

SOUTH AMERICA

SPECIALIST COLLECTION

EXPERIENCE

Colourful cultures and traditions

EXPLORE

Stunning sites and scenery

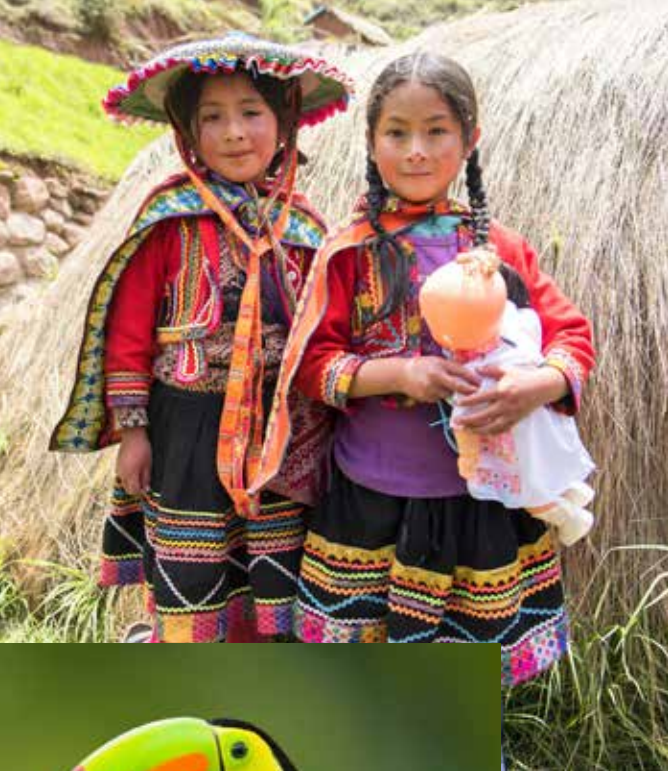
DISCOVER

Icy plains and tropical jungles

OVER 40
YEARS OF
TRUSTED
TRAVEL
EXPERIENCE

THOMPSONS HOLIDAYS

www.thompsons.co.za



SOUTH AMERICA

This vast continent spans both the North and Southern Hemispheres, resulting in weather ranging from tropical jungle in the Amazon to sub-zero temperatures in the southernmost glaciers. There are 12 countries in South America, though Thompsons visits just Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Peru. These fascinating countries are home to a mix of people who embrace the cosmopolitan chic of European cultures with the rich heritage of indigenous societies.

TRAVEL TIPS

- Health requirements differ from one region to another and country to country. Please see each individual country in South America for details.
- Avoid drinking tap water. Stick to cooked vegetables rather than raw salads, as these might have been washed in water.
- Language may sometimes be a problem – a friendly smile, gestures and facial expressions will often get you what you want.

TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE WITH A GLOBAL COMPANY

With 40 years of trusted travel experience you receive expert advice. No request too large, no detail too small. Thompsons Holidays is a division of Cullinan Holdings Group and a member of THE TRAVEL CORPORATION, a fourth generation family owned group. Our financial stability is the key to a relaxed holiday.

UNRIVALLED VALUE FOR MONEY ON TRIED AND TESTED HOLIDAYS

As the largest South African tour operator, our greater buying power means you get the best deal on your holiday, unrivalled value for money and unexpected bonus offers.

WE ARE WITH YOU 24/7

With you all the way – our care line is your friend in an emergency.



PERU	SAO PAULO - LIMA	4h35m
	LIMA - CUSCO	1h10m
CHILE	SAO PAULO - SANTIAGO	4h05m
	SANTIAGO - PUERTO MONTT	2h50m
BRAZIL	SAO PAULO - BRASILIA	1h35m
	SAO PAULO - RIO DE JANEIRO	1h
	SAO PAULO - MANAUS	3h55m
	SAO PAULO - IGUASSU	1h40m
	RIO DE JANEIRO - IGUASSU	2h10m
ARGENTINA	SAO PAULO - BUENOS AIRES	2h50m
	BUENOS AIRES - MENDOZA	1h35m
	BUENOS AIRES - BARILOCHE	2h
	BUENOS AIRES - EL CALAFATE	2h55m



BRAZIL

One of the world's most popular holiday destinations, Brazil offers beautiful beaches, tropical rainforests, vibrant metropolitan areas and plenty of historical and cultural interest. There are so many treasures, from ancient colonial towns to surreal landscapes, exquisite waterfalls and paradise islands to the incomparable Amazon basin, the incredible wetlands of Pantanal in the Central West and the breathtaking Iguassu Falls that shares the border with Argentina.



GENERAL INFO

CAPITAL CITY BRASILIA

LANGUAGE

Portuguese

CURRENCY

Brazilian Real

VISA

SA passport holders do not require a visa

TIME DIFFERENCE

Nov to March: SA time minus 4 hours; Oct to Feb: SA time plus 1 hour (daylight saving time)

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Yellow Fever (compulsory).

Recommended: Hepatitis A, Typhoid.

Malaria prophylaxis is also highly recommended.

PRICE INDICATOR

GLASS OF WINE

US\$ 8-11

BEER

US\$ 1,50-2.50 on the beach; US\$ 2-3 in restaurants

BOTTLE OF WATER

US\$ 1-1.50 on the beach; US\$ 3 in restaurants

COKE

US\$ 1.6 on the beach; US\$ 3 in restaurants

DINNER

US\$ 25 - main, dessert & 1 drink in simple restaurant; US\$ 33 - starter, main, dessert & 1 drink in higher end restaurant

RIO DE JANEIRO

Rio literally welcomes its visitors with open arms – the vast statue of Christ the Redeemer stands open-armed on Corcovado Mountain overlooking the city below, which stretches along the shores of famous Copacabana and Ipanema Beaches. At night, visit these pulsating areas, as well as nearby Barra da Tijuca, known as ‘Rio’s Miami’ with its stunning beaches and upmarket facilities. There’s also Leblon and Lagoa. You’ll find numerous boutiques, art galleries and stores lining Copacabana Avenue and Visconde de Pirajá, Ipanema as well as many shopping malls.

CORCOVADO & SUGAR LOAF – F/D WITH LUNCH

Travel to Cosme Velho, take a cogwheel train up Corcovado to see the Christ the Redeemer statue. Enjoy the panoramic view, then head to Sao Conrado and Pepino Beach for lunch. Afternoon city tour past Sambodrome and Metropolitan Cathedral to Cinelandia Square, the Municipal Theatre, National Library and National Museum of Fine Arts. Visit Sugar Loaf via two-stage cable car.



FAVELA & TIJUCA FOREST JEEP TOUR

Visit the shantytown of Santa Marta and the chapel on a hill. Head for Tijuca Atlantic Forest, the world’s largest urban forest. Take a forest trail to Cascatinha Falls. If you visit nurseries and schools, please give a donation to community members.

HELICOPTER FLIGHT

Depart from Urca Mountain, just before ascending Sugar Loaf. Route goes past Botafogo Bay to the statue on top of Corcovado, returning over Copacabana. Minimum 3 pax.

HISTORIC RIO & OLYMPIC BOULEVARD

Explore Rio’s historic centre, then head for Olympic Boulevard, the city’s new port area. Here you will find out all about Brazil’s history and how the Olympic Games has changed the city.

STAND UP PADDLE, BARRA DE GUARATIBA

Enjoy stand-up paddling next to the untouched beaches of Barra de Guaratiba, then paddle over to the mangroves flanking the mountains.

RIO BY NIGHT GINGA DINNER & SHOW

Dine at a traditional ‘Churrascaria’ (BBQ restaurant), then visit Rio’s famous Samba Show Theatre for an unforgettable performance.



WHERE TO STAY

*** AUGUSTO’S COPACABANA HOTEL, COPACABANA | *** MERLIN COPACABANA, COPACABANA | *** MAR IPANEMA, IPANEMA | *** ROYAL RIO PALACE, COPACABANA |
*** WINDSOR EXCELSIOR, COPACABANA | ***** GRAND HYATT, BARRA DA TIJUCA | ***** SHERATON GRAND RIO HOTEL & RESORT, LEBLON BEACH |
***** SOFITEL RIO DE JANEIRO IPANEMA HOTEL, IPANEMA

BUZIOS

Less than 2 hours drive from Rio, this iconic beach destination is actually a peninsula with a choice of 20 magnificent beaches. Buzios was once named one of the 10 most beautiful areas in the world; it's famous for its unique combination of rustic charm, distinctive architecture and sophisticated restaurants and boutiques.



SCHOONER CRUISE – HALF DAY

Cruise past 12 beaches and 3 islands with 2 stops for diving and time to enjoy Buzios' waters.

TROLLEY TOUR – HALF DAY

Ride the open-topped Buzios Trolley to explore the peninsula, driving past 12 beaches and 2 scenic outlook points.

WHERE TO STAY

*** ABRACADABRA POUSSADA | ***** CASA BRANCAS POUSSADA

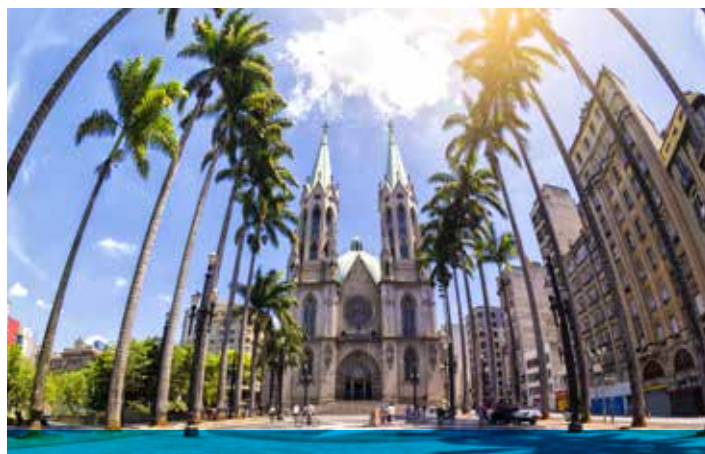
SALVADOR

Brazil's oldest city, Salvador is known for its Portuguese Colonial architecture and tropical coastline. It's also the birthplace of Brazilian culture. Salvador's historic Pelourinho neighbourhood is filled with cobblestoned alleys that open onto large squares full of baroque churches and colourful buildings.



PANORAMIC CITY TOUR – HALF DAY

Explore Salvador to see Barra Lighthouse, Fonte Nova shopping mall and the Otavio Soccer Stadium, Vale de Nazaré and viaduct complex. On to Ribiera, Nossa Senhora da Penha church, Montserrat fort and church plus a market.



WHY NOT CONSIDER SÃO PAULO?

Brazil's largest city and the seventh largest in the world, São Paulo is rich in history and culture, with numerous parks, museums and galleries. It's famous for its ethnic diversity, vibrant nightlife and bustling activity.

WHERE TO STAY

**** ESTANPLAZA PAULISTA HOTEL – SÃO PAULO | ***** SÃO PAULO AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL – SÃO PAULO | **** WISH HOTEL BAHIA – SALVADOR

THE AMAZON

The magnificent Amazon rainforest is one of Brazil's foremost attractions. The largest tropical rainforest in the world, it boasts an indescribable ecosystem... Accommodation is in rustic thatch lodges surrounded by dense jungle and water. You access the jungle from Manaus, at the confluence of the Amazon and Rio Negro Rivers, via boats. At Belem, the Amazon River is 200 to 300 miles across.



PREMIUM AMAZON CLIPPER CRUISE – 3 NIGHTS

The best way to explore the Amazon waterways is to cruise on a small ship. MV Amazon Clipper hosts up to 16 people in 8 air-conditioned cabins with en suite shower. It also offers a dining-room, bar and library plus a sundeck.

Day 1 Depart hotel and navigate to the Pagodão River, a tributary of the Negro. Canoe along the Amazon River to see nocturnal animals as night falls. Enjoy dinner and a trip to Açu Creek or nearby tributaries.

Day 2 Sunrise canoe trip and bird watching. After breakfast, enjoy a forest walk, visit a local family and have lunch there. This afternoon, try out piranha fishing and navigate through Anavilhanas, the world's largest freshwater archipelago. After dinner, explore by canoe to see nocturnal animals.

Day 3 After breakfast, visit the village of Novo Airão to see the handcrafted boat yard, saw mills and market. Travel to Praia Grande or other white sand beach for leisurely lunch. Canoe trip on Lake Acajatuba or nearby lake to see typical flora, followed by dinner.

Day 4 After breakfast, enjoy full day tour to the Meeting of the Waters with lunch. Optional canoe ride with opportunity for piranha fishing. Return to Tropical Hotel landing stage by 5.30pm.

AMAZON ECOPARK – 3 NIGHTS

Day 1 Pick up at 8.30am, transfer to Amazon Ecopark Jungle Lodge. Visit Monkey Jungle then return for lunch. This afternoon, visit local residents. Dinner and evening canoe tour for alligator spotting, then overnight.

Day 2 After breakfast, enjoy a nature hike. After lunch, go on a fishing tour. Dinner and overnight.

Day 3 After breakfast, full-day tour to Meeting of the Waters with lunch. Optional canoe ride with opportunity for piranha fishing. Return by 5.30pm for dinner and overnight.

Day 4 After breakfast, free time to enjoy natural pools. Transfer to Manaus.



IGUASSU FALLS

One of the highlights of visiting Brazil, the Iguassu Falls are actually 275 massive waterfalls divided between Argentina and Brazil. They offer incredibly different views and experiences, depending on which side you view them from. In the 'Land of the Falls', visitors can relax and enjoy the splendour of natural forests, rivers and lakes. You can also visit the Itaipu Dam and enjoy a vibrant nightlife in Foz.



IGUASSU FALLS TOUR BRAZILIAN SIDE – HALF DAY

Bask in the glory of nature of one of the world's most epic waterfalls. Starting in Foz do Iguassu, enjoy a panoramic 11km bus ride towards the Falls – perhaps spot wild animals en route. At the Falls, head out on a 1.2km hiking trail on the Brazilian side to the base of the largest waterfall, where a catwalk extends over the brink of a series of Falls that make up Devil's Throat.

MACUCO SAFARI – HALF DAY

Enjoy a boat cruise on the river until you reach the base of the Falls for a close-up view. It's an unforgettable experience and an adrenaline rush to see the whirlpools, waves and currents up close. Take a 3km ride on an electric wagon and a 500m walk in the forest, then board inflatable boats steered by experienced pilots to experience being in the midst of the Falls.



WHERE TO STAY

★★★★ BELMOND DAS CATARATAS | ★★★★★ PLUS WISH IGUAÇU GOLF RESORT



ARGENTINA

Argentina is blessed with incredible natural beauty. Its capital, Buenos Aires, is where the Tango originated. Known as The Paris of the South, it's also the country's financial and cultural centre with modern buildings, sumptuous palaces and tranquil parks. Bariloche is picture-perfect with its ever-green forests, deep blue lakes and carpets of wild flowers. In the south there's Patagonia, home to magnificent glaciers and the world's largest collection of marine fauna (whales, penguins, sea elephants and seals). Ushuaia is the world's southernmost city, gateway to Antarctica, and El Calafate is the closest town to the exquisite Perito Moreno Glacier. There's also Mendoza, with its tree-lined avenues, glorious weather and incredible wine. Its proximity to the Andes makes it an ideal base for skiers, mountaineers and hikers.

GENERAL INFO

CAPITAL CITY BUENOS AIRES

LANGUAGE

Spanish

CURRENCY

Argentinian Peso

VISA

SA passport holders do not require a visa

TIME DIFFERENCE

SA time minus 5 hours

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

No vaccinations required

PRICE INDICATOR

GLASS OF WINE

US\$ 5

BEER

US\$ 5-8

SMALL BOTTLE OF WATER

US\$ 2-3

COKE

US\$ 2-3

DINNER

Starting from US\$25-100 in restaurants.
McDonalds menu: US\$ 13-15

TRAVEL TIPS

- Health requirements differ from one region to another and country to country. Please see each individual country in South America for details.

BUENOS AIRES

The glamour and elegance of this city's roots are interwoven with its undeniable Latin American charm. Buenos Aires is filled with enchanting neighbourhoods, bustling shopping streets, antique markets, sophisticated shopping malls, elegant restaurants and open-air cafes. A highlight is watching the Tango, a major draw card for travellers. And do sample the city's famous steak paired with a good local wine – it's delicious.



CITY SIGHTSEEING TOUR – HALF DAY

Explore Buenos Aires to see Casa Rosada, The Town Hall and the Cathedral, Colón Theatre and the Obelisk. Continue to the well-preserved neighbourhood of San Telmo. Visit La Boca, famous for picturesque 'Caminito Street' and explore the city's elegant areas, Palermo and Recoleta.

TANGO LESSON – HALF DAY

Learn how to dance Buenos Aires' famous Tango so that you can later attend one of the city's classic 'milongas' (Tango evenings).

COLONIA DEL SACRAMENTO – FULL DAY

Cross De La Plata River to Uruguay and explore the city, declared a UNESCO Cultural Heritage Site. Stroll through the streets and travel back in time. Includes lunch.

DINNER SHOW – EVENING TOUR

The Tango is one of the city's most famous activities, so why not enjoy a dinner and Tango performance.

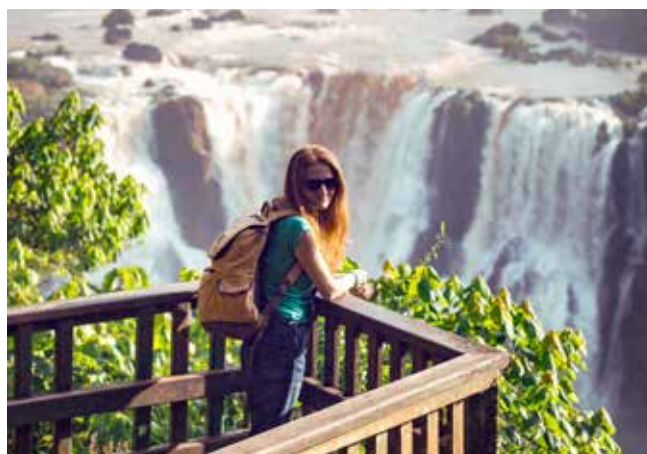


WHERE TO STAY

*** TWO HOTELA | *** ROCHESETER CLASSICA | **** KENTON PALACE HOTELA | **** EUROBUILDINGA | ***** THE BRICK HOTEL

PUERTO IGUAZU

Iguazú, as it's known in Spanish, is the name given to the Falls that border both Brazil and Argentina. One of the most visited sights whichever country you're in, this UNESCO World Heritage Site is a must-see. Two-thirds of the Falls are on the Argentinian side. You can also tour Iguazú National Park and embark on a bird hike, so make sure to spend a full day there to enjoy the flora and fauna. In fact, dedicate 2 full days there.



PUERTO IGUAZÚ TOUR – 2 NIGHTS

Day 1 Arrive at airport, transfer to hotel.

Day 2 Visit Iguazú National Park, Argentinian part of the Falls. Tour 3 circuits: Garganta del Diablo, The Superior and The Lower. Free time for lunch and optional trip, The Great Adventure, combining a boat ride to the foot of some jumps and a crossing through the jungle. Return to hotel for

overnight. *Note: Entry to Garganta del Diablo can be interrupted because of the rise in river flow.*

Day 3 Travel to Foz do Iguaçu to visit the waterfalls on the Brazilian side. In the park, walk along Garganta del Diablo, the only path leading to the viewpoint. Enjoy a panoramic view of almost all of the Falls. Return to Puerto Iguazú and fly to Buenos Aires.

WHERE TO STAY

**** MERCURE | ***** LOI SUITES IGUAZÚ HOTEL

MENDOZA

This city is the heart of the wine-making industry. It's one of Argentina's prettiest cities, with well-kept parks and tree-lined avenues. There are over 1,500 wineries in Mendoza province, from small boutiques to large-scale importers, accessible on the Rutas de Vino (Wine Routes).



MENDOZA TOUR – 2 NIGHTS

Day 1 Transfer to hotel. Mendoza is one of the world's largest wine regions; its 1,500 wineries are distributed in 3 terroirs: Luján de Cuyo, Valle de Uco and Maipú. Visit 2 wineries, one using traditional methods, the other using the latest technology. Learn about fermentation, bottling and labeling and

enjoy a wine tasting. You also observe olive oil production and sample the product.

Day 2 Day at leisure. Why not take the High Mountain Tour to admire Aconcagua Hill, America's highest peak.

Day 3 Morning at leisure then transfer to airport.

WHERE TO STAY

**** AMÉRIAN EXECUTIVE | ***** PARK HYATT MENDOZA HOTEL, CASINO & SPA

PATAGONIA - EL CALAFATE

If you eat the berry called Calafate, you will return to Patagonia. The place by the same name offers an irresistible attraction, Glacier Perito Moreno, a UNESCO World Heritage Site located 80km away in the Parque Nacional Los Glaciares. The glacier is quite magnificent and the main strip of the little town is dotted with knotted pine souvenir shops, chocolate stores and restaurants.



VISIT EL CHALTÉN

This charming village is located in the northern part of Los Glaciares National Park. It's the gateway to hiking trails surrounding the peaks of Cerro Torre and Mount Fitz Roy to the northwest. There are numerous shops lining San Martín, one of the main streets. From here you can explore the glaciers or spend time walking along one of the town's emblematic paths with their impressive landscapes.

EL CAFATE TOUR – 3 NIGHTS

Day 1 Arrive at airport. If time, visit the Glaciarium, one of the world's few glaciological interpretation centres.

Day 2 Head for the Perito Moreno Glacier in Los Glaciares National Park. It's an impressive ice river with a surface of 257 square kilometers, and the front wall oscillates between 50 and 60m above the lake level. The frozen river

descends slowly, causing detachments that create a wondrous sight. Walk along the footbridges in front of the glacier to admire it from different sides. There is an optional hour-long boat trip to see the front of the glacier from the water level. After lunch (not included), return to hotel.

Day 3 At leisure to enjoy optional tours.

Day 4 Transfer to airport.

USHUAIA

This Argentinian resort town is located on the Tierra del Fuego archipelago, the southernmost tip of South America, known as the 'End of the World'. It's the gateway to Antarctica and the base from which to go skiing at Cerro Castor and Glacier Martial, as well as to embark on wildlife adventures with penguins and orcas in the Beagle Channel and Tierra del Fuego National Park.



ACTIVE USHUAIA TOUR – 3 NIGHTS

Day 1 Arrive and transfer to hotel. Begin the trek to Emerald Lagoon, so named because of the water's exquisite colour. After 3 hours, arrive at a colony of beavers and observe these animals in their habitat. Return to the shelter for dinner.

Day 2 Trek for 3 hours along the coast trail, to Tierra del Fuego National Park. Arrive at Lake Acigami for a box lunch. Enjoy a talk about canoeing

safety, get into Inflatable canoes and sail to Lapataia Bay. Walk back 7km to the city (there are shorter trails; please ask in advance).

Day 3 Drive to the island's west zone. Arrive at Larsiphashaj River, and begin the row until Estancia Harberton. Take a boat towards Martillo Island for penguin watching. Continue to Gable Island for lunch and a walk around the island. Return to Ushuaia.

Day 4 Free time until your departure flight.

BARILOCHE

With a magnificent setting on the shores of Lake Nahuel Huapi, Bariloche is the Lake District's most popular destination. It nestles in the foothills of the Andes, surrounded by lakes and is as famous for its fruit-filled chocolates as it is for its incredible skiing. In fact, it's the largest ski area in South America. Whether you go skiing or snowboarding in picture-perfect locations in the winter or enjoy the splendid natural surrounds in the summertime, Bariloche is a great holiday destination.



BARILOCHE TOUR – 2 NIGHTS

Day 1 Transfer to your hotel bordering Lake Nahuel Huapi. This afternoon, travel past Bonita Beach and Campanario Hill. Take the chair lift to the top of the hill to admire the breathtaking landscape, with views of lakes Nahuel Huapi and Perito Moreno, Trébol Lagoon, San Pedro and Llao Llao Peninsulas, Victoria Island; Otto, Lopez, Goye and Cathedral Hills, as well as the city itself. Continue on through the Llao Llao Peninsula, past San Eduardo Chapel and Pañuelo Port. Arrive at the highlight of your day, the panoramic point, a natural balcony from where you can view Lake Moreno and the Llao Llao Peninsula. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 2 After breakfast, you have the full day at leisure to explore Bariloche or, if you like, you can take one of several fascinating optional tours. Overnight Bariloche.

Day 3 After breakfast, you check out of the hotel and will be transferred to the airport for your flight home.

LAKE CROSSING

Crossing the Andes from Bariloche to Puerto Montt in Chile is a bucket list experience. Not only is the scenery breathtaking, the views of the Andes mountains in Patagonia are extraordinary. One of the world's most magnificent mountain ranges, the Andes boast granite peaks and ice fields whose glacial tongues extend into lakes of unequalled beauty. Start your journey in Bariloche and travel by road and lake cruisers to Puerto Montt in Chile. The journey can take you a day, or you can spend the night in Puella.



SAIL THE ANDES

The 'Sail the Andes' crossing traverses 3 beautiful lakes – Todos Los Santos, Frías and Nahuel Huapi from Argentina to Chile. This route has been used for over 400 years, initially as a trade route for the Huilliches Indians, then by Jesuit priests when they established

religious missions in the Nahuel Huapi area. Today we still travel the same way, via road and lake, to a destination where we can experience nature in its purest form. Patagonia has many secrets just waiting to be discovered – volcanoes, lakes, ancient forests and warm, friendly people. Come and experience it for yourself.



CHILE

Stretching along the west coast of South America from the Arica Desert in the north to icy Patagonia in the South, Chile has the spectacular Andes Mountains as its backdrop. The capital, Santiago, is a modern, elegant, multi-faceted city with numerous cultural activities, great restaurants and a vibrant nightlife. It takes only two hours from Santiago to get to the mountains or the sea, an easy drive down to the picturesque port of Valparaiso or up to the world-class ski resort, Valle Nevado. In the central part of the country there's an abundance of vineyards and farmlands, the hacienda culture with its elegant colonial estates, and further down south you'll find the Lake District. Wherever you go, whether you relax on a beautiful beach, ski on the slopes of an active volcano, sail amongst ancient icebergs or enjoy excellent cuisines and wines, Chile excites.

TRAVEL TIPS

- Health requirements differ from one region to another and country to country. Please see each individual country in South America for details.

GENERAL INFO

CAPITAL CITY SANTIAGO

LANGUAGE

Spanish

CURRENCY

Chilean Peso

VISA

SA passport holders do not require a visa

TIME DIFFERENCE

Nov to Feb: SA time minus 5 hours; March to Oct: SA time minus 6 hours

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

None at this time

PRICE INDICATOR

GLASS OF WINE

US\$ 2.50-3.25

BEER

US\$ 2.50-4

BOTTLE OF WATER

US\$ 1

COKE

US\$ 1-1.50

DINNER

US\$ 6-11

SANTIAGO

The capital of Chile, Santiago, is a sprawling metropolis, highrises abound, as does high tech. If you take time to look, you'll find a heart of gold, age-old tradition and colonial charm. Here, majestic streets end in spacious plazas surrounded by impressive public buildings and lush parks. Above all of this, the Virgin Mary stands proudly at the top of the Cerro San Cristobal in the scenic Parque Metropolitano.



SANTIAGO CITY TOUR – HALF DAY

Explore modern Santiago, including La Moneda (presidential palace), Club Hipico, Plaza de Armas and the Cathedral. Explore the city's residential areas. Climb to the top of San Cristobal Hill for a breathtaking view.



CONCHA Y TORO VINEYARD & MAIPO VALLEY – HALF DAY

Santiago's suburbs are home to numerous vineyards, some of which are the best in Chile. Visit one of these wineries and tour the vineyards and production areas. Then enjoy a wine tasting.

WHERE TO STAY

*** GALERIAS HOTEL | **** TORRE MAYOR

VALPARAÍSO & VIÑA DEL MAR

This fascinating city in central Chile is capital of the Valparaíso Region. Located on the shores of the Pacific Ocean, it's a major seaport and manufacturing centre. The city centre is concentrated close to the bay and residents live on the steep slopes of the hills.



VALPARAISO IN DEPTH TOUR – HALF DAY

This city is world-famous, not only because of its impressive architecture, but also for having been featured in the book Moby Dick. Explore the hilly part of Valparaíso and the fascinating downtown section, and ride on two of the amazing 'asensores' (funicular railways).



VALPARAÍSO & VIÑA DEL MAR TOUR – HALF DAY

Explore the hilly part of Valparaíso and downtown, as well as the fashionable resort of Viña del Mar. Visit the Cerro Castillo, the summer palace of the Presidents of the Republic, located on a steep bluff, as well as the Fonck Museum.

WHERE TO STAY

*** CASA HIGUERAS | ***** HOTEL DEL MAR

LAKE DISTRICT

If you travel 700km south of Santiago, you'll find an increasingly lush landscape, signaling the start of one of Chile's most exciting regions. The Lake District is home not only to lakes, but also to volcanoes, rainforests and the traditions of the Mapuche people. The Puyehue, Llanquihue and Todos los Santos Lakes invite travellers to discover and navigate their waters. This part of the world is incredibly scenic.



SAN RAFAEL LAGOON TOUR – 3 NIGHTS

Day 1 Travel through the Aysen region, crossing the Patagonian plains to Coyhaique. After a short visit, follow the Simpson River to Puerto Chacabuco. Check in to the Hotel Loberías del sur Puerto Chacabuco, at the gateway to the lagoon. Welcome drink and dinner at the hotel. **Overnight Puerto Chacabuco**

Day 2 Board the Catamaran Express at 7am to journey through the austral fjords en route to the San Rafael Lagoon. Sail through numerous channels to reach the Tempanos River and on to the San Rafael Lagoon, home to a

millenarian glacier. This stunning 7-hour journey is a sensual delight and includes an open bar and lunch. Embark on a zodiac excursion for a closer view of the icebergs (weather permitting). Return to Puerto Chacabuco for dinner. **Overnight Puerto Chacabuco**

Day 3 Today you take an excursion to Aiken del Sur Park. Includes trekking with bilingual guides and a lunch of Patagonian barbecue. Return to Puerto Chacabuco for dinner. **Overnight Puerto Chacabuco**

Day 4 After breakfast and check out, travel by bus following the Simpson River from Chacabuco to Coyhaique and then on to the airport in Balmaceda.

ATACAMA DESERT

Running over 966km and locked in between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes Mountains, Northern Chile's Atacama Desert is the world's driest area, with no rainfall ever recorded. Under the desert floor rich mineral deposits of nitrate and copper are found, also mineral salts in the vast dry lake, the Atacama Salt Flats. The desert is home to the Dakar Rally. The village of San Pedro de Atacama is an oasis an hour's drive from Calama Airport.



TIERRA ATACAMA TOUR – 3 NIGHTS

Day 1 Arrive in Calama and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama (1.5 hour trip). Enjoy welcome dinner at hotel after which, guides will suggest optional activities for the next few days. **Overnight Tierra Atacama**

Days 2 & 3 Days at leisure at this Adventure Spa, with plenty of activities, including hiking, biking or climbing and horse riding. Night excursions

include stargazing. The hotel offers lounges and relaxation areas as well as a full spa with 2 pools, Jacuzzis, saunas and more.

Day 4 After breakfast, transfer to Calama Airport and fly to Santiago.

Tour includes: Transfers to & from Calama Airport | American buffet breakfast, lunch & dinner daily | Afternoon snacks | Open bar | 2 half-day or 1 full day excursion daily | Use of pools, sauna & Jacuzzi.



PERU

A country full of contrasts, Peru offers a choice of mystical destinations, from Lima on the coastline of the Pacific with its fascinating Spanish-style architecture to the Colca Cayon, the deepest in the world. Let's not forget Lake Titicaca, with its extraordinary floating islands and the amazing mountaintop site of the incredibly well-preserved and previously lost Machu Picchu, one of the most extraordinary archaeological sites in the world. The country's capital, Lima, is the principal gateway to Peru. It was founded in the 16th century on the site of an important Inca religious centre, whose history is featured in the architecture and museums in the old part of the city. A popular holiday is to hike the 39km Inca Trail in Macchu Picchu through various eco-systems and dazzling scenery. To do this legendary hike, you have to book well in advance.

GENERAL INFO

CAPITAL CITY LIMA

LANGUAGE

Spanish

CURRENCY

Neuvo Sol

VISA

SA passport holders do not require a visa

TIME DIFFERENCE

SA time plus 3 hours

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Yellow Fever (compulsory).

Recommended: Hepatitis A, Typhoid.

Malaria prophylaxis is also highly recommended

PRICE INDICATOR

GLASS OF WINE

US\$ 3

BEER

US\$ 1.50-3.70

SMALL BOTTLE OF WATER

US\$ 1

COKE

US\$ 1

DINNER

US\$ 6-10

TRAVEL TIPS

- Health requirements differ from one region to another and country to country. Please see each individual country in South America for details.

GREAT TOURING OPTIONS

Enjoy these tours separately, or combine them to make your own bespoke experiences



CUSCO & PUNO – LEGACY OF THE INCA – 6 NIGHTS

Day 1 Transfer from airport to hotel. **Overnight Lima**

Day 2 Fly to Cusco, transfer to hotel. Enjoy half-day city tour of Cusco and archaeological sites. Visit The Temple of the Sun, Golden Temple, the Cathedral, the fortress of Sacsayhuaman and the architectural complex PukaPucara. **Overnight Cusco**

Day 3 Visit the Pisac archaeological site. After lunch, visit Ollantaytambo, typical Inca town. **Overnight Cusco**

Day 4 Transfer to train station, travel 2 hours to Aguas Calientes. Bus transfer to Machu Picchu. Return to Aguas Calientes for lunch, then by train to Cusco. **Overnight Cusco**

Day 5 Transfer to bus station, travel to Puno, stopping at Andahuayllas, Racchi, Sicuani for lunch and then La Raya. Travel 61km from Juliaca to Pucara to visit the Lithic Museum, then on to Puno. Transfer to hotel. **Overnight Puno**

Day 6 Transfer to lake port, sail to floating islands of Uros. Continue to island of Taquile, once part of the Inca Empire, for cultural activity and lunch. Return to Puno. **Overnight Puno**

Day 7 Pick up from hotel and transfer to airport.



ANDEAN SOUTHERN TREASURE – 11 NIGHTS

Day 1 Arrive airport, transfer to hotel. **Overnight Lima**

Day 2 Fly to Arequipa, transfer to hotel. Visit Plaza de Armas to see Cathedral, Santa Catalina Monastery, Iglesia de la Compañía de Jesús, districts of Yanahuara and Carmen Alto. **Overnight Arequipa**

Day 3 Drive through Yura district to Colca Valley, and on to Pampa Cañahuas Reserve. Cross through Viscachani and Toccra, skirt the crater of the Chucura Volcano. Lunch in Chivay, then transfer to hotel in Colca Valley. Rest of day at leisure to visit hot springs. **Overnight Colca**

Day 4 Travel to Condor Cross lookout over the Colca Valley. Descend to valley floor and discover some of the towns on the banks of the River Colca. Stop at Antahuilque and Choquetico lookouts, then on to Ocolle to see the Amphitheatre. Hike to the Uyo Uyo archaeological site. **Overnight Colca**

Day 5 Morning free, then drive to the western shore of Lake Titicaca. Arrive in Puno and transfer to hotel. **Overnight Puno**

Day 6 Transfer to Puno to explore floating islands of Uros. Visit Taquile, part of the Inca Empire. After lunch, return to Puno. **Overnight Puno**

Day 7 Travel by bus to Pukara, Raqchi and Andahuayllas. Arrive in Cusco, transfer to hotel. **Overnight Cusco**

Day 8 Visit The Temple of the Sun, Cathedral in Plaza de Armas, Sacsayhuaman fortress and Quenquo. On to PukaPucara, the Red Fortress. **Overnight Cusco**





Day 9 Visit Pisac Market, archeological site. After lunch visit Ollantaytambo, then travel to Sacred Valley. **Overnight Sacred Valley**

Day 10 Transfer to train station, travel to Machu Picchu via Aguas Calientes. Explore Machu Picchu, with lunch in Aguas Calientes at Café Inkaterra. **Overnight Aguas Calientes**

Day 11 Explore Machu Picchu further, then take train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo and Cusco. **Overnight Cusco**

Day 12 Transfer to the airport after breakfast for return flight.

INCA TRAIL – 3 NIGHTS

Day 1 Early morning pick-up from Cusco hotel, travel to Piscacucho (82km), Inca Trail starting point. En route, visit Ollantaytambo. Hike the Inca Trail until you reach campsite near Wayllabamba (5-6 hours, 12.4km). **Overnight Wayllabamba**

Day 2 Start the most difficult part of the trail, including a steep ascent towards Dead Woman's Pass (4,200m). Descend to second campsite in Pacaymayo (6-7 hours, 11.6km). **Overnight Pacaymayo**

Day 3 This is the longest day on the trail, but the most impressive. Visit various archaeological sites and cross the lush cloud forest area. Climb to Runquracay Pass, descend to Caquicocha for lunch. On to Phuyupatamarca Pass (3,700m). Walk through cloud forest and Inca site Intipata, to Wiñayhuayna campsite (8-9 hours, 16km). **Overnight Wiñayhuayna**

Day 4 Early breakfast, depart 5.30am to Inti Punku ("Sun Gate") to see Machu Picchu at dawn. Walk to the ancient city for 2-hour tour. Time at leisure. Bus to Aguas Calientes for lunch. Train back to Cusco in the evening.

MODERN & COLONIAL LIMA – 2 NIGHTS

Day 1 Pick up from airport, transfer to hotel. Enjoy dinner in a traditional restaurant with live show. **Overnight Lima**

Day 2 Explore Lima's Old Town, including Cathedral, Casa Aliaga, Larco Museum, Miraflores. Lunch at Mangos Laracomar Restaurant. Rest of day free. **Overnight Lima**

Day 3 After breakfast, transfer to airport.



CUSCO ESSENTIALS – 4 NIGHTS

Day 1 Fly from Lima to Cusco, transfer to your hotel. **Overnight Cusco**

Day 2 Enjoy city tour, visiting Temple of the Sun, Cathedral, Sacsayhuaman, Qenqo, Puka Pukara (Red Fort). **Overnight Cusco**

Day 3 Visit Pisac market, enjoy lunch at local restaurant. Travel to Ollantaytambo, visit fortress. Return to hotel. **Overnight Cusco**

Day 4 Transfer to train station, travel to Aguas Calientes en route to Machu Picchu. Bus ride to Aguas Calientes, train back to Cusco. **Overnight Cusco**
Day 5 Transfer to airport.

BALLESTAS & NASCA LINES – 1 NIGHT

Day 1 Transfer from Lima hotel to bus station, travel to Paracas (4 hours). Observe the mysterious Nasca Lines from the air. Transfer to hotel. **Overnight Paracas**

Day 2 Boat ride to Ballestas Islands to see wildlife. Transfer to bus station to drive to Lima. Transfer to hotel.

RESERVA AMAZONICA – 2 NIGHTS

Day 1 Arrive at Madre de Dios airport, transfer to river port, sail to lodge along Madre de Dios River (45 min). After lunch, walk through trail system, cruise river to see the sunset and nocturnal animals. Welcome cocktail and dinner. **Overnight Amazon**

Day 2 Early breakfast, then travel to Lake Sandoval in the Tambopata National Reserve. Canoe ride across lake, return to hotel for lunch. Visit Inkaterra Canopy, network of 7 high suspension bridges. Evening presentation and dinner at the lodge. **Overnight Amazon**

Day 3 Boat ride across Madre de Dios River to Puerto Maldonado to visit Butterfly Farm. Transfer to airport.

NORTHERN BEACHES – 2 NIGHTS

Day 1 Arrive in Piura, transfer to hotel. At leisure. **Overnight Mancora**

Day 2 Embark on half-day humpback whale watching tour, sailing from Los Organos to Cabo Blanco. Afternoon at leisure. **Overnight Mancora**

Day 3 Transfer to airport.

DELFIN AMAZON RIVER BOAT – 3 NIGHTS DEPARTS FRIDAYS

Iquitos | Pacaya Samiria National Reserve | Iquitos

Spend 4 days and 3 nights cruising the Amazon River on board Delfin in wooden, handmade first class cabins. See breathtaking Amazonian sunsets from the Top Observation Deck whilst enjoying cigars and sundowners including the famous Peruvian 'Pisco Sour' cocktail. The Delfin not only provides the ultimate rainforest adventure; it also offers a unique culinary experience. Each day brings a new experience as you board a well-equipped skiff to journey into the rainforest along small tributaries of the Amazon. Fish for Piranhas, pass small local villages and search for the elusive, exotic freshwater pink river dolphin at sunset.



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