







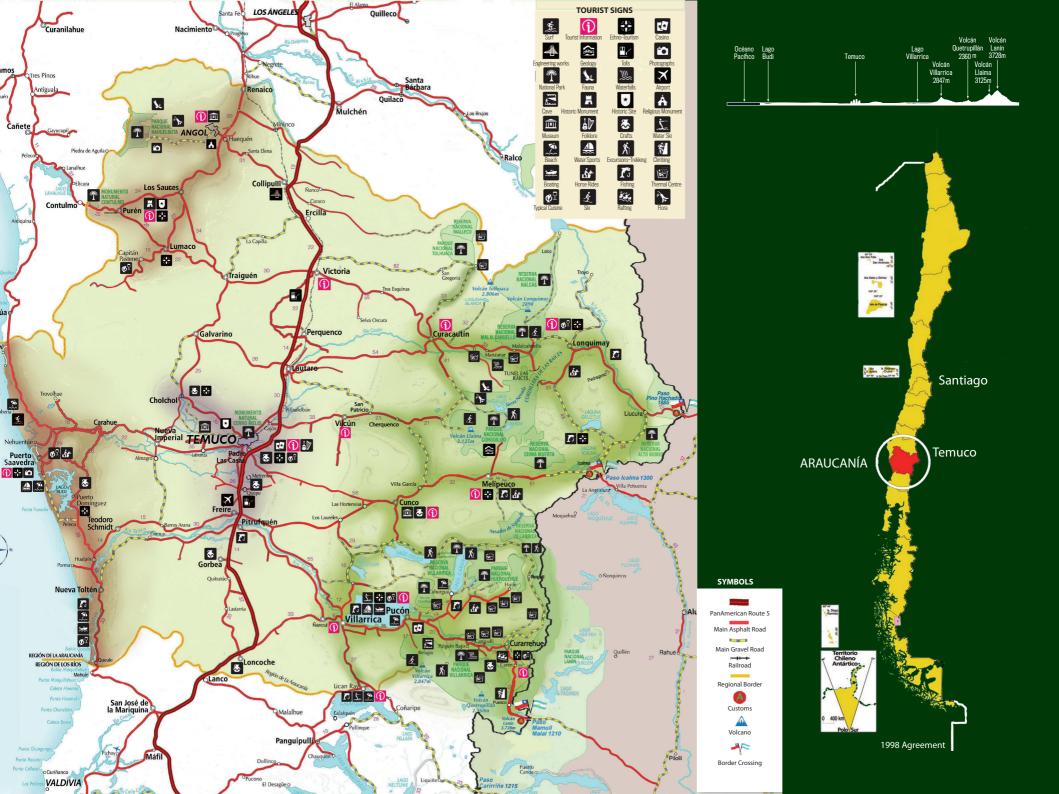
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EDITION 2019

# **ARAUCANÍA** ORIGINAL NATURE





# WHY VISIT LA ARAUCANÍA?



# VOLCANOES

The volcanoes are an icon of Araucanía's landscape. Their presence permanently marks the silhouette of the Cordillera de Los Andes mountain range at these latitudes, giving rise to the most diverse forms and landscapes. They are also a source of the legends of the Mapuche people and the scene of countless adventures for the traveler; skiing on its slopes, ascending to its craters and exploring its depths through deep caves, are all part of the magic that these authentic "beings" deliver.



# THERMAL SPRINGS

It is the volcanic activity that runs throughout the Andes, with its underground cauldrons, which heat the waters that spring forth eternally hot (between 23°C and 46°C), loaded with minerals that are beneficial to the human body. These medicinal properties, plus the spectacular nature around them, make the hot springs of La Araucanía a must for the traveler seeking relaxation and renewal at any time of year. There are more than 15 alternatives available for the traveler.



# MAPUCHE PEOPLE

The Mapuche make up more than 85% of the population that is native to Chile and the La Araucanía Region is in essence their territory. The Mapuche people are open to share their knowledge and traditions with friendly travelers, regardless of their origin. Cuisine, crafts, cosmology and their ancestral nature are the qualities that give life to the Mapuche tourism experience. The traveler seeking authentic cultural contact will recognize that this is an opportunity like no other.



# ACTIVITIES

Challenge is the word. La Araucanía is a natural amusement park, that's for sure. The diversity of activities that originate from its natural wonders please even the most demanding practitioners of adventure and sport. By land, air or water, the options are many and cover all seasons of the year. Travelers from around the world come every year to conquer volcanoes, rivers and trails, mainly in the Lacustrine Area, known as the Adventure Capital of Chile.

# STUNNING NATURE

La Araucanía is where the intense greenery of southern Chile begins. Here are the ancient araucaria forests and lakes that paint with blue the green forest blanket. Thirteen State Protected Wildlife Areas safeguard this natural environment, shaped by the rigor of volcanoes, rich in endemic species and, above all, accessible to all visitors. Throughout the four seasons, La Araucanía presents itself, through nature, always colorful and surprising.



Temuco is a modern city, with comfort, entertainments, spectacles and cultural life like any other developed cities. A visit to Ñielol Natural Monument, to museums like the one of Araucanía or to Pablo Neruda National Railway museum, or to the Modelo market located downtown, are worth to be known, thus you may go through the local history and approach to the real inhabitants' way of living.

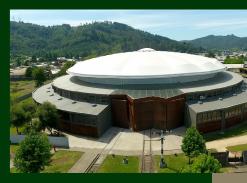
The city has a great interesting variety of activities such as local gastronomy, a casino, discos, pubs and lively spectacles that make tourists enjoy one of the main tourist cities of Southern Chile, in a full of commerce and university style atmosphere.

Places like Padre las Casas, Cholchol, Imperial, next to Temuco, with nice landscapes and local way of living are also very interesting to be <u>experienced</u>.



## URBAN LIFE IN THE ANDEAN Foothills

Villarica and Pucón are two other urban centers in the region. Fairly small and lying on the banks of lake Villarrica, both supply attractive alternative options for shopping, especially for local products. There is a varied cuisine, very pleasant walks and biking alternatives both inside and outside the city.



These cities show additional charm through the presence of lake Villarrica, navigable and extensive, and of course, the namesake volcano, whose imposing size and classic vent in the earth remind us how alive it is. To perform any urban activity in this context is a real pleasure.

## **MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

Temuco and Pucón are the main points for holding events in La Araucanía and both have all the facilities for organizing conferences, seminars and even exhibitions. Pucón is host to a significant number of events and meetings throughout the year, especially during spring, where the quality of its hotels, the stunning scenery and the opportunity to take part in all kinds of activities make it an excellent choice for this type of tourism.



## MAPUCHE LEGACY AND PRESENCE

The Mapuche identity, their customs, traditions and products, is the most precious cultural heritage of La Araucanía. An important part of the history of Chile began in this area, as the region was a virtually impenetrable stronghold during the time of Spanish colonization, which lasted for over two centuries, which is why it is known as La Frontera (The Frontier).

La Araucanía is the region with the biggest presence of Mapuche people in the country and the destination with the most indigenous identity of Chile. If your interest is to learn from the knowledge and ancestral wisdom of the indigenous people, it can be done in various ways and the experience is really captivating. The Mapuche people are present throughout the region and communities that offer tourist services are concentrated near Temuco, lake Budi and the Andean lakes area.

In recent years, the Mapuche have opened themselves up to show their identity and tradition to travelers through services and experiences such as ruka lodging, their traditional housing and meeting space, which revolves around a fireplace that





Region's oldest cities date from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, namely quite recent in comparison to European settlements. In Temuco for example, founded in 1881, the area which is now called Barrio Antiguo (Old Town) is the old residential sector and to this day retains its style, hinting at the ways of life and customs of the time. Barrio Estación is the central sector of that time, where trains were most used, boosting the economy around its terminal. There are over twenty buildings declared as Historical Monuments in La Araucanía and to visit them brings a vivid approach to the history of the area. Among the most important are: San Carlos de Purén Fort (1869), the four white marble sculptures of the Plaza de Armas in Angol, established in 1862 to represent the four continents known at this time; and in Collipulli, the Malleco Railway Bridge, which in addition to being very beautiful and impressive for its height is also one of the greatest engineering works in Chile.





is always kept alight, and also through its cuisine, which today can be seen in successful initiatives that have introduced their products and recipes to many of the restaurants in the region. These people have a common worldview, an original language, Mapuzugün, and an attachment to their land and ancestral knowledge of which they are very proud, which has been passed down the generations orally.

Every year there are certain fundamental rites such We Tripantu -the mapuche new yearand Trafkintu –a festival of exchange and bartering- in which it is possible to participate in a respectful manner. The Mapuche identity is also seen in the craftwork of silver, wool, vegetable fibers, bone, wood and ceramics that are created primarily by women and are available in the stores, fairs and markets of the region.

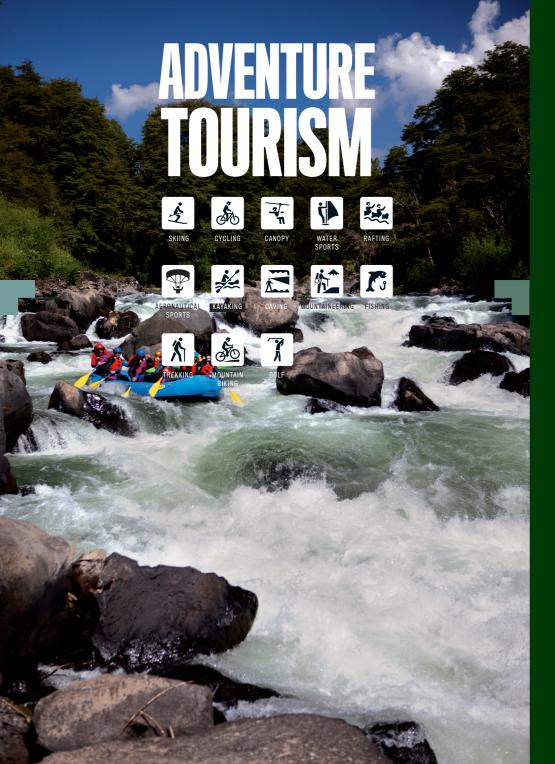
### ARCHITECTURAL AND Monumental Heritage

There are numerous museums that preserve the history and heritage of La Araucanía. The pre-Columbian archaeology, anthropology and legacy of the Mapuche people are the main topics addressed by the existing collections. This is the case La Araucanía Regional Museum, which houses more than 3000 exhibits and objects that speak of their evolution, their movements, exchanges and ancestral worldview. Others reveal the arrival of the Spaniards and the vestiges of colonization, as well as the consequent influence and the changes that occurred in the native people. It also presents the legacy of the various post-Spanish immigrants, such as the German, from the second half of the nineteenth century, or the arrival of the Italians in the early twentieth century.



## NERUDA'S LEGACY

According to the writings of Pablo Neruda (1904-1973), his childhood was marked by his years in Temuco. In turn, without knowing it, he also left his mark there. His father was a train driver, reason why the poet grew up amongst these enormous steam engines. These travels allowed him to gain wide knowledge of La Araucanía and triggered his poetic inspiration, which was born in Temuco. On the centenary of his birth, the city of Temuco opened the Pablo Neruda National Railway Museum in his honor.



## INVITATION TO ADVENTURE

To break the routine? Conquer new places and territories? Overcome our fears? Achieve something! Is that not precisely why some seek to travel and, more than that, to choose a destination? The routine of life often makes us forget the importance of a little shake up and awakening our emotions, to challenge us and remind us how great it is to successfully overcome these obstacles. Nature is responsible for making La Araucanía a real amusement park, whose incredible geography gives rise to the most unlikely scenarios for performing outdoor activities. Rivers, canyons, mountains, volcanoes and glaciers allow for an excellent and varied range of adventure and sport, all within the space of a few kilometers. Perfect for those looking for that emotion that everyday life takes away.



Whether by water, land or air, possibilities are diverse and available for the most experienced adventurers as well as for those seeking a softer adventure. Destinations offer countless activities to practice, but certainly some of them stand out in particular ways.

With much of its territory high up in the Andes, La Araucanía is a perfect destination for mountain activities. There are peaks and craters of volcanoes on hand, with routes for both experts and beginners. The conquest of a summit is in itself a challenge and a wonderful bonus, increased when it is known that one can expect the opportunity to view the flight of a nearby condor or a panoramic, simultaneous view over five volcanoes.

Throughout the region there are hiking trails, through which you can access virtually unexplored places. Some of these routes last more than a day, requiring good physical conditioning, and include mountaineering techniques. There are also mountain bike routes in abundance, with varying degrees of difficulty and demand, but always in the midst of magnificent scenery, tracks crossing lava valleys, riversides or forests are some of the locations on offer.



In the water another rhythm lives, a different atmosphere felt. Whether in a raft, kayak or floating down the river

These same rivers of La Araucanía, present the additional feature of having ravines and waterfalls that are perfect for the practice of Canyoning, a great adventure that lasts 3 to 5 hours, depending on the degree of difficulty. In both the lakes and rivers of the Andes, as well as on the coast of La Araucanía, there are more than 35 spots where you can practice Fly and Sport Fishing, finding key species such as salmon, trout, mackerel, sea bass, flounder and sierra. Of special interest to trawler



For snow lovers, La Araucanía has over a thousand acres of skiing terrain, during the skiing season (June to September). These centers are located in four equipped mountains, located on the slopes of the Lonquimay Llaima and Villarrica volcanoes.

Besides skiing, snowboarders will find amazing obstacles that form authentic natural snowparks. For those seeking an intimate contact with nature, snowshoeing through snow Araucaria forests is definitely an exceptional experience.



From the air, the picture is even more attractive, especially when paragliding at an altitude of 700 meters, from where you can spot the many volcanoes, lakes and meadows. If this seems slightly extreme, you can raise yourself to the height of the treetops, at high speed, in one of the fantastic canopy circuits that exist within the region.



fishermen are the river basins of the Toltén and Imperial rivers. On a hydrospeed board, white water rivers like the Liucura and Trancura are internationally recognized for their rapids (Class I to V), inviting beginners and experts.

Rafting on the Trancura river is a must of the destination because its strong flowing rapids simply add to a stunning landscape. Kayaking is an excellent alternative for the most expert and Hydrospeed is the perfect experience for those looking to feel, literally, like a fish in water.





## ARAUCARIA TREES, LAKES AND VOLCANOES

What a pleasant feeling it is just to stop for a while simply to contemplate nature. Breathe deep, watch, listen and absorb the sights and sounds of the environment. The sole act of peacefully observing your surroundings is an enriching experience. La Araucanía is a natural park that has 13 State Protected Wildlife Areas and as many private estates, which together cover one ninth of the regional territory. Each of these preserves valuable and unique ecosystems, providing the explorer of nature with one of the most amazing experiences available.





The park has trails and paths that can be visited throughout the year, ideal for trekking and biking, with fabulous views and a variety of landscapes such as Andean grasslands, ancient craters, native forests, waterfalls, rivers and glaciers.



National Reserves are also in the attraction's spotlight. In Malalcahuello-Nalcas National Reserve you can see a truly and recent display of volcanic devastating force: the Navidad Crater, named for its appearance on December 25<sup>th</sup>, 1988, on which day the last major eruption of the Lonquimay volcano was recorded.

Nevados de Sollipulli, inside Villarrica National Reserve, holds another impressive display of the regional geology: a volcanic crater over 12 square kilometers in size, completely covered by a glacier that is 600 meters deep. There are operators that organize walks along the imposing glacier.

In the parks and reserves you are able to appreciate the marvel of colors that change from season to season, from the reds and yellows of autumn to the green, white and blue of the contrasting winter, the multiple variety of the lively spring, the refreshing and sparkling heat of summer. These are all moments worth living. Moreover, these areas are the main focus of ecotourism and adventure activities, including trekking, birdwatching, hiking, mountain biking and of course, photography.

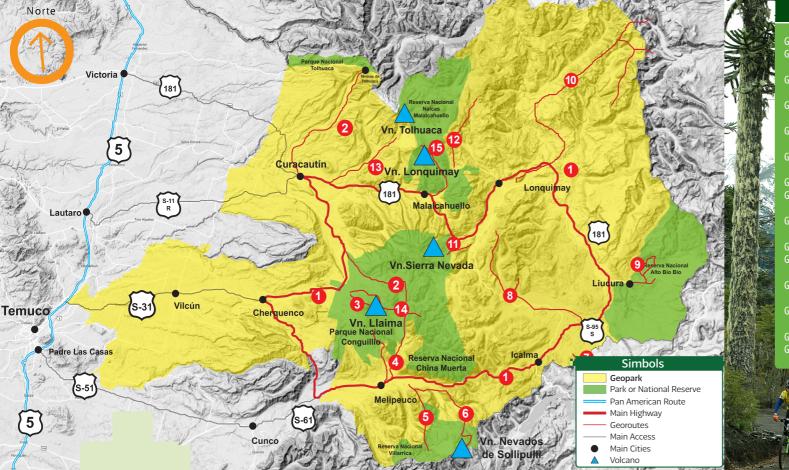
Conguillío National Park stands out among the most beautiful. It is no exaggeration to say that its landscapes seem to be taken from a story: there are lava valleys, secluded and quiet green lagoons, and steep hillsides covered with perfectly distributed araucaria trees and hiking trails from which to explore these wonders.

Huerquehue National Park is smaller, but is also of immense beauty with one of the best short trekking routes of the region. It is a 7 kilometer trail that goes through the woods, climbing over 1,300 meters and on whose route there are waterfalls and truly beautiful forests of mañíos and coigües that seem endless in their height. Higher, amidst the peaks, lagoons surrounded by araucaria's greet you, as a well-earned reward. Villarrica National Park is the largest park in La Araucanía and its main icon is the namesake volcano. Its active crater is possible to conquer after a 6 hours climb, always accompanied by local guides. But if you are looking for an underground experience, there are a number of trails that wind through the volcanic caves, specially equipped to allow close encounters with the force of the magma in its solid state.

> Tolhuaca National Park is the farthest away from the typically busy routes and that gives it a special appeal. More silent and solitary, this park protects an area of truly beautiful foothills around the source of the Malleco river. It is particularly interesting for fans of birdwatching, which can spot species such as torcazas (wild pigeons), cachañas (wild parrots), woodpeckers and ducks. Near the park there are good quality SPAs, perfect for relaxing after an active day.

> The only park outside the mountains of the Cordillera de Los Andes is Nahuelbuta National Park, home to one of the few last oceanic araucaria forests. It is less visited than the others and offers rich opportunities for hiking and wildlife observation.





## KÜTRALKURA GEOPARK In Mapudungún, firestone

UNESCO world geoparks are geographic, unique areas where sites and highlights of international geologic relevance are managed under holistic concepts of protection, education and sustainable development. These areas are based on a "bottom to top" focus by combining a sustainable development with local communities' involvement. Around 147 world geoparks from Unesco exist now in 41 countries. In November 2015 State Members of Unesco ratified the establishment of Program "Unesco World Geoparkrs" (IGGP) at the General Council of Unesco. Kütralkura Geopark located in Araucanía region, has the aim to contribute to social, cultural, economic development of its territory as well as to its communes of Melipeuco, Vilcún, Curacautín and Lonquimay.

In the center of this first Geopark with a surface of 8.100 km2 is Conguillío National Park, with Llaima volcano, one of the most active volcanoes in South America. This territory has in total six protected areas, five volcanoes and a great biodiversity, with different kinds of landscapes and a geologic history of the last 250 million years. The territory is also part of Araucarias Biosphere Reserve with a well known world wide biodiversity. Among its inhabitants are Mapuche and Pehuenche cultures who have their own cosmovision with an outstanding

divine character of volcanoes and a good knowledgement of medicinal plants.

The expectation of Kütralkura Geopark is to reach the aim of improving the inhabitants' life quality as well as contributing the dissemination of the earth sciences at local, regional and national level and to inspire the establishment of new geoparks in the country. Active volcanoes are a great tourist attraction with big dynamism as it is necessary that local communities and visitors are well informed on the related danger and the measures to face emergencies in likely eruptions.

The establishment of this first Geopark in Chile was an initiative developed by SERNAGEOMIN (Service of Mining and Geology) in association to Regional GEOROUTES

Georoute	1: Visit around Kütralkura Geopark	1
Georoute	2: Kütralkura Geopark from North to South	
Georoute	3: Los Paraguas (the umbrellas) of Llaima Volcano	
Georoute	4: Lavas Cordadas de Pangueco, Llaima volcano	
Georoute	5: Thermal Waters and Vents of Queipúe, Nevados de Sollipulli volcano	
Georoute	6: Caldera del volcán Nevados de Sollipulli volcano	
Georoute	7: Batea Mahuida plateau	1
Georoute		
Georoute	9: From ancient seas to white stone sculptures in Alto Biobío	
Goorouto 1	10: Ránquil and Pulul valleys	in the
	11: Salto Lonquimay waterfalls, Sierra	
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Georoute 1	12: Cono Navidad (cone), Lonquimay volcano	
Georoute 1	13: Laguna Blanca, between Lonquimay and Tolhuaca volcanoes	
Georoute 1	14: Winter climbing to Llaima volcano	F.
	15: Winter climbing to Lonquimay volcano	
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Government of Araucanía, INNOVA Chile (from CORFO, National Corporation of Production), CONAF (Forestry National Corporation), SERNATUR (National Tourism Service), CONAMA (National Corporation for Environment), Mountain Team Ñuke Mapu and the Minicipalities of Melipeuco, Vilcún, Curacautín and Lonquimay.

There are diverse designs of georoutes to enjoy fascinating landscapes and well conserved stories of communities, wild protected areas and geosites, some of them count on viewpoints and interpretative panels. These georoutes also take the existing infraestructure of territory and paths that can be experienced on foot, by riding bike or horse with different level of difficulty.



Relaxation and wellbeing: we all need this from time to time. Where better to find it than in warm thermal waters amidst stunning nature? The Andean region of La Araucanía is ideal for this, as it has one of the highest concentrations of thermal springs in the country.

There are over 15 thermal spring options of different styles and prices around areas such as Tolhuaca, Malalcahuello, Pucón and Curarrehue. From simple pools to sophisticated natural centers with holistic relaxation alternatives such as sauna, massage, jacuzzi, mud and vaporarium, to name a few.

It is the volcanic activity that runs throughout the Andes, with its underground cauldrons, which heats the waters that spring forth eternally hot (between 23°C and 46°C), loaded with minerals that are beneficial to the human body. These medicinal properties, plus the spectacular nature around them, make the hot springs of La Araucanía a must for the traveler seeking relaxation and renewal at any time of year. In addition to the hot springs in La Araucanía, there is a good range of services relating to health, relaxation and wellbeing in hotels, lodges and specialized centers, offering various types of massages and treatments such as shiatsu, Bach flowers, reflexology, yoga, pilates and reiki, as well as very pleasant places in which to meditate.

Among lakes, araucarias and volcanoes, a sunrise meditation can easily become into a sublime experience

## INDIGENOUS ANCESTRAL MEDICINE.

The Mapuche people are known for their indepth ancestral knowledge of the healing properties that nature provides through various floras such as native plants and herbs. In La Araucanía you can visit medicinal gardens, where mainly women, with their vast knowledge, prepare their medicines in order to relieve the people of their communities as well as visitors that require it.





What a better way to get to know a culture than through its local flavors?! In La Araucanía this approach applies perfectly, as the region has a gastronomic identity that is marked by the Mapuche cuisine, its main course, and perfectly complimented by recipes brought by immigrants and entrepreneurs from around the world. Through cuisine, it is possible to understand fundamental aspects of the Mapuche culture, for example, the respect and close relationship that this people have for their land, with their crops and seasonal harvests. The Mapuche are observers and appreciative of what land provides, for this reason roots, mushrooms, fruits, seeds and herbs are all an important part of their culinary tradition, along with legumes, grains, meat and potatoes, as well as seafood on the coast.

Mapuche cuisine has been the subject of intense revival by a group of women cooks who have preserved traditional recipes, which have been handed down from generation to generation by their ancestors. You cannot leave without trying the piñones (Araucaria's pinenut), the exquisite catutos, the quila roots, changle empanadas and the fermented wheat drink called muday.





Good samples of this cuisine are to be found in the coastal zone, specifically on Nehuetúe, Puerto Saavedra, Lake Budi and Queule. Towards the center, in Temuco, are attractive opportunities to buy these characteristic products in the area's fairs and markets and also, ascending into the Andes, in the beautiful village of Curarrehue, which has become an icon of the Mapuche culinary tradition as well as innovation.

## THE HEART OF ITALY IN ARAUCANÍA

Nestled in the middle of the Cordillera de Nahuelbuta is Capitán Pastene, a small Italian colony who is known to value their richest culinary traditions and where today there are authentic trattorias, prosciutto and handmade pasta factories, plus a good range of private accommodations decorated in the Italian style. Each year in June, people celebrates the anniversary of the arrival of these settlers and do so on a grand scale, recreating the journey of their ancestors in hundreds of wagons before celebrating with their best pastas, hams and wines.

#### LANGUAGE



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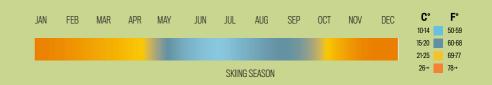
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#### SECURITY

La Araucanía region is remarkably safe for visitors. Just simply take common sense precautions: Do not carry large sums of money, do not neglect bags or video cameras and do not wear jewelry of high value.

The Carabineros de Chile, Chile's police force, is one of the most respected and trusted institutions in the country. For any emergency, dial 133 or contact the nearest police station. Never bribe a policeman, this will offend and you will be in serious trouble.

#### WEATHER



#### TRANSPORT AND DISTANCES

From	o Pucón	Pucón Capitán Pastene (		Curacautín Lonquimay		Curarrehue	Puerto Saavedra	
munit	109 km	133 km	89 km	144 km	83 km	145 km	93 km	
TEMUCO	📮 2 HRS	📮 2H 30 MI 🛛 N	😭 2 HRS	📮 3H 30 MI N	📮 1H 20 MI 🛛 N	🖨 3 HRS	📮 1H 30 MI N	
	*SUBJECT TO TIME CON	INECTIONS						

From	To Arica	San Pedro de Atacama	Isla de Pascua	Santiago	Puerto Montt	Punta Arenas	Antártica
rium	2747 km	2345 km	800 km	690 km	356 km	2327 km	2270 km
TEMUCO	🕂 6 HRS	🕂 4 HRS	🕂 6 HRS	<b>↔</b> 1HR	<b>-←</b> 1HR	t 2HRS	<b>↔</b> 4 HRS
	🚍 36 HRS	😭 32 HRS		🚍 8 HRS	🖨 4H 45 MIN		
	*SUBJECT TO TIME CONNE	CTIONS					

\*CALAMA AIRDORT