



# Sacred Earth Travel

Sustainable Nature and Adventure Travel

## Itinerary

Venture into a rarely visited region, north of Santiago, the so-called El Norte Chico, the little north. This semi-arid region of fertile river valleys and craggy hills has a Wild West kind of feel. It is home of the Pico Sour, Chile's national drink, as the grapes used for this beverage are grown here, in the Elqui Valley. But most famously, this region is known to star-gazers, who come here to gaze at the crystal clear sky that appears as though you could just hop onto the Milky Way to walk among the stars...

### DAY 1: SANTIAGO – OVALLE – HURTADO VALLEY (540 KM / 336 MI)

Pick up your vehicle at the airport or city car rental office and start your adventure.



Head north to the oasis town of Ovalle, known for its lush green amidst barren hills. After a brief stop, continue to the Hurtado Valley, where you will spend the night at a hacienda-style ranch.

### DAY 2: HURTADO VALLEY

You have all day to explore this little-visited region of Chile, with its small historical villages spread around the beautiful,

arid landscape. The cultivated green fields contrast starkly against the towering

Andean mountains. Among the region's unique attractions is a petrified forest that tells of times long ago when the climate and vegetation were quite different here. (B)

### DAY 3: HURTADO VALLEY – ELQUI VALLEY (100 KM / 62 MI)

Today, cross the Andean foothills to reach the famous Elqui Valley, known for its Pisco grapes, from which Chile's National drink, Pisco Sour, is made. Elqui Valley is known as a mysterious place. The Milky Way seems to almost touch the ground. It is an area for star-gazers. Overnight in Vicuña (B)



## DAY 4: ELQUI VALLEY – LA SERENA (100 KM / 62 MI)

After breakfast, make a side-trip to the cosy, laid-back town of Vicuña, the birthplace of Gabriela Mistral, the first female Latin American poet to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Later, head towards the Pacific coast and the colonial town of La Serena, with its beautiful Bay of La Herradura. La Serena is a popular coastal resort for Chileans. Overnight in La Serena (B)



## DAY 5: LA SERENA – SANTIAGO (472 KM / 293 MI)

After breakfast, start your trip back south to the bustling city of Santiago, where you will drop off your rental car and catch your flight out. (B)

**Notes**

Based on double occupancy. Single supplement applies.

**Hotels we use in this program:**

Hacienda Los Andes (Standard Room),

Hotel Terral (Junior Suite),

Hotel La Serena Club (Standard Room)

**Included:**

- 4 nights including breakfast
- 5 days car rental including unlimited free mileage, local tax, full CDW coverage with deductible (for details see rental contract)
- Roadmap and descriptions

**Not included:**

Chile car rental companies charge an additional airport service fee when vehicle will be picked up from airport. This service charge is not included in the published rates. This extra fee has to be paid upon returning the car.