

CHILE - SANTIAGO EXTENSION




INTRODUCTION

The sophisticated city of Santiago, Chile, is a gateway for many travellers visiting South America. It therefore makes sense to stop and explore all the region has to offer. This four day Chimu Adventures' Santiago extension allows you to do just that. You will tour Santiago's renowned sites including the Plaza de Armas, the Palacio de la Moneda and Cerro Lucia before heading to the coast. There you will visit the Casablanca Valley, one of Chile's world renowned wine regions, and have the opportunity to taste some of the best Chilean wines on offer before continuing to Valparaiso. Contrasting Santiago, Valparaiso is a colourful, artistic city with a bohemian feel. Experience the city's relaxed culture as you wander its hillsides, discover its markets and travel on one of its remaining funiculars.

On this all-encompassing personalised itinerary, Chimu will provide travel logistics for your travel party for the duration of your journey, plus expert guides for all the major sightseeing as per itinerary. Each night you will stay in superior accommodation, handpicked by our experienced team for their creature comforts, convenient locations, and impeccable service.

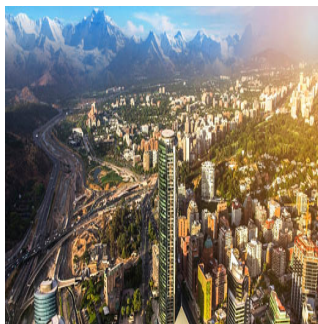
ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
CLTSSSO
DEPARTURE
Daily
DURATION
4 Days
LOCATIONS
Chile


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DAY 1: Arrive in Santiago

Welcome to Santiago, Chile's capital. Vibrant, sophisticated and cosmopolitan, the city is emerging as a favourite destination of travellers to the region. The city is situated in the centre of the Santiago Basin and surrounded by the snow-capped mountains of the Andes and the Chilean Coastal Range. Originally inhabited by the Picunche Indians, the city was established during the Spanish Conquest of Chile by Pedro de Valdivia. After you arrive and settle in at your centrally located, superior accommodation, why not visit Barrio Bellavista in the evening? This trendy area is considered 'the Soho of Santiago' thanks to its street art and it features a number of good restaurants where you can grab a bite to eat. *Please note Australian passport holders are required to obtain a Chilean tourist visa or if transiting for longer than 8 hours before arrival.



DAY 2: Santiago City Tour

Today you will enjoy a small group tour of Santiago. Your first stop is the Natural History Museum, which houses a number of Rongorogoro artefacts from Easter Island as well as collections of fossils, timber, minerals and flora and fauna. You will then head to Santiago's central square, or Plaza de Armas. Surrounding the square you will see the Santiago Metropolitan Cathedral and the Palacio de la Real de Santiago. Next to the palace is the historic Central Post Office, which stands on land once occupied by Pedro de Valdivia's house and a building that served as a Presidential Palace. From the plaza you will walk to Palacio de la Moneda along a traditional Chilean street. Originally a colonial mint house, hence the building's name, the Palace is the seat of the President of Chile. If you're lucky, you might catch the changing of the guard, which occurs every second day. Finally you will visit Cerro Santa Lucia, the hill on which Santiago was founded. Now a park, you will walk past its fountains and up some stairs to a fort with panoramic views of the city.



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DAY 3: Valparaiso & The Casablanca Valley

Today you will join a small group tour to head towards the Chilean coastline. Your first stop is the charming Valparaiso. This city has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage site and many of its colourful buildings perch in a haphazard fashion on the hillside. You will take a walk to discover the local art galleries and street art which embody Valparaiso’s bohemian lifestyle, including visiting one stairwell which claims, “we are not hippies, we are happies.” You will also take a ride on one of the city’s remaining funiculars. Then it is on to the Casablanca Valley. This region is famous for wine production, in particular Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir varieties. You will visit a cellar door for a premium wine tasting and have the chance to purchase some wines and other souvenirs.



DAY 4: Depart Santiago

If time permits before your onward flight, why not visit Cerro San Cristobel? Located in Parque Metropolitano in the north of the city near Bellavista and Providencia you will find a funicular that will carry you to the top of Cerro San Cristobel mountain. At the top you will find the fourteen metre high statue of the Virgin de la Inmaculada Concepcion. You will be transferred from your hotel to the airport for your onward flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel
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Inclusions	Inclusions Private airport transfers Accommodation with breakfast daily Other meals where stated Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide as detailed in the itinerary
	Exclusions International and internal flights not indicated Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel Insurance Beverages Personal expenses Gratuities for tour guides/drivers Any items not mentioned as included
Difficulty Rating	1 (easy adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Prices are based on per person, twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality and availability at time of booking.

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SUSTAINABILITY