



South America Packages

Spectacular beauty, vibrant cultures and outstanding value.

“FESTIVE TANGO & ICE” 23 NIGHT SOUTH AMERICA FLY / CRUISE / TOUR PACKAGE.

Cruise onboard Holland America Line’s premium *ms Veendam*.

Depart Australia 17th December 2010.

SANTIAGO, CHILE

17th December 2010: Depart Australia this morning with LAN (codeshare flight with QANTAS) Welcome to Chile! Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. A light lunch and cool drinks will be included on arrival at the hotel before an afternoon at leisure to relax or begin your exploration of Santiago.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Santiago
Meals: Lunch



SANTIAGO SIGHTS, CHILE



18th December 2010: This morning we meet our guide for our half day Santiago panoramic tour and see 'views of a moving city'. From the history of the colonial neighbourhoods to the modernity of the new financial centre also known as 'Sanhattan', enjoy a trip through the different sceneries that characterise this metropolis. We begin in the city's old residential area, passing by beautiful residences that today are part of the Barrio Universitario (university area).

Our trip continues to the historical and financial city centre where the La Moneda Government Palace, the Main Square and its buildings are main highlights. We continue to the green Parque Forestal and the bohemian Bellavista neighbourhood. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a nearby restaurant to experience the fresh flavours of Chilean & Pacific Rim cuisine.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Santiago
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



WINE COUNTRY & VALPARAISO, CHILE

19th December 2010: We depart Chile's capital and travel toward the Pacific coast, stopping in the wine growing region between Santiago and Valparaiso. This completely enclosed valley, which is 9,000 hectares in length and perpendicular to the ocean, features extraordinary light and possesses the ideal climatic and topographic conditions for both red and white wines. At the Matetic Winery, the first 56 planted hectares are in all-organic soils and are producing 100 percent natural grapes. We tour the wine-making facility and enjoy the panoramic views of the vineyards with Andean glimpses as a backdrop. Sample the local produce with some wine tasting in the subterranean tasting room.





Enjoy a light lunch before we continue to the port city of Valparaiso, considered a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This evening's accommodation is at the nearby seaside resort town of Vina del Mar.

Overnight: Hotel del Mar, Vina del Mar
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

JOIN HOLLAND AMERICA LINE'S 17 NIGHT CRUISE

20th December 2010: Enjoy the morning at leisure in Vina del Mar. Early this afternoon, you will be met and transferred to the cruise terminal to board Holland America Line's premium *ms Veendam*. Lunch is available onboard the ship in the Lido restaurant. Afterwards, relax and settle into your stateroom before your cruise departure this evening.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

AT SEA

21st December 2010: Explore the facilities available on *ms Veendam* and be as active as you wish. Grandly proportioned and recently enhanced, the *ms Veendam* offers an onboard experience defined by spacious comfort and the latest Signature of Excellence features and amenities. Guests onboard the *ms Veendam* will not only enjoy elegant dining rooms, a \$2 million art and antique collection, wide teak decks and spacious staterooms - many with private verandahs - but also new and exciting venues, stateroom options along with a complete update to all stateroom furnishings.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



PUERTO MONTT, CHILE

22nd December 2010: Gateway to the scenic Lake District, a series of fragrant eucalyptus and pine forests, icy lakes, Bavarian hamlets and luminous snow-capped volcanoes.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

PUERTO CHACABUCO, CHILE

23rd December 2010: Here in the heart of the Chilean archipelago, discover stunning scenery: dense rain forests, bright-blue lakes and snow-covered mountain peaks. Sample shore excursion includes: Sights of Patagonia; Lake Elizalde Adventure.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DARWIN CHANNEL CHILEAN FJORDS cruising only

24th December 2010: Fjords more spectacular than those in Norway or Alaska? See them here along the southern coastline of Chile. A 1,000-mile maze of virgin-forested islands, glistening glaciers and more fjords than in all of Scandinavia.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

AMALIA GLACIER CANAL SARMIENTO cruising only

25th December 2010: **MERRY CHRISTMAS!** The west side of the Sarmiento Canal is flanked by Madre de Dios Island, with towering limestone peaks. Amalia Glacier is blue and white, and home to penguins and seabirds.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



STRAIT OF MAGELLAN; PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE; COCKBURN & BEAGLE CHANNELS cruising only

26th December 2010: This remote town (Punta Arenas), pioneered by Yugoslav settlers and sheep ranchers, sits on rolling hills overlooking the Strait of Magellan. Where the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans converge, the Strait of Magellan lies along the southern edge of South America and was named by Ferdinand Magellan around 1520. The strait, protected by both the mainland and the islands of the Tierra del Fuego archipelago, was considered safer than Cape Horn or Drake Passage. Views of Chile from the strait include stunning vistas and landscapes, tiny coves and picturesque inlets. At 150 miles long, the Beagle Channel separates the main island in the north from the small islands in the south. The Cockburn Channel offers breathtaking views of Romanche, Alemania, Francia and Italia Glaciers.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

ROMANCHE & ALEMANIA GLACIERS; FRANCIA & ITALIA GLACIERS; USHUAIA, ARGENTINA cruising only

27th December 2010: Charted by Charles Darwin on his exploratory cruise in 1832. Follow in his wake through Cockburn Channel for breathtaking views of Romanche, Alemania, Francia and Italia glaciers. Ushuaia is the southernmost town in the world, where dominating peaks loom on three sides; the fourth opens to the Beagle Channel, where sea lions bellow and king crabs rule.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

CAPE HORN & DRAKE PASSAGE cruising only

28th December 2010: Cape Horn: Magellan's fleet first circled this massive, treacherous rock at continent's end. Until the Panama Canal was constructed, this was the main shipping route from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WILHELM ARCHIPELAGO cruising only

29th December 2010: Wilhelm Archipelago consists of a myriad of islands, the largest of which are Booth Island and Hovgaard Island. The archipelago extends from Bismarck Strait southwest to Lumus Rock, off the west coast of Graham Land.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS cruising only

30th December 2010: Deception, Livingston & Half Moon Islands (scenic cruising). Don't be deceived: Deception Island is really the crescent-shaped caldera of a volcano active enough to heat Antarctic waters to bathwater temperatures. We sail by the crater, where several colonies of Chinstrap penguins make their home on the black-sand beaches. More surprises await at Half Moon Island where whales are often seen patrolling the shores; and Livingston Island, home of huge Elephant seals.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

THE ANTARCTIC SOUND cruising only

31st December 2010: Hope Bay (Esperanza Station), Paulet & Elephant Islands (scenic cruising). At Hope Bay the scarlet chalets of Esperanza, an Argentine military and scientific station, stand in stark contrast to the white ice. On Paulet Island as several million Adélie penguins nest on every available beach. And at Elephant Island, hear the riveting account of Shackelton's ill-fated expedition and the crew's heroic daily struggle to survive.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



AT SEA

1st January 2011: **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Overnight: *ms Veendam*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

PORT STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS

2nd January 2011: Scotland under the Southern Cross: moorlands, pubs, red phone booths, sheep ranches, a "cuppa tea." Plus penguins of many types; Gentoo, Magellanic and King.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

AT SEA

3rd – 4th January 2011

Overnight: *ms Veendam*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

5th January 2011: Friendly and genteel, Montevideo honours colonial customs: long lunches, siestas and high tea. Nearby is Colonia del Sacramento, the oldest city in Uruguay (ca. 1680), a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Overnight: *ms Veendam*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

BUENOS AIRES SIGHTS & TANGO, ARGENTINA

6th January 2011: Our cruise comes to an end this morning as we arrive in Buenos Aires. After disembarkation, we meet our guide and get acquainted with Buenos Aires on our half day sightseeing tour of the city's major neighbourhoods and attractions. Included is the Plaza de Mayo (Main Square) surrounded by the Casa Rosada, the Colonial Town Hall and Cathedral. We also drive through the charming streets of San Telmo and colourful La Boca, famous for its multi-colour tin houses. Later, we drive through elegant Barrio Norte on our way to Recoleta cemetery lined with mausoleums and statues. This famous cemetery includes graves of some of the most influential and important Argentinians, including several presidents, scientists, and wealthy characters. Eva Perón is the most widely known person buried in this cemetery.

This evening we experience a tango show with dinner

The various Tango Houses, located in San Telmo, offer the possibility of admiring all qualities of tango in its different expressions. Tango dancers and singers as well as tango orchestras, will let you enjoy and feel this particular Buenos Aires music at its utmost while having a wonderful dinner. Andean music, as well as typical Argentine folk music, will also be performed. Born around 1880, the tango was the vulgar dance and music of the capital's "arrabales" or lower class neighbourhoods, blending gaucho verse with Spanish and Italian music. Carlos Gardel, the best representative of tango music and singers, created the "tango-cancion" (tango song), taking it out from the brothels and tenements and into the salons of Buenos Aires. In the late 19th century the "Great Village of Buenos Aires" was becoming an immigrant city, where frustrated and melancholic Europeans displaced gaucho rustics, who retreated gradually to the ever more distant countryside.

Overnight: Intercontinental Hotel, Buenos Aires

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

7th January 2011: Enjoy a day at leisure in this cosmopolitan capital, one of South America's most sophisticated and appealing cities. There is so much to see and do, you may wish to return to an area that you visited in yesterday's sightseeing tour, perhaps stroll the fashionable pedestrian mall of Florida Av., shop at Galerías Pacifico, an impressive Parisian style shopping centre, or see the antiques market, street dancers performers and at Plaza Dorrego in San Telmo.

Overnight: Intercontinental Hotel, Buenos Aires

Meals: Breakfast

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

8th January 2011: Mid morning, we bid farewell to South America as we transfer to the airport for our LAN flight to Australia (codeshare with QANTAS).

Meals: Breakfast

Arrive in Australia this evening

9th January 2011

