Itinerary

Journey Through South America featuring Santiago, Andean Lakes Crossing & Rio de Janeiro

Nov 6, 2020 - Nov 21, 2020

Pre Night: Hotel Plaza San Francisco

Would you like to begin your vacation with an additional Hotel in Santiago?

Day 1: Overnight Flight

Embark on an adventure through three South American countries, encountering precisely what makes each destination as unique as they are united.

Day 2: Santiago, Chile - Tour Begins

Welcome to Santiago de Chile. Take in the views of this cultural hub tucked inside the Andes Mountains and witness the vibrancy of one of South America’s most modern cities. Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers over sumptuous food and wine.

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<th>Culinary</th>
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<td>Hotel Plaza San Francisco Santiago</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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Day 3: Santiago

Embark on a panoramic city tour with an expert guide. Stroll down the Paseo Ahumada pedestrian street, wandering past Chilean boutiques. Stroll amongst the locals and fresh seafood at Mercado Central, hailed as one of the world’s top food markets. Enjoy the remainder of your afternoon at leisure. Perhaps you will join an optional tour to a local winery, getting an inside peek at the winemaking process before sampling the vintages yourself.

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Day 4: Santiago
The day is yours! Maybe you’ll discover Cerro San Cristobal – an expansive park overlooking the city – or simply relax at an outdoor café. No matter how you choose to spend the day, join your fellow travelers tonight for a dinner featuring regional specialties.

### Day 5: Santiago - Puerto Montt - Puerto Varas

Fly south to the seaport town of Puerto Montt. Your journey takes you to Puerto Varas, the lakeside resort town known as the “city of roses.” With free time today, take in the view of the neighboring volcanos in the distance before hopping in and out of chocolate and wine shops.

### Day 6: Puerto Varas - Andean Lakes Crossing - Bariloche, Argentina

Stand in awe before the breathtaking Petrohué Falls, where vibrant water thunders downstream under the shadow of a snowcapped volcano. Head through the mythical Andean Lakes District to Patagonia, encountering nature in its purest form. Travel from Chile to Argentina by coach and catamaran, crossing lakes and driving through ancient forests. End your day in Bariloche where you will settle in for a 2-night stay.

### Day 7: Bariloche

From snow covered mountains to the shores of glacial Lake Nahuel Huapi, the alpine village of San Carlos de Bariloche is full of natural wonders. Travel along the renowned Chico Circuit to the top of Cerro Campanario, taking in panoramic vistas of the surrounding landscape. Back in town, enjoy time to browse handicraft shops, indulge in mouthwatering chocolate or take a stroll along the scenic lake path.

### Day 8: Bariloche - Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires, where European décor blends seamlessly with the beat of Latin culture. Stretching along the banks of the Rio de la Plata, Argentina’s capital exhibits a dynamic cultural scene of street art, songs, and steak.

### Day 9: Buenos Aires

Choose how you see the city because it’s your choice! Take a panoramic tour of Buenos Aires with several stops along the way featuring the city’s most famous sites -OR- get a closer perspective of the city on foot as you discover the Recoleta and Palermo neighborhoods with a local guide, followed by a subway ride on the continent’s oldest subway line. The remainder of the day is yours to create your own adventure. Tonight, head to a tango house to indulge in Argentine cuisine and wine before watching a thrilling tango performance.

### Day 10: Buenos Aires - San Antonio de Areco - Buenos Aires
Cross the Pampas – fertile plains that are considered to be Argentina’s version of the “Wild West.” Step into a world of cowboys, corrales, and cattle with a tour of San Antonio de Areco, a country village best known as the birthplace of lasso-slinging gaucho traditions. Visit with some local artisans and silversmiths before heading to an estancia (cattle estate) to dine on a hearty asado lunch – a traditional Argentine barbecue. While on the ranch, it’s your choice! Go horseback riding through the countryside –OR- take a scenic horse-drawn carriage ride around the property. Get to know what life is like in the countryside as the gauchos share stories about their experiences. Enjoy time to relax on the estancia grounds before heading back to Buenos Aires. Tonight you may join an optional home hosted dinner in the city.

**Day 11: Buenos Aires - Iguazu Falls, Brazil**

Fly to Iguazu Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Begin your discovery on the Argentine side and board the Rainforest Ecological Train inside the national park. Feel the mist against your face as you walk the platform overlooking the powerful Devil’s Throat, watching playful birds darting in and out of the spray. Admire your vantage point from on top of the falls. Cross over to the Brazilian side to check into your resort, ending your day of adventure with a relaxing dinner.

**Day 12: Iguazu Falls**

Embrace a different personality of the falls when you spend the day exploring the Brazilian side of Iguazu. A local insider leads you through the park, providing insight on how Brazil and Argentina have partnered together to protect the natural beauty of the falls. On a clear day, allow your eyes to drift for miles above the tree-topped horizon and gaze out upon misty rainbows. The afternoon is yours to relax and enjoy the many amenities at your resort.

**Day 13: Iguazu Falls - Rio de Janeiro**

Fly to Rio de Janeiro, a coastal hub of rich culture and lively energy. Sandy beaches, vibrant costumes, savory cuisine and friendly people – all this and more await you in Rio. Take a cable car to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain, offering an incomparable view of the city standing in the shadow of the mountains. After your descent, enjoy free time to explore the famous beach-side Copacabana.

**Day 14: Rio de Janeiro**

Start your morning with a panoramic tour of Rio’s sites including the Metropolitan Cathedral – whose architecture was inspired by a Mayan pyramid – and the Sambadrome. Head behind-the-scenes of Carnival and meet the artists that design the floats and costumes. Learn how to craft caipirinhas – Brazil’s famous cocktail made with sugar cane liquor and lime. The rest of the evening is at leisure.

**Day 15: Rio de Janeiro**

Journey to Corcovado by train to see the towering Christ the Redeemer statue, the city’s well-known icon. Take in the 360-degree panoramic vistas from the statue’s base in Tijuca Forest National Park. Return to the city to spend time with the locals at one of the city’s open-air markets. Partner up with a local guide in small groups to discover and taste over a dozen different types of exotic Brazilian fruits. The afternoon is yours to do as you please. With your free time, perhaps you will relax by the beach or take in the city’s hidden sights on your own. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a farewell feast in a traditional Brazilian churrascaria (barbecue), where you will indulge in caipirinhas and savor meats slow-roasted to perfection.
Day 16: Rio de Janeiro - Tour Ends

Wish South America goodbye as your tour draws to a close this morning.

Post Night: Sheraton Rio

The Sheraton Rio Hotel & Resort is located in an oasis of lush tropical vegetation. Discover sweeping views of the famous Leblon and Ipanema beaches from a guestroom balcony, featured in each of the 559 guest rooms.