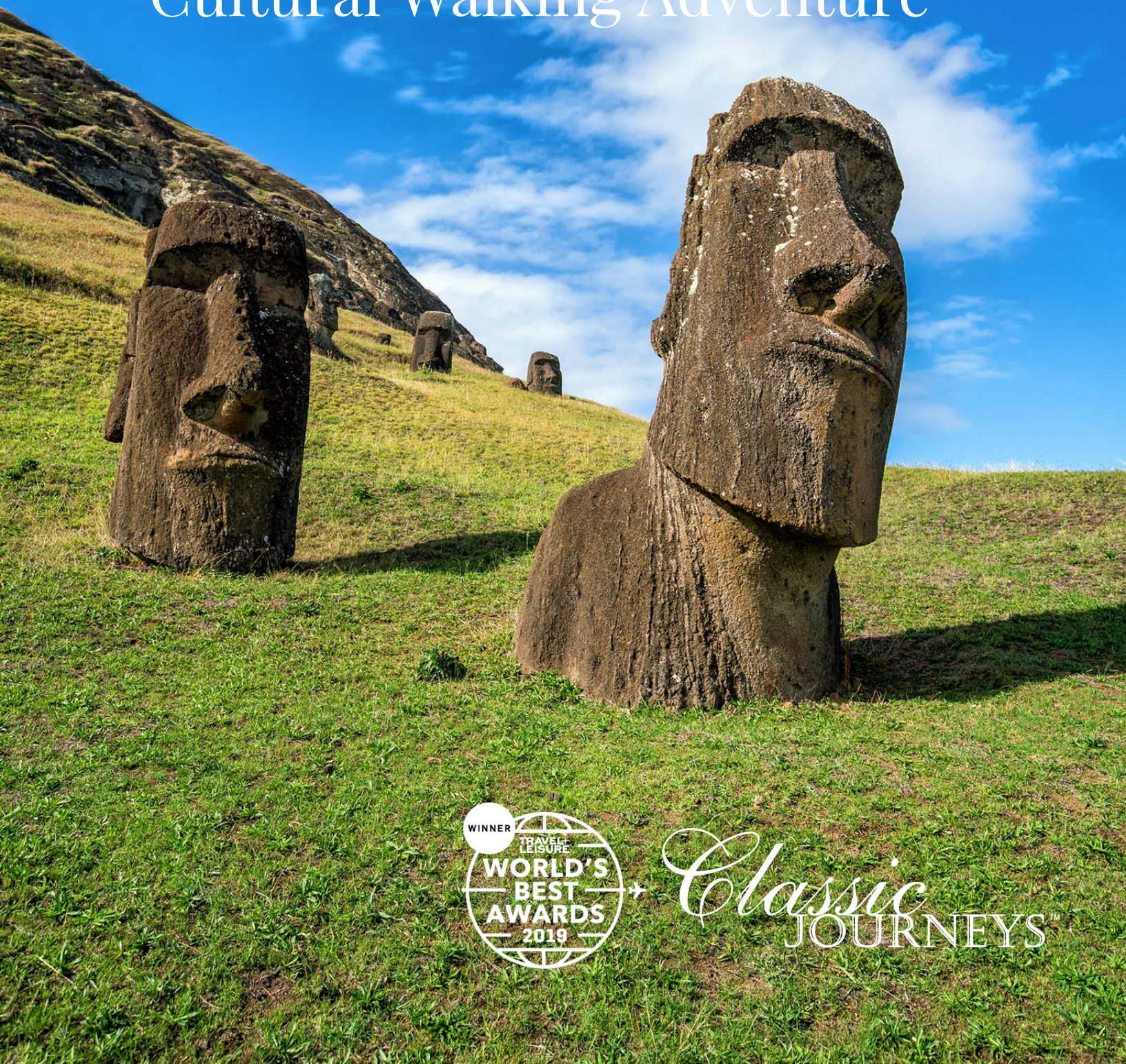


Easter Island, Atacama & Vineyards

Chile

Cultural Walking Adventure



Classic
JOURNEYS™

DAILY ITINERARY

Chile: Easter Island, Atacama & Vineyards | Cultural Walking Adventure



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

Escape to the Edge of Everything

Chile is the place to be when you want to turn off the plugged-in chatter of every day and feel truly away from it all. This adventure takes you to the very brinks of civilization with a visit to the high Atacama Desert and then to Easter Island, where the gigantic stone effigies glare over the Pacific. In between, you'll have a chance to explore urban Santiago and go wine tasting at a vineyard in the long shadows of the Andes. But never fear. Even in the wildest settings, you'll settle into the finest luxury inns and hotels. Throughout, you'll have the fulltime company of accomplished local guides who help you make sense of cultures and environments that couldn't be farther from the norm. As your guide Andres likes to say, "Chile helps you feel what you've never felt, learn what you never knew, and have the time of your life, too!"

DAY 1

SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

- Explore the pre-colonial fort of Pukara Quito
- Visit Tulo Aldea and the Gustavo Le Paige Museum
- Take the culinary trail to a lunch at the peak
- Stargaze in the country's International Dark Sky Preserve

Your group will meet at your luxury hotel in the vast red Atacama Desert near San Pedro. The Atacama is said to be the driest on earth, which makes it all the more remarkable to see how it's been shaped over the millennia by hard-to-imagine erosion. You'll visit nearby Pukara Quito, a 12th century fortress that was the site of one of the first encounters between the indigenous people and the Spaniards. Believe it or not, local farmers raise crops and livestock in this unforgiving terrain where you'll visit a 2,000-year-old village. Next, you'll pay a visit to the archeological site Tulo Aldea and Father Le Paige Museum. After lunch in the colonial town of San Pedro, you'll have a chance to walk in the Valley of the Moon (where the landscape leaves no question how it earned its name). From a ringside location in Death Valley, you'll watch the sun set over one of the best views of the Andes – a truly splendiferous moment.

After dinner of local specialties, you may want to head back out into the night. You're in the world's largest accessible Dark Sky Preserve – an amazing opportunity to look up and rediscover the wonders of the star-filled night.

Overnight: San Pedro

Meals: L, D

DAY 2

SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

- Meet the artisans of the Altiplano
- See the flamingos in the Chaxa lagoon
- Experience the Lagunas Altiplanicas

The Altiplano – high plain – of the Atacama is where your day begins. There, the town of Toconao has a bell tower and church that are national monuments. On a walk, you'll meet some of the many artisans who preserve local crafts in their workshops. Driving deeper into the highlands, you'll stop at some of the perfectly blue lakes, with edges rimmed in salt like a margarita glass and backed by the biggest skies you've ever seen.

In the small village of Socaire, the walls are clay, the roofs are clad in sod, and the local lunch spot is awaiting you with a home-cooked lunch of their specialties. It's a special opportunity to get a glimpse of a life that in many ways has changed very little since Inca times.

The Sala de Atacama is a vast, jagged salt flat rimmed by steaming volcanoes and crimson crags. This afternoon, you'll explore an expanse of it in Los Flamencos National Reserve. The natural stars of these mirror-smooth waters are the flocks of flamingos at home in their habitat. The combined effect of the pink flock in the blue water backed by snow-capped Andes is truly magical.

Later, you'll return to the hotel to relax before dinner.

Overnight: San Pedro

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

SANTIAGO

- Enjoy a guided walk in the historic city center
- Shop for the local lapis lazuli

After breakfast, you'll make the flight to the Chilean capital of Santiago. The skyscrapered city is a far cry from the remoteness of the desert, but even here the tallest buildings are dwarfed by the Andes. The historic district is known for its Spanish colonial architecture. As you stroll among sites like the Presidential Palace, the Plaza de Armas and the neighborhood of Lastarria, your guide will give you insights on life in this remarkable setting. You'll also have a chance to explore the Precolumbian Museum, which has one of the world's truly great collections of relics from Central and South America. If you like, you can also visit workshops where the blue stone known as lapis lazuli is on display. (The stone is found only here and in Afghanistan.)

Overnight: Santiago

Meals: B, L

DAY 4

CASABLANCA VINEYARDS / VALPARAISO

- Visit a family-owned vineyard and enjoy a tasting
- Explore Valparaiso, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Chilean wines are justly renowned around the world. Today, you'll be welcomed to the family-owned Emiliana Vineyards in the Casablanca Valley to learn about local traditions and, of course, for a tasting. The microclimate caused by the confluence of Andes and the cool Humboldt current flowing up the Chilean coast make this region a great spot for a very wide range of grapes from Merlot to Riesling. At the vineyard, you walk the gardens, see how native animals contribute to biodiversity that supports the vines, and tour the cellars before your tasting.

Then you follow the picturesque valley on a drive to Valparaiso, known as the "Pearl of the Pacific." Your guide will lead you on a walk in the lively and extremely colorful historic district. Then you hop aboard the funicular for a ride up to the panoramic views over this port city on the Pacific Ocean.

Back in Santiago, try one of the city's fine restaurants as you have dinner on your own.

Overnight: Santiago

Meals: B, L

DAY 5

EASTER ISLAND (RAPA NUI)

- Flight to Easter Island
- Learn about the history of the island at the Father Sebastian Museum
- Experience a Tahai Sunset

The original Polynesian settlers dragged their tiny outriggers ashore on Rapa Nui more than a thousand years ago. You can only imagine their relief and gratitude at the unlikely discovery of this tiny dot of land in the vast Pacific. Your arrival after a flight from the mainland is just as dramatic in its own way, as you immediately appreciate the remoteness...and the comforts of the modern eco-resort that will be your outpost for the next three nights.

This first afternoon is yours to wander the oceanside grounds. You may choose to shop the local art and craft market in Hanga Roa before you visit the small anthropological museum that was founded by a German missionary to preserve artifacts found on the island.

Just before dinner, you'll get to witness the spectacle of your first Easter Island sunset.

Overnight: Easter Island

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

EASTER ISLAND

- Walk the Poike Volcano peninsula
- Visit Anakena Beach

Fueled by a hearty breakfast, we're off to the place where the Easter Island story began: Poike Volcano, the first bit of land that emerged from the Pacific about 3,000,000 years ago. On an incredible and scenic walk around the peninsula, you'll see the circular, 500-foot-wide crater. Your guide will share lore and research that begin to draw a picture of ancient life here. The grassy hills, for instance, were once covered with trees...and deforestation led to the civilization's decline before the first Europeans arrived in the 18th century.

You'll see "Maunga Vai a Heva" where a massive face carved into the rocky hillside as a part of water rituals. There's "Ana o Keke," a cave where virgins were sequestered to maintain the paleness of their skin. Preserved petroglyphs tell their story. And you'll see signs of the tribal strife that divided the peoples in various parts of the island.

DAILY ITINERARY

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Finally, you stop at Akahena, Easter Island's finest beach. The fine sand is the pink of coral and the waters are crystal-clear turquoise. The seven moais at Ahu Nau Nau are the best-preserved on the island with exceptionally refined carving. Take a swim or relax overlooking the epic landscape and the deeply, deeply blue ocean stretch off to infinity.

Overnight: Easter Island

Meals: B, L

DAY 7

EASTER ISLAND / MOAI STATUES

- Experience sunrise at Ahu Tongariki
- See the moai and the quarry where they were carved
- Enjoy the Cultural Rapa Nui Show

There is no more iconic place on Easter Island than the beach where a rank of 15 moai statues stand at attention on the ceremonial platform at Ahu Tongariki. They look east, and you will too after the pre-dawn drive to the beach for a sunrise breakfast you'll never forget. To witness the revelation of these stark profiles against the sky is an opportunity to appreciate their mystical power.

In fact, the moai are the focus of this entire fascinating day. At Akahanga Village, you see the grave of the island's first king... and a beach strewn with face-down statues knocked from their platforms by a long-ago tsunami. You'll also walk on the haunting slopes of Rano Raraku, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was the outdoor "workshop" where carvers chipped at the volcanic rock where it rose from the ground to create the statues. Hundreds and hundreds of moai – some complete, many only partially hewn – stand sentinel across the terrain.

You'll also visit the the largest of the moai at Te Pito Kura and puzzle over the effort it required to move the 35-foot statue that is believed to weight more than 80 tons.

Back at the resort, you'll come together for a farewell dinner and a performance of traditional Rapa Nui music and dance.

Overnight: Easter Island

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8

EASTER ISLAND TO SANTIAGO

- Flight back to Santiago

Enjoy your final morning at leisure. After lunch, you will transfer back to Easter Island Airport for your return to the mainland. On your late arrival into Santiago, you say your final farewells before your independent departure from Chile the following morning.

Meals: B



Tour Hotels



Cumbres San Pedro de Atacama

Fringed in desert greenery, this contemporary property takes maximum advantage of the stunning desert and Andes views. The generous rooms are decorated in updated native style with timbered ceilings and expansive windows.

OVERNIGHT: San Pedro de Atacama | **NIGHTS:** 2



Singular Santiago

In an elegant city neighborhood, but bounded by a lush forested park, this recently opened hotel has rooms decorated with a sophisticated blend of classic and contemporary style. Check out the spa and rooftop pool.

OVERNIGHT: Santiago | **NIGHTS:** 2



Hanga Roa Eco Village & Spa

Hanga Roa Eco Lodge and Spa is inspired by the most ethnic and natural elements of Easter Island. Your room will help you feel the magical energy of the island. They invite you to reading and resting, delivering wellness at its best.

OVERNIGHT: Hanga Roa | **NIGHTS:** 3

Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking [here](#).

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://www.classicjourneys.com/private) to learn more about Private Journeys.

Trip Essentials

TRIP LENGTH	8 Days, 7 Nights
START	Lobby of Cumbres Hotel, San Pedro de Atacama, Chile
END	Santiago Airport (SCL), Santiago, Chile
TERRAIN	Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths. At your option, up to 2 to 4 hours of walking per day, with a mini-van in support.

What's Included

- Award-winning boutique hotels that provide you unlimited access to the people and places, culture and history you came to experience
- All breakfasts, 6 lunches and 4 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

- Invisible Check-In
- Privileged Access Events
- Perfect Pairings Dinners
- Wine on Us

READY TO BOOK?
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Or give us a call

1-800-200-3887

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST
moreinfo@classicjourneys.com

AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to [a whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

**Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

THE Classic Journeys Difference

HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!


President & Founder



You can expect the highest standards:



Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Chile...

- Watching the flamingos of Atacama, tip-toeing at the base of the snow-capped Andes
- Accepting an invitation for a slow-cooked lunch, prepared by the women in a pre-Inca village
- Walking the vineyards and tasting the wines in the Casablanca Valley
- Marveling at the giant moai sculptures, silhouetted against an Easter Island sunrise
- Picnicking on a hill surrounded by moai and overlooking the Pacific

"Classic Journeys excels in providing exceptional guides familiar with the local area."

-Bert and Jo Ann E.,