



Cerro Santa Lucia, Santiago © Augusto Dominguez



Valparaíso © Shutterstock

CHILE

A narrow strip of land between the high Andes and the Pacific Ocean, Chile stretches an incredible 4,300 kms from north to south. It is a land of spectacular geography and diverse scenery, including harsh deserts, fertile valleys, breathtaking icefields and towering peaks. The society is a mixture of European and native cultures.

SANTIAGO CITY STAY

3 days/2 nights
Departs daily ex Santiago

Stopover in Chile's capital, Santiago, with its mix of modern and Spanish colonial buildings, excellent shopping and restaurants. A half day city tour includes San Francisco Church, Plaza de Armas, the Cathedral and Santa Lucia Hill, where the city was founded in 1541.

Tour cost per person: Twin Single
Ritz Carlton (Deluxe Room)
01 Jan-31 Dec \$484 \$912

The Aubrey Hotel (Loft or Manarelli Rm)
01 Jan-31 Dec \$482 \$958

Le Reve Boutique Hotel (Standard Room)
01 Jan-28 Feb, 01 May-30 Sep \$426 \$844
01 Mar-30 Apr & 01 Oct-31 Dec \$474 \$940

Hotel Atton El Bosque (Standard Room)
01 Jan-28 Feb, 01 May-30 Sep & 16-31 Dec \$292 \$560
01 Mar-30 Apr & 01 Oct-15 Dec \$308 \$592

Santiago Park Plaza (Standard Room)
01 Jan-30 Apr & 01 Oct-15 Dec \$292 \$576
01 May-30 Sep & 16-31 Dec \$254 \$498

Price per person includes: Private airport/hotel arrival and departure transfers, 2 nights accommodation on a B & B basis and private half day city tour.

ACCOMMODATION

Ritz Carlton

The elegant 5 star Ritz-Carlton is located in one of Santiago's most prestigious neighbourhoods, El Golf. The hotel has 205 guestrooms with views of the city, 4 restaurants and lounge areas, business centre, fitness centre, indoor pool and jacuzzi.

The Aubrey Hotel

The Aubrey Hotel's 15 boutique style rooms are a fusion of art, comfort and spaciousness. Features include an outdoor terrace overlooking an exotic garden, restaurant, free wireless internet, and heated outdoor swimming pool.

Le Reve Boutique Hotel

The Le Reve Boutique Hotel's 28 rooms and 3 suites denote French influences throughout. The hotel has cosy living areas and a French-style interior garden.

Hotel Atton El Bosque

A modern city hotel in downtown Santiago, it has 240 rooms, a restaurant that serves local and international cuisine, bar, coffee lounge, gym and swimming pool.

Santiago Park Plaza

Located in a privileged location at the centre of Providencia, this luxurious hotel combines European elegance with modern amenities. It features 104 elegant rooms, a restaurant, bar, swimming pool, spa and gym.

SANTIAGO TOURS

Tour cost 01 Jan to 31 Dec (Min 2):* Per Person
Valparaíso and Viña del Mar full day tour \$140

*Scheduled tours (i.e. not private) available at reduced rates.

Price per person includes: Private transport to/from hotel, private tour as indicated.

Further details on request.



VALPARAÍSO & VIÑA DEL MAR

3 days/2 nights
Departs daily ex Santiago

Visit the vibrant and unique port city of Valparaíso, famous for its colourful hillside neighbourhoods. Also visit the beautiful coastal town of Viña del Mar, also known as the Garden City.

Tour cost per person:	Twin	Single
01 May-31 Aug*		
Casa Higueiras (Traditional Room)	\$722	\$1283
Zero Hotel (Hillview Room)	\$766	\$1369

*Prices outside this date range on request.

Price per person includes: Private transfers, 2 nights accommodation on a B & B basis, lunch on day 3.

Day 1 Valparaíso

Transfer from Santiago to Valparaíso on the Pacific coast, stopping at a number of picturesque villages enroute. Recently declared a monument of humanity by UNESCO, Valparaíso's colourful houses by the sea and steep hills create an amazing urban landscape. Overnight Valparaíso.



Viña del Mar

Day 2 Valparaíso

Tour Valparaíso's vibrant neighbourhoods and the downtown area including the Plaza Sotomayor, the cathedral and the harbour. Travel north along the coastline to the elegant seaside town of Viña del Mar. Return to Valparaíso for overnight. B

Day 3 Tour ends Santiago

Journey back to Santiago via Valle de Casablanca, one of Chile's supreme wine regions. Arrival transfer to your hotel or the airport. Tour ends. BL

EASTER ISLAND

Easter Island (Rapa Nui) is the most isolated place on earth, 3000 kms off the coast of Chile. It is a beautiful and mysterious destination with its volcanic craters, lava formations, incredible white sand beaches, blue water and of course the archaeological treasures of its original inhabitants - huge 100 ton basalt statues (Moai). The exact significance of these sculptures is unknown, but they are thought to be many hundreds of years old.

A mild year-round climate provides ideal conditions for exploring the island on foot or by bicycle. The island is best visited as a stopover between Australia and Chile.

explora®

EASTER ISLAND

3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 nights
(Duration subject to flight availability)

Departs ex Hanga Roa
Posada de Mike Rapu

Tour cost to 31 Dec:	*Varua Room		Raa Room	
	Twin	Single	Twin	Single
3 night tour	\$2621	\$3693	\$3544	\$5275
4 night tour	\$3495	\$4924	\$4726	\$7033
5 night tour	\$4264	\$5990	\$5748	\$8627
6 night tour	\$5011	\$6990	\$6693	\$10154
7 night tour	\$5693	\$7847	\$7539	\$11270

*Minimum stay of 4 nights required over Xmas/New Year.

Price per person includes: Transfer between Easter Island airport and Posada de Mike Rapu lodging, full board accommodation, bar, daily explorations in groups of max. 8 people with bilingual guides and equipment.

Not included: Airfare Santiago/Easter Island/Santiago.

explora are experts when it comes to providing exceptional accommodation in isolated locations. Their stunning hotel on Easter Island, Posada de Mike Rapu is no exception, offering 30 guest rooms with private bathrooms and ocean views. Gourmet meals are served in a magnificent restaurant with a glassed-in kitchen, and there is a living area and bar. The lodge also features a pool, massage salon and open-air jacuzzi.

Each day choose from a range of explorations by foot, horseback, bicycle or boat, each led by an expert guide. Experience the beauty, mystery and dramatic scenery of Easter Island as well as its unique culture and history.

Days 1-3/4/5/6/7 Easter Island
Arrive Hanga Roa, Easter Island where you are met and transferred to explora's Posada de Mike Rapu.

Over the next few days, explore the island with an expert guide. Explorations can be chosen to suit your individual requirements and abilities. Just some of the sites you can explore include the Rano Kau volcanic crater, the ruins of Orongo - ceremonial site of Tangata Manu (Bird Man) worship - and the many ahus or ancient rock platforms which support the moai. You will stop for a picnic lunch at a range of locations. BLD

Day 4/5/6/7/8 Tour ends Easter Island
Morning at leisure before your flight. Tour ends. B



Imposing Easter Island Moai



Posada de Mike Rapu



The Moai



Altiplánico Rapa Nui



© Natural Focus Safaris

RAPA NUI

4 days/3 nights
Departs ex Hanga Roa
Hotel

Tour cost to 31 Dec:	Twin	Single
Altiplánico Rapa Nui (Standard Rm)	\$1010	\$1802
Hotel O'Tai (Standard Rm)	\$654	\$1075

Price per person includes: 3 nights accommodation (B&B), Easter Island airport/hotel transfers, 1 picnic lunch, private sightseeing as per itinerary and entrance fee to Orongo.

Not included: Airfare Santiago/Easter Island/Santiago.

Explore the mysterious archaeological sites of Easter Island, including Ahu Akivi, where 7 large moai face out to sea, the spectacular Rano Kau Volcano site, Akahanga with its large fallen moai, and the Rano Raraku quarry.

Day 1 Hanga Roa
Arrive Hanga Roa and transfer to your preferred hotel of the following choices:

Altiplánico Rapa Nui
Located near Hanga Roa with panoramic views of the shoreline, this hotel is built in keeping with the surrounding natural area. It features luxurious gardens, swimming pool and large open spaces.

Hotel O'Tai
A small, charming hotel in the heart of Hanga Roa, surrounded by beautiful gardens. It offers 41 ensuite rooms, family friendly service, restaurant, lounge and swimming pool.

Day 2 Hanga Roa
Morning tour to the Rano Kau Volcano and the ceremonial site of Orongo, with its rock drawings of the birdman "Tangata Manu" and the gods Make Make and Haa. Return to the hotel for lunch before an afternoon tour of Ahu Akivi with its 7 restored moai facing the sea. Overnight at hotel. B

Day 3 Hanga Roa
Full day tour with picnic lunch to Ahu Akahanga with 4 large fallen statues, as well as other moai sites including Rano Raraku quarry and Ahu Tongariki with its 15 massive statues. Also visit the ruins at Ahu Hekii and Ahu Pito Kura. Return to the hotel for overnight. BL

Day 4 Tour ends Hanga Roa
Transfer to the airport where our tour ends. B



Full moon rising over the Atacama Salt Range © Augusto Dominguez



'Desert Oasis', Hotel de Larache © explora

THE ATACAMA

With a myriad of colours and forms the high altitude landscapes of the Atacama Desert are some of the most spectacular in South America. Discover snow-capped volcanoes, dramatic wind sculpted mountains and gorges, vast lagoons and salt flats, and steaming geysers. In Chile this breathtaking scenery is easily experienced from the quaint village of San Pedro which is close to a stunning chain of Andean volcanoes, the Moon Valley and the famous Atacama salt flats, the second largest in the world after the Uyuni salt flats in nearby Bolivia.

The Atacama's dry, sunny climate makes it wonderful to visit any time of year but high altitude trekking is best in the warmer months of Sep to Apr.

explora®
ATACAMA
4 or 5 days
Departs daily ex Calama
Hotel de Larache

Tour cost p.p. twin to 31 Dec: *^†	5D/4N	4D/3N
Catur Suite	\$4528	\$3396
Yali Room	\$3209	\$2407
Tulur Room	\$2902	\$2176

*Minimum two people. Single travellers prices on request.
^For certain dates (Easter, public holidays etc) programs are subject to change.
†Additional nights available on request.

Price per person includes: Transfer between Calama Airport and Hotel de Larache, full board accommodation, bar, daily explorations with English speaking guide as per program options, equipment, horses, mountain bikes, vehicles and food.

There is no better way to experience the amazing landscapes of the Atacama Desert than from explora's elegant Hotel de Larache.

explora is a Chilean company offering unique wilderness experiences, stylish and comfortable accommodation, great food and excellent guiding in spectacular and remote locations. Hotel de Larache is located in the picturesque village of San Pedro. The hotel offers 50 different types of explorations, from gentle to demanding, from 2 hours to a full day, on foot, horseback, mountain bike or by car. Or embark on one of explora's travesía journeys featured on pages 46, 47 and 67.

Days 1-3 or 1-4 Hotel de Larache
Arrive at Calama airport and transfer to the Hotel de Larache in San Pedro, at 2500m. This lodge-style hotel is warm and welcoming, made of natural stone and wood with regional decor. The hotel offers 50 comfortable, air-conditioned, television-free rooms, 4 luxury suites, a fine-dining restaurant, lounges, bar, 4 interconnected outdoor pools, sauna, jacuzzi, massage room, stables and an observatory with a telescope for stargazing.

Every evening you will meet with your guide to talk about the activities planned for the following day. There will be 7 to 14 different options from easy to challenging, each graded to ensure you acclimatise to the altitude. With your guide you can hike, horseride or mountain bike through mountains and gorges, tour the famous Tatio geysers, dip in mineral springs, visit pre-Columbian sites, and watch incredible sunsets over the Atacama salt flats and lagoons. Also explore San Pedro village with its market and historic church built by the Spanish in 1577.

Days 4 or 5 Tour ends Calama
Transfer back to Calama. Tour ends.



Atacama geyser



Hotel de Larache Catur Suite



Enjoying the view with some locals





© Shutterstock

Incredible Atacama

SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

4 days/3 nights
 Departs daily ex Calama
 Hotel/Lodge

Tour cost per person (01 Jan-30 Sep*):	Twin	Single
Option A - Awasi (Suite)	\$2074	\$2696
Option B - Alto Atacama (Quitor Rm)	\$1472	\$1914
Option C - Tierra Atacama	\$1528	\$1978

*Prices outside this date range on request.

Price per person includes: Return airport/hotel transfers, all excursions and accommodation on a full board basis.

Experience the natural and archaeological wonders of Chile's Atacama Desert from your base in the charming oasis village of San Pedro. Options include visiting the dramatic Moon Valley, the Atacama Salt Flats, Tatio Geysers, High Andean Lagoons and Altiplanic Villages.

Days 1-3 San Pedro de Atacama

Transfer from Calama airport to your hotel/lodge in San Pedro. Enjoy a range of expeditions from San Pedro de Atacama into the surrounding Desert.

Day 4 Tour ends Calama

Transfer to the airport. Tour ends.

ACCOMMODATION

Awasi

This exclusive and intimate hotel is built from stone, adobe and wood. The 8 spacious cottages come complete with private bathroom, patio and indoor and outdoor showers. The hotel has a breakfast room, stylish bar, charming outdoor lounge and swimming pool.

Alto Atacama

Alto Atacama features 32 spacious rooms, each with a large comfortable bed and decorated with local crafts. Each room boasts a private terrace with views of the surrounding Cordillera de la Sal. Other features include swimming pool, bar, living room with fireplace, library, and Puri Spa with Finnish sauna, Turkish bath, Scottish showers and hot tubs. Guided excursions are offered including cultural trips, trekking and mountain biking.

Tierra Atacama Hotel & Spa

Combining outdoor adventure with indoor comfort this stylish eco-retreat features ultra chic adobe architecture, sleek modern interiors, unique hand-made textiles and fine local art. The hotel offers a restaurant, bar, living room, library and 32 guest rooms with private terraces and views of Licancabur volcano. Guests can relax by the pool or in the spa and choose from a range of local excursions organised by experienced guides.



© Awasi

Awasi room interior



© Alto Atacama

Alto Atacama

*LAN Airlines winner of the 2010, 2009 and 2008 prestigious Skytrax award for Best Airline South America. The LAN Group consists of LAN Airlines, LAN Argentina, LAN Ecuador and LAN Peru.



Beautiful Cachi Mountain © explora



© explora

Incredible lagoons of the Altiplano

UNIQUE JOURNEYS WITH
explora

explora are the experts in providing exceptional accommodation and travel experiences in beautiful but isolated locations. From their Hotel de Larache in Chile's Atacama desert they operate three unique journeys, called travesias, across the Andes to stunning locations in Bolivia or Argentina. Part of each journey includes excursions in the Atacama whilst staying at the Hotel de Larache. Once on tour accommodation varies from historic ranch houses to explora's own comfortable wilderness camps which feature double rooms with camp beds, mattresses, sleeping bags and separate private bathrooms with hot and cold water. The itineraries are well researched and organised to provide truly memorable scenic and cultural experiences. Groups range from 2 to 10 travellers accompanied by an expert guide, chef and support personnel. Level of difficulty depends on the group but altitudes can be as high as 4,000m so a moderate degree of fitness is recommended.

See page 67 for explora's unique Patagonian journey - Journey to El Chalten.

JOURNEY TO CACHI

9 days/8 nights

Departs ex Calama, ends Salta or v.v.
Hotel/Lodge/Chalet

Departs ex Calama: 10 Apr, 02 May, 02 Jun, 02 Jul, 02 Aug, 02 Sep, 02 Oct & 02 Nov

Departs ex Salta: 22 Apr, 14 May, 14 Jun, 14 Jul, 14 Aug, 14 Sep, 14 Oct, 14 Nov

Tour cost p.p. to 14 Dec:	Twin	Single
Catur Suite	\$6692	\$9027
Yali Room	\$5704	\$7709
Tulur Room	\$5473	\$7479

Price per person includes: Transfer Calama airport to Hotel de Larache, FB accommodation, bar, daily explorations of Atacama/Cachi with English speaking guide as per program and equipment.

Not included: Airfare Santiago/Calama & Salta/Buenos Aires.

Take guided explorations through the amazing landscapes of Chile's Atacama desert whilst enjoying the wonderful accommodation, food and service of explora's Hotel de Larache. Then journey across the Andes staying in explora's comfortable but rustic wilderness lodgings before reaching Cachi, in Argentina, for 3 nights in an historic ranch (finca) near Salta.

Days 1-3 San Pedro de Atacama

Transfer Calama Airport to explora's Hotel de Larache in the oasis of San Pedro for 3 nights. (See pg 44 for hotel details). Enjoy 2 full days exploring desert landscapes, lakes, salt flats, volcanos and archaeological sites. Choose from a range of guided excursions, including horse riding, mountain biking and hiking. D/BLD



© Taleen Gaidzlar

Hotel de Larache

Days 4/5 Andes crossing

Cross the Andean mountains to Argentina with time for short hikes to explore the peaks, volcanoes and salt flats. Overnight at explora's wilderness lodging at 4,200m below Laco peak. Next day cross the Sico border pass at 4,115m and descend into the spectacular Calchaquí valleys to explora's scenic camp at La Quesera (3,500m). BLD



© explora

Stunning Andean scenery

Day 6 Cachi

Continue through spectacular scenery to the picturesque town of La Poma. Take a trek to the crater of one of the Gemelos volcanos before continuing to Cachi. Your base for the next 3 nights is the historic Finca Rancagua ranch with wonderful views. BLD

Days 7/8 Cachi

Trek the Calchaquí valleys and the Finca Rancagua, discovering rock formations, pre-Columbian archaeological sites and cave paintings, approaching close to Cachi mountain (6,380m). BLD

Day 9 Tour ends Salta

Depart for colonial Salta via the valley of Cuesta del Obispo. Tour ends. B.





© explora

Endless salt flats

JOURNEY TO UYUNI

11 days/10 nights

Departs ex Calama, ends Iquique
Hotel/Lodge/Chalet

Departs ex Calama: 17 Apr, 17 May, 18 Jun, 17 Jul,
17 Aug, 17 Sep, 17 Oct, 17 Nov

Tour cost p.p. 17 Apr to 17 Nov:	Twin	Single
Catur Suite	\$9374	\$13198
Yali Room	\$8055	\$11440
Tulur Room	\$7748	\$11132

Price per person includes: Transfer between Calama airport and Hotel de Larache, FB accommodation, touring by air-conditioned vehicle, bar, daily exploration of Atacama with English speaking guide as per program and camping equipment.

Not included: Airfare Santiago/Calama & Iquique/Santiago.

Journey in explora style from Chile's spectacular Atacama Desert to the high altitude Bolivian Altiplano. Witness striking landscapes of volcanoes, thermal springs and the world's largest salt flats, the Salar de Uyuni. Accommodation is at the Hotel de Larache and in unique explora lodgings en route to Iquique.

Days 1-4 San Pedro de Atacama

Arrive Calama airport and transfer to explora's Hotel de Larache near San Pedro village. Enjoy 3 full days of guided excursions (from easy to challenging), hiking, mountain biking or horse riding exploring deserts, salt flats and archaeological sites. D/BLD

Days 5-9 Bolivian Altiplano

Drive to Bolivia via the scenic Hito Cajón pass. Trek through the geothermal plains of Sol de Mañana (4,700m) and discover salt flats, wetlands and Laguna Colorada with its rare flamingos before crossing the Salar de Uyuni salt flats. On day 9 drive back into Chile and visit Islyga National Park. Overnight in unique explora "camps" within stone houses or converted containers with private double rooms and bathroom. BLD

Day 10 Iquique

Descend the altiplano to coastal Iquique. Overnight in hotel. BLD

Day 11 Tour ends Iquique

Transfer to the airport. Tour ends. B

JOURNEY FROM UYUNI

8 days/7 nights

Potosi (Bolivia) to San Pedro (Chile)
Hotel/Lodge/Chalet

Departures ex Potosi: 10 Apr, 10 May, 10 Jun, 10 Jul,
10 Aug, 10 Sep, 10 Oct & 10 Nov

Tour cost per person to 10 Nov:	Twin	Single
Catur Suite	\$6627	\$9308
Yali Room	\$5638	\$7990
Tulur Room	\$5407	\$7759

Price per person includes: All meals, excursions and transfers plus accommodation throughout at explora's own camps and lodges, 3 nights at Hotel de Larache.

Travel with explora from Potosi, the world's highest city, to the deserts of Atacama. Passing through remote regions of natural beauty and authentic local culture you will discover the salt flats of Salar de Uyuni, archaeological sites, volcanoes and deserts. The tour ends with 3 nights at explora's Hotel de Larache.

Days 1/2 Salar de Uyuni

Depart early from Potosi, and drive to the town of Uyuni. Explore Salar de Uyuni, the world's largest and highest salt flats (3,665m). On day 2 set off early for a 3 to 4 hour hike to the foot of the Tunupa volcano. Choose either to climb the volcano or visit some interesting sites nearby. Overnight in explora's own lodgings at Tahua.

Day 3 Chituca

Morning trek exploring geological formations and caves before continuing to the Bolivian altiplano reaching explora's comfortable camp at Chituca (3,750m). Afternoon hiking to a cactus forest.

Day 4 Cañapa

Walk to the Turquiri Lagoon with lunch on the shore. Continue to Cañapa, explora's highest camp (4,300m). Trek to see flamingos and vicuñas.

Days 5-7 San Pedro de Atacama

Explore salt flats and wetlands before travelling across the Sol de Mañana geothermal plain to the Hito Cajón border pass into Chile. Arrive at Hotel de Larache in Atacama for 3 nights. Enjoy 2 days of explorations (easy to challenging) on foot, bicycle, horseback, or simply enjoy the hotel facilities with its spacious rooms, fine dining and pool.

Day 8 Tour ends Calama

Transfer to the airport. Tour ends.



© explora

explora lodging at Tahua with a view of the Salt Flats



© explora

Valley of the Rocks, Uyuni