

QUINQUEN MAPUCHE CULTURAL IMMERSION



CHILE'S ANCIENT CULTURE THROUGH THE MAPUCHE PEOPLE'S EYES

Chile is truly one of the most amazing places on earth. A long country with soaring mountains, gigantic glaciers, one of the driest but adventure filled desserts on earth, a culture and history that goes back centuries. Chile will draw you in with its rugged beauty, smiles and warmth from its people.

On this unique community stay you will have the chance to interact and get to know an indigenous group called the Mapuche. Mapuche means "people of the earth." The Mapuche are known for living off the land, and being strong warriors. They have never been colonized and make up only 4% of the population in Chile. In this stay you will hike the trails their ancestors did, learning about the trees and the forest, enjoy in a typical Mapuche meal, learn how to loom wool, and most importantly walk away with new found friendships.

QUINQUEN MAPUCHE CULTURE EXPERIENCE

Your adventure begins by catching in overnight bus in Santiago to a town called Lonquimay. From here we will take a private bus to a community called Quinquen. Along the way, you will have a chance to see the stunning landscapes, mountains, lakes and pine trees. Once in Quinquen you will stay in the homes of the local families, taking the time to get to know each other's and participating in their local culture. You will have the chance to hike along the ancient trails, learn how to weave, cook a typical Mapuche meal, have the chance to go horseback riding and countless other experiences.



DAY 00

ARRIVE CHILE – EXPLORE THE CITY

Arrive in Santiago. On your flight in you will have a chance to see the beautiful Andes Mountains that surround this amazing city, it is truly breathtaking. Santiago is a friendly city with many sites to visit, a subway that is easy to use and delicious food. Take today to explore, get some dinner and grab anything you might need for your community homestay.

DAY 0

NIGHT BUS TO LONQUIMAY

Today you will ride the subway to the bus stations (we will give you direction in your pre-departure packet). From here you meet your guide who will be with you in

Quinquen. You will board an overnight bus and depart Santiago heading towards the slopes of the Sierra Nevada, amongst the Andean mountains and volcanoes. Make sure you have dinner before you leave Santiago, there is many food shops and snack stands that you can buy from at the bus terminal.

DAY 1

QUINQUEN – KELU TRUFKEN TRAIL (FIRST DAY OF ITINERARY)

You will arrive in Lonquimay around 8:00 am. Here you will have a typical Mapuche breakfast, before we board a small van and head towards the Pehuche community of Quinquen. When you arrive in Quinquen you will meet Alex who will be your local guide. He will take you to where you will be staying, giving you time to get settled in. In the afternoon, Alex will take you on a hike into the mountains and ancient forest of their community, sharing with you on how the Pehwenche people have lived amongst these lands for many years. You will then head back for lunch, being served a typical meal where you will share in stories with the elders of the community.

DAY 2

COMMUNITY LIFE – LOS CONDORES TRAIL

Today you will wake up early, have a wonderful breakfast and then start helping on the farm. There will be many activities for you to choose from for example, you can help with herding the cattle, feeding the animals or helping collect chicken eggs. The goal is to learn what a typical day looks like in Quinquen. After lunch, you will



head out with your local guide to the Los Condores trail. You will hike along the trail taking in the sites from the Galleute Lake and Bateau Mahidua volcanoes. Your guide will teach you about the importance of these places. In the evening, you will return to your family's home for a delicious dinner and cultural exchange. Option to take a horse ride instead.

DAY 3

WEAVING – AD MAHUIDA TRAIL

After breakfast, you will head out on a hike with your local guide. Your guide will take you along the Ad Mahuida trail explaining the importance of these mountains, and about their ancestors who used to walk these paths. This trail is beautiful with a magnificent view of the Ad Mahuida volcano. After your hike you will have lunch, and get the chance to participate in a wool spinning and weaving workshop lead by the women of the community. In the evening, you will head back to your families for dinner and rest.

DAY 4

KAPURA KURRA TRAIL – LONQUIMAY

After breakfast, you will hike along the Kapura Kurra trail with your local guide. This trail will take you through the Lenga trees and make way for a spectacular view of the Quinquen valley. On our way, back you will stop and enjoy lunch by the lake before we say goodbye to our

family's. After are goodbyes we will be transferred by bus back to Loquinmay, you will have a chance to grab dinner and snacks before you board the overnight bus back to Santiago.

DAY 5

SANTIAGO – RETURN HOME OR MORE EXPLORATIONS

You will arrive back in Santiago around 8:00 am. From here if you wish to extend your stay you have many options of things you can do. If like some suggestions of activities please feel free to reach out to us. If not you will be transferred back to airport for your flight home.



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WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Days 1-4 in above itinerary
- Transportation to and from community
- Option to extend your stay
- Local Spanish/English speaking guide
- Meals while in community
- Accommodation in community

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Expenses for Day 00, Day 0, and Day 5, lodging and food
- Drinks other than water and tea
- International flights
- Travel insurance
- Lodging in Santiago
- Any activities in Santiago





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