Chile

Unrivaled Natural Beauty
Chile’s unusual ribbon–like shape stretches for over 2,600 miles and hosts a variety of climates, from desert to temperate rainforest. To the East, the majestic Andes run the length of the country, providing not only beautiful vistas, but also some of the best adventure tourism in the world. Every year, over 2 million kayakers, climbers, and adventurers visit Chile’s southern Patagonia region and Antarctica. To the West, across the Pacific Ocean, lies Easter Island. And, to the North stretches the Atacama desert, the driest place in the world and home to NASA’s Mars Project.

Gateway to Latin American Business
Chile’s friendly business atmosphere, stability, and safe environment have encouraged many large multinational companies to establish South American headquarters in the country’s capital of Santiago. Chile has one of the world’s most open economies and holds the most bilateral trade agreements in the world, including strong agreements with Australia, the United States, China, Japan, and the European Union.

Global Competitiveness
In the past decade, Chile has made huge strides towards becoming not only a leader in Latin America, but in the world. The country has more than doubled its per capita income over the last ten years and has managed to reduce national poverty levels to 13.7%, a lower percentage than the United States. In December 2007, S&P elevated Chile’s credit rating from A to A+, a level that only ten other countries in the world can top.

Thriving Industry
Chile has an immense cache of natural resources, including copper, timber, fresh fruit, fish, and financial services. This, coupled with the country’s high level of human capital has allowed Chile to advance in the rankings to become Latin America’s shining star.
Sample Itinerary:

Day 1: After checking into your five star hotel, join the Austral Group team for a quick orientation to get to know the city. Take advantage of an afternoon off in the city before rejoining the group for a welcome dinner in Santiago’s top rated steak house.

Day 2: Indulge in breakfast at the hotel before taking a short bus ride to one of the country’s largest banking institutions for a meeting and conversation about foreign investment in Chile. Grab a quick lunch with friends before heading downtown to meet with a local government official about progress in trade and development.

Day 3: Spend the day exploring Chile’s west coast at the Valparaiso Port and meet with one of the companies managing the dense traffic of imports and exports through the port. Follow that with an incredible tour of one of Chile’s extensive vineyards and an elite tasting session while speaking with the vineyards marketing director about the international sales environment.

Day 4: After breakfast at the hotel, walk down the street to the office of one of Chile’s most profitable start ups and take the chance to pick the entrepreneurial brain of the CEO. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon off and get to know some of Santiago’s famous sites like San Cristobal and Barrio Italia.

Day 5: Hop on the bus early in the morning for a trip to one of Chile’s top agribusiness companies just outside of Santiago. Take a tour of the sorting and packaging facility before meeting with the company’s VP of production to discuss Latin American trade and exports. Take advantage of the incredible restaurants near the hotel to try some typical Chilean flavors for dinner.

Day 6: Eat a quick breakfast at the hotel before heading just outside the city to meet with a large, multinational manufacturing company. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the Chilean business atmosphere with the company’s head of sales. From there, head out back to Santiago for a meeting and conversation with Chile’s largest mining company about industry innovations in the north of the country. Enjoy the night off and experience Santiago’s incredible restaurant scene.

Day 7: Spend the day at a gorgeous mountain lodge in Chile’s Cajon Del Maipo and indulge in the country’s famous asado (barbeque). Take the rest of the day to pack and gather last minute tourist gifts before flying home.

For more information contact your Trip Leader or Austral Group at info@theaustralgroup.com