



Museum of Science.

Beyond the Museum:

CHILEAN SOLAR ECLIPSE ODYSSEY

TRAVEL WITH US

JUNE 28 – JULY 8, 2019

with optional 4-night extension in the Atacama Desert

In Honor of the 60th Anniversary
of the Charles Hayden Planetarium





JUST IMAGINE.

The Museum of Science has been engaging curious minds here in Boston for nearly 180 years. Next year, we will bring you *beyond* the Museum for the experience of a lifetime.

Join us on an exclusive, first-of-its-kind Museum of Science journey to South America! Guided by Charles Hayden Planetarium Director Danielle LeBlanc, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society Martin Ratcliffe, and Museum educators, you'll witness the total solar eclipse on July 2, 2019 under the Chilean skies—the clearest in our hemisphere.

Sleep under the stars in a luxurious campsite directly within the path of totality. Enjoy special lectures with our portable telescopes, interactive science talks, photography workshops, stargazing walks, world-renowned food and wine, and the wondrous wilderness of the Chilean desert, already home to the greatest concentration of astronomical observatories in the world.

Space for this family-friendly (12+) experience is extremely limited and available on a first-to-register basis at insiderexpeditions.com/moschile.



HIGHLIGHTS

ASTRONOMICAL WONDER. On July 2, 2019, the new moon's umbral shadow will sweep across the Chilean desert, and in a moment of extreme rarity for the clearest skies in the Western hemisphere, the disc of the moon will cover the sun's face for the sight of a lifetime. Luxuriously camp in the Elqui Valley, with a pisco sour in hand, while we experience this awe-inspiring, breathtaking wonder.

LEADING EXPERTS. Feed your curiosity with presentations by Planetarium Director Danielle LeBlanc, contributing editor of *Astronomy* magazine (and veteran of seven total solar eclipses) Martin Ratcliffe, and Museum educators.

EXCLUSIVE ACCESS. Prepare for the eclipse with exclusive access to Mamalluca Observatory, Planetario Chile, and the Observatorio Astronómico Andino, one of the largest and most unique private observatories in the world.

OTHERWORLDLY WALKS. Explore the landscapes around the regal Andes Mountains, watching the sun set and walking amongst the stars. Fantastic hiking opportunities in both the daytime as well as evening are available at all experience levels.

TERRAIN AND TERROIR. Visit vineyards where the conditions of sun, wind, winter rain, and the minerals of the Maipo River create perfect local conditions for world-renowned Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot grapes. Feast on Chile's famed culinary delights.



ITINERARY

DAY 1 | Friday, June 28

US DEPARTURES

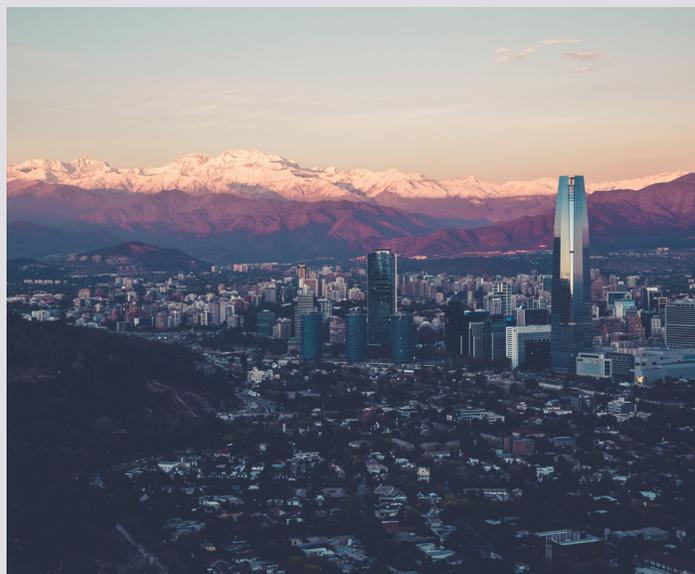
Depart from your home city for Santiago International Airport (SCL).

DAY 2 | Saturday, June 29

ARRIVE IN SANTIAGO

Arrive in the morning in Chile's capital, Santiago. Meet our bilingual guides, some of the best in the country, who will take you to our chic, centrally located, 4-star hotel to freshen up from the journey south. In the afternoon, enjoy a custom, behind-the-scenes tour of Santiago's most important historic and architectural highlights. Meet with a curator at the excellent pre-Columbian art museum, walk with a chef through the bustling city market, and be welcomed to a private reception with your fellow eclipse chasers at the fantastic Observatorio Astronómico Andino, one of the largest and most unique private observatories in the world, reserved exclusively for our Museum of Science group. Enjoy a pisco and discussion with some of the country's top astronomers, and then tour the observatory and its eleven different telescopes, including three equipped with filters that allow observers to view the surface of the sun! Here we will also have a dinner amongst the telescopes as the sun falls, so we can enjoy exploring the evening sky as well. Afterwards, return to our fantastic accommodations at the hip Cumbres Lastarria.

Meals: Reception, Dinner



DAY 3 | Sunday, June 30

CHILEAN WINE COUNTRY & THE ELEVATORS OF VALPARAISO

Journey to one of the most colorful and historic port cities on the planet, Valparaíso, where we will ride the funiculars and amble amongst the steep hills and multi-hued buildings. Take in the graffiti and murals that dot this gorgeous and once-thriving trade center—now a UNESCO world heritage site. Our group will meet with local artists in their studios to learn about the hip, creative graffiti culture and its power to shape a city. Then travel back to Santiago through the Casablanca Valley, Chile's most important grape-growing region for white and red wines. Our Museum of Science group will be welcomed to one of Chile's best vineyards, and in a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the bottling process, witness one of the rarest fermenting techniques in the world. Instead of the typical large metal vats, wines are kept in rounded clay jars that self-stir and regulate extraction and oxidation levels on their own. Arrive back in the early evening for some self-exploration and a dinner on your own, with many options within walking distance to our hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



just steps away from the center-line of totality. Each tent has its own bathroom and shower, and we also have a hospitality tent for lectures and lounging, and a meal tent for dining. Enjoy a sunset walk or hike (various activity levels available) before we gather around a warm fire, sip a cold pisco, and eat a delicious meal by our cozy campsite. The Valley boasts the highest concentration of astronomical observatories in the Southern Hemisphere. Tonight, we'll visit Mamalluca Observatory to hear from experts on the stars and the next day's eclipse, then gaze into the heavens using their 12-inch diameter telescope.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 | Tuesday, July 2

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN

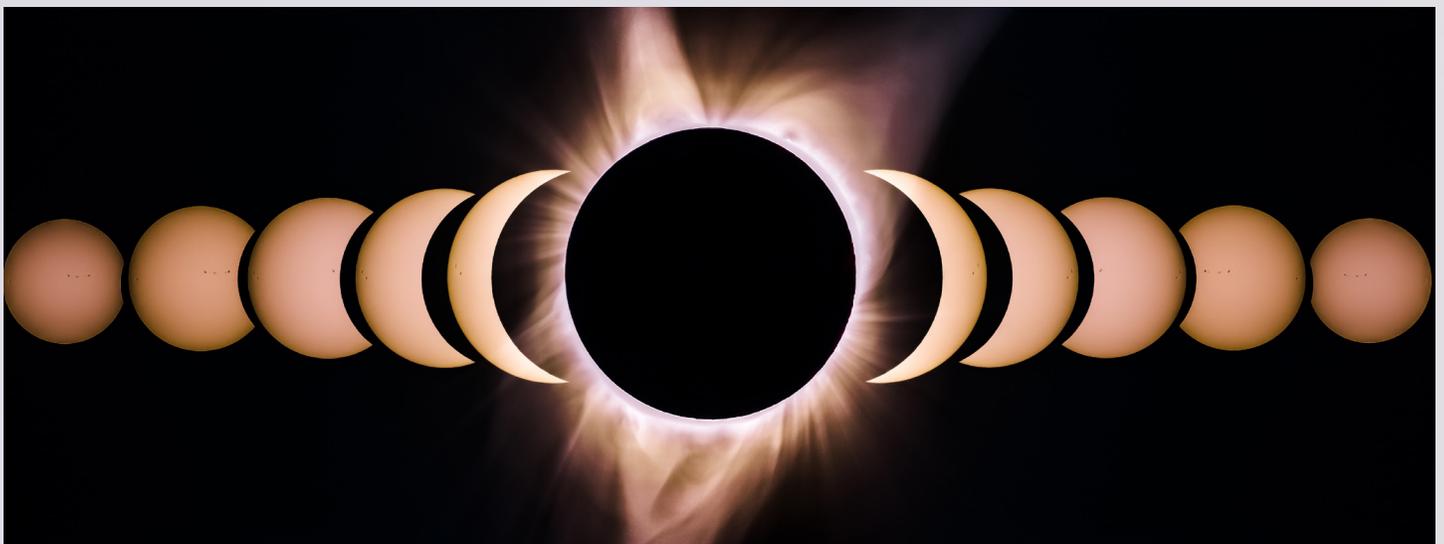
With the clearest skies in the Southern Hemisphere, the Elqui Valley is the perfect vantage point for viewing the 2019 solar eclipse. In the morning we take our posts directly in the path of totality and partake in a day of active, family-friendly activities, together with interactive presentations and workshops on this rare celestial event. Bring your personal camera equipment and we'll help you capture the event yourself, through our eclipse photography lesson. While snacking on goat cheese and local olives and some of Chile's best wines, we'll take in two minutes and 15 seconds of a truly awe-inspiring, breathtaking and sipping wonder. Sunset will follow the eclipse, as will our celebration and festivities at our campsite this evening. We'll close out the evening with a guided stargazing walk to reflect on the day's amazing experience.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 | Monday, July 1

THE VALLE DEL ELQUI

After breakfast and check-out, enjoy a special welcome to the Planetario Chile, one of the largest planetariums on the continent, for an exclusive presentation and discussion between Planetario staff and the Museum's very own Planetarium director, who will help orient our group to the Southern night sky. Then, travel to the airport as we will fly into the beach town of La Serena and journey to our exclusive luxury campsite located directly within the path of the eclipse. On the way, we will visit the massive Puclaro Reservoir and stay warm with the Chilean tradition of mate—a bitter herbal tea shared piping hot with friends—before reaching the Elqui Valley in time to sample local delicacies for lunch. Settle into our Museum of Science campsite which is





DAY 7 | Thursday, July 4

VICUÑA, LA SERENA & A 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION!

Happy 4th of July! In the morning, we'll stop by the city of Vicuña to visit a local market and celebrate at a festival that is organized by locals just for this eclipse week. Then we will make our way to the beach to indulge in a Chilean asado—a traditional barbeque feast! Say adios to friends old and new as we fly back to Santiago ***Most of our travelers will head home, but for a few of our most adventurous, the Museum of Science will lead an optional extension to the otherworldly and remote Atacama Desert. This 5-star, all-inclusive, curated experience is limited to a small number of participants..***



DAY 8 | Friday, July 5

ARRIVE IN THE US

Arrive in the US in the morning and connect to final destinations.



DAY 6 | Wednesday, July 3

PISCO ELQUI AND PISCO SOURS

Explore the Elqui Valley today, a place famous for its wonder and wackiness and magnetic energy. We will learn about the process of making the famous Chilean liquor, pisco, before tasting delicious examples of the product at the oldest pisquera in Chile. Wander the truly far-out town of Pisco Elqui, long a haven for mystics, gurus, healers, and stargazers, and enjoy private discussions with those who live here year-round, organized exclusively for our group. Stop in the small town of Montegrande, the birthplace of famed Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet, Gabriela Mistral, who often evoked the star-scape and the heavens in her poetry, for a wine-tasting and celestial reading for our group. Enjoy a final presentation about what we've experienced together, a farewell feast, and stargazing for our final evening in the desert.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



OPTIONAL EXTENSION



DAY 7 | Thursday, July 4

ARRIVE IN SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

From Santiago, we will catch our connecting flight to San Pedro de Atacama and settle into our fantastic accommodations at the 5-star, all-inclusive Alto Atacama Desert Lodge & Spa. In a fitting extension to our celestial

journey, we will take an early evening walk through the Valle de la Luna, so named due to its moonlike dunes, craters and otherworldly landscapes. It truly feels like you have arrived on another planet.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8 | Friday, July 5

THE ATACAMA SALT FLATS, LAKES, LAGOONS & FLAMINGOS

Our first full day of exploration in this geologically wondrous region will include a get-your-hands-salty tour of the Gran Salar de Atacama—the Atacama Salt Flats— as well as the beautiful and impressive lagoons of the Altiplano. Here we will have the chance to witness a wide and exotic variety of bird species, including three types of flamingos who feed in the crystal waters. Our naturalist guides will explain why the diversity of the landscape, as well as the species who live here, are like nowhere else on the planet. After returning to our hotel, relax at our gorgeous resort and spa or enjoy an optional sunset hike! Tonight we will try to get to bed early for our early rise the following morning.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner





DAY 9 | Saturday, July 6

EL TATIO GEYSERS & PURITAMA HOT SPRINGS

Leaving before sunrise, travel toward the high Andean plains to reach one of the most important geothermal fields in the world, El Tatio Geysers. At over 14,000 feet above sea level, behold the beauty of the Andes while surrounded by shooting spurts of water and vapor. Enjoy talks and walks about this geological wonder. Returning in the late afternoon, enjoy a visit and dip in the beautiful Puritama Hot Springs, which have delighted visitors from around the world. These natural grottos are said to have purifying and healing waters, perfect after our long day of exploring. Tonight will also feature a special stargazing walk and talk in the desert for those who wish to linger under the stars during our final evening in this breathtaking and unique region of the world.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 10 | Sunday, July 7

FAREWELL, CHILE!

In the morning, explore the region’s origins, visiting amazingly preserved archaeological ruins. Explore one of northern Chile’s oldest archaeological treasures, the 3,000-year-old Village of Tulor, and enjoy a talk with a top curator of the site, exclusively for our group. Next, tour the indigenous Pukara de Quito, or Quito Fortress; now a national monument, it was built by Atacama settlers more than 700 years ago to defend themselves from neighboring factions. Enjoy a delicious farewell meal with friends old and new before making our way back to Santiago International Airport and destinations homeward.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 11 | Monday, July 8

ARRIVE IN THE US

Arrive in the US in the morning and connect to final destinations.





FEATURED SPEAKERS

MR. MARTIN RATCLIFFE

We will be joined for interactive presentations for the entire main program by Mr. Martin Ratcliffe. Currently a director at Sky-Skan, Inc, a planetarium company, Martin is a former President of the International Planetarium Society 2001– 2002. While President of IPS, he was involved in the development of the Museum Alliance network, meeting many times with NASA's JPL Education and Public Outreach team. Representing Sky-Skan, he attended the first White House Star Party in October 2009 and introduced the first family to a digital planetarium experience on the South Lawn of the White House.

He is a contributing editor for the national magazine, *Astronomy*, and has written their Night Sky column since 1996. He moved from England to the US in 1991 to direct the Buhl Planetarium at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, PA, where he directed a planetarium show with the Space Telescope Science Institute called *Through the Eyes of Hubble*, highlighting the success of the first servicing mission. The show went to over 100 theaters in 14 countries. In 1997 he moved to Wichita, KS to oversee construction and operation of the Boeing CyberDome theater at Exploration Place.

He is author of four books, is a series editor for Springer Briefs in Astrophysics, and has written numerous planetarium shows. Martin has filmed total eclipses of the Sun for television, and enjoys astronomical photography from his own home-built observatory in Wichita. He is a past council member of the British Astronomical Association and Society for Popular Astronomy (UK).

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from University College London (England) in Astronomy. Martin is an adjunct lecturer at Wichita State University and a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, Astronomical Science, with a passion for teaching astronomy to wide audiences.

MS. DANIELLE LEBLANC

Danielle LeBlanc is the director of the Charles Hayden Planetarium at the Museum of Science, Boston, and leads the strategic programming and vision for the organization, its infrastructure, and its award-winning staff of educators, producers, and artists. She has partnered with industry colleagues, university and government researchers, grant representatives, and other outside collaborators to position the Planetarium as a leading venue for accessible educational content and innovative experiences that push the medium across the boundaries of science, art, and technology. Enamored with planetariums since she was a young girl, she considers it a privilege to contribute to the field and help realize the full potential of these incredible spaces for inspiring educational, artistic, and community progress.

Ms. LeBlanc has worked in the field since 2000, and has written, produced, and presented programs for the dome since 2003. As an educator, she brings over 18 years of experience developing and presenting live, interactive astronomy shows for Museum visitors, including school groups, families, the general public, and adult audiences.

Since the Planetarium's conversion to digital technology in 2010, she has produced four original feature shows, which have been licensed by hundreds of venues across five continents, translated into dozens of languages, and screened at international festivals. She has overseen and contributed to the production of numerous arts, music, and experimental programs that promote and push forward the digital dome medium, and which have seen tremendous success both in bringing in diverse audiences to the Museum and in garnering international attention.



DETAILS

Program Inclusions

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES

- ⌘ All activities, sightseeing, educational presentations, and entry fees listed in the itinerary.
- ⌘ Accommodations as described in the itinerary.
- ⌘ All meals listed in the itinerary, including two beverages of choice at all lunches and dinners, as well as complimentary beer and wine at our campsite.
- ⌘ Transportation by private, air-conditioned motor coach as appropriate.
- ⌘ Bottled water during all excursions.
- ⌘ Comprehensive cultural information and reading materials.
- ⌘ The services of exceptional bilingual local guides and tour managers as described in the itinerary.
- ⌘ All gratuities to cover drivers, wait staff at group meals, guides, and tour managers.

THE PROGRAM DOES NOT INCLUDE

- ⌘ International flights and flights to and from Santiago International Airport.
- ⌘ Expenses of a purely personal nature (including cab fares, laundry and other personal items, room service charges, passport application fees).
- ⌘ Transportation of luggage in excess of weight allowance.
- ⌘ Travel insurance (we strongly advise that each participant arrange for their own travel insurance).
- ⌘ Food and beverage other than that specified in the itinerary.
- ⌘ Medical expenses.
- ⌘ Costs associated with trip interruption or modification due to weather, travel conditions, political/civil disputes, medical emergencies, or other causes beyond our control.

WEATHER

The Museum and our local partners have worked carefully to select an optimal viewing location to experience the total solar eclipse, which is occurring in a part of the world which should have good visibility to see the phenomenon, but please keep in mind that viewing any eclipse is always weather dependent. Your Travel Director will keep you fully informed of any changes to planned activities. A sense of humor, flexibility, and patience will be greatly appreciated during this program and especially on eclipse day!

RATES

8-DAY PROGRAM **\$6,499**

4-DAY EXTENSION **\$3,999**

For those not sharing a room, an additional fee of \$3,999 will apply to the 8-day program, plus an additional fee of \$1,600 to the extension.



REGISTRATION

CONTACT US

Please contact us with any questions: moschile@insiderexpeditions.com or +1(929) 399-4975.

SAVE YOUR SPACE

YOUR \$500 NONREFUNDABLE DEPOSIT SECURES YOUR SPACE ON THIS HIGHLY ANTICIPATED EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL PROGRAM.

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