

Day 1

Upon your arrival at Santiago International Airport, you will connect with your domestic flight to San Pedro de Atacama (2 hours flight). You will be contacted at the arrivals hall at Calama airport by your local representative and led to your waiting vehicle for the 90-minute drive to your hotel. At an altitude of 7,900 feet in the very heart of the Atacama, Calama is your gateway to the geological and archaeological wonders of the central desert.

This is the world's driest landscape, cut off from storm systems by high-pressure air currents and by Chile's twin mountain ranges. No precipitation has been recorded in some areas of this vast desert since the days of Spanish colonization, four hundred years ago.

The exceptional Nayara Alto Atacama blend effortlessly into the surrounds of the Catarpe Valley in the Salt Mountain Range, just outside of San Pedro de Atacama. Influenced by local village architecture, the architects who built this magnificent retreat are some of the finest in Chile and pulled out all the stops to create a tranquil haven amidst the terracotta-colored surrounds of the desert. You will have an assortment of accommodation options to choose from, each with a spectacular view, a private terrace, and a lovely ensuite bathroom.

The hotel boasts various outdoor and indoor spaces that lend themselves perfectly towards offering utter relaxation. Guests can enjoy a living room with a roaring fireplace, an outdoor sitting area dotted with small fire pits, six outdoor pools, and a Jacuzzi that overlooks the valley. Mouth-watering Chilean inspired menus are the order of the day, created with only the freshest produce, sourced from local farmers, and accompanied by the finest Chilean wines. Adventures include walking or cycling excursions to nearby geysers, hot springs, volcano trails, desert canyons, and ancient Inca ruins with petroglyphs.

Before the dinner and in time you will meet with your hosts to plan your next day's activities

Dinner this evening at the lodge.

Overnight at Nayara Alto Atacama.

Day includes:

Dinner

Day excludes:

Breakfast and Lunch

Day 2 to 3

At Alto Atacama, they offer guests to choose from 2 half day or one full day tour each day. Below a non-exhaustive list taken from the wide range of activities that are offered.

Excursions by vehicle

Likanantai Culture Tour: After a short walk from the hotel to Pukara de Quito, we will drive to the historic old town of San Pedro. There, we will stroll around the picturesque town, visit the church and the highly respected museum. We then drive to the archaeological ruins of Tulo – a 2800-year-old settlement –visiting a variety of ancient villages along the way.

Sunset at Moon Valley: A 20-minute drive brings us to the spectacular Moon Valley. This is one of the most famous national parks in Chile and for good reason. The enormous sand dunes and dramatic rock formations create a stunning lunar landscape born of land lifts and centuries of erosion. The sunsets here are extraordinary and no visit to San Pedro is complete without a trip to the Moon Valley to watch the sun go down.

Trekking

Quezala Gorge: We drive south taking the east flank of the Atacama salt flat, the town of Talabre is where we start our trek. Located at the footsteps of the active Lascar volcano Talabre is a fine example of an altiplanic village, defying ages & ashes. The trek follows the river that carves the beautiful Quezala Gorge.

Los Colorados: From the hotel, we take a short drive along the ancient road which crosses the Cordillera de la Sal. From here, we begin a delightful trek along the top of the Cordillera which provides panoramic views of San Pedro, the oasis, the salt flats and the snowcapped Andean mountains. We descend via the dunes of Moon Valley.

Cycling

Inca Pass: From Alto Atacama, we cycle up to the Cordillera until we reach an old tunnel that cuts through the Cordillera. The tunnel is an amazing feat of engineering built by the Chilean government early in the XX century to reduce travelling times from the Andes to the sea. We pass through the tunnel and return to the hotel via Mars Valley.

Desert Valley: We cycle towards Mars Valley and climb up to the Cordillera viewpoint. From here, you can see across the oasis and the salt flats to the snowcapped Andes. On our way back to the hotel, we pass through the famous Moon Valley.

Overnight at Nayara Alto Atacama.

Day includes:

All-meals

Included activities:

Shared excursion days provided by Nayara Alto Atacama Lodge

Day 4

After your breakfast, you will be transferred to Calama Airport for your domestic flight to Santiago. Upon your arrival in Santiago, you will be met by your &Beyond representative who will transfer you to your hotel, located in the excited Las Condes Lastarria neighborhood.

Balance of your day at leisure.

Overnight at The Ritz-Carlton Santiago.

Day includes:

Breakfast at Nayara Alto Atacama

Day excludes:

Lunch and Dinner

Day 5

After breakfast, you embark on a city tour of Santiago.

Santiago de Chile is fast becoming the place to be. A platform for multi-national companies and an entrepreneurial spirit make it the ideal business hub in South America. Its tranquillity, stability, green areas, and cleanliness are all factors that surprise the visitor. The New York Times named it South America's top destination just a few years ago, and a more recent article in Saveur magazine labeled it the continent's new hot culinary capital. The quality of life, cultural and culinary offerings make it a highly desirable city.

The uptown areas of the city are famed for their avant-garde architecture and laid-back pace of life, but it is the center of the city that is the real 'heart' of the city. This administrative center is home to the Government Palace (La Moneda), the splendid Plaza de Armas square, its cathedral, and countless other historical landmarks, while pedestrian boulevards lead to numerous museums and leafy plazas. Neighborhoods such as Providencia, Bellavista, Las Condes, and Vitacura combine commercial and culinary highlights, state-of-the-art architecture, and nightlife. The tallest building in South America – designed by Cesar Pelli – looms over the city, visible from practically everywhere, and even offers a viewing platform that is a must on a clear day. Santiago's parks are well worth a visit. The Parque Metropolitano, better known as Cerro San Cristóbal, is another omnipresent feature of the city, and visitors can walk or cycle up to its leafy roads, or perhaps choose to take the rickety funicular to the top. The Parque Bicentenario, inaugurated for Chile's bicentennial in 2010, and the beautiful Parque Forestal, and of course Cerro Santa Lucía, where the city was founded in 1541, are other green attractions.

This exploration of the city aims to provide a panoramic view of the city from different vantage points, calling briefly at historical, commercial, and residential icons of the city along the way. It serves as the perfect introduction to the city.

Return to the hotel at the end of the tour.

Overnight at The Ritz-Carlton Santiago.

Day includes:

Breakfast at The Ritz-Carlton Santiago

Day 6

After your breakfast, transfer from your hotel to Santiago International Airport in order to board your domestic flight to Punta Arenas, the gateway to Chilean Patagonia.

Upon arrival to Punta Arenas, a representative from Explora Torres del Paine will collect you for your 5-hour journey to the lodge.

From award-winning architecture and anchored like a ship on the shores of Lake Pehoe, the prime location of our hotel places Explora Torres del Paine our travellers are literally in the middle of the Torres del Paine National Park, we will explore through our more than 50 breadcrumbs we take you through mountains, glaciers and lakes.

Dinner at the lodge this evening.

Overnight at Explora Torres del Paine.

Day includes:

Breakfast at The Ritz-Carlton Santiago

Dinner at Explora Torres del Paine

Day excludes:

Lunch

Day 7 to 9

Explora Patagonia offers a wide range of activities. We recommend you discuss the excursions on offer with your local guide to see what suits your preferences, fitness, and mood most. Below are some examples, this is not an exhaustive list.

TREKKINGS (varying in length and difficulty)

Mirador Pehóé

Description: You will leave the hotel by foot, walking along the Pehóé Lake, observing the various orchids and ñirre trees that comprise the local flora. You will ascend to a triangular rock from where you will be able to see the intense blue of Lake Pehóé and the Paine ridge. If the day is clear you will be able to

enjoy a unique view from above, quite different from that of the hotel. Finally, you will descend, observing the turquoise tones of the Paine River from afar. Recommended for families.

Variación Laguna Azul Mirador

Description: After walking along the beaches of the Blue Lagoon, we will slowly ascend on a path lined with lenga and ñirre trees. We will hike across plains and finally arrive at a lookout with panoramic views of the Blue Lagoon and the Paine Towers. We will return on the same path towards the van, which will be waiting to take us back to the hotel.

Recommended for families.

Mirador Cóndor

Description: We leave the hotel by foot, walking along Lake Pehoé and the camping area. From afar we will see a mushroom shaped hill, at the top of which the Mirador Cóndor will be our destination. Along the way we will pass through lenga and ñirre forests while we gain altitude, feeling the force of the wind that makes this expedition all the more challenging. Once we reach the Mirador Cóndor, we will have a 360° view of the park, observing, among other things, Lake Pehoé, the Paine Massif, Lake Sarmiento and Explora Patagonia. On the way back we will go down a steep rocky slope until we reach the van that will take us back to Explora.

Laguna La Cal and Lago Sarmiento

Description: We leave the hotel on foot, walking up a slight slope towards a lenga forest, where we will see the devastating effects of the last fire. Continuing our hike, we will arrive at a lookout from where we will see La Cal Lagoon and probably be able to spot some condors flying above as they nest in this area.

Later, we will descend to the lagoon where we will follow a path used by the Aonikenk and finish at the tranquil banks of Lake Sarmiento. We will return to the hotel by van.

Mirador Ferrier

Description: We leave the hotel by van and head to the Grey station, where we will immediately begin a very demanding ascent. We will gradually be able to see Lake Grey and the enormous ice barrier of the 'Southern Ice Fields' until we enter a very dense forest. After crossing the forest we will reach the final point of the exploration, usually quite windy, but with outstanding views of the Grey and Pehoé lakes. We will return from the station to Explora by van.

Glaciar Grey Campamento Guardas

Description: On this exploration, we will follow the same path as the Grey Glacier exploration. From the Grey Glacier shelter, we will ascend towards the Park Ranger camp lookout, from where we will be able to truly grasp the glacier's size. Later we will return along the same path to the shelter, from where we will board a boat that will take us up close to the glacier walls.

As in the previous expedition, we will cross a lenga forest and the Pingo River hanging bridge to take a van back to the hotel.

(This excursion is subject to climate conditions, as the boat rides may be cancelled due to strong winds.)

HORSEBACK RIDING

All horseback rides begin at the Explora stables, located 15 minutes from the hotel by van.

Some of the riding explorations described in the following pages have been designed for travellers with minimal riding experience who feel comfortable controlling a horse in open spaces (level: easy). Others require more experience, such as the ability to walk, trot and canter along a trail for at least 3 hours (level: moderate). Advanced rides are for those who are comfortable for more than 3 hours on horseback and are able to control a horse in all gaits and situations (level: advanced).

Laguna Negra

Description: We will leave the stables and ride across rivers, forests and pampas as we ascend toward the Black Lagoon lookout. During the ride, we will come across several lagoons, ideal for spotting bird species such as southern lapwings, and upland geese. Recommended for families.

Puente Grey

Description: We begin the ride from the Explora stables and head toward the Grey River. The path is mostly flat and windy as it is quite exposed. We will arrive at the banks of the Grey River, ride along it, and finally return along the plain toward the stables.

Serrano

Description: We will leave from the stables, riding across the plain and along the Serrano River. As the ride continues, we will cross some roads and ascend to a lookout from where we will be able to see a small town on the outskirts of the Park and the vastness of the plain around us. On the way back, we'll cross a small Antarctic forest before returning to the Explora stables.

Donoso

Description: We'll ride from the stables over the Serrano Plain and cross the Grey River. We will ascend a densely vegetated hill, crossing creeks, lagoons, and plains. Depending on the rider's expertise, we'll be able to canter and trot. We will continue riding across wetlands until we arrive at the Donosito Lookout, from where we will see the Serrano River, the Grey River, the plain, and the Paine Massif behind. We will go up a narrow, pronounced path, crossing beech forests until reaching the Los Choros Lagoon where we will canter along the shore.

After lunch in a nearby forest, we will continue our ride back to the stables.

Overnight at Explora Torres del Paine.

Day includes:

All-meals

Included activities:

Shared excursion days provided by Explora Torres del Paine

Day 10

After breakfast, you will be driven to Punta Arenas Airport for your domestic flight to the Puerto Montt Airport. At your arrival, your andBeyond representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to the Lodge. On your day of arrival, in the afternoon, an activity will be provided by the hotel, giving you your first taste of the area.

Generally considered as the adventure capital of Chile, the area around Pucón offers a myriad of outdoor activities such as rafting, hiking, skiing, kayaking, and fly-fishing. There is however far much more to this multi-faceted destination. Among its many natural highlights, there are wonderful thermal springs and gorgeous national parks. Volcanoes, mountains, and lakes create one of the most beautiful natural sites Chile has to offer.

During your stay, you will have several full days of activities arranged by the hotel.

The area is a traveller's dream when it comes to adventures and choice of activities. The many surrounding natural parks, the majestic volcano Villarrica with its unbelievable views, water sports, horseback riding, and trekking in the foothills of the Andes, are a vital part of the experience at Vira Vira. You are encouraged to explore a new adventure or experience every day, with the aim of understanding the mystic ambience of these ancient Mapuche territories. The guides at Vira Vira are passionate about their work, and about the excursions on offer. With some thirty options available, choosing what to do may seem daunting. That is where the role of your hosts and guides become of paramount importance. Each day they will make a series of options available, allowing you to pick and choose according to your personal preferences, their level of difficulty, or simply a natural or cultural focus.

Activities are centred on nature and adventure, with treks and horseback rides of various durations. There are also explorations of the nearby Villarrica volcano, visiting its labyrinth of tunnels, or even reaching the summit. There are also several cultural activities, aimed at revealing the secrets of the region. Vira Vira also offers some wonderful experiences at the hotel itself such as cooking, cheese-making, and even spending a day in the organic garden. There are also more relaxing activities. What better than sitting in a hot pool of thermal spring water, a glass of red wine in hand, and looking out across a backdrop of mountains, forests, and volcanoes?

Of course, cuisine plays an important role in the Vira Vira experience. Their menu veers away from the typical international offerings by blending Chilean and ancient indigenous recipes, all created with the freshest seasonal ingredients. Each day the chef prepares a selection of freshly prepared courses, carefully composed and lovingly arranged and paired with the perfect wine for each dish.

Overnight at andBeyond Vira Vira.

Day includes:

All-meals

Day 11 to 12

At Vira Vira, there are myriad excursions and activities to choose from:

- Trekking in Huerquehue National Park: Explore mountains, forests, Andean lakes, and lagoons
- Trekking in Villarrica National Park: Discover an array of landscapes on scenic hiking trails
- Mountain Biking: a leisurely pedal or thrilling extreme downhill
- Horseback Riding: Ride across the landscapes of the Lake District
- Birdwatching: Pack your binoculars for incredible birding
- Cultural Activity: Community Visit: Discover the ancient Mapuche culture
- Culinary activity: Cheese Factory Tour: Head to the Vira Vira cheese factory for a delectable tour
- Scenic Helicopter Flights: Soar above the Villarrica Volcano *
- Heli-Biking: Thrill to the challenge of an extreme downhill track *
- Heli-Fishing: Fly to remote waters for the perfect catch *
- Kayak or Canoe: Take to the water and paddle through the Lake District
- Drift Boat: Gently float down the Liucura River
- Stand-Up Paddle Boarding: Paddle down river and marvel at scenic views
- White-Water Rafting: Brave the mighty rapids of the Trancura River
- Catch-and-Release Fishing: Cast your line into crystal clear waters
- Wellness: Yoga: Create harmony and balance *
- Wellness Treatments: Unwind with a wellness therapy *
- Spa *

Seasonal Activities (Winter)

- Skiing & Snowboarding: Hit the slopes of the active Villarrica Volcano
- Snowshoeing: Slip-on snowshoes and trek through pristine landscapes

- Snowmobiling: Race through the snow on an exhilarating adventure *
- Dog sledding: Traverse the snow on a husky sledding expedition *

(* This activity is at an extra cost)

Overnight at andBeyond Vira Vira.

Day includes:

All-meals

Included activities:

Shared excursion days provided by andBeyond Vira Vira

Day 13

Today, our wonderful journey comes to an end and, after your breakfast, you will be driven to Temuco Airport for your flight to Santiago. In Santiago, we wave a warm farewell as you board your international flight onwards.

Day includes:

Breakfast at andBeyond Vira Vira

Day excludes:

Lunch and Dinner