



2011/2012 SUMMARY OF TRIP EXTENSIONS

CHILE & ARGENTINA

These add-on tours can be used to extend any of our Patagonian trips. They also can be used as ideas for developing components of a customized adventure, which can be designed and quoted separately. **All extensions require a minimum of 2 participants.**

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I. EASTER ISLAND (5 days/4 nights from Santiago)

SEASON: Year-round

INTRODUCTION: One of the most isolated islands in the world, with enormous stone figures erected hundreds of years ago, Easter Island is a land shrouded in enigma. Spend 3 full days to explore this fascinating island, including excursions to the most important of the more than 600 interesting moai stone statues, such as Ahu Tahai and Akivi. Visit the volcanoes of Rano Kao and Rano Raraku, observe ancient petroglyphs and the abandoned quarry where the moai were carved; the Vaiteka caves; and more. This extension provides an excellent introduction to the island's mysteries.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

DAY 01: SANTIAGO/EASTER ISLAND

Depart Santiago for a 5 hr, 40 min flight to Easter Island. Early afternoon reception at the Easter Island airport and transfer to one of the most comfortable hotels on the island (either the Taha Tai or Iorana), located in Hanga Roa, on the west coast of the island. Join your local guide for a brief tour of town and the museum offering a nice overview of the culture and history of Rapa Nui. Time permitting you may be able to visit the traditional handicraft market and the catholic church of Hanga Roa.

DAY 02: RANO KAO/HANGA ROA

Following breakfast, we begin our explorations by driving to the edge of the extinct crater, **Rano Kao**. Perched at about 1,310' on the edge of the crater wall overlooking the sea, on what is probably the island's most dramatic site, sits the ancient ceremonial village of **Orongo**. Once the most important ritualistic center on the island, it seems to have been dedicated to the worship of the supreme deity, Makemake. We visit the partially restored village with its more than 40 aboriginal stone houses and nearby "birdman" petroglyphs. Afterwards, we retrace our route to the Ahu Vinapu site with its impressive, finely-cut stone platform, located in a valley facing the coast. Returning to the hotel, lunch and dinner are on our own and the remainder of the afternoon is unstructured. (B)

DAY 03: NORTH SHORE OF THE ISLAND

Today's excursion is a full day exploration of the island's north shore with its many ahus (there are about 245 ahus on the island forming an almost unbroken line along the coast). Our first visit includes a stop to view the massive Ahu and toppled giant statues at Akahanga, followed by a hike up the slopes of the **Rano Raraku volcano** to the rock quarry to observe moai in various stages of production. Next we stop at the Tongariki site, then there is time to explore Te Pito Te Kura, which boasts the largest moai ever erected on an ahu—a statue nearly 32 feet long. Finally, we enjoy a relaxing picnic lunch on the island's main

white sand beach, Anakena, whose nearby statues at Ahu Nau Nau show that the moai once had inlaid eyes and were not "blind" as previously thought. We return to the hotel in the late afternoon. Dinner is on your own. (B,L)

DAY 04: AHU AKIVI/PUNA PAU

This morning we visit the five sightless, restored and re-erected moai looking out toward the sea at **Ahu Tahai**. Later in the wide, lonely valley of Ahu Akivi, we find seven noble moai weighing more than 30,000 pounds. On the horizon we can see the volcano from whose stone they were carved. In this area, we pass by some of the island's more than 4,000 wild horses. Afterwards, we continue to Puna Pau, the volcanic source of the stone for the headpieces of the moai. Return to the hotel midday, with lunch and dinner on your own. (B)

DAY 05: EASTER ISLAND/SANTIAGO

The early morning is free to relax as you wish. Later this morning, we transfer to the airport for the return flight to Santiago. Those with connecting flights home will walk to the international terminal. Dinner is on your own tonight. (B)

NOTES ON THE ITINERARY: There are daily flights between Santiago and Easter Island (5.5 hours one way). Flights fill up well in advance, so early bookings are recommended (3-4 months prior to departure). Your accommodations will be at either of the two best hotels near Hanga Roa: the Taha Tai or Iorana, both are about 1.5 miles from town, overlook the ocean and have approximately 40 rooms, a restaurant and pool.

EXTENSION LAND COST:
\$1,465 p.p.d. (2-3 participants)
\$1,315 p.p.d. (4-6 participants)
\$ 290 Single Supplement

p.p.d.= per person based on double or triple occupancy

ESTIMATED AIRFARE: The estimated round-trip airfare Santiago-Easter Island-Santiago is currently \$800-\$975 per person. Lan Chile is the only airline offering service to the island from Santiago.

II. ATACAMA DESERT (4 days/3 nights)

SEASON: April to December

INTRODUCTION: The starkly desolate, but unique, Atacama Desert in northern Chile is the driest desert on the planet. Deeply incised canyons, high steppe and towering Andean mountains create an ideal destination for photographers, nature lovers, wildlife enthusiasts and active travelers. A highly visible and well-preserved pre-Columbian and colonial ruins, it is an archaeological and cultural haven. Fascinating geography includes salt lakes, geysers, hot springs, volcanic peaks and quaint villages. Atacama is the perfect setting for hiking, mountain biking, backcountry jeeping or simply relaxing.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

DAY 01: SANTIAGO/CALAMA/SAN PEDRO/MOON VALLEY

Morning transfer to the airport and fly to **Calama** (7,380'). We are met at the airport and drive to **San Pedro de Atacama** for 1.5 hours. Located at an elevation of nearly 8,000', this was the main center of the Atacama culture and is renowned for the nearby archaeological excavations. We check in to the comfortable Altiplanico Hotel. After enjoying a typical lunch, we drive to the Valley of Death, where we see how this barren, but fascinating landscape, earned its name. Afterwards we set out to explore the Valley of the Moon, an area of polychromatic desert landscapes and box canyons formed by the erosion of salt mountains. We observe strange sculpted rock formations with the Licancabur Volcano (19,410') in the background as we experience sunset in this almost lunar landscape. Returning to San Pedro for the night, dinner is on your own. (B,L)

DAY 02: EL TATIO GEYSERS

We begin before dawn with a drive to the **El Tatio Geysers** (the highest geyser field on earth at 14,175'). The visual impact of 40 geysers, thermal wells and steaming fumaroles at sunrise, in the azure clarity of this high altitude desert, is unforgettable. Breakfast is served picnic-style. After time to enjoy and photograph this beautiful area, we return to San Pedro, stopping to view the Andean wildlife of the area such as ducks, geese, vicuñas, foxes and vizcachas. We also visit one of the **rural villages** in the area. The local residents are primarily shepherds and employed in agriculture and commerce. We return to the Altiplanico Hotel in the early afternoon, dinner is on your own this evening. (B,L)

DAY 03: SALAR DE ATACAMA

In the morning we drive 13 miles towards the confluence of two rivers, the Puritama, carrying warm mineral water and the Purifica, a clear cold stream. We hike and explore the scenic **Guatin Canyon** following the Vilama creek for 2.5 hours. This unique ecosystem supports the Cardon cactus, which can reach 26 feet and live up to 500 years, and for many this is a favorite

excursion. This afternoon we drive to **Toconao**, whose houses and church are built of bricks of white volcanic stone, giving the town a very unique appearance and special atmosphere. We continue driving to the **Atacama saltbeds**, rich in minerals including borax and lithium. Back-dropped by impressive volcanoes, we stop at the Chaxa Lagoon to watch for 3 species of flamingos, *taguas* and other local bird species in places where brackish water emerges. We enjoy the majestic sunset views before returning to San Pedro and the Altiplanico Hotel. Dinner is on your own. (B,L)

DAY 04: CALAMA/SANTIAGO

This morning we visit the San Pedro church, declared a national monument, and the Gustavo Le Paige Museum, which offers a complete overview of the area's cultural and historical evolution. A short drive brings us to a promontory overlooking the San Pedro River to explore **Pukara de Quitar**, a 12th century Indian fortification. Nearby, we also visit the remains of **Catarpe ruins**, described as a former Inca administrative center. After lunch on your own, we transfer to the airport in Calama and fly back to Santiago. Participants leaving Chile this evening connect on their own to the overnight flight. (B)

EXTENSION LAND COST: \$1,545 p.p.d. (2-3 participants)
\$1,415 p.p.d. (4-6 participants)
\$ 295 Single Supplement

p.p.d.= per person based on double or triple occupancy

ESTIMATED AIRFARE: The estimated round-trip airfare Santiago-Calama-Santiago is approx \$400 using a Visit Chile airpass.

III. THE LAKE DISTRICT (4 days/3 nights)

SEASON: October to March

INTRODUCTION: A lovely region of rolling hills, glacier-clad volcanoes and sparkling lakes colonized by German immigrants, the Lake District is one of the most attractive destinations in Chile. Starting in Puerto Montt on the Pacific coast, we travel through some of the region's most spectacular landscapes, including visits to typical communities like Frutillar and Ensenada, a hike on Osorno Volcano and an afternoon visit to Lake Todos los Santos.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

DAY 01: USA/SANTIAGO

After an overnight flight from the US, arrive in **Santiago** this morning, reception at the airport by our local staff and transfer to the Atton El Bosque Hotel in Santiago's quiet, tree-lined suburb of Las Condes. The remainder of the morning is at leisure with lunch on your own. This afternoon, join your guide for a tour of the city and the pre-Columbian Museum. Back at the hotel, dinner is on your own to try some of the excellent restaurants nearby.

DAY 02: SANTIAGO/PUERTO VARAS

Transfer to the airport for the Lan Chile flight to Puerto Montt. Reception and brief tour of this port city and the Angelmo market before transferring 30 min to **Puerto Varas** and the Grand Hotel Colonos del Sur, overlooking Lake Llanquihue. Remainder of the afternoon is at your leisure to stroll the lakeshore of this friendly town or relax. Dinner is on your own. (B)

DAY 03: FRUTILLAR/PUERTO OCTAY

Heading out from Puerto Varas, we drive a winding scenic road to the farming town of **Frutillar**. Settled by German immigrants in 1856, Frutillar has preserved much of its traditional architecture as well as its German customs such as afternoon tea with *kuchen*. We visit the regional museum and dine for lunch overlooking Lake Llanquihue. In **Puerto Octay**, a picturesque village located on a quiet bay, we walk along the peninsula and enjoy a traditional afternoon tea (time/interest permitting) before returning to Puerto Varas and the Grand Hotel Colonos del Sur. Dinner is on your own this evening. (B,L)

DAY 04: OSORNO/TODOS LOS SANTOS LAKE

Leaving early this morning, we drive past the community of Ensenada and up the slopes of the **Osorno Volcano** (8,725') to the Tesky climber's refuge (5,085'). Here, those that wish can hike up to the lower snowfields. The drive back towards Ensenada offers incredible views of the entire region. Lunch is at a local restaurant before continuing through dense forests to reach **Petrohué Falls**—a series of seven twisting black lava chutes through which clear, green waters rush and churn. We continue to Todos los Santos Lake for a short hike with spectacular views of the surrounding mountains reflected in its deep emerald green waters. We return to Puerto Varas and the Grand Hotel Colonos del Sur. Dinner is on your own. (B,L)

DAY 05: PUERTO MONTT/PUNTA ARENAS

The morning is at leisure for personal explorations. Lunch is on your own. Early afternoon pick-up at the hotel and transfer to the airport with check-in assistance for a flight to **Punta Arenas**. If this is a pre-extension, the rest of the group, coming from Santiago, joins you in Punta Arenas to begin your main adventure. (B)

EXTENSION LAND COST: \$1,455 p.p.d. (2-3 participants)
\$1,305 p.p.d. (4-6 participants)
\$ 340 Single Supplement

p.p.d.= per person based on double or triple occupancy

ESTIMATED AIRFARE: If you are flying Santiago-Punta Arenas or Punta Arenas-Santiago, all flights stop in Puerto Montt, so you can easily add a stopover to your in-country itinerary with Lan Chile airlines to enjoy this extension.

IV. IGUAZU FALLS (3 days/2 nights from Buenos Aires) **SEASON:** Year-round

INTRODUCTION: Iguazú Falls, one of the world's most famed waterfalls, is located in a dense tropical forest, along the Brazilian border in northern Argentina. At 230 feet in height and 1.5 miles wide, the falls, whose name in the indigenous tongue means *Great Water*, are higher and wider than Niagara. Not only are the 275 thundering cascades spectacular, it is also one of the few places in South America where one can easily wander through nearly pristine jungle. With 2 full days in Iguazú, this extension allows plenty of time to explore the main cataracts like the Devil's Throat, Two Brothers Falls and Alvar Nuñez Falls. For a different perspective we enjoy a boat excursion to San Martín Island, and take guided nature hikes and photographic excursions along some of the trails that wind through the rainforest. A Brazil Visa is required if you wish to visit both sides of the falls.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

DAY 01: BUENOS AIRES/IGUAZU

After an overnight in Buenos Aires, we transfer to the airport to fly to **Iguazú**. We are met and transferred to the Sheraton Iguazú Resort & Spa where you have a room with a view of the falls. Join your guide for a tour of the upper circuit to take in sunset views of the beautiful cascades such as the Salto de Dos Hermanos, the Salto Bosseti, and the Salto San Martín. The remainder of the evening and dinner are on your own. (B)

DAY 02: IGUAZU FALLS

Following breakfast, board a scenic train to Puerto Canoas where a walkway brings us to one of the most famous and spectacular series of falls, the Garganta del Diablo or **Devil's Throat**. The walkway zig-zags out across the river allowing a fantastic view as hundreds of thousands of gallons of water pour over the U-shaped 490 x 2300 foot falls. Later, we descend to the river via the lower circuit to hop a boat across to **San Martín Island**. Here, nature trails are filled with hundreds of colorful butterflies. From a different angle, we can view the falls of San Martín, Adan and Eva, and the Three Musketeers. We return to the resort for lunch. The afternoon is unstructured for personal explorations with dinner on your own. (B,L)

DAY 03: IGUAZU FALLS/BUENOS AIRES

The morning is at leisure, and you may wish to visit the Brazilian side of the falls (a visa in advance is required), join the Yacaratia photo-safari or hike one of the park's nature trails to observe the abundant wildlife. The park contains more than 2,000 species of butterfly, 400 species of bird, and 100 species of mammals. This afternoon, we drive back to the airport for a flight to Buenos Aires. Taxi on your own to the Ezeiza International Airport for your return flight home. (B)

EXTENSION LAND COST: \$945 p.p.d. (2-3 participants)
\$865 p.p.d. (4-6 participants)
\$355 Single Supplement

p.p.d= per person based on double or triple occupancy

ESTIMATED AIRFARE: The Visit Argentina airpass is priced according to routing within Argentina and depends on whether or not you use Aerolíneas Argentinas for your arrival to Buenos Aires. The fare for the 2 flights on this extension is approximately \$250-\$350.

V. TIERRA DEL FUEGO (3 days/2 nights from Buenos Aires)

SEASON: October to March

INTRODUCTION: The Land of Fire in southern Argentina is a lovely, tranquil place of snow-capped mountains, dense forests and deep blue lakes located at the ends of the earth—a virtual paradise for outdoor enthusiasts. This extension features a half-day walking and driving visit of Tierra del Fuego National Park and a cruise along the shores of the Beagle Channel. There will be opportunities to observe a variety of wildlife such as marine birds, sea lions, steamer ducks, condors, and more.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

DAY 01: BUENOS AIRES/USHUAIA

Pick-up at your hotel in Buenos Aires, and drive to the airport for the 5-hour flight to **Ushuaia**, the capital of Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. Reception by your local guide and transfer to the Los Acebos Hotel located 5 miles outside town overlooking the Beagle Channel. Depending on the arrival time, we may have the chance to hike up to the Martial Glacier and reach the sub-antarctic beech forest tree-line where we find unique alpine vegetation.

DAY 02: TIERRA DEL FUEGO

This morning we drive west to **Tierra del Fuego National Park**, a lovely region of clear blue lakes and snow capped mountains overlooking the Beagle Channel. Our excursion is a bus and walking tour that includes short hikes through beautiful ñire and lenga forests near Ensenada Bay and a peat bog called Laguna Negra. After a picnic lunch, we return to the Los Acebos Hotel by late afternoon. Dinner is on your own this evening. Driving distance: 34 miles or about 1.5 hours (B,L)

DAY 03: USHUAIA/BUENOS AIRES

A short drive brings us to the docks to board a boat or catamaran for a half-day seat-in-boat cruise along the **Beagle Channel**. We head out past the city of Ushuaia and cruise to *Isla de los Pájaros* (bird island) and *Isla de los Lobos* (sea lion island) to observe some of the area's marine wildlife more closely. Back in Ushuaia, lunch is on your own before transferring to the airport for the afternoon flight to **Buenos Aires**, Argentina's cosmopolitan capital. Taxi on your own to the Ezeiza International Airport for your return flight home. (B)

EXTENSION LAND COST:

\$1,275 p.p.d.	(2-3 participants)
\$1,175 p.p.d.	(4-6 participants)
\$ 215	Single Supplement

p.p.d= per person based on double or triple occupancy

ESTIMATED AIRFARE: The fare for the 2 flights on this extension is approximately \$450-550. If you are able to fly with Aerolineas Argentinas for your international to Buenos Aires then the Visit Argentina airpass can lower your fare on the in-country portion.

SERVICES TYPICALLY INCLUDED ON EXTENSIONS:

- All group transfers and ground transportation. Most are in private vehicles with professional drivers, although on Easter Island transfers may be seat-in-car where several arriving guests share the same vehicle.
- Local, English/Spanish speaking guide for all excursions.
- All private tours/excursions as listed conducted in English by local experienced guides and including any necessary entrance fees, except on seat-in-car Catamaran or boat excursions.
- Hotel accommodations as listed or in similar first-class properties on a double basis with private bathrooms.
- All meals indicated on the itinerary (B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner).

NOT INCLUDED:

- Local flights or in-country airport departure taxes
- Hotel accommodations not listed on the itinerary above
- Tours, transfers, meals, or services not indicated on the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature like laundry, telephone calls, etc.
- Tips to the local staff
- Expenses incurred in preparation such as, but not limited to, non-refundable airline tickets or traveler's insurance, and additional expenses resulting from flight delays, schedule changes, cancellations, or missed connections.

AIR RESERVATIONS FOR ALL EXTENSIONS: Southwind can connect you with our recommended Latin American ticketing specialist for booking all your in-country flights as well as your international flights according to your preference.

HOW TO SIGN UP: An additional \$500 per person per extension deposit is required to reserve your hotels, services and guides for any extensions 3 days or longer. Requests for extensions or extra services must be submitted in writing (email or fax is fine). Reservations for hotels, guides or services are not made until deposits are received.

Extension reservations will not be accepted within 30 days of your core SWA trip. Extension cost is payable in full at the time reservations are made (if placed between 90-31 days before departure of your core trip). Trip cancellation fees as described under the 2011 Terms & Conditions in Southwind's website at www.southwindadventures.com, apply if you need to cancel any extension services.

✉ **Please note:** End of the year or holiday departures could have a Land Cost surcharge of 15-20%. Please check with your personal Southwind Travel Consultant for more details.

Rates are valid for the 2011/12 season (October 2011 through April 2012). Whenever possible, we avoid increasing our prices. As we publish our prices a year or more in advance, we may occasionally be faced with significant cost increases due to international currency fluctuations, increased hotel rates, higher costs of services, and/or other factors over which we have no control. We regret this situation and will do everything reasonable to avoid raising the prices on our Trip Extensions as published in this summary, but please be advised that it is sometimes unavoidable.

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PO Box 621057 Littleton, CO 80162 • Tel: (303) 972-0701 or (800) 377-9463 • Fax: (303) 972-0708
info@southwindadventures.com • www.southwindadventures.com