



# South America

REFINED, SIMPLIFIED, PERFECTED

PERU · CHILE · GALAPAGOS · BOLIVIA · BRAZIL · ARGENTINA · COLOMBIA

chimuadventures.com



# Introduction

> Buenos Aires to Rio

> South American Circle

> Salt Flats

> Colombia

From the vibrant colours of the Amazon to the rich cultural history of the Lost City of the Incas, there's nowhere in the world like South America—and we can't wait to take you there.

We've overhauled our South American offerings to create **Signature South America**, a new range of premium itineraries that highlight the best of each region. Simply select from one of Chimu's Signature South America itineraries:

- > Peru (Machu Picchu)
- > Peru Hike, Bike & Foodie Delights
- > Peru Lares Inca Trail
- > Galapagos
- > Patagonia

Then, you can tailor your itinerary with extensions before or after the tour to create a more in-depth experience.

After almost twenty years in the South American travel space, Chimu has learnt a thing or two about what works best on the continent. Each of our Destination Specialists has an average of five years' experience in designing South American travel itineraries, so their wealth of knowledge went into carefully designing our new itineraries.

Our experience has also shown that guests can feel overwhelmed when planning South American travel, due to its vast geographical size, lending to logistical issues, so we've simplified our trips to make planning an upmarket South American adventure easy.

All itineraries are carefully crafted to showcase the best of each destination, with authentic and highly-rated hotels and exclusive Chimu features to help guests discover the history, culture, and cuisine of the region. We've also gone against the grain when planning day tours, ensuring guests visit popular destinations at different times of the day than other tour operators to reduce the impact of mass tourism and deliver a more authentic and meaningful experience.

We're so proud to share our Signature South America itineraries with you and you'll find all the key details below. Planning a trip to South America is a big decision, so we're here to help every step of the way.

Chad Carey
Managing Director, Chimu Adventures

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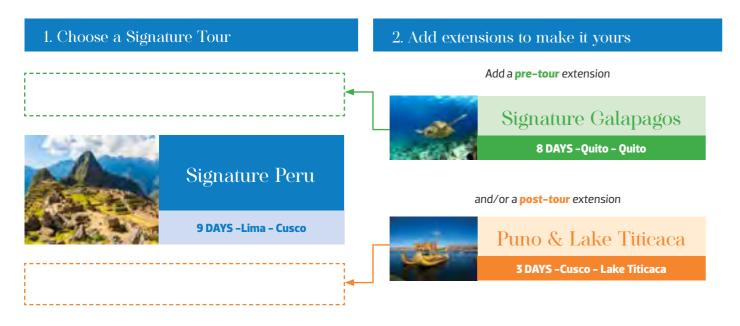
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# How Our Signature Itineraries Work

Chimu's Signature range has been carefully designed to make planning an upmarket South American adventure easy. Simply select from one of Chimu's Signature South America itineraries and tailor your itinerary with extensions before or after their tour to create a more in-depth experience.

All itineraries are carefully crafted to showcase the best of the destination, with authentic and highly-rated hotels and exclusive Chimu features to help guests discover the history, culture, and cuisine of the region.



# 3. Choose a Departure Date

Departure dates are chosen by guests, with departures guaranteed. Most tours depart daily, year round.

# 4. Choose Your Accommodation Style



Comfortable properties with dependable facilities and service

\*Stars do not represent star rating of hotel



Tried & tested upmarket properties with above average facilities and service \*Stars do not represent star rating of hotel

Deluxe

Luxurious properties with impeccable facilities and service.

\*Stars do not represent star rating of hotel





# What is included?



# Handpicked Hotels

All our accommodation is carefully selected by our Destination Specialists and local offices. Our comfortable hotels are hand-picked to offer creature comforts, convenient locations, and impeccable service. Each hotel is to a high standard and adds to the authenticity of your trip.



# **Authentic Experiences**

Our itineraries are designed to offer meaningful, authentic, and sustainable travel experiences. We want guests to see, hear, taste, and enjoy all the vibrant culture, history, music, and cuisine that South America has to offer, ensuring your trip takes you to places beyond the tourist guidebooks.



# Some Meals

You'll notice that some meals are included in each itinerary. We want to showcase some of South America's delectable culinary options, but we also want you to have the freedom to sample street food, dine in local cafes, or discover new restaurants on your own.

\*\*Please note: Meals listed in brochure itinerary is a guide only. Check final documents for mealls.



# Airport transfers

Each of our Signature South America itineraries includes private airport transfers. You'll be greeted at the airport by a Chimu representative holding a sign with your name so that your journey from the airport to your hotel is as seamless as possible.



# Local support offices

Throughout your trip, you'll have access to English-speaking support and assistance from our local offices. If you have any questions or need to make changes to your itinerary, your friendly Chimu representatives are always there to help.



# Upgrade options

Want to upgrade to a deluxe hotel or extend your holiday with a trip extension? We have plenty of options for you to upgrade your experience or add on additional days to explore more of South America—our itineraries are flexible and can be catered to your interests, budget, and timeframe.





# When to Go?

When is the best time to visit South America? On such a big continent, that's a big question to answer!

The truth is, any time of the year can be great, depending on your interests. Due to the continent's vast geographical size, varying altitudes, and the presence of the equator running across South America, you'll find many different temperatures and weather patterns which vary based on location.

Unless you have six months spare, visiting the entirety of South America at once is an impossibility, due to the sheer size of the continent. So, choosing the best time to visit really depends on the countries you choose to visit, as it's more convenient to

It's best to start by thinking about where in South America you'd like to visit, then investigate the yearly weather trends to decide when might be best for you. Our Destination Specialists are experts in South America and can always help answer any trip planning questions.



# Peru (Machu Picchu)

The history and beauty of Machu Picchu are ideal to explore from April to October, as this is the dry season, opening up sunny skies and clear views. July and August can be busy a little rain, but it also brings fewer crowds.



# Brazil

Brazil really comes alive between November to March, but its mild climate means there's never a bad time to visit. The hot, sunny days though, so going earlier in the year might bring got Carnivale in February. If you're visiting the Amazon or the Pantanal, the dry season is June-September.



# Chile (Patagonia)

Patagonia is best visited in the Australian summer, as the warm weather is ideal for hiking and outdoor activities, and everything of summer are great for the beach, and you've will be open. If you're visiting in summer, you can also combine an Antarctic cruise with time in Patagonia.



# Bolivia

The famous Bolivian salt flats can be visited year-round. During the dry season of April-October, you'll experience colder weather but can 4x4 across the entire area. In the summer months, during the wet season, you'll observe the mirror effect of the salt flats.



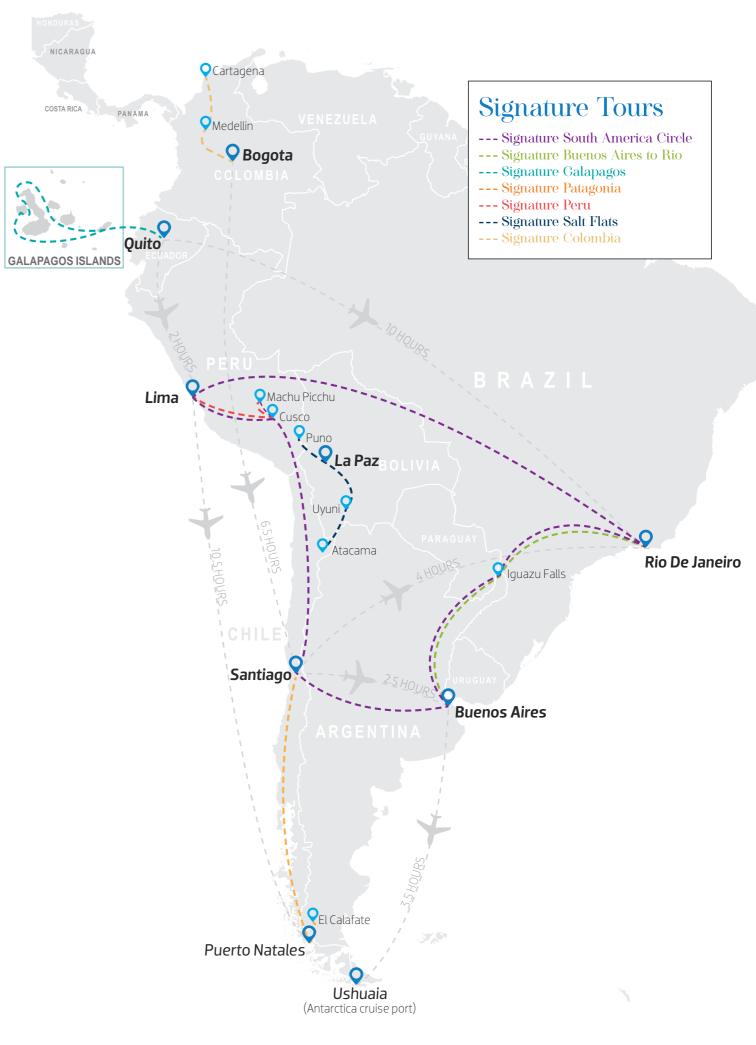
# Argentina

Argentina offers warm weather in the Australian summer months, so January can be an ideal time to visit Patagonia for hiking. Buenos Aires is great during Australian spring or autumn, with mild temperatures, but know that Australian summer is the peak season throughout the country.



# Galapagos Islands

December through May is generally a good time to visit the Galapagos Islands, thanks to warm weather and calmer seas, which make for better cruising and snorkelling. You can enjoy the Galapagos and see wildlife yearround though.





Most Popular

21 Days Santiago to Santiago Click for Pricing

The best of what South America has to offer has been handpicked ensuring you get the most out of the continent whilst travelling in comfort.

Explore Santiago, then head to Buenos Aires, where you will have time to experience the elegance of the city before being swept away to the mighty and spectacular Iguazu Falls. Then, moving on to Rio de Janeiro, you'll explore the unparalleled natural beauty and the rich culture that Rio has to offer before flying to Peru.

Start your Peru journey in Lima then head to Sacred Valley before arriving in the iconic Machu Picchu. Ending your journey in the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, Cusco.

# Why you will love this itinerary

- ✓ In three weeks, you will experience some of South America's best cities, covering Chile, Argentina, Brazil and Peru and visiting the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Machu Picchu, Cusco and Iguazu Falls.
- ✓ You will experience the contrast between vibrant capital cities such as Buenos Aires and Rio and ancient cities such as Cusco and Machu Picchu.
- ✓ Gain an insight into the fascinating and colourful culture of Peru as you travel to the pre-Columbian capital of the Incas, Cusco, along with the beautiful Sacred Valley.
- Experience many amazing sights and cities at a pace where there is plenty of time to explore.
- Each night you will stay in superior accommodation ensuring your journey is comfortable.



# DAY 1 Arrival in Santiago, Chile

Arrival day in the Chilean capital of Santiago. You will be collected from the airport and transferred to your hotel by private car transfer. The rest of the day is yours to recover from your flight.

# DAY 2 Santiago, Chile

Spend your morning getting to know Santiago on a half day city tour. You will visit the highlights this cosmopolitan city has to offer. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore the local area where your hotel is located. Barrio Lastarria is an upmarket, vibrant, and safe neighbourhood, home to some of Santiago's best cafes, bars, and restaurants with lots of boutique retail stores. (B)

# **DAY 3** Santiago, Valparaiso and the Casablanca Valley, Chile.

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. (B)

### **DAY 4** Buenos Aires, Argentina

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred by private transfer to Santiago airport to meet your flight to Buenos Aires. On arrival, a driver will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel in one of Buenos Aires elegant, historic, and picturesque neighbourhoods, Recoleta. (B)

# **DAY 5** Buenos Aires, Argentina

The morning is at leisure before you are collected from your hotel for a three hour afternoon city tour. We have designed this tour exclusively for our guests. You will visit the main square; Plaza De Mayo, home to the famous Casa Rosada and then continue on to the charming suburb of La Boca - the birthplace of Tango where you will have some time to wander the streets. Then head to Recoleta Cemetery, one of the most beautiful in the world. Entrance is included and your guide will point out the graves of famous Argentinians such as Eva Peron, or Evita. (B)

# **DAY 6** Buenos Aires, Argentina

Enjoy a unique half day walking tour with your own local guide. Start by exploring the streets of the neighbourhood of Recoleta, then continue on through the beating heart of the city, Reteiro, home to many significant buildings filled with history of Buenos Aires. Chat with your guide over a Patagonian ice cream or coffee, before heading to the bohemian barrio of San Telmo to explore the local markets, tasting local specialties like Empanadas.

In the evening you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to an Asado restaurant where you will enjoy a closed-door dining experience that explores Argentine Asado classics, along with a wine pairing of some of the best boutique wines from Argentina. (B,D).

### **DAY 7** Iguazu Falls

a 2.7km wide horseshoe-shaped gorge. You will have the chance to experience the falls from both the Argentinian and the Brazilian sides, the Brazilian side offering a broader, panoramic view, with the Argentinian side offering a series of catwalks that allow you to experience the falls up close. (B).

# DAY 8 Puerto Iguazu, Argentina

Get ready for a full day of exploring the Argentine side of the falls. We start early to beat the crowds and get the first train to the Devil's Throat. Walk along the paths over the islands which take you to a balcony over the falls and the most spectacular view of the entire Devil's Gorge. You will then have plenty of time to walk the paths on the upper circuit, providing you with a magnificent panoramic view, and the lower circuit which has great views from below and around the falls. On completion of the tour, you will be taken to your hotel. (B)

# **DAY 9** Puerto Iguazu, Argentina to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Today you will cross into Brazil to enjoy a half day tour of the Brazilian side where you will experience great panoramic views of the Argentinian side of the falls. At the appropriate time, you will be collected from the Brazil National Park and transferred to the Foz do Iguacu airport for your onward flight to Rio De Janeiro. (B)





Fly to Puerto Iguazu. The spectacular Iguazu Falls that straddles the Argentine-Brazil border, is made up of 275 individual waterfalls lining



### **DAY 10** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

With an early start, today you will join a city tour taking in all the city's famous sights, including Corcovado to get up close to the Christ the Redeemer statue. Next stop is Sugar Loaf Mountain, where you will board a cable car to the top of Urca Hill, with spectacular views of Rio's famous beaches, bays, hills, and the city. Enjoy a traditional Brazilian BBQ for lunch and continue exploring more of the city including a visit to the Maracanã Stadium via the famous beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema, a stop at the Sambadrome, and the city's historic downtown area and more. (B,L)

# DAY 11 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Join a discovery tour of Rio de Janeiro that begins in the bustling suburb of Lapa which is famous for its nightlife, historical monuments, and the Roman-style Acros da Lapa aqueducts. Santa Teresa, which is reached via a tram ride over the aqueducts, is known for its cobblestone streets, beautiful architecture, and stunning views overlooking the city. Enjoy a local Brazilian speciality, Acai and visit the famous Selaron Staircase. The colourful stairway is covered in mosaic tiles, the work of Chilean born artist Jorge Salaron. The afternoon is free for you to enjoy the beaches of Rio. (B)

# DAY 12 Lima, Peru

You will be transferred to the hotel for your onward flight to Lima, the capital of Peru. Lima is a bustling metropolis and one of South America's largest cities. Home to a plethora of interesting museums and a foodie's delight, being the "gastronomical capital of the Americas". (B)

# **DAY 13** Lima, Peru

Embark on a walking food tour in Lima's Historic Centre. During this food tour, you will have the chance to taste popular on-the-go delicacies that locals devour while learning more about Peru's history and interesting facts around the local economy and daily life in Peru.

# DAY 14 Sacred Valley, Peru

You will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight to Cusco, where you will descend into the Sacred Valley below Cusco. The Sacred Valley of the Incas is a region in Peru's Andean highlands which, along with the nearby town of Cusco and the ancient city of Machu Picchu, formed the heart of the Inca Empire. The Sacred Valley's elevation is 2,800 meters above sea level, so it is recommended to take it easy for the afternoon as your body acclimatises to the altitude. (B)



# **DAY 15** Sacred Valley, Peru

On today's Sacred Valley of the Incas tour, you will be presented with plenty of photo opportunities of ancient Incan villages and ruins, whilst learning about the culture and beliefs of the Incan people. This tour is the perfect start to understand the unique way of life, farming techniques, archaeological design of the Incas. First stop is the village of Pisac. Wander the colourful market stalls before heading uphill to the famous Pisac ruins, Intihuatana, Q'allagasa and Kinchiracay ruins. Enjoy lunch in the gardens overlooking the Valley before continuing along the River Urubamba, to Ollantaytambo, which is dominated by a giant Incan fortress. (B,L).

# **DAY 16** Machu Picchu, Peru

Today will be one of your highlights in South America with a visit to Machu Picchu. A transfer will collect you and transfer you to Ollantaytambo train station and board a scenic train and arrive in one of the world's most famous ruins, after the morning fog and crowds have cleared. A guide will meet you on arrival and take you directly to the UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you will spend the afternoon marvelling at the stunning display of ancient architecture and incredible surroundings. Located 2,430 metres above sea level, your guide will explain the 15th century Inca site before taking you to your hotel for the night in the local village of Aguas Calientes. (B)

# DAY 17 Machu Picchu to Cusco. Peru.

Start your journey back to Cusco by boarding a train back to Ollantaytambo. A transfer will be waiting as you arrive back to Ollantaytambo station to continue onwards to Cusco. En route, you will visit the Maras Salt ponds, believed to pre-date the Inca period, these shallow pools were dug into the mountainside which are filled with salt water from an underground spring from an adjacent mountain. Continue to Moray, which boasts an impressive Inca ruin of giant circular terraces that are believed to have been used for agricultural experimentation. You will then be dropped to your hotel in Cusco, set at an altitude of 3,400 metres in the Peruvian Andes. (B)

# DAY 18 Cusco, Peru.

Join our exclusive day tour and explore the city's fascinating history. This specially designed tour has been perfected to show you the best of this incredible city without the crowds and other tourists. Learn about this city from the Inca times to colonial rule to the present day, winding

through narrow cobble-stoned streets and visit the market of Cusco. Visit the fascinating Koricancha Temple of the Sun, Cusco's Plaza de Armas and Cathedral, built on the ruins of an Inca Palace and finish up at Sacsayhuaman, a former Inca fortress perched atop the hill above

## DAY 19 Cusco, Peru.

Today is at leisure allowing you to spend time wandering the cobblestoned streets of the ancient Inca capital. With treasures around every corner. Cusco is a wonderful city to explore on foot. Vibrant market and stores give the traveller a plethora of shopping opportunities set amongst fine Inca and Spanish colonial architecture. Included is a BTG ticket which provides access to most of Cusco's attractions and museums, so you choose where you wish to spend your day. (B)

# DAY 20 Cusco Peru to Santiago, Chile

You will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight back to Santiago, surrounded by the snow-capped mountains of the Andes and the Chilean Coastal Range. Enjoy your final evening in this cosmopolitan city. Alternatively, speak to our Destination Specialists about extending your time in Peru with a visit to the Amazon, Lake Titicaca or continue your South American adventure by travelling onwards to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, or south into Bolivia to see the impressive Salt Flats. (B)

### **DAY 21** Santiago, Chile

Bid farewell as you are transferred to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

combine with:

**Best of Antarctica Cruise** See Page 34

Signature Galapagos See Page 20

Signature Patagonia See Page 18





Lima to Cusco

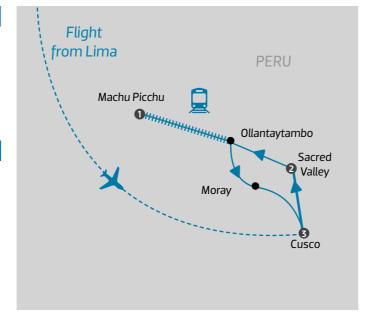
Click for Pricing

The best of what Peru has to offer has been handpicked and packaged into this perfect 9-day, superior styled itinerary, ensuring that you get the most out of your visit to this incredible country.

# Why you will love this itinerary

- In just nine days, you will see the best that Peru has to offer, starting in Lima and finishing in Cusco.
- This itinerary is packed with highlights but is paced so that there is plenty of time to explore.
- You will gain an insight into the fascinating and colourful culture of Peru as you travel through the beautiful Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu, deep into the heart of the Incan empire.
- The itinerary introduces you to the history of the Incas as you explore Cusco, the beautiful Sacred Valley and the ruins of the Inca Empire at Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu.





# DAY 1 Lima. Peru

Welcome to Lima, the capital of Peru. Lima is a bustling metropolis and one of South America's largest cities. Home to a plethora of interesting museums and a foodie's delight, being the "gastronomical capital of the Americas".

### DAY 2 Lima, Peru

Embark on a walking food tour in Lima's Historic Centre. During this food tour, you will have the chance to taste popular on-the-go delicacies that locals devour while learning more about Peru's history and interesting facts around the local economy and daily life in Peru. (B,D)

# DAY 3 Sacred Valley, Peru

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formed the heart of the Inca Empire. The Sacred Valley's elevation is 2,800 meters above sea level, so it is recommended to take it easy for the afternoon as your body acclimatises to the altitude. (B)

# DAY 4 Sacred Valley, Peru

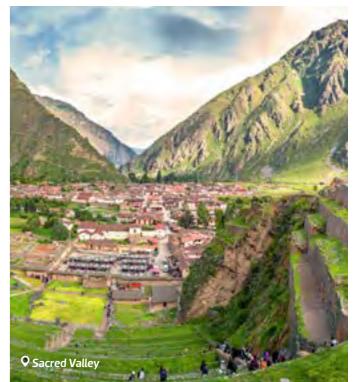
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#### DAY 6 Machu Picchu to Cusco, Peru

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# DAY 7 Cusco, Peru

Join our exclusive day tour and explore the city's fascinating history. This specially designed tour has been perfected to show you the best of this incredible city without the crowds. Learn about this city from the Inca times to colonial rule to the present day, winding through narrow cobble-stoned streets and visit the market of Cusco. Visit the fascinating Koricancha Temple of the Sun, Cusco's Plaza de Armas and Cathedral, built on the ruins of an Inca Palace and finish up at Sacsayhuaman, a former Inca fortress perched atop the hill above Cusco. (B)

# DAY 8 Cusco, Peru

Today is at leisure allowing you to spend time wandering the cobblestoned streets of the ancient Inca capital. With treasures around every corner, Cusco is a wonderful city to explore on foot. Vibrant market and stores give the traveller a plethora of shopping opportunities set amongst fine Inca and Spanish colonial architecture. Included is a BTG ticket which provides access to most of Cusco's attractions and museums, so you choose where you wish to spend your day. (B)

# DAY 9 Cusco Peru

After three days soaking up one of South America's best cities, you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight. If you would like to see more of Peru, we have several extension packages available such as a visit to the Amazon, Lake Titicaca, Areguipa, or a flight over the Nazca Lines to show you more of this fantastic country. (B)

combine with:

- Signature Galapagos Islands Express See Page 31
- **Amazon Lodge Extension** See Page 31
- **Puno and Lake Titicaca Extension** See Page 30



12 Davs

Lima to Cusco

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Lima to Cusco 11 Davs

This incredible adventure offers the perfect

combination of unique cultural immersion and

exciting adventure travel activities. Everything on this

superior styled itinerary has been handpicked, from

Click for Pricing

Discover the secrets and hidden gems of Peru on this 12-day itinerary, designed to showcase bucket list destinations and go off the beaten track to see some of the lesser-known towns and ruins in the Sacred Valley via cycling, hiking, and immersive cultural experiences.

**DAY 1-2** Lima, Peru

Enjoy a walking food tour.

DAY 3-5 Sacred Valley, Peru

Enjoy a range of activities including a half day bike riding journey along the banks of the Urumba river. Immerse yourself in local life and culture with a visit to a community to learn about their customs and traditions, as well as local farming and Andean weaving techniques.

DAY 6 Ollvantambo, Peru

> Take a guided tour of the giant Incan fortress. You will partake in the traditional Andean tradition of Pachamanca, where food is buried and cooked in the ground. Tour a local artisan distillery, where you will enjoy spirit tastings and craft your own distilled sugarcane creation.

DAY 7 Sacred Valley, Peru

> Hike along the Patacancha River, passing ancient Incan terraces, then up to Pumamarca, a temple that dates back to around 900AD.

DAY 8 Machu Picchu, Peru

> Take a scenic train and arrive in one of the world's most famous ruins. Enjoy a guided tour of Machu Picchu, then enjoy free time to explore on your own. Stay overnight in Agues Calientes.

DAY 9-12 Cusco. Peru

Enjoy a guided day tour of Cusco and explore the city's fascinating history. Then enjoy a full free day to explore the city on your own. On the last day you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

the superior accommodation to fascinating highlights you will experience along the way.

**DAY 1-2** Lima, Peru

Enjoy a walking food tour.

DAY 3-4 Cusco, Peru

Spend time walking the cobble stone streets of Cusco and have your pre-Trek Briefing.

DAY 5

Begin in Cusco to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Choose from a hike to Viacha, or a visit to the Awanakancha textile centre then on to Pisaq for a guided tour of the site.

DAY 6 Lares Valley, Peru

> Visit Ancasmarca for a guided tour, then choose a visit to the remote village of Choquecancha or a hike to the remote village of Huacahuasi.

DAY 7 Sacred Valley & Ollvantambo, Peru

> Choose a morning hike from Huilloc to Pumamarka, or explore the village of Marcacocha. Spend the afternoon wandering the maze-like alleys of Ollantaytambo.

**DAY 8** Ollvantambo, Peru

> Enjoy a morning hike then embark on a scenic train ride to Aguas Calientes.

DAY 9 Machu Picchu, Peru

> Take a guided tour of Machu Picchu, then enjoy free time to explore on your own or hike up Huayna Picchu.

DAY 10-11 Cusco, Peru

Take a guided day tour of Cusco and explore the city's fascinating history. On the last day you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



**9 Days** Buenos Aires – Rio

Click for Pricing

This nine-day superior styled itinerary gives you the best of Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro, two of South America's most vibrant cities.



# Why you will love this itinerary

- In just nine days you will see the best of Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro, two of South America's most vibrant cities.
- ✓ Visit one of the 7 Natural Wonders of the World; Iguazu Falls. See one of the world's largest waterfalls from both the Argentinian and Brazilian sides.
- ✓ Visit two of Rio's landmark sites; Corcovado and Sugarloaf Mountain and immerse yourself in the culture and history of Rio De Janeiro in the neighbourhood of Santa Teresa on a Rio City Tour.
- In Buenos Aires you will discover the highlights of the bustling city and an exclusive asado dining experience.
- Each night you will stay in superior accommodation ensuring your journey is comfortable.

# **DAY 1** Buenos Aires, Argentina

Welcome to Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina. On arrival at Ezeiza International Airport, your driver will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel in one of Buenos Aires elegant, historic, and picturesque neighbourhoods, Recoleta where you will be free to relax for the rest of the day.

# **DAY 2** Buenos Aires, Argentina

The morning is at leisure before you are collected from your hotel for a three hour afternoon city tour. We have designed this tour exclusively for our guests. You will visit the main square; Plaza De Mayo, home to the famous Casa Rosada and then continue on to the charming suburb of La Boca – the birthplace of Tango where you will have some time to wander the streets. Then head to Recoleta Cemetery, one of the most beautiful in the world. Entrance is included and your guide will point out the graves of famous Argentinians such as Eva Peron, or Evita. (B)

### **DAY 3** Buenos Aires, Argentina

In the afternoon you will enjoy a unique half day walking tour with your own local guide. You will start by exploring the streets of Recoleta, then continue on through the beating heart of the city, Reteiro, home to many significant buildings filled with a fascinating history of Buenos Aires. Chat with your guide over a Patagonian ice cream or a coffee, before heading over to the bohemian barrio of San Telmo to explore the markets, tasting local specialties like Empanadas. You will also visit an old Conventillo and the quaint Plaza Dorrego.

In the evening you will dine in an Asado restaurant where you will enjoy a traditional Argentinian steakhouse. A closed-door dining experience awaits you that explores new ways of serving Argentine Asado classics, along with a wine pairing menu that has also been designed to best enhance the flavours of the ingredients while presenting you with some of the best boutique wines from Argentina. (B,D).

# **DAY 4** Buenos Aires to Puerto Iguazu, Argentina

A transfer will take you to the airport for your flight to Puerto Iguazu. The spectacular Iguazu Falls that straddle the Argentine-Brazil border, are made up of 275 individual waterfalls lining a 2.7km wide horseshoeshaped gorge. You will have the chance to experience the Falls from both the Argentinian and the Brazilian sides, the Brazilian side offering a broader, panoramic view, with the Argentinian side offering a series of catwalks that allow you to experience the Falls from close range. (B)

# DAY 5 Puerto Iguazu, Argentina

Get ready for a full day of exploring the Argentine side of the falls. We start early to beat the crowds and get the first train to the Devil's Throat. Walk along the paths over the islands which take you to a balcony over the falls and the most spectacular view of the entire Devil's Gorge. You will then have plenty of time to walk the paths on the upper circuit, providing you with a magnificent panoramic view, and the lower circuit which has great views from below and around the falls. On completion of the tour, you will be taken to your hotel. (B)

# **DAY 6** Puerto Iguazu, Argentina to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Today you will cross into Brazil to enjoy a half day tour of the Brazilian side where you will experience great panoramic views of the Argentinian side of the falls. At the appropriate time, you will be collected from the Brazil National Park and transferred to the Foz do Iguacu airport for your onward flight to Rio De Janeiro. Rio never fails to amaze with its sandy beaches, carefree lifestyle, and unparalleled natural beauty. (B)

# DAY 7 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Today you will join a city tour taking in all the famous sights, including Corcovado to get up close to the Christ Redeemer statue. Next stop is Sugar Loaf Mountain, where you will board a cable car to the top of Urca Hill, with spectacular views of Rio's famous beaches, bays, hills, and the city. Enjoy a traditional Brazilian BBQ for lunch and continue

exploring more of the city including a visit to the Maracanã Stadium via the famous beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema, a stop at the Sambadrome, and the city's historic downtown area and more. (B,L).

# DAY 8 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Spend a half day today on a great historical tour of Rio de Janeiro which will take you through the colonial avenues, squares, and back streets of the city. Your guide will explain the important historical, political, and social events that shaped Rio into South America's most exciting city. The afternoon is free for you to enjoy the beaches of Rio. (B)

#### **DAY 9** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

You will be transferred from your hotel to your onward flight. (B)

combine with:

**Brazilian Beaches Extension** See Page 30

**Pantanal and Bonito Extension** See Page 30

Signature Patagonia See Page 18





9 Days Santiago - El Calafate Click for Pricing

Starting in Santiago and staving in handpicked hotels, this superior styled itinerary will show the natural beauty of Southern Patagonia and finish in El Calafate, where you can fly directly to Ushuaia to connect with your Antarctic adventure.



# Why you will love this itinerary

- This itinerary is an ideal extension to lead into your Antarctic voyage, with the possibility to fly from El Calafate to Ushuaia for embarkation.
- This itinerary showcases the highlights of Patagonia, one of the world's most show-stopping regions!
- ✓ You will experience the breathtaking beauty of Torres del Paine National Park, with a range of daily options that allow you an in-depth exploration of the mountains, glaciers and pampas by horseback, motorboat, on foot or by vehicle.
- You will discover the fascinating town of El Calafate, situated on the shores of Lago Argentino and on the edge of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field.

# DAY 1 Santiago, Chile

Arrival day in the Chilean capital of Santiago. You will be collected from the airport and transferred to your hotel by private transfer. The rest of the day is yours to recover from your flight.

# DAY 2 Santiago, Chile

Spend your morning getting to know Santiago on a half day city tour. You will visit the highlights this cosmopolitan city has to offer. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore the local area where your hotel is located. Barrio Lastarria is an upmarket, vibrant, and safe neighbourhood, home to some of Santiago's best cafes, bars and restaurants with lots of boutique retail stores. (B)

### **DAY 3** Patagonia, Chile

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred by private transfer to Santiago airport to meet your flight to Patagonia. On arrival, you will be collected to begin your journey into one of the world's most beautiful and pristine national parks, Torres del Paine, where you will spend the next four nights in an all-inclusive lodge of your choice. On arrival at your lodge, check in and the late afternoon and evening is free for you to organise the following day's excursions. (B,D)

### DAY 4 Torres del Paine, Chile

Choose from one of the many activities included in your lodge stay. Activities on offer include hiking one of the many world-class trails or to Las Torres base viewpoint, horseback riding, taking a cruise on a lake to view the Grey glacier, or a cultural visit to an estancia and learn about the gaucho culture that is unique to Patagonia. Please note additional charges may apply for some activities depending on certain lodge inclusions, (B.L.D)

### DAY 5 Torres Del Paine National Park, Chile

The excitement continues today, wake up and enjoy breakfast at your lodge, before you head out on another hand selected excursion within the incredible Torres del Paine National Park. Whatever you didn't have the opportunity to do yesterday is ready and waiting for you to explore today. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 6** Torres Del Paine National Park, Chile

Make the most of your final full day here in the beautiful Torres del Paine National Park by partaking in another full or half day excursion with one of the lodge's experienced guides. There truly is something for everyone, catering for all activity levels so be sure to make the most of your last day. (B,L,D)

# DAY 7 Torres del Paine to El Calafate. Argentina

Today you will bid farewell to the Chilean Patagonia and say hello to the Argentinian Patagonia. A shared transfer will help with immigration formalities when crossing from Chile and into Argentina and deliver you safely to El Calafate, Argentina. Transfer time is approx. 6 hours. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore the tourist shops, restaurants, and cafes of El Calafate, one of Argentina's premier tourist destinations. (B)

# **DAY 8** El Calafate and Perito Moreno Glacier, Argentina

This morning you will be transferred via beautiful Patagonia and into Los Glaciers National Park, home to the world famous Perito Moreno Glacier, Join a boat cruise on the lake where you will get up close to Mayo, Negro and Perito Moreno Glaciers and bear witness to the 74-meter-high glacier calving right in front of your eyes. Perito Moreno Glacier is one of the only glaciers left in the world that continues to advance forward. On return to El Calafate, enjoy the rest of the afternoon soaking up the atmosphere in this beautiful village. (B,L)

# **DAY 9** Depart El Calafate, Argentina

There are no activities planned for today and a private airport transfer will collect you from your hotel and deliver you to El Calafate airport. Continue north to Buenos Aires or southwards to Ushuaia, the world's most southern city. Ushuaia is also famous as the gateway for tourists travelling to Antarctica. (B)

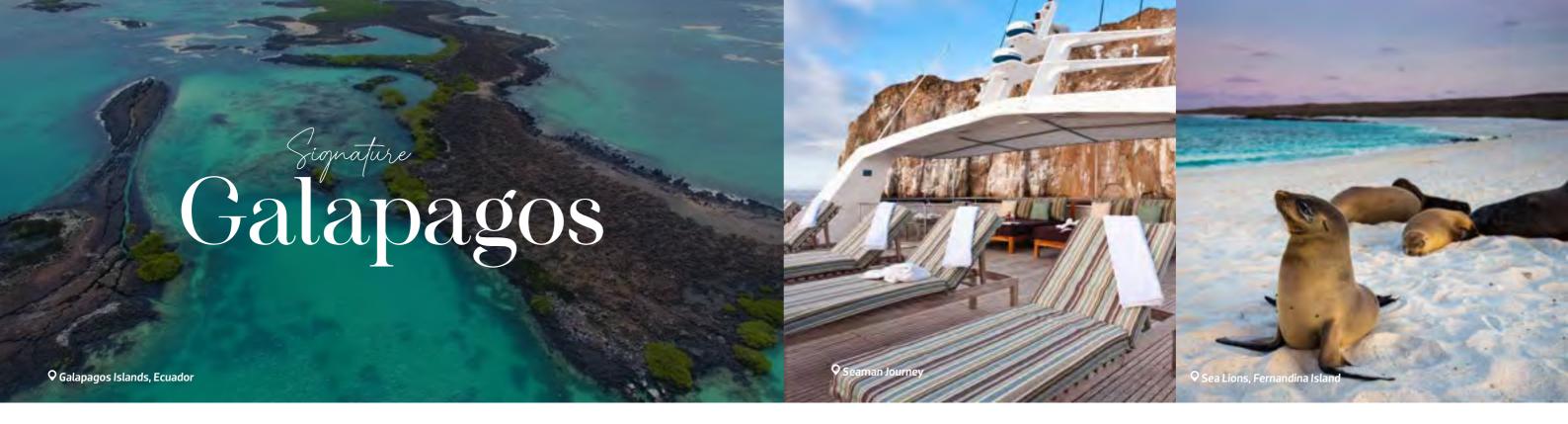
combine with:

- **Best of Antarctica** See Page 34
- **El Chalten Extension** See Page 31
- **Signature Peru** See Page 12





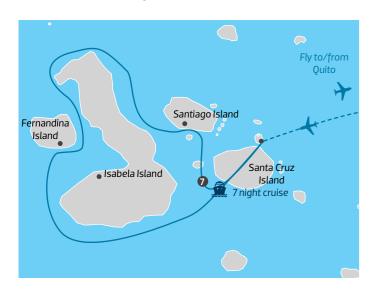




Lima to Cusco

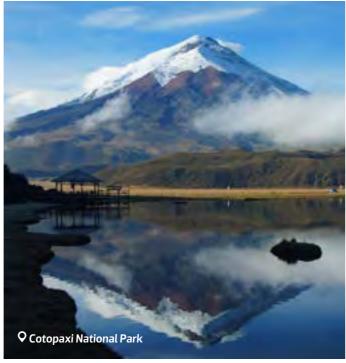
Click for Pricing

This 11-day in-depth adventure will see you exploring the western archipelago of the Galapagos Islands and experiencing the highlights of Quito and surrounds in style.



# Why you will love this itinerary

- Your home in the Galapagos will be onboard the Seaman Journey, a first-class catamaran with a maximum occupancy of 16 passengers. This small and luxurious catamaran will give you access to remote and hard to access areas where lizards swim, birds walk, and humans don't take centre stage.
- Discover sea lions, rays, large marine iguanas and unique species like the flightless cormorant and Galapagos penguin at one of the most impressive areas of the Galapagos, with its high cliffs, ash and lava formations.
- ✓ Visit a favourite nesting site for sea turtles, where you can also spot abandoned barges from the Second World War.



# **DAY 1** Ouito

Welcome to Quito, Ecuador, a city declared a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site in 1978. On arrival you will be transferred from the airport to your hotel which sits nestled in the Andean foothills, 2,850 metres above sea level. The city is known for its stunning colonial architecture, artwork and amazing snow-capped mountain backdrop.

### DAY 2 Quito

Today you will enjoy a tour of the charming city of Quito. The tour visits Independence Square, the Government Palace, the busy street of La Ronda and some of the beautiful baroque churches that the city is famous for. Enjoy a range of local experiences which may, depending on the time of year, include market visits, empanada or ice cream making (and tasting), working with an artisan to make your own Panama hat or even helping to restore colonial art! Your tour will end with a cocktail at a rooftop bar where you will have the perfect view over the old town and Panecillo hill. (B)

# **DAY 3** Cotopaxi National Park Excursion

Today you will head south from Quito to visit Cotopaxi National Park. Cotopaxi is the highest active volcano in the world. Despite the altitude, the park is home to numerous birds and varied plant life. Weather permitting, there are spectacular views from the north face of the mountain. The surrounding scenery includes volcanoes like Pasochoa, Ruminahui and Sincholagua. You will also have the opportunity to visit a local indigenous market. (B, L)

# **DAY 4** Fly to Galapagos Islands

Fly from Quito to the Galapagos. On arrival you will meet your naturalist guides who will collect your luggage and transport you to Ranch Mazanillo on Santa Cruz Island. Enjoy a picnic lunch and a short walk to see giant tortoises in their natural habitat. In the afternoon you will head to the Santa Cruz highlands. As we drive through the agricultural lands and into the mist covered forests, keep an eye out for the bright red feathers of a vermillion flycatcher or one of Darwin's finches. Almost every bird present in the Galapagos can be found here. Santa Cruz also offers plenty of lava tubes, sinkholes and craters to explore. Afterwards you will head to your accommodation for the next seven nights, the MC Galapagos Seaman Journey. (B, D)

### **DAY 5** Fernandina Island

Mangle Point lies off the eastern coast of Fernandina Island and is a superior snorkelling site and a beautiful location for riding in a Zodiac through a forest of mangrove trees. You are likely to see penguins, sea lions, pelicans, rays, marine iguanas and numerous birds. In the afternoon, we will head to Punta Moreno, located on the north coast of Isabela Island between Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul volcanos. Follow a trail which runs along a lava flow into a complex of coastal lagoons. Birds are the main attraction and several species can be found around the lakes and mangroves. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 6** Isabela Island

Today's landings will take place on the largest island in the archipelago Isabela Island. In the morning you will visit Urbina Bay, where a 6km stretch of coral reef rose during a major uplift of the island in 1954, forming a unique feature that caused marine life to be stranded and coral to be exposed on the new shore. Take a path that leads you through the sand, pumice, lava, coral and vegetation. Flightless cormorants, pelicans, Darwin's finches, giant tortoises and land and marine iguanas can be seen on land, whilst rays and turtles can be seen

This afternoon you will head to Tagus Cove, named after a British warship that went past the islands in 1814 looking for the Galapagos tortoise for food. This was a favourite spot for pirates and whalers who etched their names into the cliffs and inside caves. A short, steep hike brings you past Darwin Lake, a deep saltwater lake and a great spot for viewing land birds. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 7** Fernandina Island

Dominated by the La Cumbre volcano, Espinoza Point is the first stop this morning. It's famous for its large colonies of marine iguanas and species such as the flightless cormorant, Galapagos penguin, Galapagos hawk and Galapagos snake. Espinoza Point is also one of the best places to see the lava cactus.

This afternoon head to Punta Vicente Roca, one of the most impressive and spectacular places in the Galapagos Islands. Its high cliffs, ash and lava formations give the area a majestic touch. The large bay has spectacular marine life with seahorses, sea turtles and the strange yet fascinating mola-mola or sunfish. A beautiful place for snorkelling, it's common to see feeding frenzies with groups of whales, dolphins, sea lions, tuna, blue-footed and Nazca boobies and pelicans all feeding simultaneously. (B,L,D)





# **DAY 8** Santiago Island

This morning we stop at Espumilla Beach on the northern coast of Santiago Island in James Bay. The beach is an important site for nesting marine turtles. A walk through the mangrove forest leads to a lagoon usually inhabited by a group of flamingos as well as pintail ducks and common stilts. In the afternoon head to Puerto Egas, a black beach due to the volcanic tuff deposits, and it is the main attraction of the island. There you will see abandoned salt mining infrastructure, as there was once an attempt to start the exploitation of salt, which failed because the price of salt on the mainland was already cheap. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 9** Rabida Island and Santiago Islands

After thousands of years of oxidisation, Rabida Island is unique due to the red colour of the rocks and sand. A short walk along a trail leads you to a coastal lagoon where you can view a colony of flamingos.

Next, sail to the south-eastern tip of Santiago Island where you will see lava formations formed under the sea and raised upwards, with coral forming on the end of the lava. This is an excellent example of geological features such as lava tubes and lava flows. The landscape is home to sea lion colonies, marine iguanas, and Galapagos penguins.

# **DAY 10** Santiago Island

Located in the west central part of the Galapagos archipelago, Santiago Island is the fourth largest island in the archipelago and is still volcanically active. Explore the dramatic landscapes of this island and

bear witness to the effects from the last two volcanic eruptions that occurred over the past two centuries. After lunch, sail to Bartolome Island, famous for offering one of the most beautiful sceneries in the Galapagos. Explore the lava fields and snorkel with turtles and penguins. (B, L, D)

# **DAY 11** Santa Cruz Island

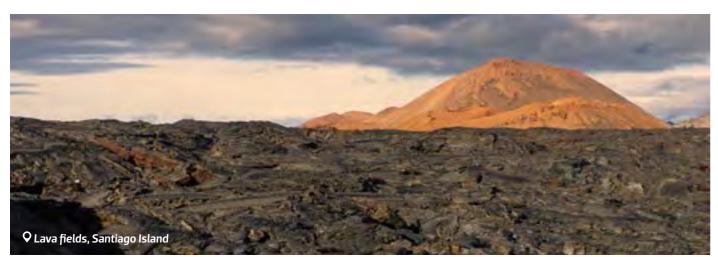
Your last stop will be at Bachas Beach on Santa Cruz Island. The sandy white coral beach is a major nesting site for sea turtles. There is a small lagoon behind the beach where it is possible to observe flamingos and other birds. Here you will see the remains of a floating dock and old abandoned barges used by the Americans during WWII. Afterwards you will be taken to Baltra Airport for your flight back to Quito. (B)

combine with:

Mashpi Lodge See Page 31

Signature Peru See Page 12

**Delfin III Amazon Cruise** See Page 30



# **10 Days** Atacama to Puno

Click for Pricing

Enjoy the unparalleled scenery of Chile, Bolivia and Peru on this 10 day itinerary. Start your journey in the Atacama Desert, before crossing to Bolivia passing volcanoes and colourful lagoons until you reach the world's largest salt lake, the Salar de Uyuni.



**Please note:** Itinerary may differ dependent on departure date

# Why you will love this itinerary

- Experience some of the most spectacular scenery of Chile, Bolivia and Peru on this 10-day itinerary.
- ✓ You will travel through unparalleled scenery as you explore the Atacama Desert - the driest desert in the world and the Salar de Uyuni - the world's largest salt lake.
- See colourful lagoons, volcanoes, geysers and hot springs.

# **DAY 1** San Pedro de Atacama

On arrival at Calama Airport, your driver will be waiting for you in the arrivals hall to transfer you to the small oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama, the gateway tourist centre for the Atacama Desert. Overlooking the Licancabur Volcano, its dramatic surrounding landscape ranges from desert, salt flats, steaming geysers and hot springs to fascinating rock formations. The rest of the day is free to enjoy at your leisure. This evening you will be collected from your hotel for Astronomy in the Desert, one of the best places in the world to observe stars, planets, and constellations.

# DAY 2 San Pedro de Atacama

Start your day with a tour of San Pedro de Atacama, the archaeological capital of Chile. Located near the mouth of the main river that feeds the salt flat, this tour will orientate you and give you an understanding of the history, the town, and the surrounding areas. In the afternoon, travel across the Salt Mountain Range to reach the Valley of the Moon in time for sunset when the sun brings out the best of the valley's incredible colours. (B)







# DAY 3 San Pedro de Atacama

There are no activities planned for the morning, allowing time to wander the streets of San Pedro de Atacama and browse the local stores at your leisure. In the afternoon, you'll visit the Salar de Atacama, one of the world's largest salt lakes, home to a variety of bird species, including the three types of flamingos, and one of the most important lithium reserves in the world. En route you will stop at the picturesque village of Toconao, built from white volcanic stone and then on to Chaxa Lagoon, where you will have the chance to witness another dramatic sunset. (B)

# **DAY 4** San Pedro de Atacama to the Bolivian Altiplano

This morning you will be transferred from San Pedro de Atacama to Hito Cajon, the mountain pass on the border between Chile and Bolivia. After clearing Bolivian immigration, make your way to the village of Villamar. Along the way you will be rewarded with some of the most dramatic and beautiful landscapes in the world, stopping off for plenty of photo opportunities. This high-altitude desert environment is home to dozens of colourful lagoons, snow-capped mountains, llamas, flamingos, hot springs and gevsers. Tonight, your accommodation is unique as it has been built into a rock and offers a warm, cosy and comfortable refuge from the desert night. (B, L, D)

# DAY 5 Bolivian Altiplano to Uyuni Salt Flat

Today is packed with jaw-dropping scenery. Pass through the Valley of Rocks, villages like Culpina, where the houses have been built from natural materials and San Cristobal, which was relocated from its original location because of the zinc and silver deposits in the vicinity. Set off across the Great Salt Flats to Colchani village, where we observe the methods of salt extraction and processing. Then to Incahuasi Island, an oasis covered with giant cacti up to 10 metres high. Continuing north to visit the pre-Colombian ruins of Pucarade de Ayque fort on the foothills of Thunupa volcano. After a long day of exploration, arrive at your accommodation – the luxurious Palacio de Sal Hotel. Made from salt bricks and located on the shores of Salar de Uyuni, the perfect place to rest easy for the night. (B,L,D)

### DAY 6 Uvuni Salt Flat to La Paz

Today you will fly from Uyuni to La Paz, which has the highest international airport in the world at 4,080 metres above sea level. La Paz has a spectacular setting in a deep bowl surrounded by snow-capped mountains of the Altiplano. It lies in the shadow of the towering 6,438m high Mt. Illimani, always snow-covered and visible from many parts of the city. There are no other activities planned for the rest of the day. (B)



# **DAY 7** La Paz Shoeshiners City Tour with Moon Valley

Embark on a city tour through La Paz, wandering through the street markets rich in handicrafts, weavings and witchcraft items, followed by a visit to the colonial section of the city. Then, descend into the more modern, southern part of La Paz to visit the Valley of the Moon, where a clay mountain has been impressively shaped by erosion. Ride by cable car for an excellent and beautiful view of La Paz.

Your tour will be conducted by a local English speaking guide and you will be joined by a 'Lustracalzado' or a shoeshiner, who can found on most street corners of the city. Often the lustras will wear a balaclava or face covering to hide their identities and the social stigma and discrimination that their profession attracts. We work with a social project, that helps to employ the lustras as tour guides. This allows them additional income and the project has even paid for some of them to pursue further study and learn English. We hope that by you taking a tour with a lustra guide that this will help break down the social stigmas in place and give them a better future. (B,L)

## **DAY 8** La Paz to Puno

Depart La Paz and head for the Peruvian border and the lakeside town of Puno. Travelling along the Pan-American Highway through the Bolivian highlands, you will stop off at temples, ruins, and historical sites. Arrive in Puno and the rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore the city at your leisure. (B,L)

### **DAY 9** Puno and Lake Titicaca Uncovered

You will be transported to the port to board a speedboat to spend a full day visiting Lake Titicaca's communities, with onboard service to visit various islands on Lake Titicaca, including the Uru people and a visit to the last authentic floating islands. There are optional tours in reed boats before we depart back to Puno. (B,L)

#### DAY 10 Puno

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

combine with:

- Signature Peru Package See Page 12
- **Santiago Extension** See Page 29
- Lima & Nazca Extension package See Page 30





# Bogota to Cartagena 👆 Click for Pricing

You'll pass through La Candelaria in Colombia's capital Bogota, and visit the fortified walls of Cartagena where you will take in its colonial architecture. In Medellin, walk in the footsteps of Pablo Escobar and see how the city has transformed. Finally, enjoy some of Colombia's spectacular scenery, such as the Andean mountain ranges, the Piedra del Penol stone monument, the Caribbean coastline including the Rosario Islands.



# Why you will love this itinerary

- Visit Colombia's capital, Bogota, and tour La Candelaria.
- Explore the transformed city of Medellin.
- Olimb Piedra del Penol monolith in Guatape and take in the view.
- Enjoy the Caribbean coastal town of Cartagena and its
- Spend a day snorkelling and relaxing in the Rosario Islands.

# DAY 1 Bogota

Welcome to Bogota, Colombia's vibrant and cosmopolitan capital, situated 2.600 metres above sea level in the Andean mountains.

In the evening, after settling into your hotel, you might choose to visit either the Chapinero or Usaguen districts and dine at one of their many restaurants which serve Colombian and South American cuisines such as arepas, ajjaco, asado, ceviche, empanadas, rondon and more,

# **DAY 2** Bogota City Tour

Today you will tour Bogota's main sights including La Candelaria, Museo del Oro, the Botero Museum and Monserrat Hill.

La Candelaria is the city's old town, where you will find Plaza Bolivar, Bogota's main square. There you can see Colombia's Palace of Justice, the Capitol Building, the Cathedral of Bogota and the city mayor's office. Nearby are buildings painted with colourful murals and street art.

Within the old city we will visit Museo del Oro, or the Gold Museum, which houses more than 55,000 pieces of gold jewellery and ornaments from Colombia's various indigenous groups.

You will then head to the Botero Museum. It houses the works of Fernando Botero, a famous Colombian artist and sculptor, whose 'Boterismo' style depicts people and figures in an exaggerated manor.

We will then go to Monserrat Hill and ride a funicular (cable car) to the top to take in a panoramic view of the city.

# **DAY 3** Bogota to Medellin

You will fly from Bogota to Medellin, Colombia's second largest city.

Known as the 'City of Eternal Spring' thanks to its excellent weather year round, Medellin is home to coffee plantations, flower farms and cloud

Once a city with a notorious history, Medellin has had a complete makeover and is a safe and attractive city that now plays host to the Feria de las Flores (festival of flowers) each August.

### DAY 4 Medellin

Enjoy a half-day tour of Medellin that begins downtown with a visit to Plaza Botero. There, take a moment to admire the architecture of buildings such as the Rafael Uribe Uribe Palace of Culture and the Museum of Antioquia. We will then take the Metrocable to its final station, La Aurora, where there's a viewpoint of the city.

# **DAY 5** Guatape

Today you will enjoy a full day tour of Guatape. Located on a manmade reservoir, Guatape is an Andean resort town located east of Medellin that's famous for its giant granite rock monolith known as Piedra del Penol. There you can climb its 740 steps to the top to take in spectacular views of the region.

You will then take a boat ride on the reservoir and see local's enjoying water sports such as kayaking, fishing and sailing. Back In Guatape, we'll wander through the village to see its churches and the colourful paintings that adorn the town's houses.

# **DAY 6** Medellin to Cartagena

From Medellin, you will fly to Cartagena, a city situated on Colombia's Caribbean coastline.

Cartagena is famous for its walled old town and fortress, which were both listed as a world heritage site in 1984. After your arrival you might like to spend your time exploring the cobbled streets of this district and see the Monumento Torre del Reloj, a clock tower built between 1601 and 1631.



# DAY 7 Cartagena

Today you will tour Cartagena, starting at the Convent of Santa Cruz de La Popa and its nearby monastery. Situated on top of Mount la Popa, the highest point in the city, the convent site provides excellent views.

Originally a wooden chapel built in 1607, the convent has since been reconstructed. Inside, you will find the image of La Virgin de la Candelaria, the patroness of the city. While the nearby monastery no longer houses the Augustinian monks who founded the convent, it has an attractive central courtyard you can visit.

The convent is located nearby our next stop, San Felipe castle-fortress. You will take a walk through the fortress, which is situated on San Lazaro Hill, and learn about its construction and how it once defended the city from pirate attacks. Now an artisan centre, it's a wonderful place to purchase local handicrafts.

#### **DAY 8** Rosario Islands

This morning we will board a boat and cruise to the Rosario Islands. Located around one hour from Cartagena bay, the islands host three diverse ecosystems and form the Corales del Rosario National Park.

These tropical islands are thick with rainforests and surrounded by coastal lagoons, mangroves and coral reefs that are home to a variety of marine fauna. You will spend your time at San Pedro de Majagua where you'll enjoy lunch prepared with local produce and have free time for snorkelling and relaxation.

### **DAY 9** Cartagena

On your final day in Cartagena you might choose to wander the historical districts of El Centro and San Diego to take one more look at the colonial architecture in the city's old town before you are collected from your hotel and taken to the airport for your onward flight.

combine with:

Signature Galapagos See Page 20



**Santiago Extension** See Page 29



Signature Peru See Page 12

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# Handpicked Hotels

The right hotel makes a world of difference to your travels, so our experienced team on the ground have been working to select only the best hotels for your trip, considering location, comfort, and authenticity. We're proud to partner with these incredible hotels, rich in local character and offering great value to travellers. Each tried and trusted property also has a strong emphasis on sustainability which ensures that our itineraries support the local community as much as possible.

# Choose Your Accommodation Style



Comfortable properties with dependable facilities and service

\*Stars do not represent star rating of hotel



Tried & tested upmarket properties with above average facilities and service \*Stars do not represent star rating of hotel



Luxurious properties with impeccable facilities and service.

\*Stars do not represent star rating of hotel

# **Examples of Superior Accommodation**

Superior accommodation is our preferred style of hotel. Our superior hotels offer the best value for money, with these upmarket properties also delivering exceptional services, comforts, and amenities.



# CASA ANTIGUA Cusco

- Stay in a historic Casona with locally sourced hand carved wooden furniture
- Located in the oldest area of Cuzco, San Blas
- Made to order Al a Carte daily breakfast



# INTERSUR RECOLETA Buenos Aires

- Located in one of Buenos Aires best neighbourhoods
- Classical Buenos Aires architecture
- Fabulous breakfast
- Friendly and helpful staff



# PORTO BAY Rio De Janeiro

- Unbeatable location
- Enjoy a private beach area with food, drink and chair/towel service
- Rooftop pool and bar with amazing views
- Across the road from the beach



# LAS TORRES Patagonia

- ✓ Comfortable Patagonian Estancia style
- ▼ Torres del Paine N.P. location
- All inclusive (meals and basic alcoholic drinks)
- Choose from a range of included full day or half day tours

Disclaimer - The above hotels are examples of some of the hotels we use in our superior range and are subject to availability. We have a number of hotels of similar standard that we work with in each area to allow for busy times, please contact us for your comprehensive quote

# Extensions

Extend your stay with one of our extensions packages. Pre or post tour, and add as many as you like!

# Antaretica



ANTARCTICA CRUISE The Best of Antarctica

# 11 DAYS USHUAIA – USHUAIA

Set sail aboard the comfortable and spacious polar expedition vessel, the Ocean Endeavour to give you the best of the stunning South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula in 11 days. Embark in Ushuaia at the southern tip of South America and conquer the famed Drake Passage to bring you to the spectacular frozen wilderness of the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula.

See page 34 for full itinerary



ANTARCTICA CRUISE Journey to the Circle

# 14 DAYS USHUAIA – USHUAIA

Follow in the wake of Captain James Cook as we set sail a south to a milestone that few have journeyed; the Antarctic Circle, latitude 66° 33'. Explore by zodiac icebergs and glaciers carved by Antarctica's harsh environment. Cross into the circle to the home of the midnight sun and an area rich with fauna. Here the Weddell Seal takes centre stage in addition to vast colonies of penguins and sea birds we may see humpback whales and minke whales feed on the krill-rich waters.



ANTARCTICA, FALKLANDS & STH GEORGIA CRUISE Shackleton's Antarctica

# 21 DAYS USHUAIA – USHUAIA

Set sail for the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the frozen continent of Antarctica. Antarctica will enchant you with its snow capped peaks and magnificent icebergs. Step ashore and mingle with penguins, seals and seabirds. Buzz around in a zodiac in search of whales. Follow in the footsteps of polar explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton to South Georgia, home to the greatest concentration of wildlife on Earth. Explore the ruggedly beautiful Falkland Islands, with their spectacular array of bird life, flora and fauna.

# Chile



**EXTENSION PACKAGE** Andean Lakes Crossing Extension

# 4 DAYS

Witness some of the most stunning scenery in the region. Arrive in the capital, Puerto Montt, and explore the city and perhaps purchase some handicrafts. Head up to Puerto Varas, on the shore of Llanquihue Lake with impressive views of Orsono Volcano. Then embark on an well-paced, overnight journey across the Andes on a lakes crossing by boat and bus.



**CITY STAY** Santiago Extension

# 4 DAYS

Discover the best of Santiago in this 4-day stopover in Chile's capital city. Take in the beauty of the Andes in the background. A guided tour will take you to the Plaza de Armas, Government Palace and Cerro Santa Lucia. Head west on a day trip to Casablanca Valley where some of Chile's finest wines are produced before continuing to the World Heritage-listed Valparaiso, Chile's oldest port.



**PATAGONIA CRUISE** Fjords of Tierra Del Fuego

# 5 DAYS PUNTA ARENAS – USHUAIA

Enjoy the spectacular fjords and stunning natural beauty of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. Spot the magnificent Southern Elephant Seals and be surrounded by a colony of cute Magellan Penguins. The hikes on the following days will guide you through the historical and breathtaking beauty of this oneof-a-kind region.



# Extensions

Extend your stay with one of our extensions packages. Pre or post tour, and add as many as you like!

# Peru



Lake Titicaca & Puno Extension

# **3 DAYS CUSCO - PUNO**

Feel the serenity of Lake Titicaca before hiking along a pre-Inca trail, visiting families of weavers to learn about their textile art. Then be welcomed by the Quechua-speaking community and have the opportunity to observe their traditions and participate in an ancient ceremony to learn about their magical world.



**RIVER CRUISE** Delfin III Amazon Cruise

### 4 DAYS

Delfin offers all-inclusive luxury Peruvian Amazon Cruises, Experience an ideal combination of natural wonders, dramatic scenery, and indigenous cultural history while you enjoy the highest levels of comfort. Navigate into the most hidden corners of the Amazon, with daily excursions to experience the surroundings with expert naturalist guides.



Colca Canvon to Arequipa Extension

# 4 DAYS PUNO - AREQUIPA

Travel across the Andes on this 4-day add-on package and visit the second deepest canyon in the world, Colca Canyon. Home to a large population of Llamas, Guanacos, and the world's largest flying bird; the Andean Condor, you will be mesmerised by the beauty and nature of Peru's third most visited destination

# Extensions

Extend your stay with one of our extensions packages. Pre or post tour, and add as many as you like!

# Argentina



**EXTENSION PACKAGE Bariloche Extension** 

### 4 DAYS

Bariloche is situated on the coast of the glacial Nahuel Huap Lake. The quaint town makes a perfect base to explore the surrounding terrain, packed with mountains, waterfalls, and forests. Over four days you will visit the oldest National Park in Argentina, take a chairlift up Campanario Hill for panoramic views, enjoy a boat trip to Tristeza Sound, go on an easy hike through a Larch Tree forest to some waterfalls, and more!



ALL INCLUSIVE LODGE EXPERIENCE Explora El Chalten

# 4 DAYS

The essence of Patagonia is beautifully captured within the numerous experiences undertaken at Explora El Chalten. Located in beautiful territory within the Los Huemules Conservation Range, Explora El Chalten is flanked by snow-capped peaks which give way to beautiful forest paths.



**EXTENSION PACKAGE** Iguazu Falls

# 3 DAYS

Straddling the borders of Argentina and Brazil, Iguazu Falls is one of the most impressive sights in the world, with a breathtaking 275 cascades that spread across a gulf of nearly two miles. The Argentinian side of the Falls allows for an awe-inspiring and up-close encounter, whilst the Brazilian side boasts exceptional panoramic views. Wander the peaceful jungle trails with their diverse array of wildlife and take in the many viewpoints of the Falls along the way.

# Brazil



**EXTENSION PACKAGE** Brazil Amazon

### **4 DAYS AMAZON RIVER**

Manaus is one of the most popular Amazon jungle locations in South America, and this wonderful lodge stay gives you the perfect opportunity to enjoy the unsurpassed bio-diversity: spot freshwater dolphins and alligators in the river; watch several species of monkey at play; and try to catch the infamous



**EXTENSION PACKAGE** Brazilian Beaches

# **5 DAYS RIO & PARATAY**

This holiday is a perfect combination of city, culture and beach. Visiting the exciting and unmissable Rio de Janeiro with its iconic skyline and beaches of beautiful people, the pretty colonial port of Paraty set against forest-covered mountains filled with stunning waterfalls, and the lush Ilha Grande, home to the famous Lopez Mendes beach, arguably Brazil's most beautiful beach



EXTENSION PACKAGE Pantanal & Bonito

# **6 DAYS PANTANAL & BONITO**

The Pantanal is the world's largest wetlands area. Often overshadowed by the Amazon Rainforest, the Pantanal is actually considered to be the world's densest flora and fauna ecosystem; and its wide open wetland spaces make it much easier to spot wildlife

# **Ecuador**



LODGE EXPERIENCE Mashpi Cloud Forest Lodge Extension

# 4 DAYS

Join us on an Ecuadorian adventure from the capital city of Quito to the breathtaking cloud forest. Enjoy night walks to spot nocturnal animals, listen to the calls of the bird life during dawn walks and relax at the site of the spectacular morning views of the surrounding landscape. This trip is a must do for animal lovers or those who want to get back to nature.



ALL INCLUSIVE LODGE EXPERIENCE Sacha Amazon **Lodge Extension** 

# 4 DAYS

The adventure begins in Coca where you will board a comfortable, motorised canoe which will transport you deep into the rainforest. The next step of the journey takes you on a leafy boardwalk where the crash of monkeys and birds calling above will let you know that you are truly in the jungle. A dug-out canoe ride completes your rainforest mission.



Signature Galapagos Islands Express

# **5 DAYS ISLAND HOPPING**

This five-day superior cruise of the Galapagos Islands, beginning with a few days in Ecuador's capital, staying in superior accommodation introduces you to the natural wonders, spectacular scenery, rich history and incredible flora and fauna of this remote group of islands.

# Extensions

Extend your stay with one of our extensions packages. Pre or post tour, and add as many as you like!

# Colombia



# **EXTENSION PACKAGE** Tayrona National Park

Tayrona National Park is a 150 km section of protected coastline located along the Caribbean Sea. There, you will stay in the comfort of unique eco lodgings at Los Naranjos which borders the national park. Highlights include an ecological walk along the coconut palm lined white sandy beaches of Canaveral and Arrecifes and swimming at Piscinita. You will also enjoy a free day to take in more sites at the national park, to take a walk along Mendihuaca or go swimming, snorkelling or surfing at Los Naranjos.



**EXTENSION PACKAGE** Cocora Valley

Journey to the centre of Colombia's coffee region and the town of Salento to fill your cup with experiences. You will learn how coffee is made at a local plantation, taste a drop of Colombia's special brew and venture into the mountains of Los Nevados National Park. There, stare up at the almost sixty foot Colombian wax palms in the Cocora Valley.

# Costa Rica



SIGNATURE PACKAGE ITINERARY Signature Costa Rica

Begin in San Jose and travel through tropical rainforests until you reach the Pacific coastline. Highlights include standing at the rim of an active volcano, seeing toucans from the Hanging Bridges of Arenal, getting up close and personal with sloths and other wildlife at a wildlife rescue centre and zip lining through the Monteverde cloud forest. Finish your journey in Parque Nacional Manuel Antonio and enjoy some time in the resort town before returning to San Jose.

# Mexico



# SIGNATURE ITINERARY Signature Mexico

# 9 DAYS - MEXICO CITY - PLAYA DEL CARMEN

Explore the city sites of Mexico City including the Aztec Ruins of San Juan Teotihuacan both on foot and from the magnificent vantage point of a hot air balloon. Take a trajinera along the canals of Xochimilco before flying to the walled city of Merida. Visit Chichen Itza, Mexico's most famous and impressive Mayan ruins. Then head to Playa del Carmen, where you will end your vacation in paradise lapping up the sunshine on its white sandy beaches with turquoise waters.



**EXTENSION PACKAGE** Oaxaca Extension

Oaxaca City is considered a foodie haven and the gateway to explore some of the archaeological ruins left behind from the Zapotec and Mixtec civilisations who once ruled this area before the Spanish conquered the city in 1533. Taste some of Mexico's best cuisine on a walking tour of the local markets and learn more about the history and culture of the Zapotec's on a tour to the Monte Alban archaeological site.



# **EXTENSION PACKAGE** Cancun Extension

Enjoy a four day stop in Cancun, Mexico's beachside gateway to Maya culture. Explore some of the best white sandy beaches and turquoise waters Mexico has to offer. You will even be provided with a full day to enjoy some of the many local activities. You will also take a small group tour to the partial underwater cenote of Rio Secreto near Playa del Carmen. An incredible experience you will never forget.

# Suggested Combinations

A match made in heaven.

# Signature Peru

	PRE	
١	Nazca & Paracas Extension	6 days
A	Arequipa Colca Canyon	.4 days
	Delfin Amazon River Cruise	.4 days

Lake Titicaca and Puno Extension.....

Signature Galapagos Express......

Amazon Lodge Extension....

Patagonia

Signature

# Atacama Desert Extension... ...4 days Easter Island Extension. ..4 davs Tierra Atacama Lodge.

..from 11 days

..4 days

# Signature Salt Flats

# Easter Island Extension. Chiloe Island Extension.. ...4 days Pucon Extension.. ...5 davs

	POST
3 days	Antarctica Cruise
4 days	El Chalten Extens
8 days	Andes Lake Cros

	POST
S	Signature Peru9 day
S	Colca Canyon & Arequipa Extension4 day
	Signature Peru with Lares Inca Trail11 day
_	

# Signature Signature South America Circle Buenos Aires to Rio

PRE
Easter Island Extension4 days
Atacama Desert Extension4 days
Andes Lakes Crossing (Puerto Montt to Bariloche)4 days

POST
Amazon Lodge Extension4 da
Antarctica Cruisefrom 11 da
Signature Galapagos Express8 da

(Bariloche to Puerto Montt)...

PRE	
Antarctica Cruise	from 11 days
Mendoza Extension	4 days
Salta & Cafayate Extension	12 days

POST	
Brazilian Beaches Extension5 day	S
Pantanal & Bonito6 day	S
Salvador & Northern Brazil Extension12 day	S

PRE
Mashpi Cloud Forest Lodge Extension4 day
Sacha Lodge Extension (Amazon)4 days
Napo Lodge Extension (Amazon)4 days

POST	
Signature Peru	9 da
Delfin Amazon River Cruise	4 da
Signature Colombia	9 da

# Signature Colombia

Antarctica Cruise .....

PRE	
Easter Island Extension4 day	S
Atacama Desert Extension4 day	/5
Andes Lakes Crossing (Puerto Montt to Bariloche)4 day	S
POST	

Signature Galapagos Express.....8 days

# Signature Mexico

Easter Island Extension4 days	Chiapas Extension6 days
Atacama Desert Extension4 days	Oaxaca Extension4 days
Andes Lakes Crossing (Puerto Montt to Bariloche)4 days	POST
	Cancun Extension4 days
POST	Panama City Extension5 days
Amazon Lodge Extension4 days	

...from 11 davs

# Signature Costa Rica

)	Tamarindo Extension4 days
	Tortuguero Extension4 days
	POST
	Corcovado National Park Extension5 days

Panama City Extension...



...5 days



11 Days Ushuaia – Ushuaia



An ideal extension to add to any South America Signature tour. Fly to Ushuaia for embarkation at the southern tip of South America and conquer the famed Drake Passage to bring you to the spectacular frozen wilderness of the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula.



# Why you will love this itinerary

- ✓ In just under two weeks you will experience the highlights of the northern Antarctic region: the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula.
- ✓ You will visit sections of the Antarctic Peninsula with remarkable views of the towering peaks of the Antarctic continent and a wide range of wildlife.
- Unforgettable activities such as Zodiac excursions, guided hikes on shore, visits to wildlife colonies, kayaking, camping and the exploration of historic huts and science stations.

### DAY 1 Ushuaia

Your cruise itinerary begins with an overnight stay in Ushuaia. If you arrive into Ushuaia early enough, the day is yours to explore. Avenida San Martin and the surrounding streets are where most hotels, shops, restaurants, cafes and tourist services are located.

#### **DAY 2** Embarkation

This morning is free for you to explore Ushuaia, giving you time to wander the streets of this quaint port town, or discover Tierra del Fuego National Park.

Transfer to the pier of Ushuaia for embarkation in the late afternoon. Set sail through the Beagle Channel that was named after the British ship the HMS Beagle. This famous channel transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America, and is rich in wildlife. Keep a look out for Magellanic penguins, rock cormorants, petrels and black-browed albatross from the deck as well as sea lion

Enjoy your first taste of life at sea and a welcome dinner. The air is likely to be filled with anticipation, as your next view of land will be of Antarctica – the White Continent. (B,D)

## **DAY 3-4** Drake Passage

As we leave the Beagle Channel, prepare yourself for potentially rough seas as we enter the legendary Drake Passage. This infamous and unpredictable channel of water separates the southernmost tip of South America from the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula.

As we head southwards, there is time to get to know your shipmates and get an insight into the excitement ahead with presentations from the Expedition Team on everything Antarctic.

We will notice a drop in temperature as we cross the Antarctic Convergence where the polar waters flowing north meet the equatorial waters flowing south. This pushes nutrient rich waters to the surface, attracting a variety of seabirds, whales and other species. Keep your eyes peeled for albatrosses flying overhead, icebergs and maybe even breaching whales.

Leaving the Antarctic Convergence in our wake, we continue south towards Antarctica, maybe making landfall by early evening. The first sighting of land always brings great excitement, and is often embraced as the true beginning of any Antarctic expedition.(B,L,D)

# **DAY 5-8** South Shetland Islands and Antarctica

For the next four days we explore the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula that is famed for its majestic mountains, glaciers, imposing icebergs, ice-strewn waters and abundance of wildlife. The scenery, wildlife and serene silence of Antarctica will enchant and enthral and you will soon realise why this region has captivated the attention of explorers and travellers for centuries.

Your days on the Antarctic Peninsula will form the core of your adventure. Every day will be different as we cruise by Zodiac amongst the beautifully sculpted icebergs and take Zodiac excursions from the ship to explore local bays, channels and landing sites. Unpredictable weather and ice conditions mean that the itinerary will be flexible, but will make the most of wildlife sightings, as we aim to explore penguin rookeries, seal and bird colonies, whale feeding areas as well as visiting sites of historic and scientific interest and climbing to vantage points for panoramic views. There is always something new or unexpected to see, with opportunities for kayaking, snowshoeing and photography with an expert, which means that your expedition will be a unique and personal experience and unlike any other. Enjoy the antics of thousands of curious penguins as you sit on a pebbled beach, scout for whales and seals as you cruise by Zodiac, visit a research base, listen out for the mighty crack of a calving glacier and maybe brave a polar plunge in the icy waters!

As we cruise through the Peninsula, the lecture programme continues and sightseeing is at its most spectacular off the ship's outer decks. Enjoy the Ocean Endeavour's newly designed health and fitness features, with facilities that include a spa, His and Hers saunas, saltwater pool and gym plus yoga sessions. (B,L,D)



# **DAY 9-10** Drake Passage

We hope to make one final excursion or shore landing today before we leave the Antarctic Peninsula behind, and head back across the Drake Passage. This is another great opportunity to look out for wildlife from the deck of the ship, as you identify seabirds and maybe whales with the help of your Expedition Team. Gain more insight into the region by attending final lectures and presentations by the polar experts and take time to relax and reminisce about your Antarctic experiences.

By the evening we hope to be back in the tranquil waters of the Beagle Channel, ensuring a restful nights sleep on board. (B,L,D)

# **DAY 11** Disemabarkation in Ushuaia

We are scheduled to arrive into Ushuaia early this morning, disembarking after a final breakfast aboard the Ocean Endeavour.

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight, or maybe spend a few days in Ushuaia, giving you time to explore further, maybe hiking in Tierra del Fuego National park. (B)





# The Polar and South America Travel Specialists

Chimu Adventures is a specialist travel operator with over 20 years of experience in Antarctica, the Arctic, and South America. We don't try to do it all—instead, we focus on what we know best and our knowledgeable staff have a true passion for the Polar regions and South America.

As South America specialists, we also have ground operations throughout South America, ensuring we're with you, and your clients, every step of the way.

# **Think South America and Antarctica - Think Chimu!**

 $Chimu\ Adventures\ takes\ pride\ in\ being\ a\ member\ of\ the\ following\ organisations, so\ you\ can\ travel\ with\ confidence\ and\ peace\ of\ mind.$ 







Your travel agent:

