

The Telegraph

The 10 wonders of South America to discover this winter

Best wine region: Colchagua Valley, Chile

One hundred miles south of Santiago, the Colchagua Valley – situated between the Andes and the coastal mountain range – is known for its balmy Mediterranean climate, automobile museum, steam-powered “wine train” and esteemed wineries such as Casa Silva, Montes and Santa Cruz. The granitic and volcanic soils and hot sun are best suited to red wines – carménères are outstanding.

Many vineyards host tours and tastings, while the Lapostolle Clos Apalta has Relais & Château residences and a superb restaurant and the Viña Vik hotel and winery, in the Millahue valley – just north of the main Colchagua region – is a Bilbao-inspired titanium-roofed architectural wonder with commanding views of the vine rows – particularly lush in summer as harvest approaches. In Spring 2019, Puro Vik, with 19 glass-walled bungalows and a wine-themed spa, opened.

Scott Dunn (020 3993 5593, scottdunn.co.uk) has a 13-night Chile holiday featuring 3 nights at Viña Vik winery staying on a full-board basis with a winery tour included as well as visits to Torres del Paine National Park and the Atacama Desert. From £11,200pp.