18 Day Splendours of South America

Day 1: Santiago, Chile
Bienvenido! Welcome to Santiago, the capital of Chile. Located in a magnificent setting nestled at the base of the Andes Mountains, this is one of the most comfortable South American cities to start your journey. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. This evening, meet your Tour Director for a tour briefing.

Day 2: Santiago (FB,D)
This morning is free to relax. In the afternoon, you will be taken on a guided tour of Santiago. Visit the historic central square or Plaza de Armas housing buildings such as the City Hall and Cathedral. Next, see the impressive Moneda’s Palace which is the seat of the President of Chile. Be intrigued by the bustling Central Market where you will get a taste of local life, then finish with a funicular ride up Cerro San Cristobal and enjoy magnificent views over the city and surrounding mountains.

Day 3: Santiago – Buenos Aires, Argentina (FB)
Fly across the breadth of South America to Buenos Aires, Argentina, a country rich in history and culture. Buenos Aires is a sophisticated city with a strong European influence. It once enjoyed wealth and opulence which is still evident in the impressive architecture. Three Night Stay: Sofitel Buenos Aires Recoleta.

Day 4: Buenos Aires (FB,HD)
Get acquainted with this beautiful city known as the “Paris of the Americas”. Visit the central square, Plaza de Mayo surrounded by the Casa Rosada (Presidential headquarters) and the Cabildo (Colonial Town Hall). We then travel through the charming streets of San Telmo, the home of Tango and down the colourful roads of La Boca. You’re Invited: This evening, we have a taste of tradition and culture as we soak up the sultry moves of a tango show accompanied by a sumptuous dinner and famous Argentinian wine.

Day 5: Buenos Aires (FB)
Today is free to explore Buenos Aires at your own pace. Walk the pedestrian mall “La Florida” and pick up a bargain, or take one of our tours of Recoleta, the home of Tango and down the colourful roads of La Boca. You’re Invited: This evening, we have a taste of tradition and culture as we soak up the sultry moves of a tango show accompanied by a sumptuous dinner and famous Argentinian wine.

Day 6: Buenos Aires – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (FB)
This morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Rio de Janeiro. Visit the famous Copacabana Beach, so is a great base for exploration.

Day 7: Rio de Janeiro (FB,HD)
Today, we tour the marvellous sights of Rio de Janeiro. Ride the cogwheel railway up Corcovado Mountain and see the iconic “Christ the Redeemer” statue. Take the cable car to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain for amazing views of the city and dramatic coastal landscape. You’re Invited: Have some fun and get to know how the locals party with a visit to the Sambadrome, the site of the famous Rio Carnival. You may even have the chance to try on some of the colourful carnival costumes.

Day 8: Rio de Janeiro (FB)
Enjoy a free day to get to know more of Rio. Your hotel is perfectly located to use as a base for exploring the beaches and city.

Day 9: Iguazú Falls (FB)
Transfer to the airport for your flight to Iguazú Falls. In contrast to the Brazil side, the Argentinian side follows a number of walkways over the top of the falls for an incredible up close views of the falls. We board the ecological train and ride to the “Devil’s Throat” viewpoint. This walkway takes you over the river and sits right above the biggest of all Iguazú’s falls. Feel the spray of the water and gaze in awe at one of the most spectacular views that Iguazú has to offer.

Day 10: Iguazú Falls – Lima, Peru (FB)
Bid farewell to the natural wonder of Iguazú and transfer to the airport for your flight to Lima, the capital of Peru. This bustling city, known as the “City of the Kings”, is rich in history and culture. A late arrival has us staying at the comfortable airport hotel.

Day 11: Lima – Sacred Valley (FB,D)
Make your way to the airport for your flight to Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire set high in the Andes Mountains. As you transfer to the breathtaking Sacred Valley, stop off at Awana Kancha llama farm and textile centre. Gain an insight into the Andean camelids; camels, alpaca, vicuña and guanaco – you may even have a chance to feed them! View and learn about traditional Andean weaving and dyeing techniques that have existed since the time of the Incas. This afternoon, we head into the colourful town of Pisac with its traditional handicrafts market. This is a good opportunity to snap up a bargain and practise some Spanish.

Day 12: Sacred Valley (FB)
Enjoy a walking tour of the town of Ollantaytambo, the oldest continuously occupied settlement in the Americas. Your tour includes a visit to a local school and experience local life in the Sacred Valley.
Day 14: Sacred Valley – Machu Picchu (FB,D)
Transfer to the train station and board the Vistadome train for the journey to Machu Picchu. The highlight of the day is your visit to the ancient Inca site. Mystery still surrounds these well preserved ruins perched in between sheer cliffs and a visit will allow you to understand why they are one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Your expert local guide will walk you through the ruins while sharing stories and knowledge to reveal some of the mysteries of this “Lost City of the Incas”. Overnight Stay: El Mapi Hotel.

Day 15: Machu Picchu – Cuzco (FB)
Be guided on a walking tour of the charming city of Cuzco, a World Heritage listed site that was a former capital of the Incas. Visit Coricancha temple which was originally built for the Inca Sun God. Be guided through cobblestone streets and past ancient Inca buildings to Cuzco’s fascinating central market. Explore some Inca ruins on the outskirts of the city including the fortress of Sacsayhuaman. Finish with a visit to the beautiful main plaza and its surrounding cathedrals. 

Day 16: Cuzco (FB)
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Day 17: Cuzco (FB,D)
Today is free to wander the cobbled streets of Cuzco and learn more about the traditions of the Inca, or join us for a tour that will discover more of Cuzco and the surrounds. Tonight, dine at a local restaurant that specialises in nouveau Andean cuisine. Discover More: Explore the archaeological site of Moray and the salt pans of Maras, take a markets, museums and ruins tour or indulge in a Peru tasting tour.

Day 18: Depart Cuzco (FB)
Transfer to the airport for your departure flight. We hope you enjoyed your visit to South America and look forward to welcoming you back on another Evergreen cruise or tour. Chau!