



CENTRAL AMERICA



SOUTH AMERICA



Alluring
AMERICAS
Americas

ARGENTINA & CHILE

Exclusively Designed For

WINWIN VACATIONS GROUP

OCTOBER 22 – NOVEMBER 4, 2011

OCTOBER 22 – NOVEMBER 8, 2011
(WITH EASTER ISLAND EXTENSION)

TRIP ITINERARY

OCT 22 – ARRIVE BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Welcome to Argentina this morning. Upon arrival into Buenos Aires, proceed through Immigration. US Passport Holders will need to pay a \$140 per person Immigration Reciprocity Fee (can be paid by cash or credit card. The amount is subject to change). Then claim your luggage and proceed through Customs. Upon exiting to the Customs Hall, you are met by our representative and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of your day is at leisure.

Buenos Aires is a city of contrasts with a variegated heritage that is reflected at every corner, creating a unique style. In this cosmopolitan city, the glamour and elegance of its European roots are interwoven with its undeniable Latin American essence. As a center of intense cultural activity, Buenos Aires offers the traveler innumerable opportunities for entertainment, visiting museums and historical sites, enjoying the best restaurants and traditional coffee houses and delightful shopping at the most important boutiques, antique shops and art galleries.

This afternoon, discover the magic of Buenos Aires on a comprehensive introductory tour of Argentina's capital city inclusive of the beautiful parks and gardens of the Recoleta and Palermo neighborhoods, the Colon Theater (one of the world's five most important opera theaters), Mayo Square, the cathedral, traditional Mayo Avenue, Congress Square and many other buildings and palaces of architectural, historical and cultural interest. Walk through the famous Recoleta Cemetery which boasts the highest concentration of beautiful architecture and sculpture in the city and is the last resting place of Evita Peron and many other rich and famous Argentines. Visit San Telmo, residence of the aristocracy until the end of the 19th century. Explore Caminito Street in La Boca, a colorful neighborhood of Italian immigrants. You'll also visit the recently revitalized area of Puerto Madero.

Overnight Loi Suites Recoleta (Studio Junior Room)

No Meals Included Today

OCT 23 & 24 – BUENOS AIRES

Your days are at leisure to explore the city as you wish or take in optional excursions. Sunday is one of the best days to be in the city and the street markets are worth a visit. Each one is distinct. The San Telmo barrio (neighborhood) has its traditional Antiques flea market, where you can buy everything from décor, art and antiques to old books and photographs, dusty magazines and used clothes and toys. At Palermo barrio, Plaza Serrano Fair offers Bohemian arts and crafts while dread-headed locals sing and play guitars. Recoleta Fair in the Recoleta barrio, in front of the famed

Recoleta Cemetery offers every imaginable souvenir and type of craft, in addition to food. This has become one of the city's largest fairs, completely taking over all the walkways and then some in the area, and even the Iglesia Pilar, Recoleta Cemetery's church, gets involved by setting up tables of postcards and religious souvenirs in its courtyard. Live bands sometimes play on whatever part of the hill is left vacant by vendors. Also good to experience on your own are culturally inspiring museums, art galleries, atelier studios and shopping malls.

For special interests, we can organize unique experiences such as Tango Lessons (private or group lessons), Polo Lessons (private with minimum 3 guests), a Culinary tour shopping in markets for ingredients, hands on cooking class combined with wine tasting, watching a soccer match or taking in a Jewish Heritage tour.

For optional full day excursions, we recommend any of the following

SAN ISIDRO AND TIGRE (FULL DAY)

Enjoy a full day guided excursion to the northern suburbs of San Isidro and Tigre. It may be hard to believe that a few minutes from the chaos of the city, nature and silence seem to have defeated concrete and the frenzy of urban life. This visit to San Isidro, Buenos Aires' most exclusive residential district, and Tigre, the gateway to the astonishing Paraná River Delta, will allow you to enjoy nature and fresh air from the river. The first stop will be San Isidro, an upscale residential district with tree-lined streets, spectacular houses and a peaceful atmosphere. The San Isidro Racetrack with its 148 hectares and capacity for 100,000 people, rivals the most exclusive European clubs, and is truly a sight not to miss, where horses train in a bucolic setting. Continue to San Isidro's elegant and well-preserved historical quarters. The Neogothical San Isidro Labrador Cathedral, built between 1895 and 1898, houses many important pieces of art and relics, among them the uncorrupted bone of St. Isidore, sent as a present by the King of Spain in 1929. Around the Cathedral, there are mansions that in Argentina's Golden Era were the weekend resort of the Buenos Aires elite, such as the Anchorena House, which now houses the very exclusive San Juan el Precursor High School, or the Pueyrredón House, a Pompeyan style villa built in 1790, presently a museum. Finally, climb down to the River Plate Viewpoint.

The city of Tigre is the gateway to the Paraná River Delta, a 14,000 square kilometres natural wonder. It encompasses thousands of luscious green islands filled with autochthonous species. Sailing the Delta, you will be surprised to learn how more and more Argentinians are choosing to live away from civilization, without any of the amenities urban dwellers take for granted, a mere 30 kilometres from Buenos Aires. After a nice hour of sailing, we arrive at the elegant Paseo Victorica, where the Tigre Club & Casino is located. This splendid building, recently renovated and restored, presently houses the Municipal Museum of Fine Arts. If open, enjoy a guided visit around the Museum, which hosts an important figurative art collection. Finally return to Buenos Aires.

COUNTRY DAY IN THE PAMPAS (FULL DAY)

Enjoy a country day in the picturesque Argentinean Pampas, a little over an hour from Buenos Aires. The Estancia La Alameda is an authentic Argentine ranch that still belongs to the same family of Italian immigrants, who continue hosting visitors with traditional hospitality. Experience gaucho (Argentinean cowboy) lifestyle, and Argentinean folklore. On arrival to the estancia, you are welcome with Argentinean empanadas (meat filled pastries) and wine followed by a guided visit through the ranch areas including horse riding or riding in colonial era carriages or tractors as preferred. For lunch you will enjoy a delicious full gaucho asado (rural country barbeque) including Argentinean steak (other meats also offered), salads, drinks and dessert spiced up with a show of folkloric dances performed by professional dancers and a show of gaucho horsemanship skills. You will also have some free time to enjoy the ranch facilities and to admire the magnificence of the Argentinean Pampa and the sunset before you return to the big metropolis of Buenos Aires.

COLONIA DEL SACRAMENTO, URUGUAY (FULL DAY)

Enjoy a full day excursion to Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay. The atmosphere of the historic Uruguayan town of Colonia del Sacramento is a universe apart from the hustle and bustle of Buenos Aires. Just a short boat-ride across the Río de la Plata, Colonia del Sacramento is a popular day-trip among Buenos Aires locals (Porteños). You will be transferred to the Buquebus hydrofoil terminal where you take a 1 hour journey across the Rio de la Plata to Colonia del Sacramento (simply known as Colonia). On arrival, your private Uruguayan guide greets you and introduces you (via a walking tour) to an enticing blend of colonial history, museums and laid-back ambiance. Colonia was founded in the late 17th century by Portuguese settlers. Admire how the city has retained its rustic charisma thanks to the untainted quality of its classic architecture. Your tour takes you to see its cobbled streets, its pleasant yellow streetlamps, its flowery balconies and its colonial art and architecture, which make the city an ideal destination for both history and nature lovers. Both Colonia's old and modern architecture are now protected as UNESCO world heritage sites. Later this afternoon, you return back to Buenos Aires and transfer to your hotel.

On the evening of Oct 24, enjoy an included tango show and dinner at Rojo Tango located at the Faena Hotel & Universe. For all its diversity, the elusive spirit of Argentina as a country is present everywhere in Buenos Aires. The national dance, the tango, is perhaps the best expression of that spirit—practiced in dance halls, parks, open plazas, and ballrooms; it is a dance of intimate separation and common rhythm, combining both an elegant reserve and an exuberant passion. The Rojo Tango dinner and show promises — love, passion, madness and glamour expressed through the beauty and history of tango. The venue is all red—red curtains, red carpeting, and red chairs—so the show plays to this ambiance of romance and melodrama. Leave your cynicism and your camera at the door; photos aren't allowed, giving this enclave of moody jazz and sultry tango an exclusive

feel. Keep in mind that Rojo Tango is not your traditional tango show—characterized by a modern feel, the small orchestra, the singers, and the dancers are not afraid to put their own spin on the genre. The accompanying dinner is excellent.

Overnight Loi Suites Recoleta (Studio Junior Room)

Breakfast Included Daily (Dinner Included on Oct 24)

OCT 25 – BUENOS AIRES | USHUAIA

You will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Ushuaia, the city known as the city at “The End of the World”. Ushuaia lies on the shores of the Beagle Channel, a community which depends variously on fishing, heavy industry and tourism for its livelihood. On arrival, you are met and transferred to your hotel.

Founded in the late 1800s, Ushuaia is the capital of the desolate, sparsely-populated, mountainous and windswept triangular island of Tierra del Fuego which lies to the south of the Magellan Straits. Ushuaia was one of later regions to be settled by immigrants, originally home to the kayak-paddling Ona and Patagon Indians who hunted seal and fish and daubed themselves in seal-fat during winter to ward off the sub-zero temperatures. The first settlers were missionaries who built simple wooden dwellings on the water’s edge to house their families, not so different from the wooden Scandinavian-style houses which line the main street of Ushuaia today.

This afternoon, enjoy a city tour visiting different panoramic viewpoints of the city and surrounding landscapes. Learn the history since the arrival of the first Anglican missionaries to the present. Neighborhoods, wonderful views, historical buildings, with particular style of fuegian construction and the old prison museum will compose the tour. The highlight is then the Museum at the End of the World. Facets of the native peoples’ lives and culture in Tierra del Fuego and their artifacts are exhibited here. There are also many exhibits of stuffed birds that exist in Patagonia. Upon entrance, you can put a commemorative stamp of the End of the World Museum on your picture card or notebook for free.

Overnight Los Yamanas (Standard Room)

Breakfast Included Today

OCT 26 – USHUAIA | TIERRA DEL FUEGO NATIONAL PARK | COMMENCE PATAGONIA CRUISE EXPEDITION

Enjoy a morning tour to Tierra del Fuego National Park with the “Train to End of the World”. Tierra del Fuego National Park is located 12 km from Ushuaia. The park preserves typical species of the Andean-Patagonic Forest, such as fire bushes, beech trees, ñires, box-leafed barberries and flowers, spread in an area of 63,000 hectares.

Before entering the national park, board the Train to the End of the World and enjoy an unforgettable trip along one of the two narrow-gauge tracks left in Argentina. The train ran until 1947 ferrying prisoners from the island’s prison stronghold into the National Park to fell and chop trees. Today, it steams slowly along the Pipo River until it reaches the Macarena waterfalls. A native Indian camp can be viewed at this point, recreated on the basis of evidence provided by today’s descendants of the tribes as well as documentation left by the early settlers. The train continues into the National Park with its stunning views of Mount Susana, the Martial Glacier and the large swamp where the relics of the prisoners’ logging tasks can still be seen.

Disembark at the station in the park and proceed to Lapataia Bay, the southernmost tip of the continent, walking along a lengas wood to the lookout point where you get a wonderful panoramic view of the Beagle Channel. Particularly beautiful in autumn, when the lower slopes of the mountains and the valleys are splashed with the glorious orange, gold, copper and russet hues of the lengas beeches, the National Park conserves all the appeal of exuberant nature as well as being a living monument to the island’s history. After some 400 meters walking up to Los Castores stream, you will be able to observe the dams system the park’s beavers have built, as well as the environmental impact it causes.

Return back to Ushuaia city and enjoy lunch. Then, transfer to the Cruceros Australis Ushuaia operations office to check in from your cruise (check in is open till 4:00 pm). The Stella Australis ship boarding is from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The Captain and crew give a welcome cocktail reception on board.

Immediately afterwards, the ship departs for “the uttermost part of the earth.” On the Ushuaia - Punta Arenas route you will enjoy the splendor and beauty of unique natural scenery from aboard our comfortable ship set up to make your trip as pleasant as possible. Our excursion will take us through the Beagle Channel and the Strait of Magellan to explore one of the most captivating wilderness regions in the world: Southern Patagonia, and Tierra del Fuego. You have just embarked on a Great Adventure! During the cruise there will be interesting lectures on the wildlife, history and geography of this legendary region given by the Cruceros Australis Expedition Group. The lectures will take place both on board (with audio-visual support) and on land.

Overnight aboard the Stella Australis (Category A Cabin)

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Included Today

OCT 27 – PATAGONIA CRUISE EXPEDITION

Today, you visit Cape Horn and Wulaia Bay. We sail through the Beagle and Murray channels to reach Cape Horn National Park, where we will disembark (weather permitting). Cape Horn is a sheer, 425-meter (1,394-foot) high rocky promontory, and in the past it was the only entrance to the Pacific Ocean. This place is known as the “End of the Earth”, and it’s the last territory before Antarctica. The park was declared a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in June 2005.

In the afternoon, we go ashore in historic Wulaia Bay, once the site of one of the region’s largest Yamana aboriginal settlements. Charles Darwin landed here on January 23rd, 1833, during the voyage of the HMS Beagle. This area is also renowned for the mesmerizing beauty of its vegetation and geography. We will walk through a Magellanic forest of Lengas, Coihues, Canelos, ferns, and other native vegetation to reach a look-out point.

Overnight aboard the Stella Australis (Category A Cabin)

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Included Today

OCT 28 – PATAGONIA CRUISE EXPEDITION

Visit Piloto and Nena Glaciers. In the morning we sail through the desolate Brecknock and Ocasión channels, to reach Cockburn Channel in the afternoon. After lunch, we arrive at Chico Sound and disembark in Zodiac boats to explore Alakaluf Fjord, and to see its beautiful waterfalls and observe the Piloto and Nena glaciers from the sea. We will learn about the formation of glaciers and their influence in the abrupt geography of the region’s channels.

Overnight aboard the Stella Australis (Category A Cabin)

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Included Today

OCT 29 – PATAGONIA CRUISE EXPEDITION | DISEMBARK IN PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE | TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK REGION

Visit Magdalena Island and disembark in Punta Arenas, Chile. Early in the morning, we go ashore on Magdalena Island (weather permitting). Located in the Strait of Magellan, it was an essential source of supplies for navigators and explorers in the past. The island is inhabited by an immense colony of Magellanic Penguins which can be sighted during our walk to a lighthouse, which guides ships on their way through the strait. In September and April this excursion is replaced by a Zodiac boat ride at Isla Marta to observe sea lions. After our visit, we sail to Punta Arenas, disembarking at 11:30 a.m.

Upon disembarkation, you are met and transferred to the Cruceros Australis Punta Arenas Operations office close to the pier. Here you will have time to enjoy lunch in town on your own and walk around a bit while you await the 2:00 pm pick up from Patagonia Camp.

After pick up, drive to Patagonia camp located near Torres del Paine National Park. The drive takes about 4 hours. Patagonia Camp offers you luxurious 'camping' in designer yurts by a stunning lake, with perfect views of the Cuernos del Paine. Imagine all the wonderful things about camping – the views, close contact with nature, and that feeling of isolation – but with central heating in your tent and a private bathroom on the side. Patagonia Camp's 15 impeccable yurts are poised above a sparkling turquoise lake in the rolling hills just outside Torres del Paine national park, and carefully placed in the steep wooded slopes so that each has a perfect view of the Cuernos del Paine from its private terrace. Spacious, comfortable, and stylishly furnished, your yurt even has a view of the stars through a central window in the roof.

Torres del Paine National Park is just 30 minutes away, and there's pristine wilderness all around you: take a kayak out on the water, stroll to the nearby waterfall, or just wander along wooden walkways through lenga forest to the Salon lounge and dining room.

Your 4 night Patagonia Camp program includes

- Shared scheduled transfers between Punta Arenas and Patagonia Camp (since the camp operates the transfers on a set schedule, there could be other Patagonia Camp bound guests in the vehicle)
- Accommodations in Patagonia Camp in Yurts. These are comfortable independent tent domes nestled in a dense forest of beech trees and facing the spectacular view of Lake Toro and the Paine Massif. Each Yurt has a private bathroom, private terrace and is fully equipped with king or two single beds and heating. And each is finely decorated with woven fabrics and locally handcrafted furniture.
- Buffet breakfast / box lunch / menu dinner (with reserve house wine).
- Patagonian Barbeque
- Daily excursions, (shared with other Patagonia Camp guests - 10 persons per guide/van) inclusive of bilingual guides (Spanish/English) and entrance fees to Torres del Paine National Park.

Program does not include: Open bar Laundry, phone calls or massages Extras

Each evening, camp guides will offer guests two different options, considering weather conditions, of excursions for the next day. Our excursions will give guests the opportunity to enjoy one of the most pristine landscapes of nature.

Overnight Patagonia Camp (Yurt)

Breakfast, Dinner Included Today

OCT 30, 31, NOV 1 – TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK REGION

Over the next 3 days, enjoy included excursions, according to your preferences and weather conditions. These excursions are designed so that guests may enjoy the Chilean Patagonia and Torres del Paine at the most. Excursions are half-day or full-day, with the Towers hike being the most physically demanding (but also the most spectacular).

It is common to hear that a visitor to Torres del Paine can experience all 4 seasons in one day. For this reason we advise that you bring comfortable, light clothing as well as a warm jacket and hat to protect yourself from the frequent wind. For trekking excursions we recommend that you bring hiking boots or sturdy sneakers, and a small backpack to carry items such as sunscreen and additional clothing.

INCLUDED EXCURSIONS IN THE PACKAGE

- **BASE TORRES | Duration: 9 hours | Difficulty: High**

Our van takes an hour and a half ride to where this famous trail starts. The hike begins going up hill until we enter the Valle Asencio, where, after a short break, we continue to the second part of the trail where we walk through a native *Nothofagus* forest. The last part of the trail takes us to a walk up a steep moraine that ends up in the spectacular base of the towers.

- **LAGUNA VERDE | Duration: 6 hours | Difficulty: Medium**

Our van takes us to the Estancia Lazo, an excellent example of a typical Patagonian ranch, where we start our hike towards the Paine River. Going through the edge of beautiful Laguna Verde we continue the trail towards the Mirador Toro, a spectacular lookout point where we have a stunning view of the Toro Lake and the Patagonian mountain range. Our hike ends downhill where the River Paine and the Toro Lake converges showing an amazing mixture of blue and green colors.

- **LA PENINSULA | Duration: 6 hours | Difficulty: Medium**

This hike starts where the Lago Toro converges with the Laguna Maravilla. Going through a typical *puesto Gaucho* we start our hike with a great view of the Laguna Maravilla and the Salto Maravilla. In the second part of the trail, always with the Paine Massive in front of us, we walk bordering Bahia Maitenes, where we can observe the different species of flora present in Patagonia. This hike ends up walking through the edge of the Lago Porteño ending up in Patagonia Camp.

- **MIRADOR CONDOR | Duration: 2 ½ hours | Difficulty: Medium**

We take the van to the Torres del Paine National Park towards the Lago Pehoe. This hike starts in the edge of the lake where the trail goes uphill towards the famous Mirador Condor. All through the hike we can observe different species of flora present in the park and if we are lucky we can see the elegant soaring of the Andean Condor. Once in the top of the lookout point we can observe the magnificence of the Paine Massive and the amazing contrast with the turquoise color of the Lago Pehoe.

- **LAGO SARMIENTO | Duration: 2 ½ hours | Difficulty: Medium**

This hike starts in a trail that leads to the interesting shores of the Lago Sarmiento. Once we get to the lake we can observe the calcium carbonate formations all along the shoreline making the Lago Sarmiento unique in the park. This is a nice hike where we can observe a few of the different species of birds present in the park. If we are lucky enough on the way back to the van we can walk through a herd of Guanacos.

- **PLAYA GREY | Duration: 2 hours | Difficulty: Easy**

This excursion leads us to one of Torres del Paine National Park main attraction the Lago Grey beach and Grey Glacier. First we arrive at Lago Grey area, where after crossing a hanging bridge over the Pingo River we will get into a dark Patagonian forest. We will arrive then at the Lago Grey beach and view the electric blue icebergs that have broken off of Glacier Grey. From here we can see the Grey Glacier in the distance, an enormous, 6km-wide wall of ice.

- **MIRADOR CUERNOS & SALTO GRANDE | Duration: 2 ½ hours | Difficulty: Easy**

The excursion take us to the Salto Grande a beautiful waterfall that demonstrates all the power and magic of the Chilean Patagonia. After a short trek we will arrive to the Mirador Cuernos, a spectacular lookout point with up-close and direct views of the Paine Massif.

- **MIRADOR EL ESTRIBO | Duration: 3 hours | Difficulty: Medium/High**

After a 20 minute van ride that takes us to the Estancia Complejo Torres del Paine we start a hike uphill towards the Mirador El Estribo. At the top of this lookout point you can enjoy a panoramic view of the Lago Porteño, a beautiful lake that colors go from deep blue to turquoise. With a little bit of luck small herds of Guanacos can be spotted.

- **MIRADOR TENERIFE | Duration: 3 hours | Difficulty: Medium**

After a short van ride towards the Estancia Complejo Torres del Paine we start walking up to a lookout point of the Cerro Tenerife. At this beautiful point we can enjoy the impressive views of the colorful Lago Porteño, the majestic Cerro Castillo and the emblematic Torres del Paine Massif.

- **LAGUNA AZUL | Duration: 3 hours | Difficulty: Easy**

After an hour van ride, we will start this trekking to Laguna Azul, where we will take part in an enjoyable trek along the northern shore of this beautiful lake. From this vantage point we can enjoy spectacular and direct views of the Towers, granite formations that gives the name to this spectacular National Park. This excursion is ideal for enjoying the park's native forests and regional fauna.

Overnight Patagonia Camp (Yurt)

Breakfast, Boxed Lunch, Dinner Included Daily

NOV 2 – TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK REGION | PUNTA ARENAS | SANTIAGO

Transfer with Patagonia Camp to Punta Arenas airport. The drive will take about 5 hours. Board your flight to Santiago. Upon arrival, you are met and transferred to your hotel.

Santiago, the capital of Chile, was founded in 1541. The Spanish conquistador, Pedro de Valdivia, was inspired when he had the vision to choose this valley as his permanent headquarters. The encounter of two cultures —with all its difficulties— has emerged as a very well-developed society of 16.2 million Chileans proud of their country and capital city. Against the setting of the Central Valley, at an altitude of 530 m. above sea level and with a population of 5.4 million people, Santiago combines its traditional architecture —full of the European influence of the 19th century— with an explosion of buildings of modern avant garde design with the Andes always providing the backdrop for any view of this active, cosmopolitan city.

Overnight Plaza el Bosque Park & Suites (Executive Suite)

Breakfast Included Today

NOV 3 – SANTIAGO

This morning, enjoy a half day private guided city tour which will reveal sophistication, color and contrast. Take in the classic city landmarks such as the old district with its provincial atmosphere; the sophisticated, European style modern districts of Vitacura, Las Condes and Providencia; the Spanish colonial churches, gardens and government palaces off the Plaza de Armas. Rising above the streets of the capital, savor the panoramic views from the crest of Cristobal Hill, and Santa Lucia, site of Santiago's founding in 1541 and crowned by the crumbling ruin of the 16th century fort.

Visit the Museum of Pre-Columbian Art – the museum houses a collection to rival any in the world. Located in a handsome colonial building, the Palacio de la Real Aduana (Royal Customs House), it treats visitors to an endearing display of artifacts from Latin America's pre-Hispanic civilizations. The collection includes artifacts intricately crafted in ceramics, metals, textiles and wood. Tastefully presented and meticulously cared for, the items on show give a unique insight into the lost cultures of the Mayans, Aztecs, Incas and many other groups which once dominated this vast continent.

Take in the Central Market. This architecturally inspiring wrought-iron structure was shipped out piece by piece from England in the 19th century and is always bustling with a lively seafood market and dining options.

Your afternoon is at leisure for further city explorations on your own. An optional excursion to a nearby winery can be arranged.

Overnight Plaza el Bosque Park & Suites (Executive Suite)

Breakfast Included Today

NOV 4 – SANTIAGO | DEPART CHILE

For those departing on the Easter Island extension, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Easter Island this morning. For the rest of us departing back to the United States, you have the day at leisure to explore the city further or take in optional tours. For your convenience, your hotel rooms will be reserved today for dayuse with a late check out. This evening, you will be transferred to the airport for your homebound flight.

Dayuse Plaza el Bosque Park & Suites (Executive Suite)

Breakfast Included Today

EASTER ISLAND EXTENSION

NOV 4 – SANTIAGO | EASTER ISLAND

This morning, transfer to the airport for your approximate 5 hour flight to Easter Island, known locally by its Polynesian inhabitants as 'Rapa Nui'. On arrival, you are met and transferred to your hotel.

Easter Island is the most remote island in the world, and one of the most mysterious. How and why did the ancient settlers build hundreds of colossal stone Moai statues from volcanic rock? Today, the entire island is a national park where you can explore the timeless wonders that have amazed archaeologists and historians for years.

Overnight Hotel Altiplanico Rapa Nui (Standard Room)

Breakfast Included Today

NOV 5 – EASTER ISLAND

After breakfast we start a full day tour visiting Ahu Vaihu, 8 large Moais (massive carved stone portrait sculptures) that have been toppled by time, and are now lying face down, their topknots (hats) scattered nearby. The tour continues to the volcano of Rano Raraku, also known as 'The Nursery', which contains the quarry where the rocks originated for the creation of these magnificent Moai carvings. These sculptures were then carved and somehow moved to all parts of the island, some weighing as much as 50 tonnes each. Almost one hundred unfinished statues now lie scattered and abandoned on the slopes of the volcano still waiting to be moved! To the east is Tongariki, where Japanese archaeologists have re-erected 15 Moais, the largest Ahu (stone platform) ever built, in fact now the largest stone platform ever built by mankind. We then continue northwards along the coast to visit Te Pito Te Kura, the largest Moai ever moved from Rano Raraku and erected on an Ahu. The name of the Ahu comes from a particular stone called 'Te Pito Te Kura', meaning 'The Navel of Light'. Legend says that the first supreme chief of Easter Island, Hotu Matua, brought this stone to the island to symbolise the centre of the world. From here we continue to Ahu Ngau, meaning 'Eyes that look to the Sky', and onto Anakena Beach, the coconut palm fringed legendary landing place of Hotu Matua. The paradisaical white sand beach is an amazing arena for Heavenly swimming and relaxing. Return to the hotel.

Overnight Hotel Altiplanico Rapa Nui (Standard Room)

Breakfast, Boxed Lunch Included Today

NOV 6 – EASTER ISLAND

Following breakfast, we spend the morning visiting Rano Kau crater lake and the Orongo ceremonial village, once the most important ceremonial site on the island, and a much later construction than the great Moai and Ahu. The excursion continues to Ahu Vinapu where there are two major Ahu, both of which once supported Moai that are now overturned. Finally we make a visit to the cave paintings at Ana Kai Tangata, just west of Hanga Roa and situated at the end of a beautiful little bay. We then return to hotel.

This afternoon we embark on our second excursion of the day beginning with Ahu Akivi, it's 7 Moais being the only statues on the island that face out to sea. We continue to the Ana Tepahu caverns on the west coast. The entrance is close to a garden planted with sweet potatoes, taro, bananas and other plants from the Polynesian culture. Following a visit to Puna Pau, a small volcanic crater with its relatively soft, easily worked reddish scoria stone from which the 'pukao' (Moai topknots) were made. Some 60 of these were transported to sites around the island and another 25 remain in or near the quarry. We then return to the hotel.

Overnight Hotel Altiplanico Rapa Nui (Standard Room)

Breakfast Included Today

NOV 7 – EASTER ISLAND | SANTIAGO

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Santiago. On arrival, you are met and transferred back to your hotel.

Overnight Plaza el Bosque Park & Suites (Executive Suite)

Breakfast Included Today

NOV 8 – SANTIAGO | DEPART CHILE

You have the day at leisure to explore the city further or take in optional tours. For your convenience, your hotel rooms will be reserved today for dayuse with a late check out. This evening, you will be transferred to the airport for your homebound flight.

Dayuse Plaza el Bosque Park & Suites (Executive Suite)

Breakfast Included Today