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# UNIQUE

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*ways to explore Chile*

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Abercrombie & Kent  
CHILE

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10 unique ways to explore Chile



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# 01 *He who does not know the Chilean forests, does not know the planet*

PABLO NERUDA

*Memoir, I Confess that I Have Lived*

Is it not every traveller's dream to hop in a car, wind the windows down and cruise Patagonia's big sky roads? Then stop off wherever they wish to explore the heavenly landscape and the beautiful forests Neruda talks of?

Well, A&K have kicked up enough dust exploring Northern Patagonia's less trodden path to make this dream a reality and new for this season this region can be showcased in the true manner it deserves as we have managed to curate a perfect portfolio of top notch places to rest your vista-soaked heads.

We have done more than just plan the route; we have prepared an exciting offering of tours, adventures, day trips, pit stops, restaurant recommendations and everything else you could possibly need so you will never be far from an A&K stamped adventure or eatery. Now we've done all the hard work all you have to do is pick up your keys, plug in the GPS and keep your eyes on the road and wow, they are some beautiful roads to keep your eyes on, until you make it to your especially chosen evening's retreat.

**An 11-day adventure will give you some serious time behind the wheel to explore at leisure the beautiful turquoise lakes, sparkling fjords, ice age glaciers and luscious valleys which the region is famous for.** Every day offers new and spectacular adventure but a few of our highlights include the famous pastry shop 'Giratoria' that offers local specialities a fantastic panoramic view at the top of Cerro Otto in Bariloche and the fascinating German settlement of Frutillar. We also recommend the wonderfully named Futaleufú named after its iconic river said to be one of the premier white-water destinations in the world and where we invite you to try your hand at rafting, kayaking, fly fishing or horse riding (or just lazily strolling around the beautiful landscape of course). Let's not forget Puyuhuapi from where you can enjoy some of the best trekking of the region through forests of cinnamon trees. Make driving fun again, so much more than your daily commute to work!

A short stop at Coihaique, a city with a warm hospitality will allow you to follow the route until Valle Chacabuco, a project for the future Patagonia National Park, where you will be simply amazed by the beauty of its rivers and lakes and be part of the protection and conservation of these remote lands. 🌿



# NORTH PATAGONIA ROAD TRIP

PACIFIC  
OCEAN

ATLANTIC  
OCEAN



# ATACAMA

## *Camp Experience*

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**A&K have joined up with one of our favourite hotel partners to offer you a totally unique and magical experience in the twinkling gem of Chile: the awe-inspiring Atacama Desert.**

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Although you will find it hard to step away from your perfect slice of hotel heaven **we suggest you leave a night in our hands; be prepared for the unexpected and be wowed by a special evening under the stars.**

In this brand new expedition, exclusive to A&K, we will take you into the middle of the mighty Atacama where you will dine alfresco to the sounds of a crackling fire. However, don't panic, this is definitely more glamping style than camp-fire cowboy. You will find yourself fine Chilean wine in hand with some lip-smacking food created by the Alto Atacama team filling your stomachs - then time to curl up in soft blankets and watch the twinkling star filled sky. This will certainly be a night to remember!

The stars here are renowned for their beauty, and number! With a personal guide to teach you your 'supernovae' from your 'white dwarfs' and a whole evening to make a year full of wishes under shooting stars we are not sure if you are going to want to go to sleep. But if you do we have that sorted in a magical tented camp in the middle of the desert.



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Prices from USD 3,375.00 per person in Double accommodation for 3 nights in All-Inclusive PRIVATE programme.

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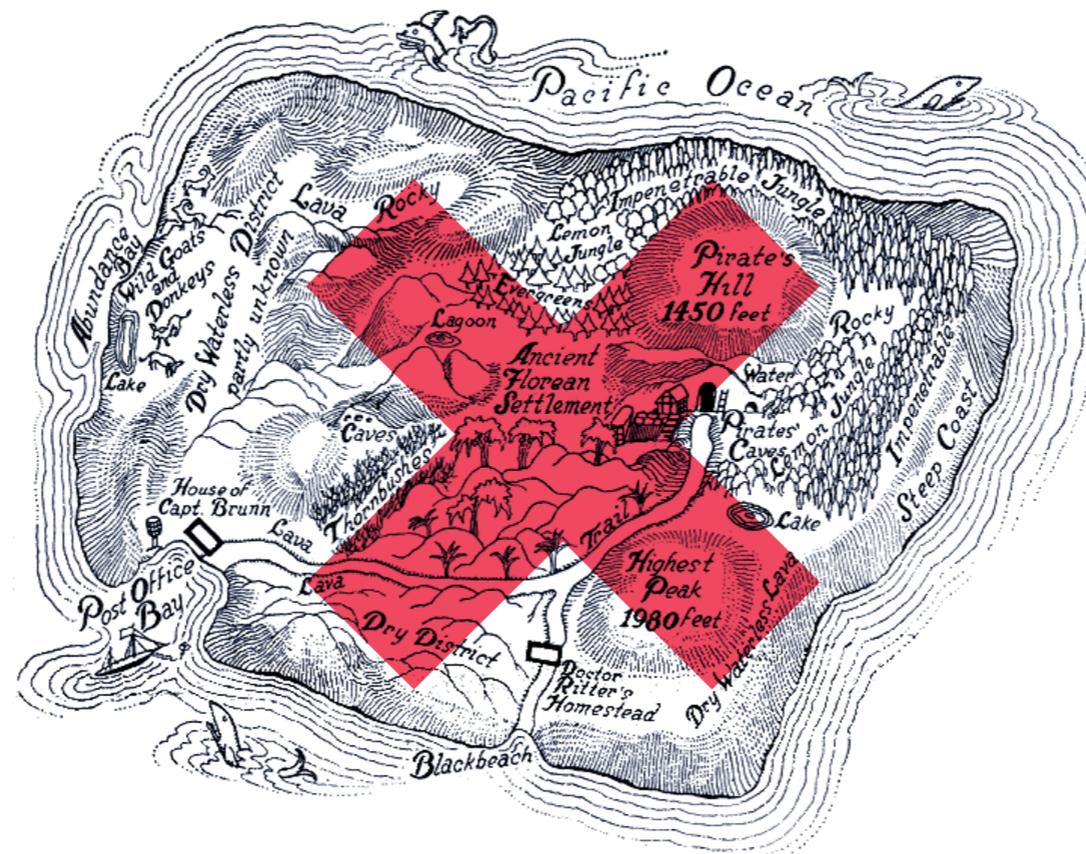
**The programme includes:**

- Round trip transfer to/ from Calama Airport (Private service)
- 1 night camping in the moon valley
- 2 nights lodging in Alto Atacama Desert Lodge & Spa in Catarpe Room Category
- Daily Activities, 1 full day or 2 half days: Private Excursions & Spa Tours available. (Private guide & driver)
- Full Board. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Appetizers
- Open Bar



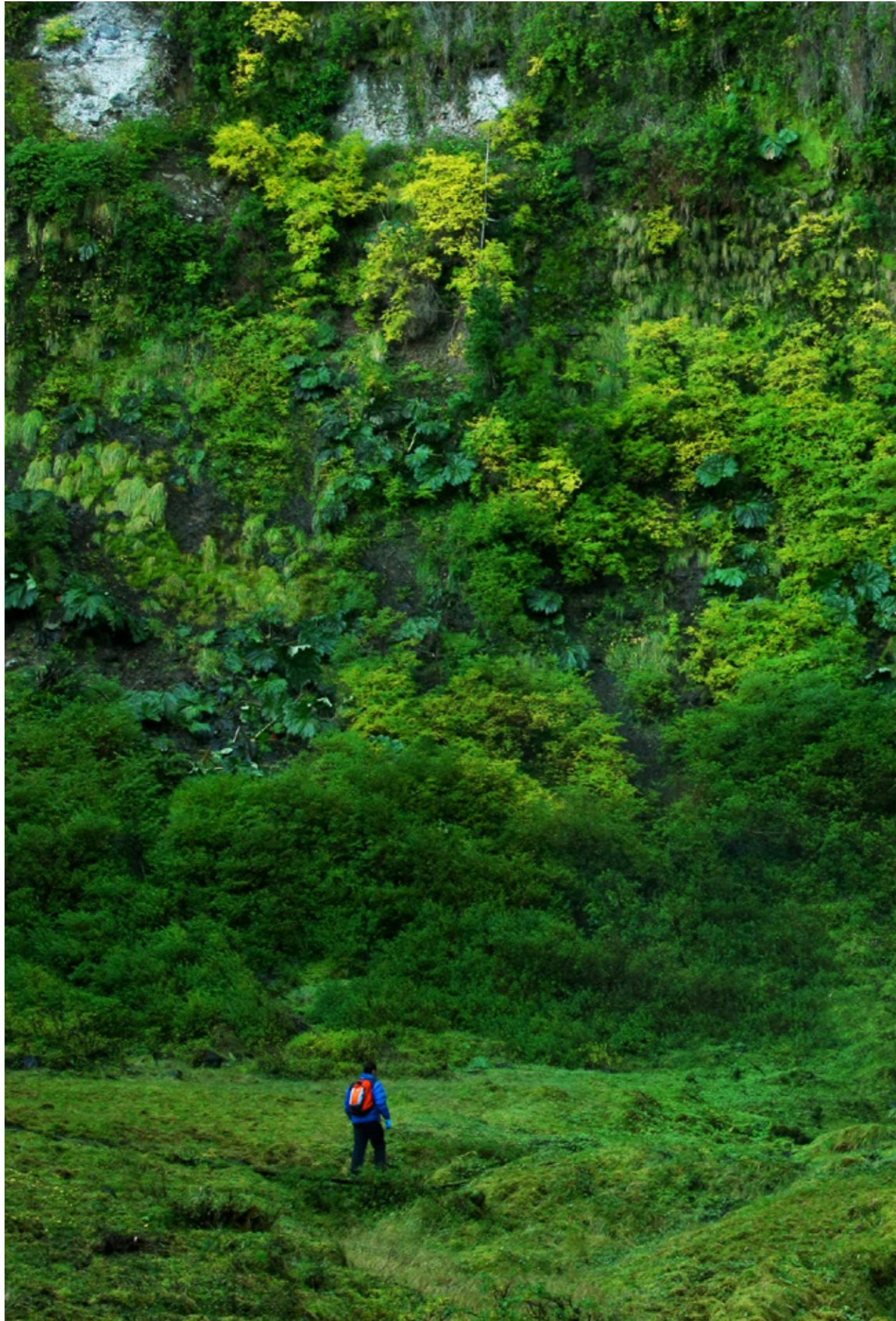
# ROBINSON CRUSOE ISLAND LODGE

03



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*It's official; there is a place where your friends may not have even heard of, where eco-tourism mixes seamlessly with super-spa-pampering, where you can be so firmly off the beaten path that you will probably have to get the map out right now to know where we are talking about.*



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**Welcome to one of the least known destinations of South America, the fabulously named Robinson Crusoe Island, made even more tantalizing as it is said to have been the inspiration for Defoe's legendary character of Robinson Crusoe.**

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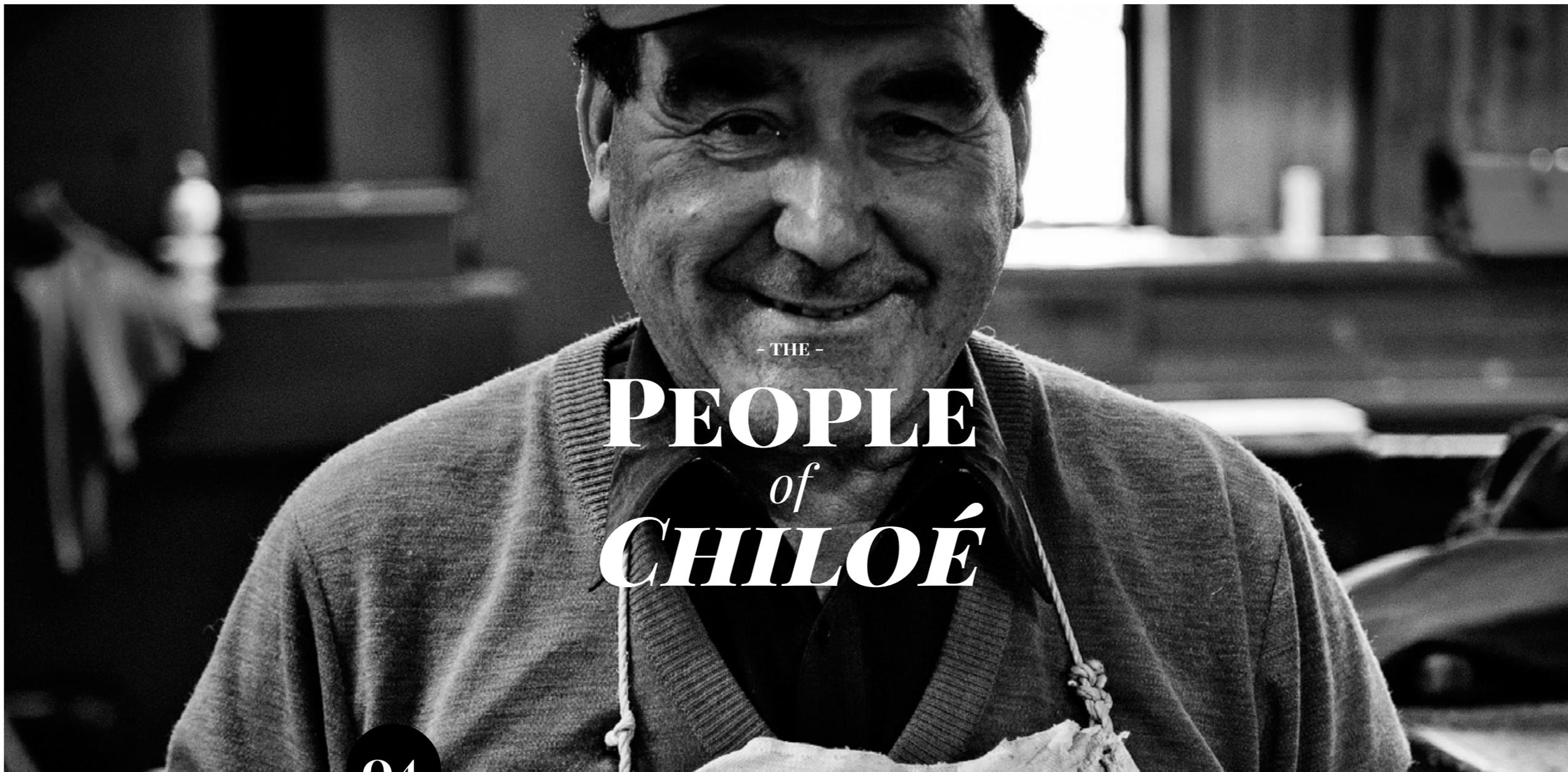
Welcome to one of the least known destinations of South America, the fabulously named Robinson Crusoe Island, made even more tantalizing as it is said to have been the inspiration for Defoe's legendary character of Robinson Crusoe.

The island boasts a rich history, a pirate's playground since it was discovered by Spanish navigator Juan Fernández in 1574. Sailors (and pirates) used this paradise island to stock up on supplies before advancing the stormy seas.

**Nowadays (perhaps sadly) with no pirates and being 670 km from the coast of Valparaiso you have to really want to go here, but once you land you will be transported to a truly gastronomic extravaganza.** Dine on the flavours of island life; fish, crab, and fresh lobsters. Here it's all

about the freshest, best local produce the sea has to offer. You can even take the food theme to the extreme and try your hand at scuba diving where you can see how the locals catch the lobsters, of course followed by the necessary fresh lobster pot lunch, accompanied with a fine Chilean white wine as a reward.

Even better news for those wanting to escape it all is that this island has no roads so needs to be explored by foot. Exceedingly pretty to explore it has been declared a National Park and UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and, for you nature junkies 62% of the plants on the island are endemic, meaning you will see them nowhere else in the world. Great for trekking, wonderful for photography, lobster dining a plenty and with some great spa therapies we really can't think of a reason not to go there. 📸



04

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**Chiloe really feels like the southernmost end of the world.**

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As night falls it submerges into a world of pincoyas (mermaids) and traucos (trolls); it is a magical wonderland where you can feel the people's belief in its ancient superstitions still lingering. For this reason **Chiloé cannot be explored without getting to know its inhabitants** and listening to their stories of what they believe lives on their magic lands. Famed for their genuine charm and kindness, the Chilotes are descendants of the indigenous Huilliche people and of Spanish conquistadors'. We invite you to meet them.

With your guide it is possible to spend a night with the local people, learn of their fascinating history and culture and eat their fabulous fresh food. The food is a huge part of the island - you can spend a day collecting fresh mussels from the sea and helping harvest potatoes, one night you could find yourself sharing their famous seafood stew 'curanto' and the next be dining on fresh oysters in a restaurant that houses its own oyster beds.

Although we think this island really is about its people it has some fantastic wildlife too, a trip here would not be complete without a visit to the penguin colony of Puñihuil, the only place in the world where Magellanic and Humbolt penguins nest side by side. Oh and if you are lucky you may just spot a Humpback whale on its way to Patagonia!

05

# WINE FOR FUN



*We all know by now that Chile is a serious player on the international wine scene and a trip to the country is not really complete without visiting the vineyards and of course sampling their famous Carmenere.*

However we decided that for wine lovers getting a little under the skin of the production would be a highlight of any trip so we invite you all to be winemakers for a day!

We have joined forces with some of the best wineries in Chile who will give you the opportunity to make your very own blend! Combining varieties of red you will be trained on the tricks to the perfect pour and then given all the equipment you need to create it.

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**When you have bottled, corked and all importantly labelled your nectar you can of course take it with you.**

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Our harvest season 'Vendimia' runs between March and May and if you chose to travel in these months another treat awaits you as you will be able to help out in the hugely important task on the winemakers calendar and help harvest the grapes. You will be given everything you need to tackle the vineyards like a professional and of course taste plenty of wine in the process.

For those chocolate aficionados, learn how to pair South American chocolate and flavours with memorable wines. Does a Cabernet pair with a dark Ecuadorian chocolate or do the tannins soften better if we combine it with some Venezuelan chocolate with a touch of guayaba? There is only one way to find out. 





*beyond*  
**SANTIAGO**

06

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**Santiago is located in a perfect location for exploring colossal mountains, lush wine country and the roaring Pacific, all within a couple of hours from your hotel.**

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The cosmopolitan city of Santiago, flanked by the iconic Andes, is a divine city to spend a few days soaking in the culture, museums, art and veritable Aladdin's cave of restaurants and hip bars. One of its (many) pulls however is its proximity to the Chilean countryside where there is so much to experience and see just a short drive from the city centre. This region is a secret playground for the Santiaguinos and we have it covered for you too. There are obviously the acres of vineyards in which to while away a sunny day (later being driven back to Santiago, allowing you to enjoy them fully)!

We have been busy however sourcing some great new experiences for you. Have you thought about a day of meditation, relaxation and therapies in the achingly cool coastal region less than 2 hours' drive from the city? A morning's meditation in the postcard-pretty city of Valparaiso followed by the original Gong therapy on the mystical sand dunes of Concón and just to Zen you out completely some thalassotherapy (detoxing in hot sea water). This can all be experienced on a fabulously relaxing day out from the capital (meaning no stress to pack your bags)!

Perhaps you prefer to get your meditative kicks by walking through nature? Just a short drive from the city you can reach the beautiful river valley of Cajón del Maipo carved out of the Andes by its namesake river. It is an absolute haven for lovers of outdoor adventure and you can hike, raft, mountain bike or simply sit and take photographs of the beautiful view - all this and still be back in the city in time for a famous Pisco Sour.

# 07 WINTER WONDERLANDS

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*A spectacular year round destination  
Chile offers up a veritable winter wonder-  
land of adventures and experiences.*

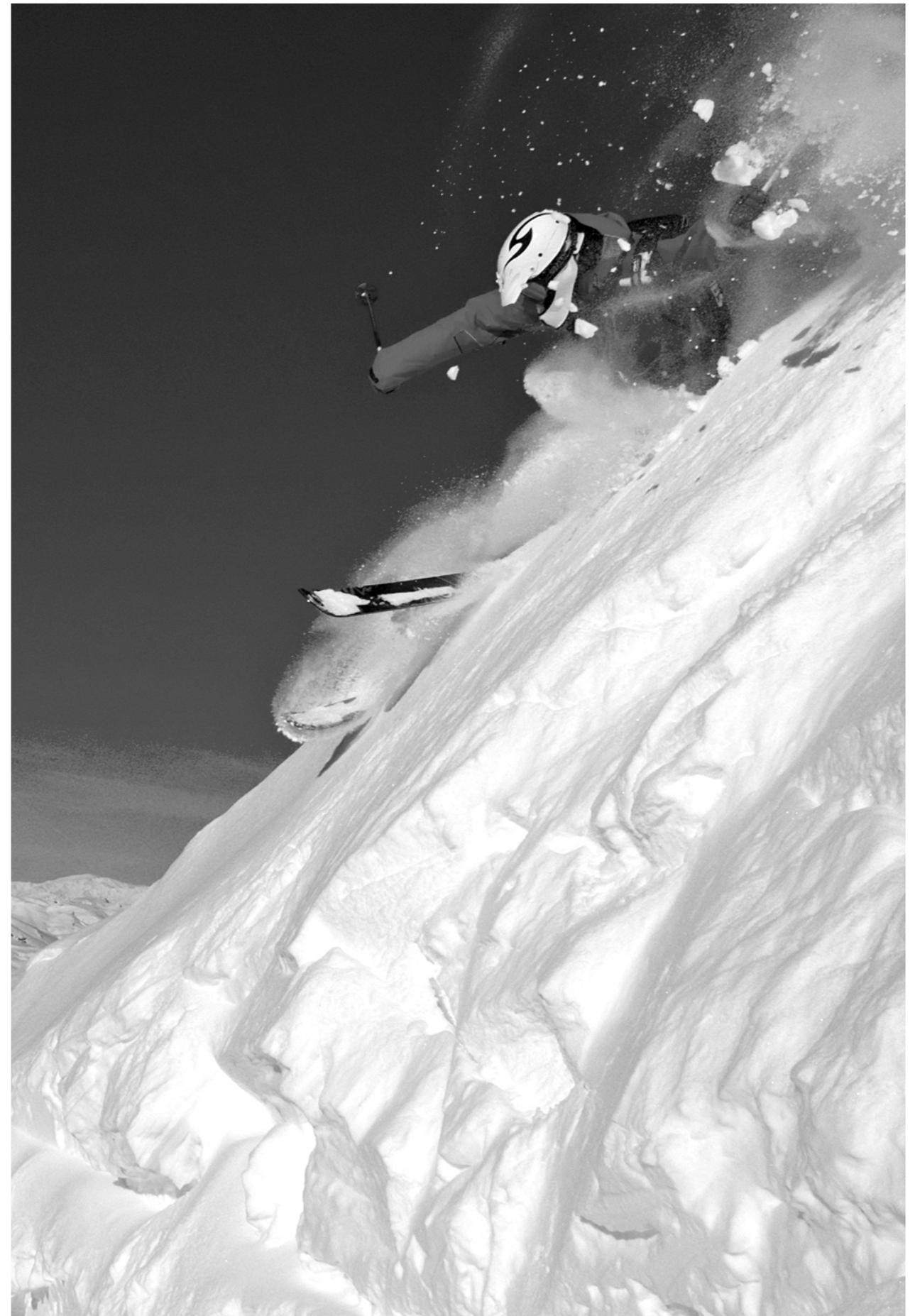
If you want to ski all year round then skip the European summer and head to Chile. We have so many options but our top tip is Ski Portillo, considered by many to be the best ski resort in Chile and has been ranked one of the top 10 ski resorts in the world. Only 2 hours from Santiago it makes a great trip combined with a city break in the cosmopolitan capital. Over 66 years in the running, it just keeps getting better and is a firm favourite worldwide.

For the more adventurous amongst you it's time to shout about one of Chile's best-kept secrets, Puma Lodge Heliskiing provides skiers and snowboarders exclusive access to some of the most remote terrain in the Andes with more than 3,000 square kilometres of private skiable terrain. Known as the 'powder capital of the Andes' this is skiing at its best and most extreme. Where snowstorms average 100 cm of powder and the longest run is a

mighty 16km. There is in fact thousands of metres of untracked powder and access to some of the most remote terrain in the iconic mountain range.

All skied out and wish to rest your weary limbs? Why don't you head to the most magnificent hot spring complex in Chile? With a stunning design set deep in the Villarica National Park this is an incredible wilderness experience. With the history steeped hotel Antumalal to volcano gaze from we think Pucon in winter is a must-do.

Lastly we know Patagonia is on everyone's bucket list but have you thought about visiting it in the austral wintertime for an ultimate dream come true? **A magic wilderness of snow, big blue sky and a peaceful people-free park is as close to true beauty as you will get.** If you are lucky you may even spot a Puma with our special Puma tracking jeep adventures available. 







## OH! HOLIDAYS

08

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*Everybody dreams of escaping the winter blues, whether it be leaving the country during the excessive pre-Christmas frenzy or shooting off after it to relax after the Christmas binge. Or perhaps you want to escape the entire season!*

Whatever floats your winter boat we have some great last minute availability for all parts of the festive season. Remember, the northern winter is the austral summer, which pretty much guarantees the best that Chile has to offer. Sadly the word is definitely out and the best of the top-notch properties in the A&K portfolio have been snapped up for this coming season. Or so we thought. Until we remembered that we cleverly held some back for you last minute planners!

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**We are very pleased to announce  
that some of the top lodges in  
Chile have held a room for you.**

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In Patagonia, the most iconic destination, we invite you to discover the wonders of Torres del Paine National Park in a special way with Patagonia Camp, where each Yurt will allow you to hear the sound of wind or rain while you go to sleep, gaze at the stars from your comfortable bed and encounter one of the most beautiful landscapes of the world from your window.

Finally, Vira Vira is one of the most exciting developments in recent years. This 23 hectare park next to the Licura River in the Lake District is the perfect site for families, with a working farm including wild boars, ponies and a cheese factory. That's right, a cheese factory.





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**For the Christmas and New Year's season  
we have blocked space for those last minute  
bookings:**

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- We have 3 Double Yali Rooms available at Explora Atacama from December 28th 2015 to January 3rd 2016.
- We also have 3 Double Varua rooms available at Explora Easter Island from December 29th to January 2nd 2016.
- In Patagonia we have 2 Double Yurts at Patagonia Camp from December 30th 2015 to January 4th 2016 (5 nights).
- We have 2 Villa Suites available at Vira Vira from December 28th to January 2nd.



09

# *EASTER ISLAND*

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MORE THAN MOAIS

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**Easter Island.**  
**The very words carry an almost  
mystical pull towards its savagely  
beautiful terrain.**

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Possibly the most remote inhabited island in the world (its nearest populated island neighbour being 2,075 km away) means it really does feel cut off from our modern lives. This tiny speck of land pinpoints the southernmost point of the Polynesian triangle and is home to those statues, probably the most recognized on earth, although due to their geographical distance from mainland Chile still delightfully unexplored.

Traditionally the island is explored on foot, but here at A&K we thought you might like to try something a little different so we have sourced you some top of the range quad bikes complete with comfy seats and plenty of carrying space for your fabulous picnic hamper. This is important as we don't suggest you go zooming off at high speed, far from it, we deemed these to be the comfiest, easiest way to relax into the islands easy every-day-feels-like-Sunday pace and explore its striking landscape for yourself. Feel free to stop off

as you wish, plonk down your picnic hamper and enjoy views of the rolling hills, with all the time in the world to gaze at those iconic statues.

We provide you with the picnic hamper, the bike, the map. All you have to do is decide whether you would like to enjoy your lunch on a quiet beach, together with the Moai statues themselves or from a hill looking down at the sparkling waters and unique landscape. Let's not forget the entire island has been named a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Of course, if you feel like getting a little adventurous we can organise diving, snorkelling and even surfing from the white sandy beaches of this magical island. Or join the local fishermen to try catching the elusive Easter Island tuna. Afterwards, return to shore with the catch and cook the fish at the home of a Rapa Nui using local ingredients. A&K turns Easter Island into so much more than stone statues. 





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*Make it real*

ANTARTICA

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*Dream of glaciers glinting in your eyes, seen from the comfort of your bed? Have an urge to sit nose to nose with a penguin, or maybe amongst a few hundred? Always wanted to feel like a great explorer but don't want to drop the luxury from your life?*

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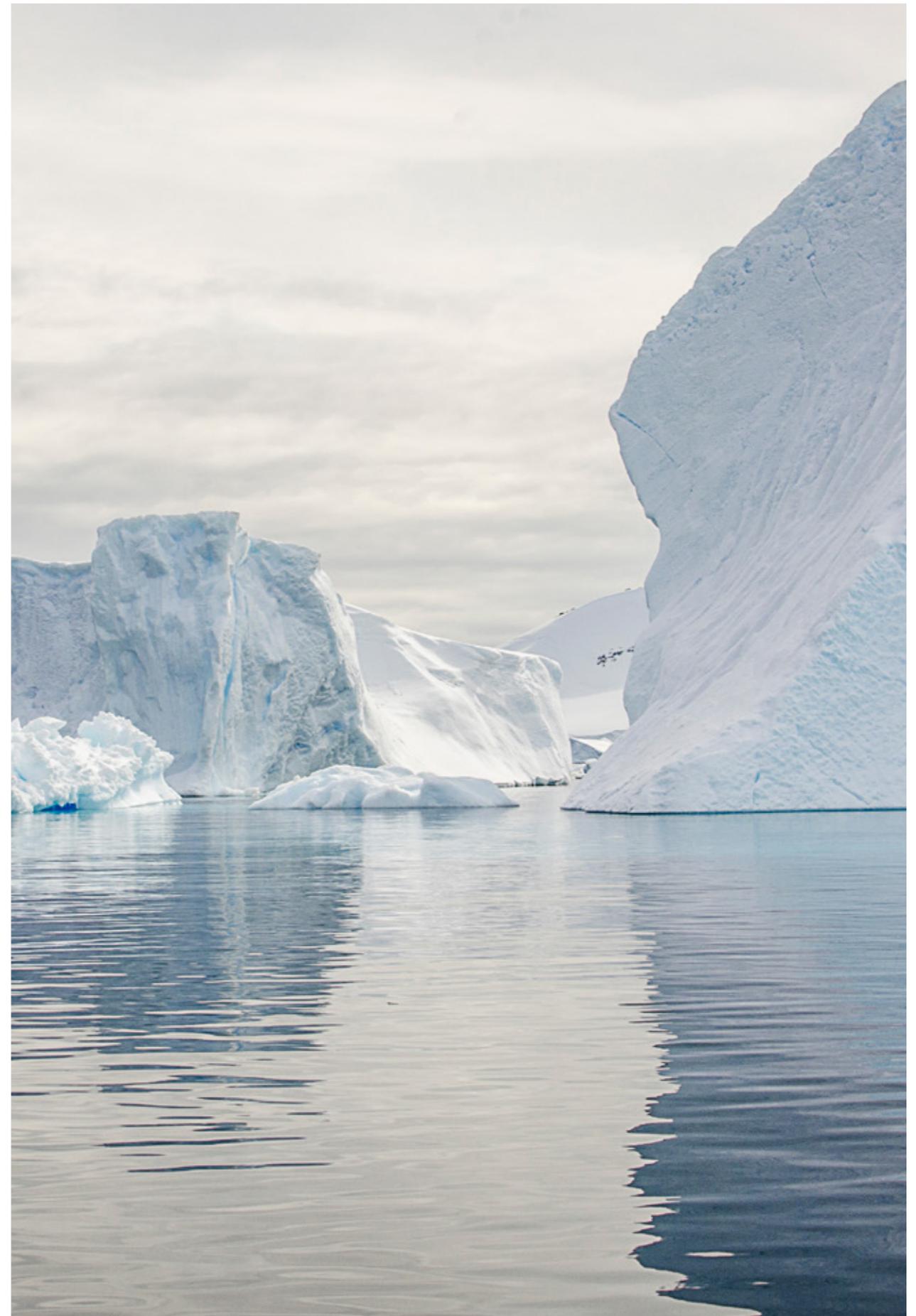
Travel with A&K to the greatest ice mass on earth, Antarctica. The best part is that this iconic voyage can be easily combined with a Chile adventure as we now have itineraries starting from Punta Arenas.

Antarctica is so much more than the white continent, not only is the surreal landscape of jewel light colours where mountains rise directly from the sea but the wildlife rich ecosystem where you may see seals, penguins, whales and sea birds a plenty will make you glad you bought that extra memory card!

For the more adventurous you can kayak through Antarctic waters to get up close and personal with an iceberg or two and new this season snow shoe on the Antarctic peninsula with our partners Antarctica XXI - a fun, easy and sometimes necessary way to explore the magic of Chile's Southern sister.

Antarctica XXI is an exciting development to A&K Chile's portfolio. A great option for the time poor but adventure hungry, you can fly over, rather than sail across, the mythical waters of the Drake Passage. A two-hour flight from Punta Arenas takes you straight to the South Shetland Islands where the Antarctic air will fill your lungs for the first time as you hop into a zodiac to board your expedition vessel. **Given the few cabins left, A&K has allotment on the December 2nd departure with Antarctica XXI.**

Now, if you have the time, **the full cruise on 'Le Boreal' really is the trip of a lifetime**, with an Expedition Team that is unrivalled in experience and passion for Antarctica. Being the most exclusive vessel to cruise these waters means we book up early - there are a few cabins left for the 2015/16 season so move fast!





## ***Thank You!***

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For me, the most memorable travel experiences always have an element of surprise, such as an unexpected camp underneath the Atacama stars or even a volcano eruption that kindly suggests you drive 11 hours to the nearest open airport (as I recently found out). Those are the experiences that make a mark and persist far more than extravagant amenities in your hotel room. So we wanted to showcase what A&K Chile can do to surprise and inspire, from exotic and remote destinations to innovative ways to explore the classics. We want your travelers to meet people, to explore independently, to try new foods and taint their hands, not just their mouths, purple with wine. Creating great travel is the work of artisans and at A&K Chile we work with great joy at finding gems to craft exceptional journeys.

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