

Arica and Parinacota is more than a trip: it's an experience lived through the senses. Its energy, climate, and diversity make it a perfect place to explore, rest, and reconnect with nature.



Always
adventure



[Chile es Tuyo Arica y Parinacota](#)
[aricayparinacota](#)
[SernaturArica](#)
[visitaricayparinacota.cl](#)
[infoarica@sernatur.cl](#)



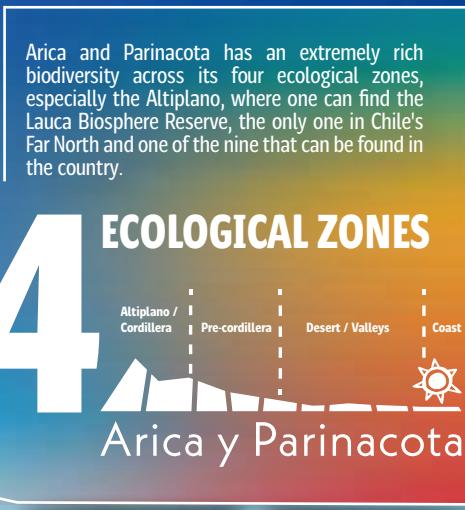
2025 Edition
International long-distance market
Edited by SERNATUR Arica and Parinacota
Free distribution





Arica and Parinacota is a land of striking contrasts, located in the far north of Chile. From sea level, where more than 10 km of extensive beaches stretch along the coast, to the Altiplano at 4,500 meters above sea level, all within just over 80 km. Four clearly differentiated ecological zones can be identified: coastal edge, valleys and desert, pre-cordillera and Altiplano, which includes the highest peaks of the region.

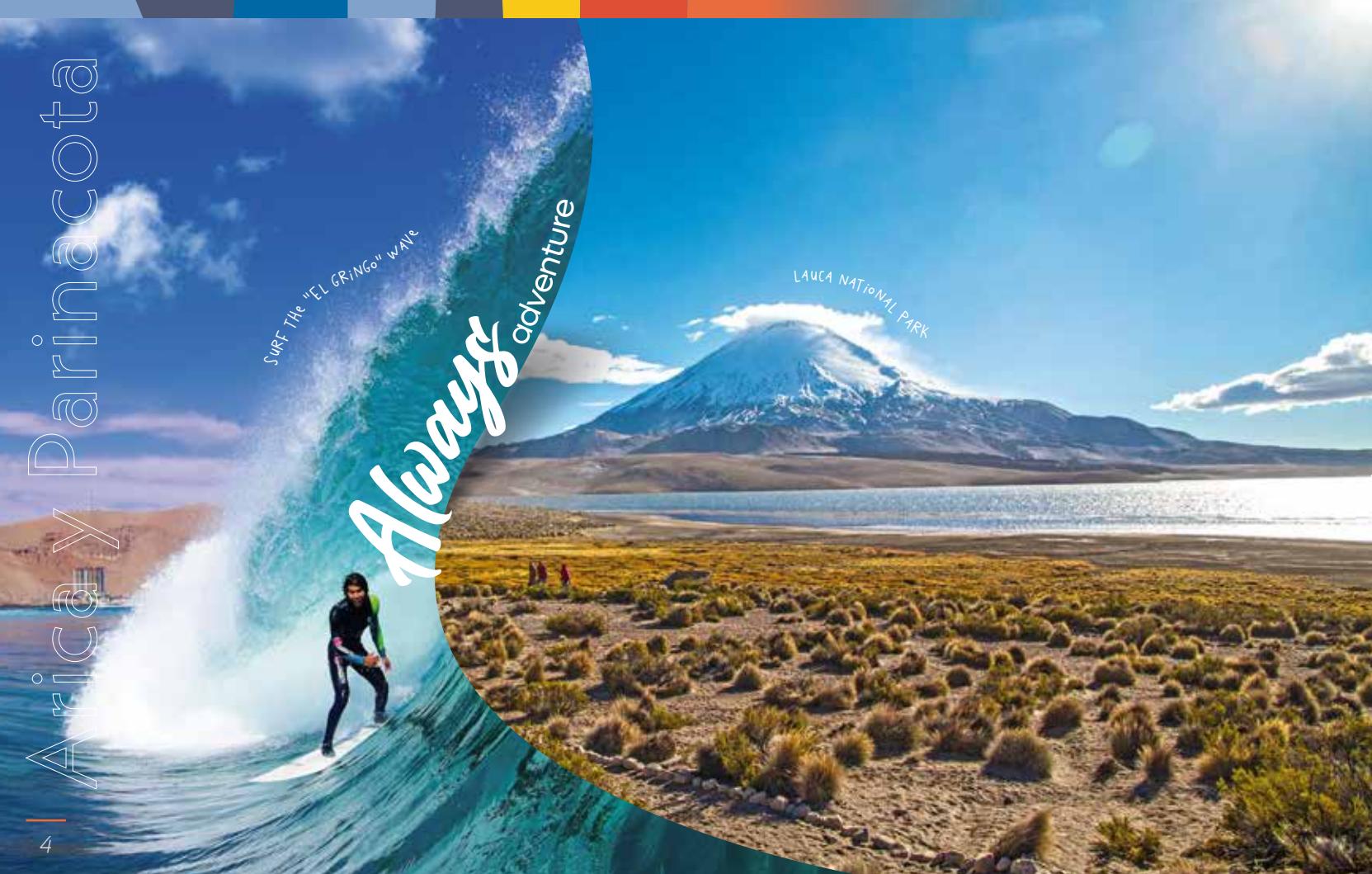
The coastal edge enjoys a uniquely pleasant and mild climate. It is the birthplace of the Chinchorro Culture, which inhabited the region over 10,000 years ago and developed a complex mummification system over 8,000 years ago, creating the oldest mummies in the world and the most important archaeological and cultural heritage in all of Chile.



The Altiplano is also home to the Lauca World Biosphere Reserve, established in 1981, and composed of the Lauca National Park, the Las Vicuñas National Reserve, and the Salar de Surire Natural Monument. Covering 358,312 hectares, the reserve is full of life, reflected by its extraordinary birdlife and landscapes.

LAUCA WORLD BIOSPHERE RESERVE

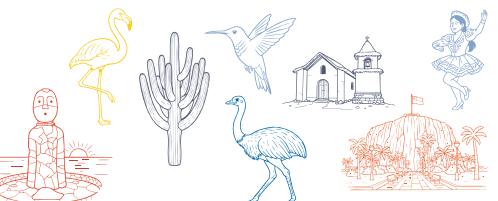




Arica: A Living Coastline Steeped in History

Arica is a city where history meets the sea. On its beaches and viewpoints, the sun accompanies locals and visitors through lively days filled with sounds and colors.

Explore the Morro de Arica, a witness to Chile's history and a symbol of its identity; walk through the historic quarter, visit San Marcos Cathedral and the former Customs Office, both works by Eiffel, and enjoy the calm rhythm of a city that breathes heritage by the sea.





Adventures all year round

With its privileged climate, Arica and Parinacota is the perfect setting for an adventurous getaway. Surfing, bodyboarding, kayaking, hiking, or paragliding: sports here are experienced with energy and a spectacular scenery. From the waves of the Pacific to the roads of the Altiplano, every activity invites you to enjoy the surroundings with freedom and excitement.

MUST-SEE

Enjoy a beach day at La Lisera or Chinchorro, which are ideal for water sports, swimming, or relaxing. And if you're looking for more adrenaline, the Morro de Arica awaits with its panoramic view, and it's also perfect for paragliding.



KAYAKING AT CHINCHORRO BEACH
SURF THE "EL BUCAY" WAVE



ALWAYS GREAT WEATHER
Arica is known as the "city of eternal spring." Its warm, stable climate allows you to enjoy the sun and outdoor activities all year long, with temperatures ranging between 18° and 25°C.



PARINACOTA VOLCANO



LAICA NATIONAL PARK



Amazing nature

Just a few hours from the coast, the landscape changes dramatically: green valleys, desert, mountains, and highland lagoons coexisting in a unique geography.

Lake Chungará, and the Parinacota and Pomerape volcanoes, offer postcard-perfect views that feel otherworldly. In Laica National Park, declared a World Biosphere Reserve, wildlife and pure air invite you to disconnect.



Lauca Biosphere Reserve

is made up of:

- Lauca National Park

Lauca National Park features one of the most impressive landscapes of the Altiplano, Lake Chungará, located above 4,500 meters above sea level, the highest non-navigable lake in the world, framed by the Parinacota and Pomerape volcanoes, known as the "Payachatas," which in Aymara means twins: "The twin guardians of the lake." When conditions allow it, visitors can climb several Altiplano volcanoes, most of them being over 6,000 meters above sea level.





•Las Vicuñas National Reserve

Mainly characterized by its vast territory, where herds of vicuñas, alpacas, and "suris" (also known as the Andean rheal) can be seen, along with a rich variety of birdlife.

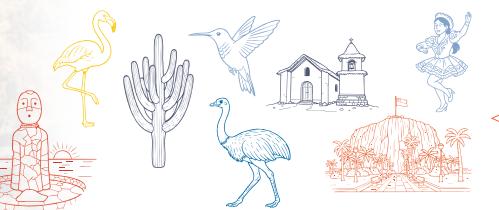
A site of interest would be the village of Guallatire, where the region's only active volcano, which bears the same name as the village, can be found. One can also visit the church dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, built in the 19th century in Andean Baroque style.





•Salar de Surire Natural Monument

South across the Altiplano lies the Salar de Surire Natural Monument, which, in addition to its beauty, is the only place in the world where three different species of flamingos (out of the six existing worldwide) coexist, live, and nest: the Chilean flamingo, the South American flamingo, and James's flamingo.





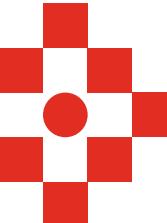
Towards Putre

Located in the heart of the pre-cordillera of Arica and Parinacota, Putre boasts an attractive biodiversity and impressive landscapes, as well as banking services, hotels, and local gastronomy.



Qhapaq Ñan

In the region, one can still find segments or sub-sections of the Inca Trail, present in localities of the municipality of Putre such as Socorama and Zapahuira, among others. These stone-paved roads cross valleys, ravines, and mountains and were used by millions of people even before the Inca period, but were perfected by the Incas, transforming them into the main road network of their empire.

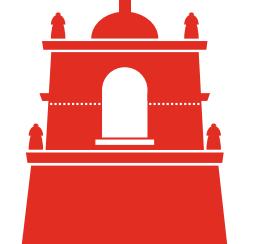




Towards Codpa

Just 1 hour and 30 minutes south of Arica, lies the pre-Hispanic village of Codpa, found in the municipality of Camarones

Located in a narrow valley with pure water and a mild climate, it is remarkably fertile and suitable for all types of fruit trees, especially guava and the grapes used to produce the famous Pintatani, an artisanal wine made using very ancient techniques, which, according to historical records, originated from the first vines of the "País" grape variety, which was brought by the Spanish more than 400 years ago.



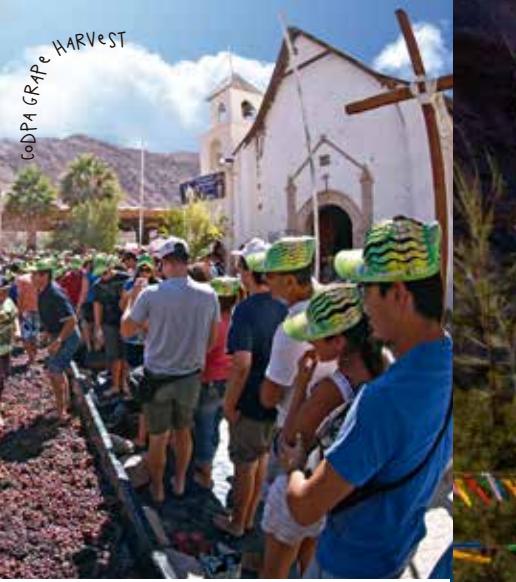
VINO ARTESANAL
Pintatani
Del Valle de Codpa



CANDELARIA CACTUS



"PINTATANI" wine



CODPA GRAPE HARVEST



MISSION ROUTE



Within the route of the 33 churches, some of the ones that stand out are the Church of San Pedro de Guanacagua, La Candelaria of Belén – due to its natural red color – and the Church of the Virgin of the Nativity of Parinacota, with mural paintings that are more than three centuries old.



Inter-Valley Circuit

Various rock art expressions can be found in the Azapa and Lluta valleys. Highlights include the geoglyphs of Cerro Sagrado and La Tropilla in Azapa, as well as the Giants of Lluta and the Rosario petroglyphs.

A must-visit site is the San Miguel de Azapa Archaeological Museum, which houses an extensive collection of mummies from the Chinchorro Culture and artifacts from the native peoples of Arica.



"The Oldest Mummies in the World"
A WORLD HERITAGE TREASURE

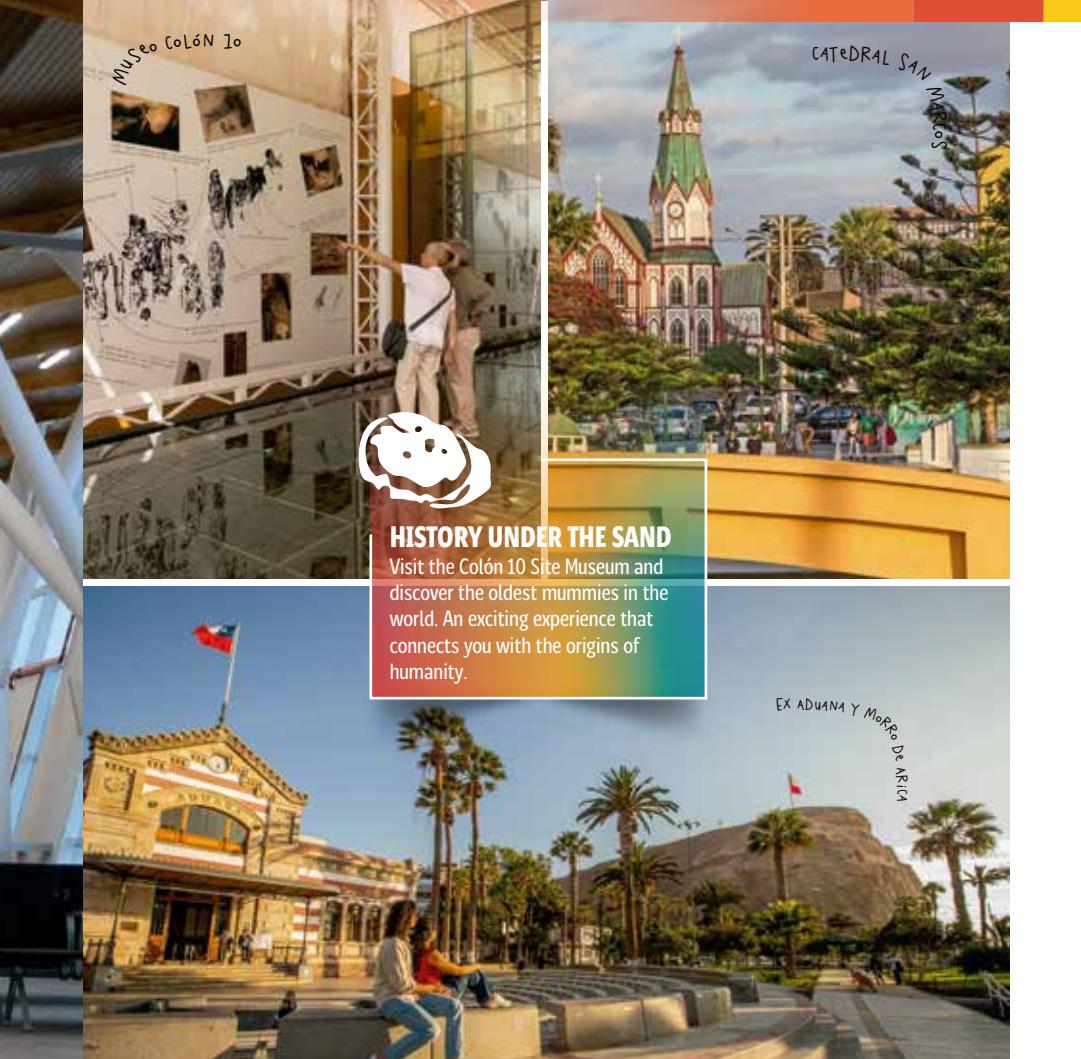




How to get there

Arica is in the far north of Chile and is connected to Santiago's Chacalluta Airport with daily flights of no more than 2 hours and 30 minutes.

It is also directly connected to La Serena and Concepción. It can also be reached by land from Santiago via Route 5 North, which also offers the scenic beauty of the Atacama Desert and its coastal edge.



Historic Center

In the heart of the old town, visitors can explore the "Eiffel block," so called because of the presence of three buildings designed in the workshop of the famous French architect.

These are San Marcos Cathedral, the former Customs Office, now the House of Culture of Arica where one can find various art expositions, as well as the so-called Governor's House.

Another important heritage site is the Colón 10 site museum, built over an archaeological burial ground of the Chinchorro Culture.





*Arica Carnival
with the Strength of the Sun*

**16.000
DANCERS
+ 60
GROUPS**

A brilliant display of the cultural richness of the Andean region is the Arica Carnival "with the Strength of the Sun". Being the largest in Chile, it is held every summer and showcases more than 16,000 dancers and 60 groups, in a celebration that fills the city with energy, life, and color. It coincides with village carnivals and patron saint festivals, which are celebrated throughout the region's interior.



Authentic Flavors and the Warmth of Northern Hospitality

The flavors of Arica and Parinacota reflect its natural diversity. The sea, valleys, and Altiplano come together in a cuisine that is full of contrasts.

Enjoy fresh ceviche and pair it with products from the Azapa Valley such as olives, mangoes, or guavas, and discover a gastronomy that blends Andean and coastal traditions.

Arica and Parinacota is the perfect balance between nature, city, and sea; a destination that invites you to disconnect from the noise and enjoy the present.