



SOUTH AMERICAN ODYSSEY WITH NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINES

Classic Cruising Tour | 34 Days | Physical Level 2

RIO DE JANERIO - IGUAZU FALLS - BUENOS AIRES - MONTEVIDEO - PUERTO MADRYN - FALKLAND ISLANDS - ELEPHANT ISLAND - PARADISE BAY - USHUAIA - PUNTA ARENAS - PUERTO MONTT - SANTIAGO - CUSCO - SACRED VALLEY - AGUAS CALIENTES - CUSCO - LIMA

From the vibrant cities and natural wonders of South America to the frozen landscapes of Antarctica, this Cruise & Tour journey blends immersive land touring with an unforgettable ocean voyage. Explore Rio, Iguazu Falls and Buenos Aires before cruising to the Falkland Islands, Antarctica and Ushuaia, disembarking in Santiago, then continuing to Peru and the ancient wonders of Machu Picchu.

- Stand beneath the iconic Christ the Redeemer in Rio
- Witness the breathtaking cascades of Iguazu Falls
- Experience the passion and rhythm of tango in Buenos Aires
- Cruise to the edge of Antarctica through spectacular icy landscapes
- Explore the ancient wonders of Machu Picchu

To book call **1300 727 998** or visit your local travel agent

Visit wendywutours.com.au

TOUR MAP



TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- 16 nights NCL cruise on Norwegian Star
- All accommodation
- Meals as stated (if dining onboard throughout) – 31 breakfasts (B), 30 lunches (L), 31 dinners (D)
- All sightseeing and entrance fees, transportation and transfers pre and post cruise
- English speaking National Escorts (if your group is 10 or more passengers) or Local Guides pre and post cruise
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

Pre and post cruise, the only elements or aspects you may have to pay for are personal expenditures e.g., drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary. During the cruise, your meals on board will be included in the main dining areas as well as a limited number of visits to the speciality restaurants. However, should you wish to dine in any of the speciality restaurants not included in your cruising / "Free at Sea" package, you will be required to pay for these locally. In addition, if you opt to dine off the ship, these meals will also be paid for locally, and please note you will not be refunded for meals missed on board. Excursions are also available to book with your cruise reservation at your own expense. Gratuities on board the ship are not included in your tour cost.

CLASSIC CRUISING TOURS

These tours are designed for those who wish to discover the rich cultures, iconic cities, dramatic landscapes and ancient wonders of South America on an excellent-value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people, combined with an unforgettable cruise to Antarctica. The tours are on a fully-inclusive basis pre and post cruise, so you will travel with the assurance that your arrangements before and after your cruise are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts and local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience. There will be no Wendy Wu guides or representatives on the cruise.

PHYSICAL LEVEL

Our tours come with a physical rating to guide you in selecting a holiday that suits your comfort level. Joining any of our tours involves independent mobility and the ability to stay active throughout the day, which is essential for fully enjoying each destination.

‘South American Odyssey’ falls under a physical Level 2 category. A reasonable level of fitness is required, and you should expect to be on your feet for much of the day. You will be getting on and off coaches, trains, boats and the cruise ship, as well as walking around the sights, often including steps, some uneven surfaces plus occasional longer walks.

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods of time, often on uneven surfaces
- You will be required to board the cruise ship without assistance and get on and off at ports if you wish to disembark the ship
- Sightseeing will involve climbing several steps, often without handrails

Of course, our National Escorts and/or local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

JOINING YOUR TOUR

For travellers that have booked a ‘Land & Cruise Only’ tour with no international flights, please note the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if you are arriving on the start and departing on the conclusion date of your tour, or when booking pre/post night accommodation with Wendy Wu Tours.

Join the tour on Day 1 in Rio De Janeiro and end the tour on Day 32 at Lima Airport. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

ITINERARY CHANGES

We intend to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours, or as dictated by local conditions. In these circumstances, we will endeavour to make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip. Similarly, while cruise lines always endeavour to adhere to the published itineraries, they may be changed at the discretion of the captain due to weather advisories, port traffic, and any other unforeseeable circumstances.

NCL'S FREE AT SEA OFFER: WHAT'S INCLUDED

We are pleased to include NCL's Free at Sea offer with this cruise and tour package, enhancing your onboard experience with exceptional perks.

Enjoy unlimited drinks throughout your cruise with a package that includes selected beer, wine, soft drinks, fruit juices, and branded spirits. While bottled water is not included, water is available by the glass in restaurants at no extra cost. This package is valid in all venues onboard, ensuring a seamless experience.

Stay connected with complimentary Wi-Fi, where each guest sharing the same stateroom receives 150 minutes of access per guest. Additionally, enhance your journey with shore excursion credits - \$50USD off per cabin, per excursion. These credits are assigned to the lead guest on the reservation and can be applied to excursions booked in advance via the app or website, where discounted rates will be displayed.

Delight in exquisite speciality dining experiences, with included meals for guests 1 and 2 based on stateroom category and cruise duration. For this sailing 4 speciality dining experiences are included, reservations can conveniently be made through the app prior to your cruise.

DETAILED ITINERARY**Day 1: Arrive in Rio de Janeiro****Meals: D**

Fly to Rio De Janeiro, Brazil's most famous seaside city. On arrival, you will be met at the airport by an English-speaking representative and transferred to your hotel for check-in. You will travel together with any other group members arriving at a similar time.

The rest of the day is at leisure to relax after your flight or begin exploring before a welcome dinner this evening.



Please note: Early check-in is not included. If your flight arrives in the morning and you wish to arrange this, please speak to your reservation consultant. Transfer arrangements may differ depending on group size.

Destination Information

Rio de Janeiro – Founded in 1565, the city became the capital of the Portuguese Empire from 1815 – 1822 after the royal family fled their homeland following the conquests of Napoleon. Nowadays, this city is famous for its beaches, lush scenery and samba fuelled nightlife. Rio is also home to Christ the Redeemer and the impressive Sugar Loaf Mountain, both of which you will experience on this tour.

Day 2: Explore Rio de Janeiro**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, tour Rio's most iconic landmarks on a full day of sightseeing. Begin with a scenic drive along Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon before arriving at Corcovado, where you will board the historic train that winds its way through lush Atlantic rainforest up to the summit. At the top, stand beneath the towering statue of Christ the Redeemer and take in sweeping panoramic views over Rio's beaches, mountains and cityscape.

Descend back through the forest and enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant. Return to your hotel for some time at leisure to relax and freshen up before heading out in the evening for dinner at a local restaurant.

**Destination Information**

Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon – A picturesque lagoon in Rio's South Zone, surrounded by mountains and elegant neighbourhoods. This scenic drive offers tranquil waters and beautiful views, providing a relaxing introduction to the city's striking landscape.

Corcovado & Christ the Redeemer – Rising above the Tijuca Forest, Corcovado Mountain is home to the world-famous Christ the Redeemer statue. The historic train journey winds through dense Atlantic rainforest to the summit, where sweeping views stretch across Rio's beaches, mountains and skyline. Completed in 1931, the statue is one of the most iconic symbols in the world and a defining feature of the city's landscape.

Day 3: Sugar Loaf Mountain**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, soar up the iconic Sugarloaf Mountain by glass cable car, rising above the city for sweeping views of Rio's beaches, bays and surrounding mountains from a breathtaking new perspective. At the summit, take time to enjoy the panoramic scenery before descending back to the city.



This evening, embark on a traditional Boteco food tour. Botecos are at the heart of Brazilian social life and an essential part of Rio's culinary culture, where locals gather for relaxed conversation, cold drinks and shared plates. On your tour, sample classic Brazilian snacks paired with ice-cold beer while experiencing the warm, lively community atmosphere that defines Rio's neighbourhood nightlife.

Destination Information

Sugar Loaf Mountain – Known as Pao de Acucar in Portuguese, Sugarloaf Mountain sits at the entrance of Guanabara Bay and is named for its unusual shape as it resembles a traditional form of sugar widely used two centuries ago. Your cable car journey will take you to the summit of the mountain, where you will take in the magnificent views from a height 395 metres. This is an awe inspiring site, and one that is popular not just with locals and tourists but rock climbers also, as the mountain is one of the largest and most popular urban rock-climbing destinations in the world, featuring over 270 different routes to the top.

Day 4: Travel to Iguazu**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, bid farewell to Rio de Janeiro and transfer to the airport for your flight to Foz do Iguazu. On arrival, you will be met by your English-speaking guide and head straight into the natural beauty of Iguazu National Park, which straddles the border between Brazil and Argentina, for your first encounter with the spectacular Iguazu Falls. Board a glass elevator down to a viewing platform, where you can take in an excellent view of the Garganta do Diabo (Devil's Throat), the waterfall's most dramatic cataract. Later, cross the border into Argentina and check in to your hotel. This evening, enjoy dinner at the hotel.

**Destination Information**

Foz do Iguazu – Located in Brazil's Paraná state, Foz do Iguazu sits at the meeting point of Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay, and serves as the gateway to one of the world's greatest natural wonders. The city is best known for its proximity to Iguazu Falls and the surrounding subtropical rainforest of Iguazu National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its rich biodiversity and dramatic landscapes.

Iguazu National Park – Straddling the border between Brazil and Argentina, Iguazu National Park protects one of the most spectacular waterfall systems on Earth. Home to hundreds of cascades set within lush Atlantic rainforest, the park offers a network of walkways and viewpoints that bring visitors close to the thundering water and abundant wildlife. It is one of South America's most iconic natural environments.

Garganta do Diabo (Devil's Throat) – The most powerful and dramatic section of Iguazu Falls, the Devil's Throat is a U-shaped chasm where vast volumes of water plunge into a deep gorge, creating a continuous cloud of mist and rainbows. A series of viewing platforms allows visitors to experience the full force and scale of this natural spectacle up close.

Day 5:**More Iguazu****Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, explore the Argentinian side of the spectacular Iguazu Falls. Follow a network of walking trails and elevated catwalks that bring you closer to a series of cascading falls while also revealing sweeping panoramic views of the full scale, power and beauty of this natural wonder. From mist-filled viewpoints to dramatic overlooks, experience the raw force of water as it thunders through the subtropical rainforest of Iguazu National Park.



This evening, enjoy 'The Argentine Experience', an interactive dining experience where you will discover the secrets of Argentine cuisine in a relaxed and sociable setting. Learn key Spanish phrases, gain insight into local culinary traditions and enjoy a selection of quintessential Argentine dishes and drinks, all while immersing yourself in the country's warm hospitality and vibrant food culture.

Destination Information

Iguazu Falls (Argentinian Side) – Located within Iguazu National Park, the Argentinian side of Iguazu Falls offers an immersive experience of one of the world's greatest natural wonders. A series of well-maintained walking trails and elevated catwalks allow visitors to explore different perspectives of the falls, from close-up views of smaller cascades to sweeping panoramas that reveal the full scale and power of the system. Surrounded by subtropical rainforest, the area is rich in biodiversity and provides an unforgettable encounter with one of South America's most iconic landscapes.

Day 6: Fly to Buenos Aires**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, fly to Argentina's enchanting capital, Buenos Aires. On arrival, you will be met by your English-speaking guide and begin exploring the city straight away with a guided introduction, including a 'tango in the park' experience, where you can watch passionate couples perform the tango outdoors in a beautiful city park. Afterwards, transfer to your hotel for check-in. Later this evening, join your guide for a short walk to a local restaurant for dinner.

**Destination Information**

Buenos Aires - The Paris of South America, Buenos Aires is a romantic and lively city. The culture of the city is extremely diverse and the asado (barbecue) restaurants are second to none. Most importantly of all, Buenos Aires is the home of Tango and performers can be seen dancing in restaurants, bars or even on the streets.

Day 7: Visit the Pampas**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, spend the day just outside Buenos Aires on the vast, fertile grasslands of the Pampas, visiting a traditional estancia (ranch). Gain insight into the life of the gaucho and experience authentic rural traditions, before enjoying a typical Argentine asado lunch. In the afternoon, take in a lively folklore show celebrating Argentina's music and dance heritage. This evening, return to Buenos Aires and experience the passion of a traditional tango show with dinner.

**Destination Information**

The Pampas – Stretching across central Argentina, the Pampas are vast, fertile plains that form the heart of the country's agricultural region. Known for their open landscapes and traditional estancias, this region offers a glimpse into rural Argentine life. It is here that the gaucho culture thrives, with horse riding, cattle ranching and traditional asado barbecues forming an important part of local heritage.

Estancia (Ranch Experience) – A traditional Argentine estancia offers an authentic insight into rural life on the Pampas. Visitors can experience gaucho skills such as horse riding and cattle work, enjoy regional hospitality and take part in cultural traditions. Estancias are central to Argentina's rural identity and provide a warm, welcoming atmosphere for guests to experience the country's countryside lifestyle.

Day 8: Embark Cruise in Buenos Aires**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast and check-out, you will be transferred to Buenos Aires cruise terminal to board the Norwegian Star. Once onboard, the rest of the day is at leisure to settle in and begin exploring the ship's facilities. Lunch and dinner can be enjoyed onboard your cruise ship today.



Throughout your cruise, when your ship comes into port, there will be a range of excursions available to help you explore each destination. These excursions are at your own expense and are bookable on your cruise reservation.

Please note: Your National Escort or local guide will accompany you to the port; however, they will not board the cruise with you. Check-in and embarkation will be completed with Norwegian Cruise Line staff, and you will be met by your new National Escort or local guide when the cruise ends in Santiago.

Day 9: Cruising – Montevideo**Meals: B, L, D**

Today, you will dock in Montevideo, the charming capital of Uruguay. This relaxed and welcoming city offers plenty to explore at your own pace. Wander through Plaza Independencia, the city's historic central square, or discover its elegant boulevards, leafy neighbourhoods and coastal promenade. Alternatively, visit a nearby winery to sample Uruguay's renowned wines, or head just outside the city to take in the country's rolling countryside and scenic landscapes.



Disembark your cruise ship and enjoy a full day at leisure before returning on board later in the day to continue your onward journey. *Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise reservation. Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.*

Destination Information

Montevideo – The capital of Uruguay, Montevideo is a relaxed coastal city known for its laid-back atmosphere, historic architecture and long stretch of beaches along the Río de la Plata. Blending old-world charm with modern culture, the city offers a mix of grand plazas, colonial buildings and vibrant neighbourhoods, all set against a scenic waterfront.

Day 10: Cruising - At Sea**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy a full day at leisure onboard Norwegian Star and discover all the ship has to offer. Relax by the pool, enjoy the ship's dining venues and lounges, or take part in the entertainment and activities available onboard.

**Day 11: Cruising – Puerto Madryn****Meals: B, L, D**

Today, you will dock in Puerto Madryn, a gateway to Argentine Patagonia best known for its rich marine life and nearby Punta Tombo Nature Reserve, home to one of the world's largest Magellanic penguin colonies.

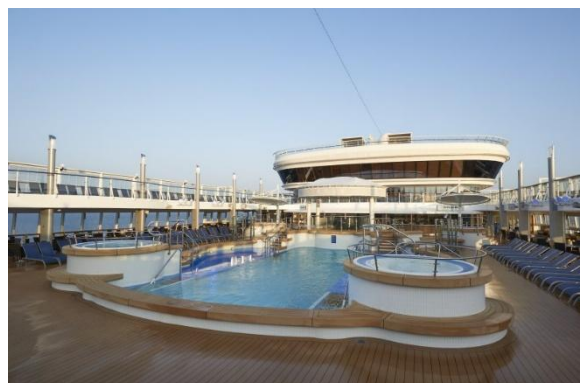
Disembark your cruise ship and enjoy a full day at leisure before returning on board later in the day to continue your onward journey. *Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise reservation. Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.*

**Destination Information**

Puerto Madryn – A coastal city in Argentine Patagonia, Puerto Madryn sits on the shores of the Golfo Nuevo and is known for its striking natural setting and access to some of the region's most important wildlife reserves. It serves as the main gateway to Punta Tombo Nature Reserve, home to one of the world's largest Magellanic penguin colonies, and offers visitors the chance to experience Patagonia's unique coastal landscapes and rich biodiversity.

Day 12: Cruising – At Sea**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy a full day at leisure onboard Norwegian Star and discover all the ship has to offer. Relax by the pool, enjoy the ship's dining venues and lounges, or take part in the entertainment and activities available onboard.



Day 13: Cruising – Falkland Islands**Meals: B, L, D**

Arrive into Port Stanley, the capital of the remote Falkland Islands, known for its rugged landscapes, British heritage and rich wildlife. From here, you may explore the charming harbour town or venture into the surrounding countryside in search of penguin colonies and other native birdlife.



Disembark your cruise ship and enjoy a full day at leisure before returning on board later in the day to continue your onward journey. *Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise reservation. Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.*

Destination Information

Falkland Islands – A remote South Atlantic archipelago, the Falkland Islands are known for their dramatic landscapes, rugged coastlines and abundant wildlife. With a strong British heritage and a small, close-knit population, the islands offer a unique blend of natural beauty and cultural history. Vast open scenery, white sandy beaches and windswept grasslands provide a haven for wildlife, including large colonies of penguins and seabirds found across the islands.

Day 14: Cruising – At Sea**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy a full day at leisure onboard Norwegian Star and discover all the ship has to offer. Relax by the pool, enjoy the ship's dining venues and lounges, or take part in the entertainment and activities available onboard.



Day 15: Cruising – Elephant Island**Meals: B, L, D**

Today, sail off the coast of Antarctica. Elephant Island is a remote and rugged wilderness of towering mountains, vast sheets of ice and drifting sea ice, home to elephant seals and colonies of waddling penguins.

While you will not disembark the ship in Antarctica, you will have plenty of opportunities to take in its magical and untouched scenery from the deck as you sail past.

**Destination Information**

Elephant Island – A remote and uninhabited island off the coast of Antarctica, Elephant Island is a place of stark natural beauty, defined by towering mountains, glaciers and vast expanses of sea ice. Made famous by its role in early Antarctic exploration, it lies within the harsh but awe-inspiring waters of the Southern Ocean. The island is home to thriving colonies of seals and penguins, offering a striking glimpse into one of the most extreme and untouched environments on Earth.

Day 16: Cruising – Paradise Bay**Meals: B, L, D**

Paradise Bay is everything you imagine Antarctica to be, a breathtaking world of towering ice formations, blue-hued glaciers and vast, silent waters occasionally broken by penguins and whales.

From the comfort of your ship, hot chocolate in hand, take in the extraordinary beauty of this remote and pristine wilderness as you glide through one of Antarctica's most spectacular bays.

**Destination Information**

Paradise Bay – Paradise Bay is one of the most spectacular natural harbours in Antarctica, framed by towering glaciers and dramatic ice cliffs that reflect vivid shades of blue. Located along the Antarctic Peninsula, it is known for its calm waters, pristine silence and ever-changing ice formations, creating a striking contrast between rugged mountain scenery and frozen seascapes. The bay offers a quintessential glimpse into Antarctica's untouched and otherworldly environment.

Day 17: Cruising – At Sea**Meals: B, L, D**

Bid farewell to Antarctica and sail back to more hospitable lands. Enjoy a full day at leisure onboard Norwegian Star and discover all the ship has to offer. Relax by the pool, enjoy the ship's dining venues and lounges, or take part in the entertainment and activities available onboard.

**Day 18: Cruising – Ushuaia****Meals: B, L, D**

Port in Ushuaia, called the “End of the World,” Ushuaia is Argentina’s and the world’s southernmost city. Set on the rugged Tierra del Fuego, there is much spectacular nature to explore on your day here, from dramatic mountain scenery to the wild, windswept landscapes of this remote region.

Disembark your cruise ship and enjoy a full day at leisure before returning on board later in the day to continue your onward journey. *Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise reservation. Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.*

**Day 19: Cruising – Punta Arenas, Chile****Meals: B, L, D**

Port today in Punta Arenas, this remote port is known for its maritime history, windswept landscapes and access to some of southern Chile’s most dramatic scenery. From here, you may have the opportunity to discover more of Patagonia’s rugged coastline, wildlife, historic sites and wideopen landscapes.

Disembark your cruise ship and enjoy a full day at leisure before returning on board later in the day to continue your onward journey. *Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise reservation. Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.*



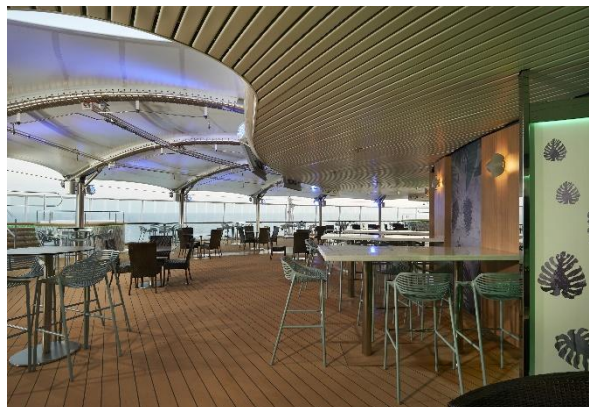
Destination Information

Punta Arenas - Located on the Strait of Magellan in southern Chile, Punta Arenas is one of the main gateways to Patagonia and the Antarctic region. Once an important stop for ships navigating between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, the city has a strong maritime heritage and a distinctive frontier character.

Days 20-21: Cruising – At Sea

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy two full days at sea onboard Norwegian Star and discover all the ship has to offer. Relax by the pool, enjoy the ship's dining venues and lounges, or take part in the entertainment and activities available onboard.



Day 22: Cruising – Puerto Montt

Meals: B, L, D

Arrive in the heart of Chile's scenic Lake District, a region of snow-capped volcanoes, pristine lakes and lush forests. Here you can admire the perfect symmetry of Osorno Volcano, explore thundering waterfalls, and discover crystal-clear lakes set against breathtaking mountain backdrops. Surrounded by some of the country's most spectacular natural scenery, this is one of Chile's most picturesque and peaceful regions.



Disembark your cruise ship and enjoy a full day at leisure before returning on board later in the day to continue your onward journey. *Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise reservation. Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.*

Destination Information

Puerto Montt – A bustling port city in southern Chile, Puerto Montt is the gateway to the country's spectacular Lake District and nearby Patagonia region. Set on the shores of the Reloncaví Sound, it is surrounded by dramatic landscapes of volcanoes, forests and fjord-like waterways. The city blends a strong maritime heritage with easy access to some of southern Chile's most iconic natural scenery, including lakes, waterfalls and snow-capped peaks.

Day 23: Cruising – At Sea**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy a final day at leisure onboard Norwegian Star and discover all the ship has to offer. Relax by the pool, enjoy the ship's dining venues and lounges, or take part in the entertainment and activities available onboard.

**Day 24: Disembark Cruise in Santiago****Meals: B, L, D**

Arrive at Santiago's cruise port and disembark the Norwegian Star. You will be met by your English-speaking guide and transferred to your hotel in Chile's capital, Santiago.

This afternoon, enjoy a city tour and ascend San Cristóbal Hill, where you can take in sweeping views over the city and, on a clear day, the Andes Mountains in the distance.

**Destination Information**

Santiago - Santiago is a vibrant and cultural city set on the plains of the Andes and home to 40% of Chile's population. Split into 32 boroughs (comunas), each area has its own distinct character, yet all the streets are alive with the energy of the city.

Day 25: Maipo Valley**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, journey into the Maipo Valley, the historic heart of Chile's wine country where the first vines were planted in 1540. Renowned for its full-bodied Cabernet Sauvignon, the region is framed by the dramatic Andes foothills and rolling vineyard-covered landscapes.

Enjoy a full-day experience exploring this celebrated wine region, with guided tours and tastings at two picturesque estates, learning about Chile's winemaking heritage while sampling some of its finest wines.



Destination Information

Maipo Valley – Located just south of Santiago, the Maipo Valley is one of Chile's most established wine regions and a cornerstone of its wine industry. Sheltered by the Andes Mountains, the valley benefits from a Mediterranean climate that creates ideal conditions for viticulture. It is known for producing structured, high-quality red wines, and is home to a mix of historic estates and modern wineries spread across a landscape of vineyards, orchards and rural countryside.

Day 26: Fly to Cusco

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast, transfer to Santiago's airport and board your flight to Cusco, Peru- the ancient heart of the Incan Empire.

On arrival, with your English-speaking guide travel into the Sacred Valley, a region of dramatic mountain scenery and traditional Andean villages. En route, stop at Manos de la Comunidad to observe local artisans practising traditional crafts and learn about their heritage. Continue to Pisac, where you will explore its impressive Incan ruins set high above the valley floor, offering sweeping views across the surrounding Andes.



Destination Information

Cusco - Home to an incredible Incan legacy, Cusco is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and has some of the richest heritage in Latin America. Cathedrals and Inca temples overlook the narrow streets where alpaca knitwear can be bought for a fair price. For anyone Interested in the Incan civilization, Cusco is the must-see destination.

Sacred Valley – The Sacred Valley is a broad Andean corridor of fertile land and mountain scenery, formed by the Urubamba River. Long regarded as a key agricultural heartland, it is characterised by terraced slopes, traditional villages and wide valley landscapes framed by dramatic peaks.

Pisac – Pisac is a traditional Andean settlement known for its hillside location and strong artisan heritage. The surrounding area is associated with traditional crafts and rural community life, set within a dramatic mountain landscape overlooking the valley below.

Day 27: The Sacred Valley**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, spend the day exploring the fascinating sights of the Sacred Valley. Begin at Moray, where you will discover its remarkable circular agricultural terraces believed to have been used by the Incas for experimental farming. Continue to the striking Salt Pans of Maras, a vast network of ancient salt pools still in use today, cascading down the mountainside in a patchwork of geometric patterns.



This afternoon, continue to Santuario de Colibríes, a tranquil natural sanctuary where you can wander through native vegetation and spot a variety of hummingbirds in their natural habitat. Conclude the day in Ollantaytambo, a 'living Incan city', where original stone streets and terraced ruins remain part of everyday life, offering a vivid connection to Peru's ancient past.

Destination Information

Moray – Moray is an archaeological site in the Sacred Valley known for its distinctive circular terraces set within natural depressions in the landscape. The site reflects advanced Incan understanding of agriculture and environmental adaptation, and remains one of the region's most intriguing examples of pre-Columbian engineering.

Maras Salt Pans – The Maras Salt Pans are a network of terraced salt pools built into a mountainside and fed by a natural saline spring. Used for salt extraction since pre-Incan times and still active today, they form a striking patchwork across the landscape and represent a long-standing local tradition.

Santuario de Colibríes – A privately managed nature reserve in the Sacred Valley region, Santuario de Colibríes is dedicated to the observation and conservation of native hummingbird species within a high-Andean environment rich in biodiversity.

Ollantaytambo – Ollantaytambo is a historic town in the Sacred Valley that preserves an original Incan urban layout alongside later colonial-era development. It is known for its stone-built terraces and structures that remain in active use as part of the modern settlement, offering a continuous link between past and present.

Day 28: To Machu Picchu**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, transfer to the station to board the Expedition train to Aguas Calientes. This scenic rail journey winds through dramatic Andean valleys and alongside the Urubamba River, offering spectacular views as you travel towards the foot of Machu Picchu.



On arrival, board a shuttle bus that climbs the mountain roads to the entrance of this magnificent archaeological site. Enjoy a guided tour of Machu Picchu and begin to uncover the mysteries of this remarkable ancient Incan citadel.

Destination Information

Aguas Calientes – Nestled deep within the cloud forest of the Peruvian Andes, Aguas Calientes is a small mountain town surrounded by steep green peaks and fast-flowing rivers. Accessible primarily by rail, it serves as the main access point for visitors travelling to Machu Picchu and is known for its dramatic natural setting and relaxed atmosphere.

Machu Picchu – Perched high on a mountain ridge above the Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu is one of the most significant archaeological sites in South America and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Believed to have been constructed in the 15th century during the height of the Incan Empire, the site is renowned for its sophisticated stonework, terraced landscapes and spectacular mountain setting hidden among the clouds of the Andes.

Day 29: Return to Cusco**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, enjoy a morning at leisure in Aguas Calientes, surrounded by the dramatic scenery of the Peruvian Andes.

Later, transfer to the station to board the Vistadome train for your return journey to Ollantaytambo. Designed to maximise the spectacular scenery, the panoramic windows offer immersive views of soaring mountains, rushing rivers and the lush landscapes of the Sacred Valley along the route. On arrival, continue by road to Cusco, where you will check in to your hotel.



Day 30: Explore Cusco**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, embark on a tour of Cusco, beginning high above the city at the impressive fortress of Sacsayhuamán, renowned for its enormous stone walls and panoramic views over the surrounding Andes. Continue to the vibrant San Pedro Market, where local stalls overflow with fresh produce, textiles and traditional crafts, offering a glimpse into everyday life in Cusco.



Later, visit Qoricancha, once the most important temple in the Incan Empire dedicated to the sun god Inti, before exploring Cusco Cathedral, built on the foundations of a 15th-century Incan palace and home to an extraordinary collection of colonial art and architecture. This afternoon is free for you to relax or explore at your own pace before a special farewell dinner celebrating your final evening in Cusco.

Destination Information

Sacsayhuamán – Is part of a wider system of Incan ceremonial and defensive structures built around Cusco. Its monumental stonework demonstrates advanced engineering techniques, with precisely fitted blocks that have endured centuries of seismic activity in this earthquake-prone region.

San Pedro Market – Is one of the city's main traditional marketplaces, reflecting the agricultural richness and regional diversity of the surrounding Andes. It is an important daily meeting point for local communities and a place where food production, trade and cultural traditions come together.

Qoricancha – Qoricancha represents the religious and spiritual core of the former Incan capital, historically aligned with key astronomical and ceremonial functions. Its foundations remain some of the finest surviving examples of Incan stone construction, later incorporated into colonial-era architecture.

Cusco Cathedral – Cusco Cathedral is a landmark of colonial religious architecture, built during the Spanish colonial period using materials and foundations from earlier structures. It reflects the broader cultural transition that shaped Cusco into a city where indigenous and European influences coexist within its built environment.

Day 31: Fly to Lima**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, transfer to Cusco airport and board your flight to Lima. On arrival, you will be met by your English-speaking guide and enjoy a guided tour of the city, exploring the magnificent colonial architecture of the historic centre. Continue to the Larco Museum, home to an outstanding collection of pre-Columbian artefacts, where you can gain fascinating insight into Peru's ancient civilisations and rich cultural history.

**Destination Information**

Lima – Overlooking the Pacific in Peru's central region, Lima is a huge city of 10 million people. It was founded by conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535 and became the capital of the Viceroyalty of Peru, remaining as capital after the War of Independence gave Peruvians their freedom. The historic centre of the city is beautiful and was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1988.

Days 32-34: Depart Lima**Meals: B**

This morning is free at leisure before transferring to the airport for your return flight home, arriving home two days later.

Please note: Only breakfast is included today. Late check-out is not included. If you wish to book a late check-out for your final day, please contact our reservations department, who can confirm additional pricing and make this arrangement for you, subject to availability at the hotel.



**PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY ALLERGIES AND/OR SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS
AT TIME OF BOOKING.**

TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS

Australian passport holders currently do not require a visa to enter **Peru, Chile, Uruguay & Argentina**.

Australian passport holders currently require a visa to enter **Brazil**. Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department can assist you with the process of obtaining a visa.

Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back into Australia.

For the latest information on visa procedures, processing times and requirements, please kindly refer to our website <https://www.wendywutours.com.au/help-and-advice/passports-and-visas/>

Please note the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate, Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa.

INSURANCE

It is a condition of your booking that you are insured for the duration of your trip. We recommend comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, medical requirements, luggage, repatriations and additional expenses. At a minimum, the policy is required to cover medical requirements including medical evacuations / repatriations. The choice of insurer is yours. We strongly suggest you purchase insurance at the time you pay your deposit. This is because cancellation fees and charges are payable from that time.

We may request you to provide evidence that you have taken out and paid for a policy to comply with this condition. If you fail to provide a certificate of currency of insurance within a reasonable time after our request, then this will be deemed a cancellation by you and standard cancellation fees will apply.

LUGGAGE

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: one suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of 5kg. It is essential that your luggage is lockable.

On your cruise: While luggage allowance on your cruise may permit further capacity, we ask you to adhere to the above restrictions due to airline and touring allowances. Luggage tags will be available to download through your personal NCL cruise account. For your convenience, we recommend that your luggage tags are placed on your bags prior to arrival at the port.

It may take a few hours after embarkation for your luggage to be delivered to your stateroom. Suitcases are usually collected on the final night of your cruise, so please bring a small bag, such as a backpack, for any necessary medication, valuables, important documents and essential overnight items.

PORTERAGE

Pre & Post Cruise: Please be aware that porterage is not included throughout the land arrangements on this tour unless otherwise stated. You will therefore need to be able to handle your own luggage within hotels and when using transport such as coaches, airport transfers and regional flights.

Cruise: Porterage is included onboard NCL. When embarking, your luggage will usually be delivered to your cabin from the check-in area at the port. When disembarking, you may be asked to leave your luggage outside your cabin door on the final night of your cruise. Cruise staff will then make arrangements for your luggage, ready for disembarkation the following morning. Please also note, it is customary to tip for porterage services where these are provided.

TRANSPORT

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used for city sightseeing, airport transfers, excursions and longer road journeys where necessary. Roads in South America vary considerably by destination. Traffic congestion in major cities and local road conditions may extend journey times, so the timings listed in the itinerary should be treated as approximate. It may not always be possible to return to your hotel after sightseeing to freshen up before dinner, particularly on busy touring days or where evening experiences are included. Flexibility is therefore advised.

Flights: This itinerary includes regional flights between Iguazu and Buenos Aires also Santiago and Cusco. Flight timings and arrangements are subject to airline schedules and operational requirements. Internal and regional flights are based on economy class.

ACCOMMODATION

Your accommodation has been selected for convenience of location, comfort and suitability for the itinerary. During the land sections of your tour, accommodation will include city hotels, and your journey also includes accommodation onboard Norwegian star.

Hotels are generally rated as local four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities, room size and overall style may exist between Australia and the countries visited on this tour.

All group tour hotels will have private western bathroom facilities. Facilities and service standards can vary between destinations and may differ from those you are used to at home. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escorts or local guides. Rest assured that all accommodation used by Wendy Wu Tours is regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards are met.

GROUP SIZE

For pre and post cruise touring, most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by National Escorts. On this tour, there will be no more than 28 travellers in each group, although you may encounter other Wendy Wu tour groups while you are travelling.

Your NCL cruise is aboard Norwegian Star, which carries approximately 2,300 guests, most of whom will not be part of your Wendy Wu tour group.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 10 travellers booked, unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control. National Escorts will accompany each group of 10 or more. However, at our discretion, we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so.

TIPPING / GRATUITIES

Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and the destinations visited on this tour are no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time. In order to avoid any inconvenience, Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your National Escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed to local guides and drivers throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the National Escort.

If you are travelling in a smaller group with local guides only, then tipping is paid in each destination. To be fair to the guides, we ask for slightly higher amounts per traveller with small groups.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy, but we do recognise that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour, we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour.

Argentina: USD 80 per person

Brazil: USD 45 per person

Chile: USD 30 per person

Peru: USD 100 per person

Cruise: Standard onboard gratuities are included in your tour cost. Any additional services that you opt for will incur additional tipping that is to be paid for directly with the cruiseline.

MEALS AND DIETARY INFORMATION

On this tour, you will have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of dining options, reflecting the diverse cuisines of the destinations you will visit. Meals will vary between hotel restaurants, local restaurants, cultural dining experiences and dining aboard Norwegian Star.

South America is home to an incredibly diverse food culture, shaped by a blend of Indigenous traditions, European influences and regional ingredients unique to the continent. Local cuisine is known for its bold flavours, slow-cooked dishes and fresh produce, with meals often centred around meat, rice, potatoes, corn and beans. Ingredients such as chilli, coriander, garlic, lime and fresh herbs are commonly used throughout the region, although each country has its own distinctive culinary identity. Peru, for example, is renowned for its vibrant and innovative cuisine, particularly dishes such as ceviche, which combines fresh seafood with citrus, chilli and herbs.

When dining in South America, mealtimes are often seen as a social occasion and can be more relaxed than in many Western countries. In some places, particularly in Argentina and Brazil, meals may be served later in the evening than visitors are used to. Sharing food is common, especially at family-style restaurants and traditional barbecues, where diners may help themselves from large platters placed in the centre of the table. In local restaurants, courses are not always served in a strict order, and dishes may arrive as soon as they are prepared.

Cruise dining: During your cruise, you will dine independently onboard Norwegian Star, choosing from the restaurants and dining venues included in your cruise package. Speciality restaurants and onshore dining are payable locally unless included in your cruise package. If you choose to dine off the ship while in port, these meals will be at your own expense and no refund will be given for meals missed onboard. Your cruise package also includes selected drinks, including alcohol, whilst onboard.

Dietary Requirements: Our guides will make every effort to accommodate requests such as gluten-free or vegetarian meals. However, some dietary requirements may be more challenging to meet, particularly during street food experiences, in local restaurants, during cruise port days or due to differences in food preparation styles.

While on the cruise, the ship's restaurants are generally well-equipped to cater to a wide range of dietary requirements, though it is still recommended to notify the cruise line of any specific needs in advance. During shore excursions, land touring and travel days, dining options may vary and local food establishments may have limited capacity to meet special dietary request.

For travellers with food intolerances or specific dietary needs, it is highly recommended to bring additional snacks or food items, especially when travelling further from major cities. This ensures that you are well prepared in case certain dietary requests cannot be met. Your patience and understanding are appreciated, as local suppliers may not always be able to provide exactly what you would expect from Western cuisine. The aim is to provide you with an authentic experience while being mindful of your dietary preferences.

CRUISE – NORWEGIAN STAR

Contemporary and welcoming, Norwegian Star offers a relaxed cruising experience with a wide range of onboard facilities and entertainment. Designed with Freestyle Cruising in mind, the ship allows guests the flexibility to dine, relax and explore at their own pace, while enjoying a comfortable and sociable atmosphere throughout their journey.

Onboard, you will find an excellent selection of restaurants, cafés, bars and lounges, along with a pool area, spa, fitness centre and entertainment venues. Live music, theatre performances and enrichment activities are available throughout the cruise, ensuring there is plenty to enjoy while sailing between destinations.

Your package also includes selected soft drinks and alcoholic beverages whilst onboard your cruise. Which means you will receive complimentary beverages ranging from beer to wine to cocktails and soda, you'll enjoy a broad selection of premium beverages, including top-shelf brands like Grey Goose, Casamigos and Woodford Reserve. Speciality dining, Wi-Fi, spa treatments, purchases from onboard shops and other personal expenses are payable locally unless otherwise stated.

CRUISE ACCOMMODATION AND CABINS

At the time of booking, subject to availability, you may have the choice of booking an outside cabin or balcony cabin. Should you wish to upgrade to a suite or have a special request regarding cabin location, please speak to our reservations department, who will be able to assist.

Outside cabins offer natural light and ocean views from the window, providing a comfortable space to relax between days ashore. Balcony cabins offer the added benefit of a private veranda, allowing you to step outside and enjoy the sea air and surrounding views from your own cabin. Cabin availability, location and layout will vary by category and are subject to confirmation at the time of booking.

CRUISE EMBARKATION & DISEMBARKATION

Embarkation time is when you should arrive at the cruise terminal, all aboard time is the latest time you should embark the ship and departure time is when your ship sets sail.

Boarding Procedures: Boarding times may vary and will be shown in your travel documents. Government regulations require NCL to submit final departure manifests, and guests must check in at least 90 minutes before the scheduled departure time. If you fail to check in at least 90 minutes before the scheduled departure, this may constitute a “no-show” and result in automatic cancellation of your cruise booking.

Boarding Time in Ports of Call: In all ports of call, it is the guest's responsibility to be back onboard the ship by the time advised by NCL and the ship's crew. Please be aware that shipboard time may differ from the time in the port of call, and it is the guest's responsibility to follow shipboard time. In the event a guest misses the ship, it will be the guest's responsibility to pay all expenses incurred to rejoin the ship.

SHORE EXCURSIONS

During your cruise, you will have the opportunity to book a range of Norwegian Cruise Line shore excursions. These are optional and at your own expense unless otherwise stated. NCL advises that shore excursions can be booked in advance through your NCL cruise reservation or booked and paid for onboard the ship. Places may be limited, and excursions are subject to availability, minimum numbers, local conditions and operational changes. Alternatively, you can choose to book with a third-party operator, which may offer a wider range of options and greater availability. If you do book with a third party, please ensure you only participate in suitable excursions which allow sufficient time to return to the ship before the scheduled all-aboard time, this will be your own responsibility.

Please note that your itinerary combines two distinct styles of touring, which offer different experiences. During the land portion of your journey, you can expect a comprehensive and fast-paced touring style. Days are typically full, with a strong focus on sightseeing, cultural highlights, and detailed commentary from local guides. This part of the trip is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of each destination, and as such, may feel busy and information-rich.

In contrast, shore excursions provided during your cruise with NCL are designed with a more relaxed approach. While they still offer opportunities to explore each port of call, these excursions generally involve less intensive touring and more limited commentary from guides. The pace is often more leisurely, with additional free time and fewer scheduled activities. We encourage guests to view these differences as complementary, offering both immersive guided touring and more flexible exploration throughout your journey.

APPROPRIATE DRESS / WHAT TO PACK

When travelling on this tour, it is advisable to pack for a variety of weather conditions, as temperatures and climates can vary considerably across South America. Lightweight, breathable clothing will be useful in warmer and more tropical regions such as Brazil and coastal areas, while layers are recommended for cooler evenings, higher-altitude destinations and more temperate regions such as the Andes, Patagonia or southern Chile and Argentina. A lightweight waterproof jacket is also advisable, particularly as rain showers can occur in tropical and mountainous areas.

Comfortable walking shoes are essential throughout the tour, particularly for city sightseeing, uneven streets, archaeological sites, nature excursions and longer touring days. For sun protection, pack a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen, especially when visiting high-altitude areas where the sun can feel particularly strong. Insect repellent may also be useful in tropical or rural regions. Swimwear may be useful for hotel facilities, beach stays or cruise sections of the itinerary.

Please remember to dress modestly when visiting religious, cultural or Indigenous sites and follow the advice of your National Escorts or local guides.

Onboard Dress Code: NCL features "Freestyle Cruising," meaning the dress code is very relaxed. During the day, casual resort wear is the norm. For evening dining on the Norwegian Star, casual attire is acceptable in most venues, though a "smart casual" look is standard for speciality restaurant.

TERRAIN CONSIDERATIONS (STEPS, SLOPES & UNEVEN SURFACES)

Sightseeing on this tour may involve walking over uneven ground, cobbled streets, steps, narrow paths, market areas, archaeological sites, nature trails and cruise terminals. Comfortable, sturdy footwear is essential throughout the itinerary.

In South America, many historic centres, archaeological sites and natural attractions feature uneven surfaces, steep steps or inclines. Visits to sites such as Machu Picchu, colonial districts, national parks or scenic viewpoints may involve extended periods on foot, higher altitudes and uneven terrain. In some destinations, roads, pavements and public walkways may be less developed than those typically found in Australia.

Cruise and port visits may involve embarking and disembarking via gangways, ramps, steps or tender arrangements, depending on the port and local operating conditions. Optional shore excursions may also involve longer walking distances, uneven surfaces or boat transfers.

Those with knee or hip difficulties, balance issues or reduced mobility should carefully consider the physical requirements of this itinerary. Guests must be able to complete the included activities independently.

MONEY, CASH AND PERSONAL EXPENSES

This tour visits several countries, so different currencies may be useful during your journey. It is important to plan ahead and ensure you have access to suitable funds for locally payable costs, tipping, smaller purchases and personal expenses.

For the destinations visited on this tour, you may wish to have access to local currency for personal spending during the land touring sections and cruise port calls. Card acceptance is generally strong in major cities, but cash may still be useful for smaller shops, markets, street stalls, tips and some independent purchases ashore.

We recommend having access to more than one payment method while travelling, such as a combination of cash and cards.

ATMs are available in major cities, although access may be more limited during sightseeing days, travel days and cruise port calls. We recommend consulting your bank about withdrawal fees, overseas card charges and daily limits before travelling. Your National Escorts or local guides will advise you locally where possible.

Personal expenses: You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks not included in your package, laundry, souvenirs, optional shore excursions, additional sightseeing and any other personal expenses. During the cruise, most onboard purchases will be charged to your shipboard account and settled at the end of your voyage.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES PRE AND POST CRUISE

Our fully inclusive Classic tours feature full days of sightseeing to ensure you experience the must-see sights and memorable moments included in your itinerary. Occasionally, when time allows, optional extras may be offered for those seeking additional experiences. These excursions will be communicated and paid for locally through your guide.

SOUVENIRS

We want to give you the opportunity to buy souvenirs, so your itinerary may include stops at markets, workshops, cultural venues or local shops which showcase a craft or product unique to the region, with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone, so we aim to take you to places which hold local interest. On this tour, you may find locally made crafts, textiles, artwork, lacquerware, wood carvings, tea, coffee, local snacks and other regional products. We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts, crafts and culture, and understand their historical or regional importance.

CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

The countries visited on this itinerary are culturally diverse, with a rich mix of Indigenous, European and regional influences reflected in local traditions, languages, customs and social etiquette across South America. Service styles, local customs and daily life may differ from those in Australia, and showing patience and respect for local traditions will help you get the most from your journey.

In some places, particularly at churches, religious landmarks, Indigenous communities and sites of cultural or historical importance, modest dress and respectful behaviour may be expected. You should always follow the advice of your National Escorts or local guides, ask permission before photographing local people and behave considerately when visiting places of worship or culturally significant sites.

DEVELOPMENT

South America is a diverse and developing continent, and standards of infrastructure, transport and tourist facilities can vary considerably between destinations. While many major cities and tourist areas offer modern amenities, some regions may not provide the same standards of accessibility, maintenance or public facilities typically found in Australia. Concepts of personal responsibility and public safety may also differ. For example, roads, pavements or public areas may not always have warning signs, barriers or safety features that you might expect in Australia. All of our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday, so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense, refer to notices and follow advice from your National Escorts or local guides.

This tour visits a variety of destinations across South America, including major cities, coastal regions and more remote areas, where local conditions, infrastructure and service levels may differ significantly throughout the journey. Traffic, weather, altitude, road conditions and port operations can occasionally affect touring arrangements and journey times, particularly in mountainous or rural regions.

We recommend travelling with patience, flexibility and an open mind, particularly when moving between countries with differing local customs, infrastructure and ways of operating.

WEATHER

South America experiences summer during December to February, although weather conditions vary greatly depending on the region, altitude and proximity to the coast.

In much of the continent, including Brazil, Argentina and parts of Chile, this period is typically warm to hot, with temperatures often reaching the high 20s°C or above in coastal and lowland areas. It is also one of the wettest times of year in tropical regions such as the Amazon Basin and parts of Brazil, where heavy rain showers and high humidity are common.

The Andes regions, including parts of Peru, can experience cooler temperatures due to altitude, particularly in the evenings and early mornings. December to February also coincides with the rainy season in many Andean destinations, including Cusco and Machu Picchu, where afternoon showers are frequent.

Patagonia and southern Chile generally enjoy milder and more stable weather during these months, making it one of the best times to visit. However, conditions can still be unpredictable, with strong winds and sudden temperature changes possible.

Overall, travellers should be prepared for a wide range of weather conditions across South America and pack accordingly, including lightweight clothing for warmer regions as well as layers and waterproofs for cooler or wetter areas.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Please note as some of these departures fall over the Christmas period, many businesses, banks and public offices may close or operate reduced hours and resorts, beaches and domestic travel routes can become extremely busy.

Summer holidays occur in much of South America, especially in Argentina, Brazil and Chile around the time of travel, as well as the Brazilian Carnival which takes place around the end of February.

Cruise schedules and shore excursion arrangements may also be affected by local operational requirements during holiday periods.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The destinations visited on this tour are popular with international travellers, but as with any holiday, it is important to take sensible precautions and remain aware of your surroundings. Your National Escorts and local guides will advise you locally where necessary.

To help keep your belongings safe:

- avoid carrying large sums of cash with you
- keep passports, spare cash and valuables in the hotel safe where available
- do not leave luggage, bags, phones or cameras unattended
- avoid displaying expensive jewellery, watches, cameras or other valuables in public
- take care in busy areas such as markets, ports, airports, tourist sites and city centres
- use ATMs inside banks, hotels or shopping centres where possible
- if you need a taxi during time at leisure, ask your hotel or local guide to arrange one for you
- avoid walking alone at night, particularly in unfamiliar or quiet areas
- keep your hotel room locked and check who is at the door before opening it

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smartraveller.gov.au as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive an email with your confirmation invoice, along with a link to our website where you can find your visa information (if applicable) and other important information. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to departure.

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