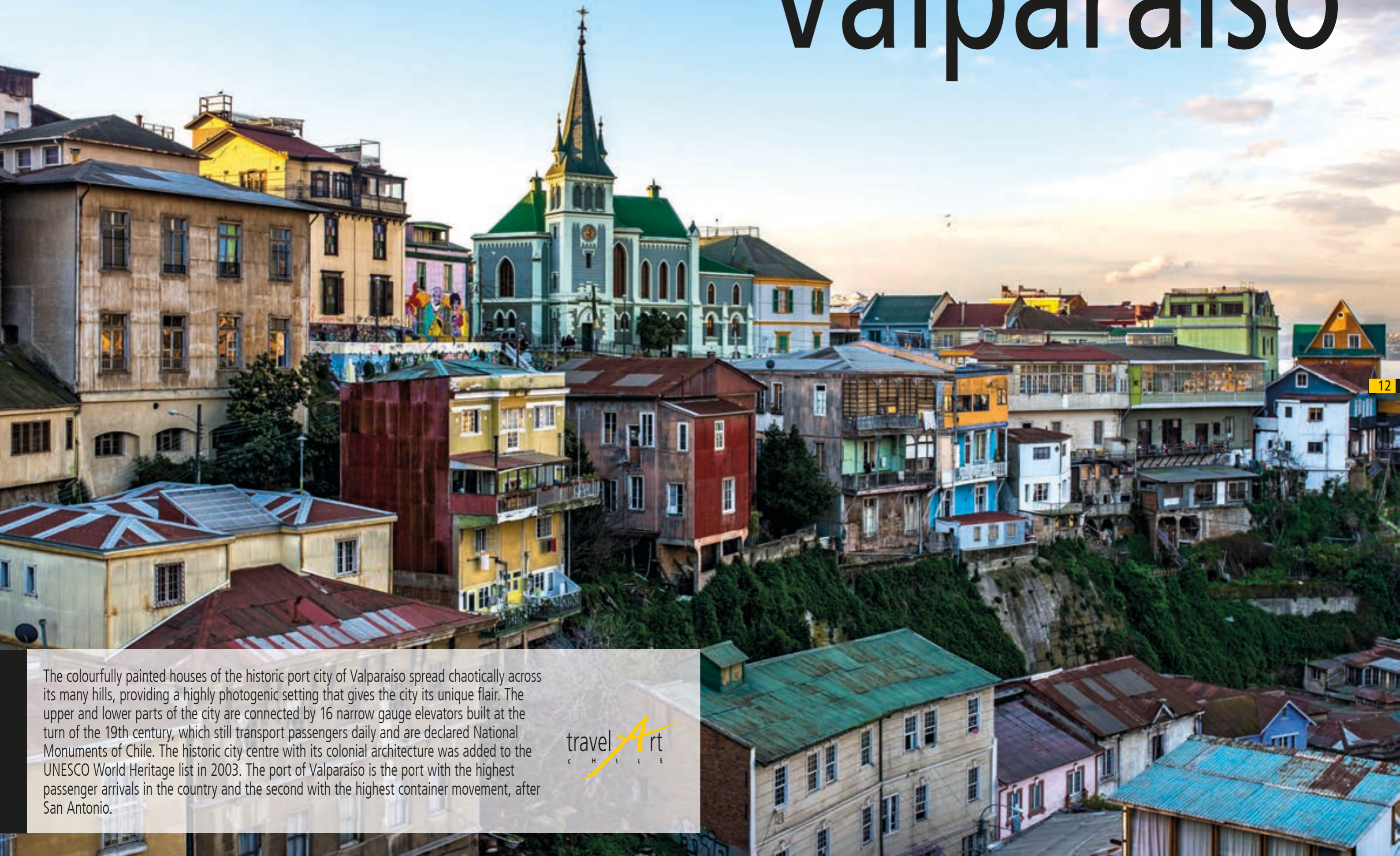
Highlights of this activities are the visit to the picturesque town of Vicuña, which is noted for being the birthplace of Gabriela Mistral, the Nobel Prize winner for literature. A stop in the main square, shows the Bauer Tower, (the old city hall), the church and the main square.

In Villaseca, a small village located next to the Vicuña town, you will enjoy a culinary experience at the Restaurant Solar. This town is very famous for its Solar Kitchens where local people use solar ovens to prepare all kind of food, Here you will learn how to prepare handmade bread with solar energy and taste some of the delicious preparations for lunch.

At the the local Handicraft market called Aldea Elquina you will discover local art, music and handicrafts. You will find artisans working in metalsmith, paints, wool, natural cosmetics and other local materials. Enjoy a stroll around this market. At agreed time, drive back straight to Coquimbo pier to re-join the ship.



Valparaíso



The colourfully painted houses of the historic port city of Valparaíso spread chaotically across its many hills, providing a highly photogenic setting that gives the city its unique flair. The upper and lower parts of the city are connected by 16 narrow gauge elevators built at the turn of the 19th century, which still transport passengers daily and are declared National Monuments of Chile. The historic city centre with its colonial architecture was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 2003. The port of Valparaíso is the port with the highest passenger arrivals in the country and the second with the highest container movement, after San Antonio.



Excursion city tour Santiago   (Full-day)

Santiago Chile combines the characteristics of a rapidly modernizing metropolis with the historic features of a colonial city. This tour will introduce you to both the historic centre and Santiago’s modern side. In the historic centre, you will visit the presidential palace, once the national mint, and hence named La Moneda. Additional sights are around the historic main square, the Plaza de Armas, with its cathedral and the beautiful old post office building; the Palacio de la Real Audiencia, now home to the National History Museum; and the Casa Colonial, which was once the governor’s residence during the colonial era. Passing by the Cerro San Cristóbal you can enjoy the best views of Santiago and the Andes from the summit, where a large statue of the Virgin Mary overlooks the capital. After visiting the Cerro San Cristóbal, the tour continues to Santiago’s modern business districts Providencia and Las Condes where shows off high-rise buildings, hip restaurants and stores that invite to be explored. In the shadowy alleys and on the broad boulevards with European feeling, you almost forget that you are in Latin America – an interesting contrast to the city center that you have seen earlier. In the late afternoon return to the pier in Valparaiso.

Excursion city tour Valparaíso and Viña del Mar   (Half-day)

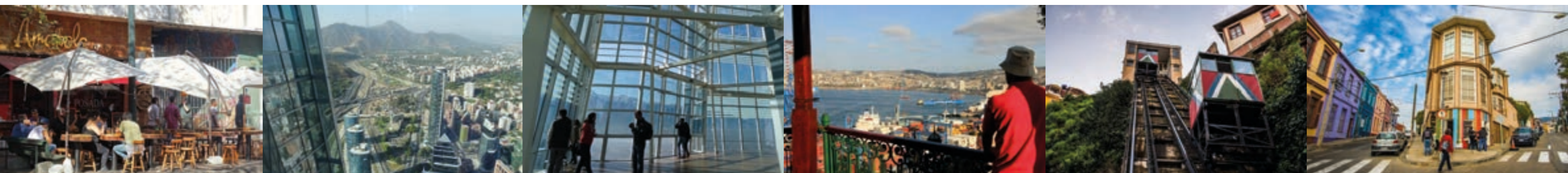
Your guide meets you at the pier and accompanies you on a tour to Valparaíso and Viña del Mar. The historic town Valparaíso is home to Chile’s oldest and most important harbour. It is also home to the country’s Senate and Chamber of Deputies, which moved here from the capital in 1989, when Chilean democratic governance was re-established. The city’s many hills are covered with a multi-coloured panorama of painted houses crowding every nook and cranny, ensuring a spectacular backdrop to your visit. During your tour, you will see the historic city centre, whose fine 19th-Century architecture provides good reason for its inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage list. The upper and lower part of the city are connected by 16 funicular elevators that have been constructed around 1900’s and still work perfectly today. You will also visit the parliamentary building and Plaza Sotomayor’s memorial to the heroes of the War of the Pacific. From Valparaíso you will follow the coast to Viña el Mar. In Viña del Mar, the Garden city, named for its many parks and green spaces you will pass beautiful beaches. Viña del Mar is a lively city with attractive beaches, modern hotels, high-end restaurants and fashionable bars. The casino, built in 1932 and set amidst beautiful gardens, is a well-kept Chilean tradition of elegance. After that return to the pier in Valparaíso.

Sky Costanera   (add-on)

You will visit the spectacular observation platform called “Sky Costanera” on the 61st and 62nd floor of the Costanera Center. With its 300 m tower, Costanera Center is currently the tallest building in South America. The observation platform offers a breath-taking 360° panoramic view of the city, with visibility on good days reaching up to 50 km into the surrounding region. Given clear skies, even the ski centers in the Andes are visible. Information boards explain the most important sights of the city, like the presidential palace “La Moneda” or the National Stadium, and make orientation easier for its visitors.

Valparaíso - move like a local   (Half-day)

During this extensive city walking tour starting at the pier in Valparaíso, you will become acquainted with the history of Valparaíso while exploring the harbour city’s adventurous geography by foot and by public transport – just like the residents! First, you will take the metro to the main square and adjacent port, from where you will continue to Cerro Artillería. Afterwards, you will explore the beautiful Paseo 21 de Mayo with its wonderful view and learn about the British immigrants who lived there. You will then take the trolley bus to the main square, Sotomayor. Afterwards, you will visit the hills of Cerro Alegre and Cerro Concepción, UNESCO World Heritage sites. After a stroll along Paseo Divalow, you will return to the city centre descending in one of the historic funicular elevators, funicular Reina Victoria. Along the way, you will be provided with a snack to recharge your batteries. After the tour return to the pier.





La Campana National Park (Full-day)

A transfer will bring you and your guide from the pier in Valparaíso to the La Campana National Park, named after the mountain 1910 m tall mountain La Campana ("The Bell"). This park belongs to the few protected, pristine areas of the Chilean central region. It is home to many endemic animal and plant species of the Central Region and other regions of Chile that were explored by Darwin already. 1985 La Campana was declared a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve due to this richness of species. A trekking of around one hour leads you through the native forest. A special highlight are the palm forests in the Ocoa Sector in the north of the park. At the end of the trekking you will reach a viewpoint with a fantastic view over the complete valley. After that you return to Ocoa, where you will be served delicious empanadas (filled pocket pastries). After that, return to the harbour in Valparaíso.

Excursion "on the traces of Pablo Neruda" (Full-day)

Wander the traces of Nobel Prize winner and diplomat Pablo Neruda. He is Chile's most famous author and one of the most-translated writers of the 20th century. He held several diplomatic posts. For example, he was Chilean ambassador in France.

First you will visit Pablo Neruda's picturesque beach house in Isla Negra. Apart from being a poet and a diplomat, Neruda was also a passionate collector, which is memorably illustrated by his house that he decorated with unbelievable creativity and love of detail. There are collections of nautical figureheads, antique bottles, native African masks, sea animals, art, and items washed up on the beach...

The house enjoys wonderful views over the cliffs as the sea and was Neruda's refuge from a hectic city life, and also his writing retreat. In addition, it was also the place to which he invited friends to his legendary parties. Neruda and his wife Matilde are both buried in front of the house, in a grave set above the Pacific. From Isla Negra you will go back to Valparaíso. On one of the colourful hills you will have lunch and in continuation you will visit Neruda's city house "La Sebastiana". Then you return to the pier in Valparaíso.

Chilean traditions (Full-day)

Your guide will meet you at the pier and brings you to this excursion at Estancia El Cuadro. The winery and farm Estancia "El Cuadro" is beautifully located in Casablanca valley between Santiago and Valparaiso. Your tour will begin with a carriage ride through the vineyard. In the extensive grounds of the estate, you can then learn about the long winegrowing history of Chile and participate in a wine tasting. Finally, you can experience a colorful presentation of the culture and folklore of the country. Return to Valparaíso in the evening.

Wineries of Casablanca Valley (Half-day)

During this half day excursion starting at the pier in Valparaíso, you will visit two wineries in the green Casablanca Valley, worldwide known for its immense wine production. Besides Carmènère, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay are the most produced wines of this region. Outstanding vineyards, known for its world-class wines, like for example Matetic Vineyards, Viñamar or Veramonte are located in the Casablanca Valley. During this half day excursion you will have the opportunity to get to know two of these wineries. You will get an insight into their wine production and enjoy a tasting of selected wines at each of the wineries. In continuation, return to the port of Valparaíso.

Birdwatching in Wetland Mantagua (Full-day)

This full day excursion takes you to the Mantagua wetlands where you can observe different species of birds. You will reach the Caseta Mirador viewpoint, where you will have a unique view of the Humedal de Mantagua. Then for those who like adventure we will cross the bridge of the Odyssey. We stop at the observer Natural Duck Colorado and then we will discover this wonderful world of flora and fauna on the paths of the famous writer Mary Graham or the naturalist Charles Darwin in 1834. Observe the fauna with binoculars or take lasting souvenir photos. Next stop will be the second observer Natural Bird the Tree House. As we continue our walking tour through the wetland, you can also observe spot-flanked gallinules whose natural habitats are swamps and freshwater lakes. We keep walking to the observer Pino Caído where you can spot the red-gartered coto, chilean pintail, red-crested pocharda and the neotropic cormorant (pato yeco). Closer to the beach at the observer Natural Estuarine there is a possibility to see amongst others curlews and magellanic oystercatchers. After visiting the Observer Albufera Natural we return by walking through a forest. Within the tour you can immerse yourself in the life of the birds and learn about their behavior, and register with your camera the diversity bird species within Mantagua Wetland.



San Antonio



The coastal city of San Antonio is located about 90 km south of Valparaíso and is one of Chile's main ports, being the largest in terms of freight handled and the busiest on the western coast of South America. The city lies on hills and coastal dunes, immediately north of the mouth of the Maipo River. It is the centre of the fishing area that covers the Chilean coast from Rocas de Santo Domingo to Cartagena. From the port promenade you can see cargo ships and cruise liners that have anchored. Also you can spot numerous sea lions and pelicans resting in the sun next to the fish market or waiting for one or the other fish treat.



Excursion city tour Santiago   (Full-day)

Santiago Chile combines the characteristics of a rapidly modernizing metropolis with the historic features of a colonial city. This tour will introduce you to both the historic centre and Santiago’s modern side. In the historic centre, you will visit the presidential palace, once the national mint, and hence named La Moneda. Additional sights are around the historic main square, the Plaza de Armas, with its cathedral and the beautiful old post office building; the Palacio de la Real Audiencia, now home to the National History Museum; and the Casa Colonial, which was once the governor’s residence during the colonial era. Passing by the Cerro San Cristóbal you can enjoy the best views of Santiago and the Andes from the summit, where a large statue of the Virgin Mary overlooks the capital. After visiting the Cerro San Cristóbal, the tour continues to Santiago’s modern business districts Providencia and Las Condes where shows off high-rise buildings, hip restaurants and stores that invite to be explored. In the shadowy alleys and on the broad boulevards with European feeling, you almost forget that you are in Latin America – an interesting contrast to the city center that you have seen earlier. In the late afternoon return to the pier in San Antonio.

Excursion city tour Valparaíso and Viña del Mar   (Half-day)

Starting from the port of San Antonio the excursion leads us to the port city of Valparaíso where your guide accompanies you on a tour to Valparaíso and Viña del Mar. The historic town Valparaíso is home to Chile’s oldest and most important harbour. It is also home to the country’s Senate and Chamber of Deputies, which moved here from the capital in 1989, when Chilean democratic governance was re-established. The city’s many hills are covered with a multi-coloured panorama of painted houses crowding every nook and cranny, ensuring a spectacular backdrop to your visit. During your tour, you will see the historic city centre, whose fine 19th-Century architecture provides good reason for its inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage list. The upper and lower part of the city are connected by 16 funicular elevators that have been constructed around 1900’s and still work perfectly today. You will also visit the parliamentary building and Plaza Sotomayor’s memorial to the heroes of the War of the Pacific. From Valparaíso you will follow the coast to Viña el Mar. In Viña del Mar, the Garden city, named for its many parks and green spaces you will pass beautiful beaches. Viña del Mar is a lively city with attractive beaches, modern hotels, high-end restaurants and fashionable bars. The casino, built in 1932 and set amidst beautiful gardens, is a well-kept Chilean tradition of elegance. After that return to the pier in San Antonio.

Sky Costanera   (add-on)

You will visit the spectacular observation platform called “Sky Costanera” on the 61st and 62nd floor of the Costanera Center. With its 300 m tower, Costanera Center is currently the tallest building in South America. The observation platform offers a breath-taking 360° panoramic view of the city, with visibility on good days reaching up to 50 km into the surrounding region. Given clear skies, even the ski centers in the Andes are visible. Information boards explain the most important sights of the city, like the presidential palace “La Moneda” or the National Stadium, and make orientation easier for its visitors.





Valparaíso street art and history walking tour 🎭🌞 (Half-day)

This is an amazing option for those who want to cover as much ground as possible in one day, seeing both the graffiti, and getting the important non-graffiti facts of Valparaíso. We begin by visiting the Playa Ancha Hill, and seeing some great graffiti there, as well as Paseo 21 de Mayo, and Av. Gran Bretaña, where the British immigrants lived during the turn of the century/ early 1900's. We then go to Barrio Puerto and see the oldest area of Valparaíso, as well as the street art here. In this area a visit to some of the old historical bars, maybe enter a century old building or two, and move on to Sotomayor Square, where you'll get a full explanation of the landmarks and buildings in the area. We shall continue visiting one coloured hill after the other until reaching Cerro Polanco. Here you can see some of the amazing pieces painted during the last graffiti festival. You will take the elevator to the top and make your way down through the main streets of the hill.

Wineries & countryside immersion of the Maipo Valley 🍷🎭🌞 (Half-day)

Starting from the port of San Antonio the excursion leads us to the winery Santa Ema, located in Isla de Maipo. After a wine tasting, we will continue to the Tarapaca vineyard, about 12 km away, where you will enjoy a wine tasting and have lunch. The tour continues to the pottery centre of Pomaire. Potters can be observed during their work, and pottery in many shapes and sizes can be purchased at the stalls and small shops here. Then we will return to the port of San Antonio.

Matetic Vineyards and "Puro caballo" 🎭🍷🌞 (Full-day)

From the port of San Antonio we will start our excursion with a trip to the Casablanca Valley, famous for its wine production. The fertile soils of the valley have already produced numerous world-class wines. There you will visit the Matetic winery. A guided tour of the winery gives you a glimpse behind the scenes. Learn more about the different steps of the winemaking process and enjoy two different wines during a tasting session to complete the experience. We continue our tour to the farm "Puro Caballo", a typical Chilean horse stable, where you will get to know the traditions of Chilean country life. Enjoy an entertaining day with a Chilean-Creole show and discover the folklore and gastronomy of the country. The Chilean countryman and skilled horseman "Huaso" with his special traditional outfit and the straw hat "Chupalla" as well as the beautiful horses are the main protagonists on the farm. After enjoying the national Chilean drink "Pisco Sour", you will go to the horse stadium and experience the "Cueca" Dance as it is even performed on horseback. You will then enjoy a tasty traditional lunch at its country-style restaurant. Before we return to San Antonio, you will have some free time to have a look at the handmade products in the souvenir shop.

Excursion "on the traces of Pablo Neruda" 🎭🌞 (Full-day)

Wander the traces of Nobel Prize winner and diplomat Pablo Neruda. He is Chile's most famous author and one of the most-translated writers of the 20th century. He held several diplomatic posts. For example, he was Chilean ambassador in France. First you will visit Pablo Neruda's picturesque beach house in Isla Negra. Apart from being a poet and a diplomat, Neruda was also a passionate collector, which is memorably illustrated by his house that he decorated with unbelievable creativity and love of detail. There are collections of nautical figureheads, antique bottles, native African masks, sea animals, art, and items washed up on the beach... The house enjoys wonderful views over the cliffs as the sea and was Neruda's refuge from a hectic city life, and also his writing retreat. In addition, it was also the place to which he invited friends to his legendary parties. Neruda and his wife Matilde are both buried in front of the house, in a grave set above the Pacific. From Isla Negra you will go back to Valparaíso. On one of the colourful hills you will have lunch and in continuation you will visit Neruda's city house "La Sebastiana". Then you return to the pier in San Antonio.



Hanga Roa

18

Hanga Roa is the small capital, main town and harbour of Easter Island (Rapa Nui). The port city is situated in the southern part of the island's west coast, in the lowlands between the extinct volcanoes Terevaka and Rano Kau. The island lies in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Barely 3,800km from the mainland and 4,200km from Tahiti, Easter Island is the place on earth furthest from any other inhabited location. Long isolated from the rest of the world, this less than 25km long and 25km wide island has a rich history, art and language. Because of its small size and rich cultural heritage, the entire island is a kind of open-air museum with about 1,000 Moai statues, as well as places of worship and old cave dwellings that are open for viewing. A large part of Easter Island is now a national park and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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C H I L E



Excursion "the arrival of Hotu Matua" 🎭 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)

Experience a day full of legends as you uncover the past of Rapa Nui. This full day tour begins by driving down the southeast coast and making your first stop at the Ahu Akahanga in the South Coast sector. From this site you will continue to the volcano of Rano Raraku, where 95% of all moais were carved and boasts 390 statues in various stages of completion. During the hike to the top of the volcanic crater you will not only see many statues but enjoy a beautiful view of a freshwater lake. After the volcano hike we continue to the restored Ahu Tongariki. This magnificent platform was the largest on the island and now holds fifteen moais; it is an ideal place for taking beautiful memorable photos. The next stop is the beach of Anakena, where according to native legend Hotu Matua first landed on Rapa Nui. Here you will find the Ahu Nau Nau and the Ahu Ature Huki. The moai standing on the latter ahu was the first moai to ever be re-erected on to an ahu. From Anakena we continue to the Ahu Complex-Tahai, restored in 1967/68 by the archaeologist William Mulloy. This ceremonial complex has one of the oldest dated sites of the island (7th century) and includes three different ahus: Ahu Ko Te Riku, Ahu Vai Uri and Ahu Tahai. Box lunch included. Participants must hike over uneven terrain.

Excursion "the power of the Birdmen" 🎭 🌿 🌕 (Half-day)

This half day excursion takes you through archaeological sites where you can admire a ceremonial cult village and the impressive Rano Kau crater, the widest and deepest on the island. You will also visit a platform (ahu) with the best carved rocks and where you can also see remains of moais. In the time when some of the moais and ahus were destroyed, another cult began to gain importance: the Birdman Cult. Visit the sites of their annual ceremonies and see the site of their extraordinary competition requiring skill, strength and endurance. From the harbour you will be taken to Vinapu, one of the oldest sectors of the island. We will continue our tour to the volcano of Rano Kau, the second oldest volcano of Rapa Nui. After the look-out point at the rim of Rano Kau we continue on to the ceremonial village of Orongo in the national park. This site is best known for the birdman cult ceremonies. Within the village you will see 47 restored houses as well as the remains of an ancient ahu. From the village you will also see the three small islets: Motu Nui, Motu Iti and Motu Kao Kao. Before going back to the pier you will visit the Ahu Complex-Tahai, which has one of the island's oldest dated sites (7th century) and includes three different ahus.

Ancient cultures of Easter Island 🎭 🌿 🌕 (Half-day)

During this half day excursion explore the oldest ahu complex on the island and visit a restored ceremonial village on the caldera of Easter Island's second oldest volcano, the Rano Kau. Before arriving to the village you will hike along the caldera's rim. By the freshwater lake at the southernmost crater of the volcano you can admire species-rich, exotic vegetation. Orongo's 52 dwellings, petroglyphs and unrestored ahu were dedicated to a defunct esoteric Birdman Cult. The Tangata Manu or Birdman cult followed the Moai era of the island when warfare broke out because of dwindling natural resources and then the construction of statues was stopped. Participants must hike over uneven terrain.

Highlights of Easter Island 🎭 🌿 🌕 (Half-day)

During this half day tour you will visit the oldest moai complex in Ahu Tahai, which houses a massive monolith 15 feet high and 20 tons in weight and includes three different ahus: Ahu Ko Te Riku, Ahu Vai Uri and Ahu Tahai. In 1967/68 this ceremonial complex was restored by the archaeologist William Mulloy. After you will admire moais when we explore the volcano of Rano Raraku, the volcanic crater where nearly all of the great moais were produced and today is home to 390 moais in various stages of production. Its high caldera, measuring 1.5km in diameter, contains one of the island's three fresh water lakes. Then you will hike to Vaihu, an unrestored site situated in Hanga Te'e Bay that bears witness to the wars and disasters that have overrun the culture of the island. Participants must hike over uneven terrain.

Excursion "looking towards the stars" 🎭 🌿 🌕 (Half-day)

During the last period of the statue cult - the most important culture of Easter Island - the descendants of Polynesian sailors looked more and more towards the sky for reverence. During this half day excursion you will see archaeological sites that indicate a link between the islanders and the universe. Ahus (platforms) and moais (statues) prove the development of these great megalithic constructions held an astronomical orientation. Visit the archaeological sites Ahu Akivi, Ana Te Pahu and Puna Pau and will discover the platform with seven moais that, according to oral tradition, were created in honour of the first explorers of Rapa Nui. At the pukao quarry Puna Pau you will enjoy a panoramic view of the Hanga Roa village. One of the highlights of this tour is the visit to the amazing Ana Te Pahu cave, a tube formed by the volcanic lava flow thousands of years ago. The ancient Rapa Nui used this cave as a home and took refuge there in times of social instability. Here you can see archaeological remains that will allow you imagine what life was like there.



Niebla

The coastal town of Niebla is located close to the city of Valdivia at the mouth of the Valdivia River and in front of the Corral's port. Niebla has three well-known beaches: La Playa Chica, la Playa Grande and la Playa de los Enamorados. One of the most representative places is the folk market, where the best Chilean handicrafts and gastronomy are offered during the summer months. Another attraction is the Niebla fortress, a 17th century fortification to protect against pirate attacks.



City tour Valdivia & Botanical Garden 🎭 🌞 (Half-day)

Your local guide picks you up at the pier and takes you along the river to the town of Valdivia, where you will see the most important sights of the city and visit the fluvial market where the locals buy fresh products such as fish and seafood, as well as the central square "Plaza de Armas" in the heart of the city. The tour continues along the Costanera with beautiful gardens and neighborhoods, before you cross a bridge to Teja Island, where you visit the museum "Museo Histórico y Antropológico Mauricio Van de Maele". From there, you also have very nice view of the city. After visiting the museum, you head on to the Niebla Fortress, to learn some interesting historic facts from the time of struggle for independence from the Spanish. After that and enjoying once more the greatview, you return to the pier.

Oncol Park 🌿 🚶 🌞 (Half-day)

This excursion starts at the pier in Niebla. You take the old road northwards to the enchanting Oncol Park on the hill with the same name. It expands over more than 750 ha and includes a part of the coastal mountain range. You will find millenary tree species there, such as Lumas, Melies, Canelos and Maños. Hike up the Oncol path and see if you can find local birds such as Hued Hued, Huairavo and Chucao. After about one hour you reach the top of the hill (715m above sea level). On your way back visit the Niebla Fortress, to learn some interesting historical facts from the time of struggle for independence from the Spanish. After that and enjoying once more the great view, you return to the pier.

Kayaking in the wetlands near Valdivia 🚣 🌿 🌞 (Half-day)

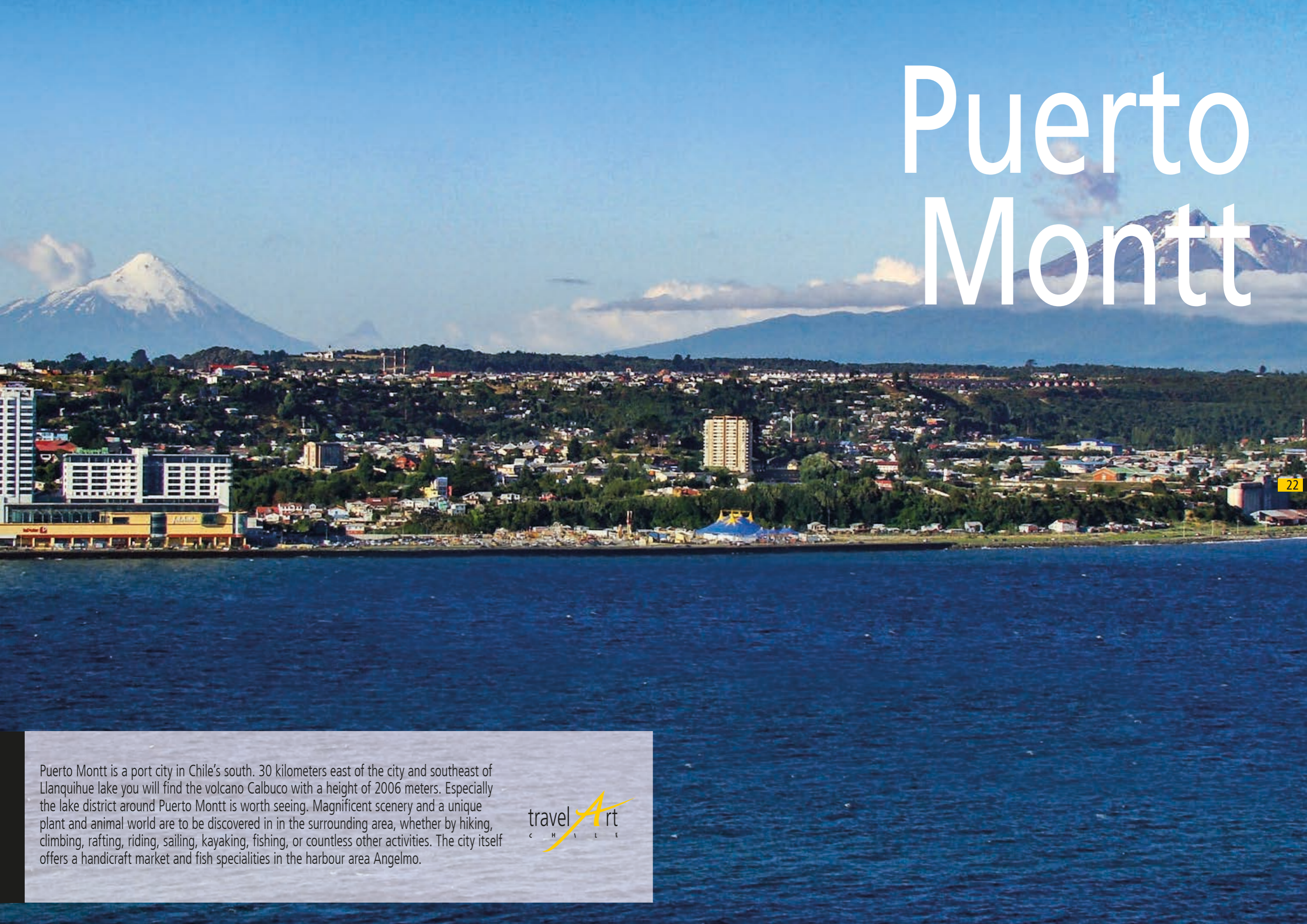
Your local guide picks you up at the pier and takes you to the starting point at the Angachila River. While paddling through the wetlands of Guacamayo and Prado Verde, you might be lucky and see some of the inhabitants from close up, such as black necked swans, egrets and ducks. You will also learn plenty about the local flora. Spend two pleasant and comfortable hours on the tranquil waters, before heading back to the pier.

Excursion "tour fluvial" 🌿 🚢 🌞 (Half-day)

Starting at the pier in Niebla, discover the scenic river panoramas of Valdivia via a recreational boat trip. During the tour that lasts about one hour through the picturesque labyrinths of the rivers of Valdivia, Guacamayo and Angachilla, you can observe many local bird species, such as black necked swans and cormorants. Arriving at the peninsula San Ramon it's easy to note the climate change. You will be welcomed with a drink and then you can discover the Valdivian rain forest during a short walk, which leads you to a lovely viewpoint. Here you can admire the Rey Island and the estuary of the rivers Tornagaleones and Guacamayo. To complete the tour, you will be served a German style snack with coffee before returning to the pier.



Puerto Montt



Puerto Montt is a port city in Chile's south. 30 kilometers east of the city and southeast of Llanquihue lake you will find the volcano Calbuco with a height of 2006 meters. Especially the lake district around Puerto Montt is worth seeing. Magnificent scenery and a unique plant and animal world are to be discovered in the surrounding area, whether by hiking, climbing, rafting, riding, sailing, kayaking, fishing, or countless other activities. The city itself offers a handicraft market and fish specialities in the harbour area Angelmo.



Excursion to Petrohué falls   (Full-day)

This excursion takes you from the harbour in Puerto Montt through the beautiful surroundings of Lake Llanquihue, to dramatic Petrohué Falls. You will travel along the southern shore of the lake, from where, in good weather, you'll have a spectacular view of Osorno and Calbuco Volcanoes. There will be a brief stop in Los Riscos to admire a group of llamas in an outdoor compound, before continuing through the small village of Ensenada to the wild 'Saltos de Petrohué.' This series of rapids and low waterfalls along the Petrohué River have carved their way over thousands of years through the volcanic rock of Osorno Volcano, eroding and shaping it into fantastic forms. Several paths wind through the lush forest near the sparkling, dancing falls, making for a wonderful stroll.

Following your visit to Petrohué, the excursion carries on to the source of the Petrohué river, All Saints Lake ('Lago Todos Los Santos'), which stretches almost to the Argentinean border. On your return trip to Puerto Varas, you'll visit picturesque Green Lake ('Laguna Verde'), nestled in the verdant forest at the foot of Osorno Volcano. You will return to Puerto Montt harbour in late afternoon with many memories of a lovely day, and, hopefully, with many new pictures on your camera!

Excursion city tour Puerto Montt and Puerto Varas   (Half-day)

You will be picked up at the harbour in Puerto Montt and start your city tour. Founded by German settlers in 1853, Puerto Montt is also known as the 'Gateway to Patagonia'. This is where the Carretera Austral begins and where ships set off for Tierra del Fuego, the Magellan Strait, and to Patagonia's glaciers.

During your city tour, we will show you the main square right by the sea, with its cathedral built of wood, a memorial to the German settlers, the town hall, and other representative buildings. Afterwards you will travel north to the small town of Puerto Varas.

Puerto Varas is a small, picturesque city of about 25,000 inhabitants, situated on the southwest shore of Lake Llanquihue. In the 19th Century, it became home to thousands of German immigrants, whose heritage is reflected today in the city's distinctive wood architecture and its inhabitants' love of German pastries and cakes ('kuchen'). Known as "The City of Roses," Puerto Varas has a compact city centre, and is eminently walkable. This tour will provide a basic overview of the city's primary reference points, restaurants, and shops, before leaving you to explore further on your own – or perhaps just to relax in one of the many cafes, or to sit by the lake to admire the view.

Afterwards you will be taken back to Puerto Montt harbour.

Excursion lake Llanquihue round trip    (Full-day)

You will be picked up at the harbour. During this tour, you will circle Lake Llanquihue. At 870 sq km/336 sq mi, it is Chile's second-largest lake. To begin with, the journey from Puerto Varas follows the southern shore of the lake, as far as the small settlement of Ensenada, from where there is a wonderful view towards the three volcanoes of Puntagudo, Osorno and Calbuco. Just a short distance north, beyond Ensenada, a stop is made at Laguna Verde, or the Green Lake. This bay, surrounded by forest and set on the Llanquihue Lake, takes its name from the intensely green colouring of its waters. The journey around the lake continues, interspersed by a stroll, before finally reaching the village of Puerto Octay, at the northern end of the lake. From there, the journey continues to Frutillar along the western shore of Lake Llanquihue. During this section of the drive, you will see beautiful wooden houses from the era of German settlements along the way. In Frutillar itself, the lovingly restored houses with their brightly coloured flower decorations give visitors the impression of having travelled back in time. This is also where you can visit an interesting open-air museum with restored houses from the German colonization era, including furniture from the earliest times of settlement.

After visiting Frutillar, you will return to Puerto Montt harbour.

Excursion to Frutillar   (Half-day)

In the Morning, you will be picked up at the Pier. This half-day tour will introduce you to the small town of Frutillar, set on the shores of Lake Llanquihue. The carefully restored houses from the German settlement era with their brightly coloured flower decorations give visitors the impression of having travelled back in time. Meanwhile, in the interesting open-air museum, you can see restored houses dating from German colonization, as well as a functional smithy. German cake specialties can be savored everywhere in Frutillar. After the Excursion, you will be taken back to the Pier.

NOTE: In Chile museums are closed on Mondays.





Excursion to Alerce Andino National Park 🌿 🧑🏻 (Half-day)

Why not spend a day in the Alerce Andino National park and let yourself be captivated by its primordial, enchanted-seeming forest. The park is located south-east of Puerto Montt, at the beginning of the Carretera Austral, and covers an area of almost 40,000 hectares. Half of the park is practically untouched Valdivian temperate rainforest, in which around fifty small lakes hide. Frequently, there are also rocky peaks rising up out of the forest. The park takes its name from the alerce trees: giant conifers that reach dead straight for the sky, and are capable of becoming several thousand years old. A lovely picture is created whenever individual rays of sunshine penetrate the dense greenery, just like light streaming into a cathedral. In the early evening, you will return to Puerto Montt harbour.

Kayaking La Poza Lagoon 🛶 🌿 (Half-day)

Your vehicle will pick you up from pier Puerto Montt and take you to Lake Llanquihue. Then you will follow the main roads along Lake Llanquihue for about 15 km to arrive at the lagoon "Laguna Poza". Here you will navigate 5 km on a thin channel that begins as 25 meters wide and slowly narrows to a thin tunnel, hardly 3 meters, surrounded by weeping willows and only accessible by canoes or kayaks. Once you arrive at the source, La Poza's lake is an ideal place for bird watching, with opportunities to observe native bird species, such as kingfishers, herons and birds of prey. You return by the same channel to Lake Llanquihue. The comparison between this immense water mass and the small lagoon and channels will surprise you as much as the change of colors from green to blue. Furthermore you enjoy the view of the volcano Calbuco in the background.

Excursion rafting Petrohue river 🛶 🌿 (Half-day)

The Rio Petrohué is the only river to originate in Todos Los Santos Lake. Its turquoise waters that flow along the base of the Osorno and Calbuco volcanoes, and its class 3 and 4 rapids are ideal for safe yet exciting rafting in this exquisitely beautiful landscape.

Before setting off, you receive a brief introduction into rafting techniques, as well as handed your equipment, which includes a wetsuit, windbreaker, life jacket, helmet and paddle. Then the wild journey downriver begins, and can be rounded off by a swim in the crystal clear waters of the Rio Petrohué.

NOTE: Prior experience is not required. A rafting guide and a safety boat are integral to every tour. Snack included.

Petrohué waterfalls and the Osorno Volcano 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)

Departure for this full day tour into the wonderful region surrounding Puerto Varas is from the harbour in Puerto Montt, and wonderful views towards the Osorno and Calbuco volcanoes can already be enjoyed during the drive along Lake Llanquihue.

First stop of the day is at the wild 'Saltos de Petrohue', a set of rapids and waterfalls that dance over the impressive formations of lava rocks from the surrounding volcanoes. It is the waters of the Petrohue River itself that have eroded and shaped these rocks over a period of thousands of years.

The journey continues with a drive up the Osorno volcano (2,660m/8,727ft). The road ends at an elevation of 1,300m/4,265ft, at a mountain cabin, where the unforgettable views include the mighty towering heights of the Osorno volcano and the neighboring volcanoes as well as the profoundly blue Llanquihue Lake. During the hike across the volcano's immense lava fields is made, the panoramic views improve with every foot of elevation gained. If the weather permits it, you can also enjoy the landscape during a chairlift ride (optional) The return journey to the harbour in Puerto Montt is in the afternoon.

NOTE: The hike is easy and takes around 1-2hrs.



Chiloé



The Chiloé Archipelago is situated southeast of Puerto Montt in the Pacific. It is Chile's second largest island after Tierra del Fuego. Parts of Chiloé are protected in various national parks. Farmers and fishermen live traditional lives in picturesque villages where time seems to stand still. The landscape is a verdant green, and, whenever the sun shines, the colourful painted wooden houses and fishing boats glow in lovely colours. For a long time, Chiloé was largely cut off from the mainland, allowing deeply rooted traditions, myths and legends to survive to this day. The island's emblems are its wood houses on stilts and the many wooden churches that were constructed without the use of a single nail or screw, which have been added to the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.



Excursion to the churches of Castro, Dalcahue and Achao



 (Full-day)


(departure: Ancud or Castro)

The churches of Chiloé are one of Chile's most valuable cultural treasures and have been added to the UNESCO world heritage list in 2000. The oldest of the 16 listed churches were built in the 18th century by the Jesuits with help of local carpenters, who are famous for their skills. They were built entirely of wood and without a single nail.

First you visit Castro and its impressively colored San Francisco church. Have a close look at the fine Alerce wood carvings inside. The tour continues to the little city of Dalcahue, where you will visit smaller, beautiful churches. Then you will cross to Achao Island by boat. This local church is the oldest in Chiloé and maybe the most valuable one of the whole country. Parts of it are dates to 1740. In the afternoon you return to the main island and drive back to the pier.

Ancud and the Puñihuil penguin colony



 (Half-day)

(departure: Ancud or Castro)

This day trip begins at the harbour. You will visit this northern-most town and former capital of the island, where you get a brief insight into the lifestyle of the island's inhabitants, known as 'Chilotes' in Chile. Fortifications dating back to the era of the War of Independence can also be visited in Ancud.

Afterwards, the journey continues along the northern coast of Chiloé, before reaching the Puñihuil penguin colony, which is one of the few places where Magellan and Humboldt penguins live side by side. If the weather permits; you will take a boat to one of the small rocky islands in the sea, where the penguins live. Afterwards, return to the harbour.

Excursion to Chiloé National Park




 (Full-day)

(departure: Ancud or Castro)

From the harbour in Castro or Ancud you will drive toward Cucao, on the Pacific coast, near the entrance to Chiloé National Park. Whilst crossing the island, you will pass several picturesque villages and two quiet lakes. Shortly past Cucao, you will leave the car and set out on a trail through dense forest. You will be impressed by the biologic diversity! At the end of the trail, you will reach the indigenous community of Quilque, where Doña Albertina will receive you with some typical delicacies. Finally, you visit the little village of Chonchi, with one of the biggest churches of Chiloé. Afterwards, you return to the pier.

Kayaking near Castro



 (Half-day)

(departure: Castro)

This adventurous half day excursion starts with the backdrop of the picturesque landscape of Chiloé's capital and oldest town Castro. The exact starting point depends on the sea level. Once you leave, you will see first of the beautiful and colourful "Palafitos", Castro's typical stilt houses, and then on different routes depending on the tide, the most beautiful parts of Chiloé from the water. Before the kayak tour starts, you will get safety instructions from your bilingual guide. Kayak equipment is included: kayak, paddle skirt, paddle and life jacket.

Excursion to Castro and Dalcahue



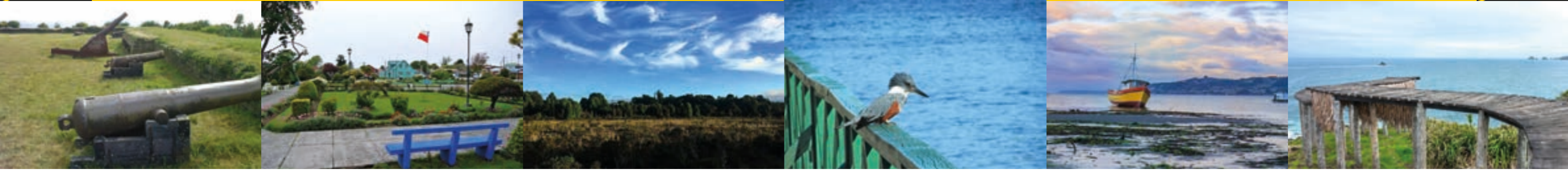
 (Full-day)

(departure: Ancud or Castro)

From the harbour in Ancud or Castro, you will first go to Castro, the island's capital, where you will visit the Plaza de Armas and its cathedral painted in daring lilac and orange. The island's largest craft market can also be visited near the harbour. Castro is famous for its 'palafitos', houses raised on stilts above the water. There are various reasons for their existence, but the most compelling is perhaps the simple fact that early inhabitants sought to evade taxes by building over the water. After all, the ocean has always belonged to everyone!

Afterwards you will continue to the fishing village of Dalcahue, where there is time for a stroll. Traders in the Sunday market offer local craftwork as well as, the (Chilotes) shop for their fruit and vegetables next door. Dalcahue is the regional centre for many smaller islands and fishing villages along the coast and provides good insight into the traditional way of life in Chiloé. Boats bring in fresh catches of crab and seafood's. Afterwards, return to the pier.





Excursion Pacific Coast & Agüi Fortress 🍷 🌿 ☀️ (Half-day)
 (departure: Ancud)

During this excursion you will experience the wonderful landscape of the Lacuy peninsula and learn more about the local history. The Agüi Fortress is located on the Lacula peninsula about 26 km from Ancud and used to be, and still is today, a perfect viewpoint over the bay of Ancud. The construction date goes back to 1779 and it is considered one of the last Hispanic bastions in South America. Since 1991, the fortress also belongs to the group of national monuments of Chile. After your visit to the fortress, you will see the second oldest lighthouse in the country, the Faro Corona. Following the tour of the surroundings, you will return to Ancud on the same route.

Excursion Senda Darwin & Caulín Beach 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)
 (departure: Ancud)

During this excursion you will walk to the biological station Senda Darwin and get an impression of the work of the natural scientists on site. Afterwards you have the opportunity to visit the village of Chacao and its picturesque church. We continue through the idyllic island scenery to the beach of Caulín, where various bird species can be observed. The final highlight of this tour is an oyster tasting on the beach. Afterwards you will return to the port of Ancud.

Bicycle tour to Chiloé National Park 🚲 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)
 (departure: Castro)

Starting from Castro the transfer takes you to the beautiful Huillinco Lake. There you will get on your bike and start cycling west on the mostly flat road. On the way you will mainly see the lakes Huillinco and Cucao, the rural character of the island. 7 km before arriving at the national park, you will stop at an indigenous community called Quilque where you can enjoy a pic nic for refreshment. Afterwards we cycle the last part of the way to the national park where you can park your bikes and go for a walk. Then a transfer will be waiting for you to take you back to the port.



Bird watching in Pullao Bay and on the island of Quinchao 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)
 (departure: Castro)

You will experience a part of the Natural Heritage Trail "The Chiloé Archipelago: Wetlands, Birds and Cultures", which is part of the Chiloé Seabird Conservation Programme. In the morning we will leave from Castro to the bird watching centre of Bahía Pullao, where you will get to know more about the existing birds in this wetland. These include the hudsonian godwit (*limosa haemastica*) and birds that live here all year round, such as the black-necked swan (*cygnus melancoryphus*) and the red-gartered coot (*fulica armillata*). After our visit, we continue to Dalcahue, where we take a small ferry to the island of Quinchao. Our first stop is the wetland of Chullec, which is also part of the natural heritage. After bird watching you will enjoy a lunch near the beach at a small agrotourism provider. At the end we will visit the village of Achao, where you will see one of the oldest churches of the archipelago, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the evening you will return to Castro.

Muelle de la Luz and hiking in Chepu 🌿 ☀️ (Full-day)
 (departure: Castro)

We will start early in the morning from Castro heading north to Chepu. There we take a boat trip on the river of the same name to observe different water birds, such as the yellow-billed teal (*anas flavirostris*) or the Ringed kingfisher (*Megaceryle torquata*). Just before the river flows into the Pacific Ocean, we go ashore and in a few minutes we are at the magnificent viewpoint "Muelle de la Luz", from where you can enjoy a wonderful view of the ocean. After a short break we return to the other side of the river where a delicious rural lunch with river view awaits us.

After lunch, we will go into a dense forest with old trees and a great variety of species. Amongst others, we will discover the indigenous tree species ulmo (*eucryphia cordifolia*), canelo (*drimys winteri*) and tepa (*Laureliopsis philippiana*) and thereby learn about the fascinating biodiversity of the temperate rainforest of Chiloé. In the evening we will return to Castro.

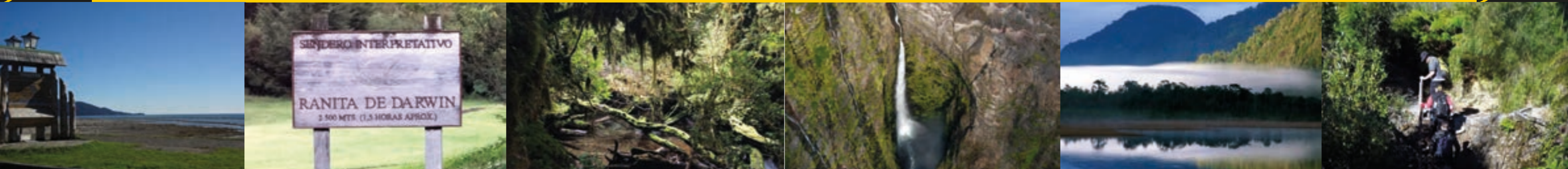


Chaitén



The city of Chaitén is located in the lake district of Chile. From the city you can start many activities, such as hiking on the trails of the Pumalín Douglas Tompkins National Park or climbing the Chaitén Volcano of the same name. Visit the beautiful Santa Bárbara beach, 12 km north of Chaitén, with a magnificent view of the Volcán Hill and ideal for spotting Commerson's dolphins (Toninas).





Hiking excursion "darwin frog"

☀️ (Half-day)

This beautiful hiking route uses an old path on which the workers formerly used to transport trees to the sawmill. You will be able to appreciate the valuable work of Pumalín Park, which contributed to the fact that the forest could recover and is now preserved in its full pristine beauty. After the hike with beautiful views of the Michimahuida Volcano, you return to the pier in Chaitén.

Hiking excursion "hidden waterfalls"



☀️ (Half-day)

This is one of the most beautiful hiking paths in the Pumalín Park and it leads you deep into the Patagonian virgin forest. On your way through the lush green you will see some of the fascinating giant Alerce trees which can be several thousands of years old. They grow straight up to the sky and can reach diameters of up to four meters. The diversity of birds in this forest is really impressive, keep your eyes and ears open to see them and hear their different types of singing. Desired location of the hike is a viewpoint from where you can see two hidden, beautiful waterfalls in midst of the forest.

Hiking excursion "Alerce Trees"



☀️ (Half-day)

Hiking on the „Alerce Trail“ you will get a close look of those fascinating giant trees that can be up to several thousands of years old. They grow straight up to the sky and can reach diameters of up to four meters. If they could talk, they would tell fascinating stories of ancient times – but as they can't, all which is left to the visitor is fantasy... Later the hike continues to the foot of the Chaitén Volcano. It's 2008 eruption has changed the area and the life of the local people forever. After this exciting excursion, you reach the Santa Barbara Beach where the pristine forest meets the sea. With a little luck, you can observe sea lions and dolphins, before you head back to the pier in Chaitén.

Hiking excursion "Chaiten volcano"



☀️ (Full-day)

Chaiten is surrounded by three volcanoes: Corcovado, Michimahuida y Chaiten. On May 2nd, 2008, the Chaiten volcano erupted surprisingly for the first time in 9000 years. During the eruption several craters and lava domes developed, one of them reaching a height of 120 metres. The path leads you through low vegetation up the valley. After crossing a creek, then it gets steep. Hundreds of tree trunks are lying around as silent witnesses of the eruption. In the end, you will be rewarded with a marvelous panoramic view of the caldera. There may be some smoke coming out of the rocks. The return hike is on the same route. Afterwards, return to the pier in Chaiten.



Chacabuco

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The port city of Chacabuco is the most important harbour of the Aysén región, as it can be accessed from Puerto Montt (Los Lagos region). Chacabuco has a population of approximately 1600 inhabitants. The economy is based mainly on port activity, fishing, marine farming and increased tourism activity through ecotourism and sport fishing. Kayaking, hiking and fly fishing are some of the activities you can do in the surroundings, accompanied by beautiful landscapes of the evergreen Magellan forest.

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Aysén and río Simpson Nature Reserve (Full-day)

You will be collected at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco and will drive on the famous Carretera Austral towards Puerto Aysén, the second biggest city of the region, with about 15.000 inhabitants. Have a stopover at the local cemetery to visit the grave of father Antonio Ronchi, a Patagonian pilgrim. He is very famous here because of his constant fight to improve the bad life conditions of the poor. Your next stop is at the coastal road and its impressive hanging bridge – a perfect place for great pictures. The tour continues to the Río Simpson Nature Reserve of 41,161 hectares. It has a small museum of flora and fauna, an arboretum and a thick “lenga” (Nothofagus pumilio) trunk with its rings dated between 1578 and 1970 where Chile’s history is represented. Take a stroll to the Simpson River and take photos of the beautiful rough landscape, including the impressive waterfall “Salto de la Novia”. Afterwards, we will visit the handicraft center at the exit of the city in route to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco.

Reserva Nacional río Simpson and Coyhaique (Half-day)

You will be collected at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco and will drive eastward along the Río Aysén, towards Coyhaique. Along the way, you will stop at the Río Simpson Nature Reserve to admire its many waterfalls tumbling down the steep cliffs, among the most stunning of which are the Bride’s Veil Waterfall (Velo de la Novia) and the Virgin’s Waterfall (Salto de la Virgen). A small museum in the reserve introduces you to the region’s unique flora and fauna. When you arrive in Coyhaique, you will visit the Plaza de Armas with its bustling crafts fair; if you like, you can relax in one of the cafés at the square to watch the busy streets. On your return to the coast you will stop at a lookout above the Río Simpson to see the “Indian Rock” (Piedra del Indio), which has eroded into the shape of a human profile. From here you will be taken back to the harbour in Puerto Chacabuco.

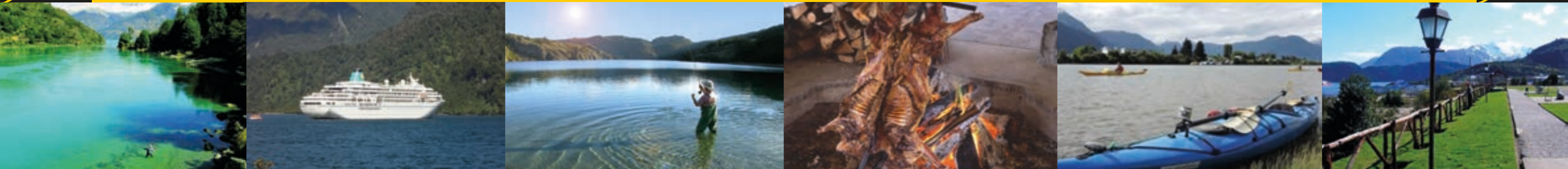
Hiking in the Coyhaique National Reserve (Half-day)

You will be collected at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco and will drive eastward on the Carretera Austral, towards Coyhaique. Via a gravel road you will get to the Coyhaique National Reserve, one of the oldest reserves of the region. Starting point of your hike amidst the lush pristine forest is at the beautiful Laguna Verde (Green Lagoon) (1.361 above sea level). While looking out for local birds, follow the path to a viewpoint with a spectacular panoramic view of Coyhaique on the side of the mighty Simpson River. Then hike to “Casa Bruja” (house of the witch), one of the oldest houses in this region, from the time of the first settlers and also visit an old watermill. On your hike back out of the park, stop at the beautiful waterfall “Salto de la Virgen” (bride’s waterfall). Afterwards return to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco or an optional visit to the Los Domos handicraft market in Puerto Chacabuco.

Hiking in the Aiken del Sur Nature Park (Full-day)

Leave the ship in Puerto Chacabuco and enjoy a 20 minute drive along a beautiful road to the Aiken del Sur Nature Park. This privately-owned 300-hectare nature preserve, located along the shore of Lago Riesco, is home to a beautiful natural environment of wild-rushing streams, waterfalls and cold evergreen rainforest. Several plant species in this far-off corner of the world have only recently been discovered! During your hike along the well-marked footpaths of this wonderful landscape, you will learn about the distinctive local flora and fauna. The park is especially attractive because of its wonderful views to the lake, the river, the close by mountains and the beautiful “Barba de Viejo” waterfall. Keeping an eye out for local bird species like ‘Chuca’ and ‘Hueta’. After the hike of about 2,5 km, enjoy a drink, alongside with a folkloric show. Afterwards return to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco or an optional visit to the Los Domos handicraft market in Puerto Chacabuco.






Fly fishing in Patagonia

 (Full-day)

The Aysen Region is internationally renowned for being the ideal place for fly fishing. Fly fishermen from all over the world come here between October and May in order to enjoy a unique nature experience. If you are a beginner and always wanted to learn this technique, this excursion is a great opportunity. Fly fishing is also a perfect activity for couples, newly made friends from the ship or single travelers. You will be picked up at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco and drive along the Simpson River to the Los Torreones Lodge, where you receive your gear. You will board a small boat and go down the river for about 8 km. Depending on the weather conditions, your fishing site will be either in the Riesco Lake or in the beautiful small Chalk River. In both places, 1,5 to 3 kg rainbow trout and other trout's. After your fishing adventure, you head back to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco.

Kayaking at the Los Palos river and Los Palos lake

 (Half-day)


This excursion is all about enjoying nature. You will be picked up at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco and will drive on the famous Carretera Austral towards Puerto Aysen, the second biggest city of the region, with about 15.000 inhabitants. After some more kilometers, you reach the Rio Los Palos mountain hut, where you receive information and gear, before continuing to the lake of the same name. After the necessary safety instructions, you start paddling the tranquil Los Palos Lake and enter the Los Palos River after about 20 minutes. Here, the landscape changes a bit, making up for a great background to your kayak adventure. You can imagine how the Kaweskar and Chonos tribes lived here before and navigated these very same waters. You have a stopover at a mystic place called "myrtle wood". On the last part of the route the water gets a little wilder and makes your adrenalin level rise. Back in the mountain hut, you can change your clothes before returning to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco or do an optional visit to the Los Domos handicraft market.

Hiking at deer island

 (Half-day)

Your excursion starts at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco, where you take a boat and head to the Deer Island, in a distance of about 20 minutes. This unique place in the middle of the fjord is crowned by mountains and glaciers. The island's hiking paths offer spectacular spots for shooting great nature pictures. Your local guide will take you to the forest where you can watch out for the well-hidden (Cervus Elaphus). Certainly, you will observe some of the bird species living there, while enjoying the marvelous views of the fjord and the great Patagonian landscapes. After a two hour hike, you return to the boat that brings you back to the pier.

Overflight of laguna San Rafael

 (Half-day)


This unforgettable tour by small aircraft provides an opportunity to experience Patagonia's northern ice field and its many glaciers from the air. Starting at the pier, you first drive to Coyhaique's airport, where the pilot awaits you and gives you instructions. From the air, you will have great views of the Quitalco Fjord, the mopath of the Cupquelán River, the Elefant Golf and of course of the fascinating San Rafael Lagoon and its glacier of the same name, whose impressive blue and turquoise icebergs sparkle on the water. If the weather permits, you might also overfly parts of the wide northern ice field. After landing, you will be brought back to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco.

Kayaking at the Aysén river

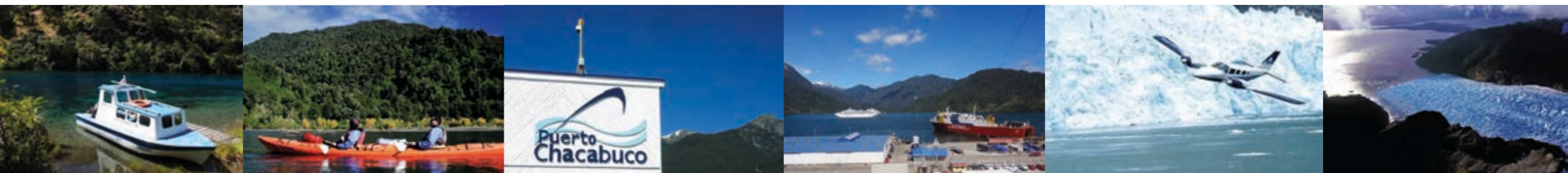
 (Half-day)

The tour starts at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco, from where a Spanish-speaking driver brings you to Puerto Aysen, at a distance of about 15 km. There you will be welcomed by your bilingual kayak guide who presents you all your needed gear. Then you continue to the Aysen River, where you first listen to the safety instructions before starting your kayak adventure. Paddle from the starting point to the La Herradura Wetlands, where you can observe many different bird species from the water. After a break and a snack, you paddle back to the starting point and then return to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco.

Barbecue with a local family near the Los Palos river

 (Half-day)

You will be collected at the pier in Puerto Chacabuco and head to Puerto Aysen, the second biggest city of the region, with about 15.000 inhabitants. After a short cruise through the city, you take a gravel road along the Los Palos River to the Barbecue Area "Quincho La Pancha". The owner will welcome you and tell you about their life. You may visit their home and learn how they manage their everyday life in this remote place. You will share a typical barbecue made of lamb, beef and chicken, while children perform local dances for you. If the weather permits, you will stop at the Rio Aysen hanging bridge for a panoramic view of the river and the town. Afterwards return to the pier in Puerto Chacabuco including a short visit of the Los Domos handicraft market.



Puerto Natales

Puerto Natales, the “gateway to Torres del Paine” is located on the fjord of Última Esperanza, the Fjord of Last Hope. Its location between Punta Arenas and Torres del Paine National Park, as well as its proximity to the Perito Moreno Glacier in Argentina, makes this small town the perfect starting point for many trips and excursions. Puerto Natales is a quiet port town with comfortable hotels and good seafood restaurants. Try excellent salmon and freshly caught centollas (king crab)! Hikers from all over the world meet here to obtain supplies for their treks in the Torres del Paine.



Excursion Torres del Paine National Park (Full-day)

Your tour guide will collect you at the pier in Puerto Natales in the early morning, for departure to the famous Torres del Paine National Park. A tour through the park will provide wonderful views onto the Cuernos and Torres Massifs with their jagged peaks, as well as of the milky Lake Grey. Several short hikes enable visitors to reach the most beautiful view points in the park, and to become acquainted with the wealth of flora and fauna found in the area. The return drive to the pier is in the late afternoon.

Excursion horse riding at the Eberhard fjord (Half-day)

You will be collected by your local guide at the pier in Puerto Natales and drive from there to Estancia Consuelo at the nearby Eberhard Fjord, where your horses are waiting for you saddled and ready. You ride along the shore of the fjord and pass by Villa Luisa, where the first mansion of the estancia was located. The Paine massif and other mountain ranges make up for a spectacular background for your excursion. Once you rode around the fjord, you cross over by boat to Estancia Consuelo, where your transfer is waiting for you to bring you back to the pier.

Excursion hiking in the Sarmiento sector (Full-day)

You will be collected by your local guide at the pier in Puerto Natales and drive from there to the Torres del Paine National Park.

You hike begins at the Lago Sarmiento Entrance and takes you from there to Laguna Amarga. On your way, you can observe the park's typical flora and fauna, such as guanacos and ñandus – take beautiful pictures of these wild, and non-dangerous animals! Highlight of this hike is ancient rock paintings left behind by the original people of this area hundreds of years ago. After an engaging hike full of new and interesting impressions, you return to the pier in Puerto Natales.

Excursion hiking to base Las Torres (Full-day)

This 8-hour hike to the base of the Torres del Paine mountain-peaks is one of the park's most popular. The hike will take you through several different types of terrain: it begins on hilly grassland, before reaching a Lenga-wooded area in the valley of Rio Ascencio, which is fed by glaciers high above. After passing the Torres campground, the path ascends steeply on rocky ground to the reward of a deep-blue glacial lagoon, with the Torres del Paine themselves towering above you, seemingly within arm's reach. After a break in this transcendent spot, you will hike back down to the valley, and then return to the pier in Puerto Natales.

Asado patagónico at Estancia Consuelo (Full-day)

Everyone who visits Patagonia, should at least once try a typical "Asado Patagónico". This cooking style of grilling a whole lamb, it is clamped by all four limbs to a metal frame and then placed over a fire with a low flame. The meat is roasted that way for several hours, and the smoke provides a very special aroma and flavor. To make it even tastier, it is frequently dabbed with a broth made from herbs and garlic. An "Asado Patagónico" is usually accompanied with potatoes, "pebre" and salads.

Trekking Dorotea Hill (Half-day)

On this trekking tour to the viewpoint "Mirador Dorotea" we first go to a small square in the middle of the Dorotea mountain range. From there, surrounded by spectacular landscapes, you will climb to the summit, where you will find the "Mirador Dorotea" 600 metres above sea level, from where you can enjoy a breathtaking panoramic view of Puerto Natales, El Estrecho and the ice fields. On the way, you will surely be able to observe some of the wild birds that have their homeland here.

Hiking Salto Grande & Mirador Cuervos (Full-day)

This excursion takes you to one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Torres del Paine National Park, and then to a viewpoint with a stunning panorama of the Cuernos del Paine peaks. On this hike we will first visit the impressive waterfall Salto Grande, located in the centre of the park. After a short hike you will find yourself directly alongside the dramatic, powerful waterfall, where Lake Nordenskjöld's glacial snowmelt pours into Lake Pehoé. After enjoying the spectacle at your leisure, you will continue your hike northward to the Mirador Los Cuernos viewpoint. There may be wild animals on the way such as the native llama species guanaco. We will reach our destination after about 1.5 hours, where we will enjoy a panoramic view on the Nordenskjöld lake and in the background the giant Cuernos del Paine can be seen. Opposite the viewpoint you will find the French Valley, part of the famous W-Trekking trail. After the hike you continue towards the Río Serrano sector, through the national park with several photo stops, and then return to the pier in Puerto Natales.



Punta Arenas



Punta Arenas is the capital of the Magellan Region and has a population of about 135,000. Due to its strategic location on the Magellan Strait, the city is an important harbour for merchant ships to this day. For this reason, as well as the growth in sheep farming during the 19th century, Punta Arenas once enjoyed great wealth. Patagonia is the well-known name for a little-known region at the southern "end of the world", a place with its own unique magic. One of the planet's last regions to survive almost unchanged, it boasts cities originating from the former wool boom, as well as glaciers and the summits of its national parks.

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City tour Punta Arenas (Half-day)

Your local guide will welcome you at the pier in Punta Arenas. Punta Arenas is the capital of the Magellan region and has a population of 150,000. Due to its strategic location on the Magellan Strait, the city is an important harbor for merchant ships to this day. For this reason, as well as the growth in sheep farming during the 19th century, Punta Arenas enjoyed great wealth in the past. Your guided city tour through Punta Arenas will begin with a drive to the elevated viewpoint of the Cerro La Cruz, where you can enjoy a beautiful view of the city and the Magellan Strait. Back down in the city, you will visit the interesting Museum Salesiano Marggiorino Borgatello, where you will receive an introduction to Patagonia's original inhabitants, such as the Kawaskhar and Yamana, who lived here from around 11000 BC. The museum exhibits the region's fauna and flora, as well as its colonial and missionary history. Afterwards, the tour continues to Punta Arenas cemetery, whose impressive tombs make it Chile's most beautiful final resting place. The city tour ends on the main square, the Plaza de Armas, lined by the 19th century mansions of wealthy sheep-farming families, which tell a story of the town's once marvelous wealth. To round off, there is time for a short stroll around the handicraft market.

Estancia Fitz Roy (Half-day)

Anyone visiting Patagonia should experience at least one «Asado Patagónico». The sheep station of Estancia Fitz Roy lays out a traditional meal, during which an entire lamb is patiently slow roasted. You will reach the farm by crossing to the island of Riesco by ferry, where visitors are welcomed by the owners themselves, and where they can visit the farm's very own museum that illustrates the everyday life of the former native population. Afterwards, the delicious meal is ready, which is followed by an opportunity to watch professional sheep shearers during their work. Afterwards, you return to the Pier in Punta Arenas.

Kajak in Agua Fresca bay (Half-day)

You will be welcomed at the pier in Punta Arenas by your local guide who accompanies you to the starting point. Situated 27 km south of Punta Arenas, Agua Fresca Bay is habitat for many different species due to its beaches, mountains and forests on the shores. Seabirds, sea lions, dolphins and other species can be observed in their natural environment. The two-hour kayak tour begins with exercises in a small shallow river, later the tour leads to the Magellan Strait. After the Kayak-Adventure, you will have a typical Patagonian snack.

A piece of patagonian history – Fuerte Bulnes and patagonian pioneers (Half-day)

You will be welcomed at the pier by your local guide and then head to the geographical centre of Chile. The Magellan Region seems to be the most remote region of continental Chile, but counting the Chilean part of the Antarctic, the Magellan Region is located right in the "middle" of Chile, half way between Arica and the South Pole, with a distance of 4000 km to each. The exact location of the geographical centre is in San Juan, 56km from Punta Arenas. Afterwards, you go on to Fuerte Bulnes, which was the first Chilean outpost in the Magellan Strait region. It was constructed in 1843, on the order of President Bulnes, who wanted to lay claim to this southern territory for Chile. The first pioneers lived here under tough conditions for five hard years, before a more promising location was found for establishing Punta Arenas in 1848. Today, the fortress is an open-air museum. Last stop of the day is the pioneer mansion "Casona Patronal Rio de Los Ciervos", about 5 km outside Punta Arenas. This place combines culture, tourism and family traditions, where guests can learn about the pioneer's daily life and the Patagonian history. After a guided tour you may enjoy some drinks while watching a folkloric show. Afterwards, you will be brought back to the pier.

Estancia Olga Teresa - Condor in Patagonia (Half-day)

On this tour, you will follow the traces of condors, the national bird of Chile. You will start the excursion travelling approximately 100km to Estancia Olga Teresa, stopping along the road to observe guanacos, ñandús, flamingos, and occasionally foxes and skunks. Within the fields of the estancia there is a little hill called Cerro Palomares, whose slopes shelter a condor colony. There you can view adult specimens, both males and females, and also young condors. The latter have greyish brown plumage, unlike the adult condors that have black feathers. Male condors are identified by a red crest and a white collar on their neck. You will arrive by bus to the base of the hill. After a 10-minute walk, you will reach an ascent that will take you near to the condors. The condors are usually found resting or flying around the hill. There have been up to 70 condors flying simultaneously. You will also be able to see a large number of other bird species such as gulls, owls, caiquenes (wild geese), thrushes, and eagles, to name a few. Occasionally, you can also see guanacos. The place is windy, so you will need to bring warm clothing with you; also wear comfortable soled shoes suitable for walking on uneven terrain.





Punta Arenas "on the traces of the seafarers"



Discover Punta Arenas on the traces of the old seafaring men! During this exciting city tour, you will learn a lot about the seafaring history of southern Chile from your local guide. Punta Arenas is the capital of the Magellan region and has 150,000 inhabitants. Due to its advantageous location on the Magellan Strait, the city once enjoyed tremendous economic success and still continues to be used by merchant ships.

The ship "Nao Victoria" was part of Ferdinand Magellan's 16th-Century expedition that discovered the route around South America to the Pacific, and it was the only one of his ships to successfully complete the circumnavigation. You will visit an exact, full-scale replica reconstruction of this first ship ever to circle the globe. This amazing replica, which looks out over the straits named after the explorer, allows you to learn about life aboard ship for the crew of over 250 sailors. Stroll through the captain's cabin, the crew deck, and the dim storage areas of the ship's hold. Take the tiller and imagine you are the first European ever to sail a ship on the wide Pacific!

Your tour continues with a visit of the Punta Arenas cemetery, whose impressive tombs make it Chile's most beautiful final resting place. Then you drive to the elevated viewpoint of the Cerro La Cruz, where you can enjoy a beautiful view of the city and the Magellan Strait. Back down in the city, at the main square "Plaza de Armas" the 19th century magnificent homes of the great estate owners recall the fabulous wealth the city once enjoyed. A statue honoring Magellan in the middle of the town square welcomes you. To round off your tour, a cocktail is waiting for you in a nice ambience. Afterwards, you return to the Pier in Punta Arenas.

Excursion to Isla Magdalena and Isla Marta



You will be welcomed at the pier in Punta Arenas by your local guide and first drive about 25 minutes to the starting point of this boat excursion.

Isla Santa Marta and Isla Magdalena are reached by a 4.5-hr trip by inflatable zodiac through the chilly waters of the Magellan Strait. The islands are home to an enormous colony of Magellan penguins, and there are also many other animals to see, including cormorants and petrels. The excursion starts at Laredo Bay, 25 kilometres to the north of Punta Arenas. You will set out across the waters of the strait, arriving first at Santa Marta Island, where an important colony of sea lions are located, along with cormorant nesting grounds. After a tour of Santa Marta, the excursion continues on to Magdalena Island, which, along with Santa Marta, has been part of the Los Pingüinos Natural Monument protection area since 1982. Each year, from October to March, over sixty thousand pairs of Magellan penguins converge on Santa Magdalena, taking advantage of the summer weather to nest and fledge their young. On your tour, you'll visit an environmental interpretation centre which, besides an amazing view, provides information on the Magellan Strait and its ecological richness. Following a circumnavigation of Magdalena Island in the zodiac, you will return back to your starting point in Laredo Bay.

Full day to Torres del Paine National Park by plane



Private charter flight on request to Torres del Paine National Park, where you can discover the breathtaking flora and fauna of Patagonia and see the famous Cuernos del Paine (Paine horns), a name given to spiky granite peaks, located in the park. Lunch included. After your visit you will return to Punta Arenas by plane.



CONTACT

cruises@travelart.com | info@travelart.com

www.travelart.com



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**Apoquindo 3000, 4th floor, Las Condes
Santiago de Chile
Telephone: +56 2 2437 5660
www.travelart.com/en/cruises/**

