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## GEEO ITINERARY

CHILE AND ARGENTINA - Winter

### **Day 1: Santiago Arrive at any time.**

Arrive in Santiago at any time. Check into our hotel and enjoy the city. The day is free to spend at your leisure exploring the city until our welcome meeting this evening. Check the notice boards or ask at reception for the exact time and location of the group meeting, typically 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. After the meeting, you might want to head out for a meal in a nearby local restaurant to further get to know your tour leader and traveling companions. Please make every effort to arrive on time for this welcome meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your tour leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up. Santiago is Chile's largest city and capital, with internationally recognized vineyards and Andean ski resorts nearby. See our optional activities section further below for some ideas on what to do with your free time.

### **Day 2: Santiago (B) Take a tour of Santiago. Enjoy free time to go shopping, sit in a café, or hike to the lookout of Cerro Santa Lucia.**

We spend the morning visiting different neighborhoods of Santiago, stop at the Museo de la Memoria, and learn about the history of Chile. We then visit the Central Market and enjoy a traditional Chilean snack before heading to a local bar to try Terremoto (Earthquake), a local drink made with pineapple ice cream, white wine, and pisco. The afternoon is free for you to take some time to go shopping, sit in a café, or hike to the lookout of Cerro Santa Lucia.

### **Day 3: Santiago (B) Travel to the Casablanca Valley, stopping at a winery along the way. Depart for the seaside town of Valparaíso. Enjoy the street art and snap a few pictures. Wander the streets of the city or relax on the beach, before heading back to Santiago. In the evening, board an overnight bus to Pucón.**

In the morning, we head to the Casablanca Valley where we will visit nearby wineries in the area of Santiago. There are plenty of famous wineries or smaller family-run places at which stop. We will learn about the wine-making process, tour the vineyards, and, of course, try a sample or two. We then depart for the colorful seaside town of Valparaíso. The Historic Quarter is on UNESCO's World Heritage List. We will have time to see the 19th century Latin architecture, snapping a few pictures of the bright buildings built into the hillside. Enjoy the street art and take the opportunity to wander the streets of the city before heading back to Santiago. In the evening, we board an overnight bus to Pucón. Approximate travel time: 5 hrs by private vehicle (Santiago to Valparaíso round-trip); 8 hrs by overnight bus (Santiago to Pucón)

### **Day 4: Pucón Enjoy free time in Pucón to hike Villarica, try whitewater rafting, or explore the area by foot.**

Today, you have a free day to explore Pucón and its surrounding region. There's plenty to see and do in Pucón, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like hiking Villarica Volcano, whitewater rafting, or relaxing in thermal baths. See our optional activities section further below for some ideas on what to do with your free time.

### **Day 5: Pucón (B) Enjoy more free time in Pucón. Opt to soak in the nearby natural thermal pools.**

Today is another day in which to enjoy more free time for the many activities on offer in Pucón.

### **Day 6: Pucón/San Carlos de Bariloche (B) Cross the Andes to Argentina. Travel**

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**by local bus to San Martin and transfer to a private vehicle for the rest of the journey to Bariloche, stopping in the Seven Lake District. Enjoy a free evening in Bariloche.**

This morning, we cross the Andes and enter Argentina by local bus. In San Martin, we transfer to a private vehicle for the rest of the trip to Bariloche, stopping for photos in the Seven Lake district. In the evening, you can enjoy a free evening in this beautiful waterfront town of Bariloche. Approximate travel time: 3-4 hrs by local bus (Pucón to San Martin); 3-4 hrs by private vehicle (San Martin to Bariloche)

**Day 7: San Carlos de Bariloche (B, L) Transfer to a Gaucho Ranch just outside of Bariloche. Enjoy a barbecue lunch. Take a horseback ride with a Gaucho by your side.**

This morning, we transfer to a Gaucho Ranch just outside of Bariloche, where you will have the opportunity to be a Argentinian Gaucho for the day. Immerse yourself in the culture of these traditional Patagonia cowboys. We will take an easy horseback ride through the beautiful scenery of Bariloche and learn about the area's history from a real live Gaucho. Stop along the way to try Mate, the national beverage of Argentina, and some alfajores, a delicious dulce de leche cookie sandwich. Finish it all off with a traditional Patagonian barbecue.

**Day 8: San Carlos de Bariloche (B) Enjoy the beautiful area of the Seven Lakes District. Take a hike in the countryside or wander the town, known for its shops and artisan chocolate.**

Today, we enjoy a free day in the beautiful area of the Seven Lakes District. Take the opportunity to hike around the countryside or wander through the town, which is known for its shops and, in particular, its artisan chocolate. See our optional activities section further below for some ideas on what to do with your free time.

**Day 9: San Carlos de Bariloche/Buenos Aires (B) Fly to Buenos Aires. Opt to enjoy a tango dinner show, take a city tour, or enjoy free time to explore the many neighborhoods and museums.**

Today, we fly to Buenos Aires, where you will have the day free to explore the city after we arrive. Perhaps you might want to take an optional city tour and visit the districts of La Boca, Recoleta, and San Telmo. Alternatively, catch a tango show at one of the many famous tanguerías and/or wander the pedestrian walkways and see some dancing in the streets. Whatever you do, Buenos Aires is sure to leave lasting memories. When you are done exploring, settle your weary feet and enjoy a drink in one of the many sidewalk cafés and restaurants, and you will begin to understand the contemplative Argentine way of life. Since Buenos Aires will be your last chance to try the succulent beef, chicken, and chorizo parrilladas, dig in and enjoy! See our optional activities section further below for some ideas on what to do with your free time. Approximate travel time: 1.5 hrs by plane

**Day 10: Buenos Aires (B) Depart at any time.**

Our program ends in Buenos Aires this morning. If you have time, we recommend spending an extra day exploring Buenos Aires after this trip. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO trips in the same year and receive a discount! GEEO will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs). If you don't see a program that interests you that pairs with this trip, but still would like to extend your time abroad, let us know. We will work with you to find a non-teacher trip from our tour operator's much larger catalog. Even better, if you are an educator, we can still offer you a discounted price on the trip you choose!