



No ordinary tour, combines incredible sightseeing opportunities in some of Chile's finest cities with a visit to the extraordinary Atacama Desert.

Day 1: Puerto Montt to Santiago

Your incredible journey begins in Puerto Montt, as you leave Queen Victoria behind and take a short drive through the city taking in the highlights. The picturesque road hugs the coast of the vast Lake Llanquihue, culminating in the small village of Ensenada and the Vicente Perez Rosales National Park. Here you'll visit the rapids of the Petrohue River, walking observation trails with views of the breath-taking Santo Domingo mountain range. Proceed along Lake Llanquihue's shores to the town of Puerto Varas for an orientation tour and luncheon at a local restaurant. The city was built by the sweat and tenacity of German immigrants, and later it became a port for goods being shipped from the Lago Llanquihue area to Puerto Montt. After luncheon, transfer to the airport for your flight to Santiago. When you arrive you will head to hotel Noi Vitacura for dinner and an overnight stay.

Day 2: Santiago to San Pedro de Atacama

After a busy previous day you will have the morning at leisure to enjoy at your own pace, with breakfast at the hotel included. Situated close to the boutiques of the Avenida Alonso de Córdova, the hotel gives you the option of relaxing and enjoying its facilities or heading out for independent exploration. After checking out, you'll transfer to Casablanca Valley for a visit to the renowned winery Bodega RE for wine tasting and luncheon. Afterwards, it's time to take a flight to Calama. At an altitude of 7,900 feet in the very heart of the Atacama, Calama is the gateway to the geological and archeological wonders of the central desert. Upon arrival at the local airport of El Loa you will be welcomed by personnel from Noi Atacama for the transfer to San Pedro de Atacama, where the hotel is located. The quaint oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama sits in the driest desert in the world – Atacama – and is the main base for explorations in the area. This region was the principal centre of the Atacamian Indian culture, and relics such as Tular, an ancient village estimated to have been built in 800 B.C. You'll have time to relax and settle in with dinner included at the hotel Noi Atacama before you retire for the evening.

Day 3: Atacama Desert

After breakfast it is time to visit Catarpe, for a guided walk to the archaeological remains of a former administrative centre of the Inca culture. Your exploration continues at Pukara Quitor, an indigenous defensive fortress in ruins whose steep slope commands a full view of the valley and surrounding volcanoes. Proceed to the Aldea Tular, the Atacama's oldest pueblo (native community), estimated to have been built around 800 B.C. Luncheon will be served at the hotel before an afternoon visit to Toconao, a small village some 45 minutes south of San Pedro, with very typical liparita (volcanic rock) constructions. The church and the bell tower of San Lucas is a highlight, declared a national monument. Continue to 'Salar de Atacama'. The eerie beauty of the salt flat is best appreciated at sunset, as the sun creates reddish hues on the surrounding mountains and the pink flamingoes fly overhead their resting spots at Chaxa lagoon in Los Flamencos National Reserve. Transfer back to the hotel for dinner.

Day 4: Atacama Desert

Depart early in the morning to the Tatio geyser field, located within the Andes Mountains at 4,200 metres above sea level. The best time to see them is at sunrise when each geyser is surmounted by a column of steam that condenses in the crisp morning air. The steam plumes disappear as the air warms up. Breakfast will be served on site. Return to the hotel for luncheon, and in the afternoon, explore the Salt Range and Moon Valley. Its various stone and sand formations have been carved by wind and water along hundreds of years. Its impressive range of colour and texture presents diverse saline outcrops which appear like man-made sculptures, and dry lakes where the composition of salt makes a white covering layer in the area. The Moon Valley is a part of the Los Flamencos National Reserve, and was declared a Nature Sanctuary in 1982 for its great natural beauty and strange lunar landscape, from which its name is derived. Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Day 5: san Pedro de Atacama to Santiago

After breakfast, transfer to El Loa Airport in Calama for the flight back to Santiago. Upon arrival you will be transferred to the hotel Noi Vitacura to check-in and enjoy luncheon. You will have an afternoon at leisure to relax or explore. Santiago's downtown area is a living record of history with typical architecture from the colonial past of this city mapped out over bustling and enigmatic streets. One of your final journeys is of a gastronomic nature with dinner at La Misión Restaurant located near the hotel, at the exclusive area of Vitacura. You will have the pleasure of being served by young sommeliers that will explain the details of each wine to be served with every dish on the menu chosen.

Day 6: Santiago to Arica

After breakfast, check-out and head towards the governmental heart of the city where La Moneda Government Palace sits. Here at Plaza Constitucion, in front of La Moneda, the first stop will be made. Continue to Plaza de Armas, city's main square, surrounded by some historical buildings including the Cathedral Church and Central Post Office. Your tour ends at the airport where it will be time to take your flight to Arica to re-join Queen Victoria.

Note: The booking deadline for this overland tour is 10th November 2017. Any bookings after this time will be on a request basis only. There is a strict minimum and maximum participation. Please ensure you book the correct tour code for the accommodation you require (Double =PMC800. Single =PMC801). Prices shown on your record of shore excursions are per person, not per room. Once your booking is confirmed, any cancellation made after bookings close will incur a 100% cancellation fee. This tour will depart from Puerto Montt and return in Arica. Please check your embarkation/diseembarkation dates carefully before booking this overland. Flight times and further details will be advised on board and the hotels listed are subject to change. Be prepared for early morning starts, lengthy days, climatic changes and delays at airports. This is an inclusive excursion programme. No refunds will be given for any unused portion.

The fare includes: transport by coach, economy class air travel, sightseeing and entrances as described, meals as stated and hotel accommodation. One glass of house wine will be included with luncheon and evening meals. Those wishing to order alternative beverages will be charged separately.

The fare does not include: items of a personal nature such as refreshments, telephone calls, laundry, gratuities, room service, fees for doctor's visits and prescriptions/medication and travel insurance. Additional activities offered that are not inclusive on this excursion. As this overland tour involves leaving the ship and re-joining in another port or country, your visa requirements may vary dependent on your nationality and the duration of your stay. It is your responsibility to ensure you are in receipt of the correct documentation, we recommend you check on the applicable government website for visa and entry requirements. Tours in San Pedro reach high altitude, therefore those guests with high blood pressure or heart conditions please check with your doctor prior to travelling.

What to pack: please remember your passport (in your hand luggage) and any medication you require. Luggage limit is one case per person with a maximum weight of 23kg and 1 in cabin bag. Comfortable walking shoes, waterproof clothing and insect repellent are recommended. In Atacama days are extremely dry and hot and evenings are very cold: long trousers, warm clothing, hat, sunscreen is recommended.