



## Santiago, Atacama and Easter Island



Easter Island

The native ruins of San Pedro de Atacama are attracting more and more visitors who wish to learn about the mysterious pre-Colombian cultures. The desert city is also popular for activities including sand-boarding and stargazing. The geysers of El Tatio, the Valley of the Moon, the historic town of Toconao, and the mountain hot springs of Puritama are just a few of the natural and historic wonders located within this arid desert. Leaving Atacama, you will travel to the intriguing and magical Easter Island, discovered on Easter Sunday nearly three centuries ago. This Island features more than 600 enigmatic Moai statues, whose original purpose and meaning is still unknown.

Currently the connecting flight from Calama to Easter Island operates only on Sunday, so ideal day to start this trip is Monday. This can be modified to suit your schedule by rearranging the itinerary or adding an extra night in Santiago. This trip can be customized to fit your individual travel dates and any specific requests you may have. Your travel consultant will prepare a customized itinerary for you. We offer a choice of 3, 4, 5-star and deluxe hotels. The Deluxe option is with the newly built Ritz Carlton Hotel in Santiago and Tierra Atacama – all inclusive in San Pedro de Atacama.

This tour includes airfare allowance from Miami (US), on non-holiday dates. You do not need to fly via Miami; Yampu will fly you the most direct way to your city of destination. Depending on your travel dates and proximity of travel, we will quote you the most economical surcharge from your city or country of origin.

## Pricing

Occupancy Type	3-star	4-star	5-star	Deluxe
Double	\$ 6370	\$ 6648	\$ 7389	\$ 7858
Single	\$ 7697	\$ 8150	\$ 8816	\$ 9420

Prices shown above are per person, in US Dollars (\$).



Anakena Beach



Atacama

## Itinerary

### Day 1

Overnight flight to Santiago. Ideal day to start this trip: Thursday

### Day 2

Reception at Santiago airport and transfer to your selected hotel in the heart of the city.

Note: check-in is normally after 2 pm. Early check-in may be granted subject to availability (not confirmed).

### Day 3

Full day of touring around Santiago. On this day you may choose from one of the following excursions:

Vina del Mar and Valparaiso

Valle Nevado

Isla Negra - Pablo Neruda Museum

Cousiño Macul and Concha y Toro wineries

### Day 4

Santiago - San Pedro de Atacama - Moon Valley

Transfer to the airport to take the flight to Calama. Reception at the airport in Calama and transfer to the town of San Pedro de Atacama.

Afternoon half-day Moon Valley excursion. Departing at 3 pm (5 pm in the summer), this trip takes us through the Salt Mountain Range, visiting the Valley of Mars (also known as Death Valley) and the Three Marias - natural rock formations in the desert. We end up by climbing a huge sand dune in the Moon Valley, from which we will watch the sunset over the Andes. Evening return to San Pedro de Atacama.

### Day 5

Tulor, Quitar, Atacama Salt Lake and Toconao

Morning half-day archeological tour to Tulor and Quitar. Departure at 9 am to visit the Padre Gustavo Le Paige Museum, which has an important anthropological collection of the Atacameñan culture. Then continue to the indigenous Fortress of Quitar where the first shepherds of this civilization lived. Continue on to one of the "ayllus" or settlements which reflect the social system and communal aspects of this subsistence society and the ruins of Tulor which is composed of a series of round rooms connected to each other and with communal patios. Today, this site is covered partly by the sands of the desert and represents an archeological enigma.

Afternoon half-day excursion to the Atacama Salt Lake and Toconao Upon leaving San Pedro de Atacama (3 pm departure in the winter, 4 pm in the summer), we head along the side of the huge salt flat and continue until arrival at Toconao, a village where the inhabitants dedicate themselves to the working of the local liparite stone. Visit the old church and wander around the handicraft shops before a short visit to the Jeri Valley, an oasis in the center of the desert. Continue to the Chaxa Lagoon, where three types of pink flamingoes breed. Return to San Pedro de

Atacama.

## Day 6

Full day Tatio Geysers with Machuca Village

Early departure (around 4:00am) from San Pedro towards the El Tatio Geysers. A guided walk around the geothermal field as the fumaroles of steam which appear at dawn rise into the sky. Journey through the Andes mountains, with wonderful views of the Putana volcano and the peaks of Torcopuri. Return to San Pedro, stopping on the way to visiting Machuca, picturesque village of shepherds where the ancient llama caravans used to rest from their travels on the "Inca Highway".

## Day 7

Transfer to Calama airport to take the flight to Santiago and connect with flight to Easter Island (connecting flights are currently operating on Wednesdays only). Reception at Mataverí International Airport and transfer to your selected hotel.

## Day 8

Full-day tour of Rano Raraku: Vahiu , Anakena and Ahu Tongariki

The excursion starts in Hanga Roa. Taking the road along the coast, we head toward the ruins of the temple of Vaihu, which is still today as it has been after centuries of neglect. The red hats of the moai which were thrown into the sea can be clearly seen. Continue to the site of Akahanga, where several of the statues are face down, as they were abandoned during their transportation. Then on to the volcano of Rano Raraku and the "factories" where the Moais were carved from the rock. Here, there are more than 300 statues in different stages of production. A walk around the crater reveals a small lagoon and more Moais in the center. Continue to Ahu Tongariki, which has been recently restored and which houses the largest number of Moais which were destroyed by a large tidal wave in 1960. Finally, the beautiful Anakena beach with two temple platforms or Ahus. Following a picnic lunch (included), time to bathe in the Pacific Ocean or explore the surrounding countryside. Return to Hanga Roa in the afternoon and transfer back to your selected hotel.

## Day 9

Half-day excursion to Orongo: Rano Kau and Vinapu. Depart for a visit to Ahu Vinapu which is made up of two ruined Ahus (temple platforms), one of which has stonework which is remarkably similar to that found in Inca sites. Studies have backed up the theory that the first inhabitants of the island came from the South American continent. The journey continues along the coastal road towards the Rano Kao volcano. Next to the crater is the ancient ceremonial site of Orongo where there are many petroglyphs. There are images of the "bird man" Tangata Manu, the god creator Make Make and also fertility symbols known as Komari. From the edge of the crater, you can see the three small islands of Motu Iti, Motu Nui and Moto Kao Kao, which play an important part in the bird man legends.

Leisure in the afternoon, with time to explore the town of Hanga Roa and the Museum of Sebastian Englert. We recommend paying a visit to the local church with its extraordinary wood carvings.

## Day 10

Half-day excursion to Akivi: Puna Pau and seven Moais. Half-day excursion to Ahu Akivi, the archeological center of the Roihi sector. This was the first area to be restored in the 1960s. It is a ceremonial area, particularly of interest not only for its location, at the center of the island, but also for the legends which surround the seven Moais, or statues, found there. The legend says they are the sons of Maori Sorcerer sent to look for the hoe of King Hotu Matua. They look out over the ceremonial center and then farther the ocean. A week after the Spring equinox, they look directly at the setting sun. Around the site you will find many caves.

Then visit Puna Pau, a site to the east of the town of Hanga Roa in a small crater. This is where the "pukao," or hats which crowned the Moais, were carved from soft volcanic Scoria. On the journey, it is possible to see the path where they were transported including some of the hats which were left on the wayside. Afternoon to be spent at your leisure, exploring close to town or perhaps just relaxing in the southern sun.

Evening Farewell Polynesian Dinner and Show: This unique event will give you an opportunity to savor the most typical Rapa Nui and Polynesian food, prepared in an earth-oven, locally called "Umu" or "curanto". Dinner consists of chicken, meat or fish cooked in the Umus, and a glass of beer, juice or soft drink. After dinner we will enjoy a typical Polynesian show with dance performed by a local folk-group with body-paint. Round trip transfers included. Operates only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

## Day 11

Transfer to Mataverí Airport for flight back to Santiago and connect with international flight back home.

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## Price includes:

Prices include air transportation from Miami to Santiago in economy class, domestic air from Santiago to Calama and Santiago to Easter Island

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return, hotel accommodation including daily continental breakfast, lodge accommodation at the Hotel Altiplanico in San Pedro, all transfers between airports and hotels with assistance and baggage handling, and guided tours including all entrance fees, where applicable. Local airport taxes that are payable in the country of destination are not included. Taxes and security fees that can be paid at time of ticketing are already included in the quote (if airfare has been included in the quote).

No visa is required for travel to Chile as a U.S., Canadian or Australian citizen. A reciprocity fee must be paid upon entering Chile; the current amount that must be paid by U.S. and Canadian citizens is \$140 per person.

The order of tours in Easter Island may be different and is subject to confirmation locally.

All services and transfers in Easter Island are provided in a medium sized group. Order of the tours may vary. Private tours available for an additional cost.

#### Excursions around Santiago

##### Full day excursion to Vina del Mar and Valparaiso

Depart for the Central Coast traveling through the valleys of Curacaví and Casablanca. The latter is known for its recent success as a wine producing area and there is a stop to visit one of the vineyards and taste some wine. Continue to the coast and visit the beach area of Reñaca and the town of Vina del Mar, known as the Garden City for its pretty parks and flower lined streets. Visit the Gaming Casino and the coastal road. In the afternoon continue to the picturesque port of Valparaiso built in the XVI century on a total of 43 hills which are reached by narrow windy streets, staircases and a series of lifts (funiculars) which is now declared by UNESCO as World Heritage Site because of its eclectic architecture and urban development. Visit the Museum house of Pablo Neruda, La Sebastiana. The house is situated on one of the hills overlooking the bay and contains some of the poets collections, specifically related to the sea. Return to Santiago.

##### Full Day excursion Valle Nevado

Valle Nevado ski resort is in the mountains near to Santiago at a height of 3,025 meters/ 9,982 feet above sea level and very close to Santiago. Following the river Mapocho up the valley pass through some small mountain villages before starting to climb the mountain proper up a series of hairpin bends. The views are incredible and there is a good chance of seeing condors all year round. The quality and variety of the runs as well as the usually clement weather make this one of the best ski areas in the southern hemisphere. Skiing is available from June – August (lift pass, ski rental etc not included) and the rest of the year it is possible to enjoy the mountain air and wonderful views.

##### Full Day excursion to Isla Negra – Pablo Neruda Museum

Depart Santiago in the morning for a full day heading towards the coast. Enjoy the first stop in Pomaire, a small village where the inhabitants work the local clay to make a variety of dishes, pots and interesting sculptures amongst other handicrafts. Continue to Isla Negra, a small beachside community with a pretty beach backed by fragrant pine trees. This is the place where Chilean Nobel Prize for Literature winner Pablo Neruda chose to build one of his houses. The eccentric architecture houses some of his collections, including bottles, figureheads from ships, shells and various other eclectic articles.

There is time for lunch locally after the visit (not included) before returning to Santiago.

##### Full day excursion to Cousiño Macul winery and Concha y Toro winery

We will visit two of the oldest and most historic wineries in Chile:

Viña Cousiño Macul, founded in 1856, is still owned and run by the direct descendents of Matías Cousiño, the founder of the vineyard and the owner of Lota coal mines in the south of Chile. The cellars were built in the French style using “cal y canto” a mixture of egg white and lime as “cement”. Time for lunch (not included) before continuing to Viña Concha y Toro. Founded in 1883 by Don Melchor Concha y Toro, it is today the largest producer of export wines in Chile. It has more than 11 thousand barrels of French and American oak oriented to the production of fine wines with a capacity to store over 8 million 200 thousand liters of wine in steel holding tanks. The tour takes us to the landscaped gardens of the colonial house and the vineyards. We will also learn about the wine making process, and will visit the modern processing plant and the old cellars. Afternoon return to Santiago and transfer to your hotel.