



A COOK'S TOUR
Culture, Food & Wine Travel Adventures

CHILE & ARGENTINA MARCH 10 - 24, 2025



Day 1

Arrive in Santiago. Few cities in the world wake up to the view that Santiago has. The great snow-capped Andes loom over the bustling metropolis below, a city of culture, energy, and world-class cuisine. It is a *mélange* of people from all corners of the country – a third of Chileans call it home – where each neighborhood emanates its flavors. Santiago is the main gateway to Chile, paving the way to the lakes, mountains, vineyards, and beaches beyond. Welcome meeting and dinner at local restaurant.
Cumbres Lastarria (4 nights)

Day 2

A trip to Santiago's famous markets is a must for anyone who wants to experience the depth and variety of Chilean food and culture. Aromatic spices, ripe produce, natural meats and cheeses, Pacific seafood, breads, pastries, and other delicacies await you on this tour. We'll travel to two of the city's most popular markets: la Vega Central, and el Mercado Central. Each market has a distinct atmosphere and offers a glimpse of daily life in Santiago.

After this, we'll tour the main avenues in the city's civic center with a stop at La Moneda. We'll explore the narrow streets, eventually arriving at the Plaza de Armas, a picturesque and lively square surrounded by the 18th century Metropolitan Cathedral, the National Historical Museum, and the central post office. Later, we'll head toward Parque Forestal, near the Fine Arts Museum, and the bohemian neighborhoods of Bellavista and Lastarria. Continue exploring other neighborhoods of Pedro de Valdivia Norte, and the elegant and exclusive neighborhoods of Las Condes and Vitacura.





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Day 3

Today we head to San Antonio Valley, which is a small wine region located an hour west of Santiago. The climate is heavily influenced by the effects of the ocean. The Humbolt Current brings cool morning mists and spring frosts, and is largely responsible for making viticulture possible here, as the valley is located much closer to the Equator than any European vineyard. Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay are the main varieties grown in the San Antonio Valley.

We will be invited to discover the Rosario Valley, learning about the winemaking process in Matetic Winery, the terroir, and its organic and biodynamic agriculture.

Next, Casa Marin Winery visit, and lunch at Lo Abarca with wine pairing.



Day 4

Leaving the hotel in Santiago, we will drive approximately 90 minutes west toward the coast, passing through the lush agricultural valley of Curacaví and the renowned Casablanca Valley, famous for its commitment to terroir and for producing some of Chile's best white wines and cool-climate reds. As we make our way to the coast, we'll stop for a private tour, wine tasting and lunch at the beautiful vineyard Casas del Bosque.

Next, we'll head to Valparaíso. A UNESCO World Heritage site for its architectural and cultural significance. We will start in the downtown sector, learning about the history of "Valpo" and its importance in South American trade and commerce. Century-old hillside ascensores (elevators) transport you up into the city's steep hills, where a labyrinthine maze of streets reveals brightly colored buildings, bohemian cafes, elegant restaurants, and spectacular views of the harbor below. This tour will lead us through two of the most famous hills, Cerro Concepción and Cerro Alegre.

Day 5

Today we depart Santiago and head to one of Chile's most promising wine regions: Colchagua Valley. This region produces some of Chile's best red wines, primarily Cabernet Sauvignon, Carmenera, and Syrah, thanks to a mix of favorable environment, climate, soil and skilled winemakers. Visit to Colchagua Museum. Terraviña Hotel (3 nights) Dinner at Hotel Restaurant.



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Day 6

Our classic tour in Viu Manent... ride in a carriage for your visit with bilingual guides in horse-drawn carriages will take you to the vineyards, and finish with an enjoyable wine tasting in the historical visitors' center La Llavería. Cooking class and lunch with the renowned Chilean chef Pilar Rodríguez who shares her passion for food and wine in her studio located at Viña Viu Manent.



Day 7

Free day to relax!



Day 9

Experience designed for wine lovers, touring the departments of Lujan de Cuyo and Maipu, the first areas of Malbec plantations in Mendoza. First a visit to Vistalba Winery, where we will have a Blind Tasting of its wines. Next to Lamadrid Winery to be part of a Blending Session. With the guidance and advice of the winery's experts, we will taste different varieties that will then be combined to obtain a particular blend that will be bottled and labeled to enjoy a truly exclusive wine of our own! We finish with a four-course menu paired with exquisite wines at Los Bocheros restaurant.

Day 10

Free day to relax.

Cooking class and dinner at Club Tapiz Restaurant.

Day 8

A visit to the Santa Rita Winery where we will wander through old world vines, sample full-bodied Chilean wines, and tuck into a meal at the winery's casual restaurant. After lunch we visit Andino Museum which sits amidst the vineyard. Next up is our flight to Mendoza Wine Country, which dominates Argentina's winemaking industry and is one of the most successful wine regions worldwide. Arrive Mendoza and check into Hotel Club Tapiz (3 nights) Group dinner.





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Day 11

Flight to Buenos Aires. Check into the Loi Suites Recoleta Hotel (4 nights)

An afternoon walking tour of the surrounding area will introduce you to this grand metropolis on the banks of the River Plate. Recoleta neighborhood, one of the most fashionable and aristocratic areas of the city, which includes South America's most opulent and extraordinary cemetery-- the Recoleta Cemetery. The Recoleta is also a cultural center harboring many art institutions and featuring 19th century French architecture and many beautiful buildings.

Between the Italian influence on Argentine gastronomy and the sweltering summer temperatures, it's no surprise that ice cream here is a wonder to behold. We'll make a stop at a typical heladería, for an artisanal ice cream. Group dinner at a nearby restaurant.



Day 12

Buenos Aires is undoubtedly the Latin American city that best resembles the cosmopolitan and aristocratic atmosphere of the big European capitals. But beyond this Buenos Aires there is another one, holding the small colored houses of La Boca and the popular Tango that lives in San Telmo streets. This is the mixture that makes Buenos Aires an original and irresistible metropolis. This tour shows the city's highlights, looking through its history and culture.

Day 14

A visit to Michelangelo for dinner & tango show: One of the newest tango places in Buenos Aires but with a long history. It's restored building dates back to colonial times. This is one of the few buildings from this period that are still standing, and has been declared a historical patrimony of the city. The show is of high quality and transports you to Buenos Aires' golden age.

Day 15

Itinerary ends, individual departures
Gracias y buen viaje!

Day 13

Free day to explore this beautiful city on your own.



Pricing per person double occupancy:

\$6800

Single supplement:

\$2100



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TOUR EXTENSION

Post Trip to Iguazu Falls

MARCH 24 - 26, 2025



Day 1

Flight: Buenos Aires (AEP) - Iguazú (IGR)

Travel and arrive to Loi Suites Iguazú (2 nights).

Day 2

A guided walk through the upper falls area, 650 meters long and offers an overall panoramic view. This circuit offers views of the Dos Hermanas falls, Chico, Ramirez, Bossetti, Adán y Eva, Bernabe Mendez and the Mbigua falls. You will also appreciate the arc formed by the San Martin, Escondido, Dos Mosqueteros, Rivadavia and Tres Mostqueteros falls. Next we take the Park Train to Garganta del Diablo (Devil's Throat). This linear catwalk has 2260 meters (round trip) and allows you to enjoy the unique awe-inspiring, Garganta del Diablo, the most impressive falls of the park. The "horseshoe-shaped" falls, with a circumference of 150 m and a height of 80 m, fill the air with mist as immense amounts of water surge over the rocks, a most unique experience. Another show is given by the "vencejos", characteristic birds exclusive to these falls, which throw themselves on a nose dive course, parallel to the falls, as if they wanted to meld with the water. Finally, the Lower Circuit offers a more intimate experience with the landscape. On this path, the visitor will "feel" the spirit of the forest: humidity, sounds, aromas, and the penetrating mist that takes over the whole area. It is a circular path of 1700 meters that leads to 8 prominent viewpoints; San Martin, Bossetti, Alvar Nuñez and the Dos Hermanas falls are some of them.

Optional add ons:

The excursion begins with a 5 km Safari through the jungle in open 4x4 vehicles which allow comfortable filming and photography of the extraordinary jungle with flora and fauna explanation stops along the way. After descending 100 meters (walking) we reach the Macuco (Argentinian side) Pier where we board a Zodiac for a wonderful 15 minute (6 kms) ride to the base of the falls. The ride is made with powerful motor-boats that pass through the Lower Canyon of the Iguassu River until the foot of the "Tres Mosqueteros" waterfall, with spectacular and clear views of both the Brazilian and Argentinean sides, and of the Devil's Throat Fall. We also get very close to the waterfall of San Martin Island, the biggest one that a motor-boat can approach safely. Finally, the boat navigates back to Macuco Pier (Argentinian side) and we return with 4 x 4 truck to starting point.

Day 3

Flight: Iguazu (IGR) - Buenos Aires (AEP)

Cost \$1750 per person