Forests of Chile - A Forestry Study Tour
November 2-11, 2014

Meet with small woodland owners and walk their lands, visit world class wood products facilities, step into stands of trees growing faster than you ever thought possible, and stands where you can name 14 species just within eye sight. Join us as we learn about one of the world’s most innovative forest sectors, a growing conservation movement, all the while digging into the rich history, culture, art and cuisine of Chile.

This OSU Forestry and Natural Resources study tour is designed for woodland owners, forest managers and other natural resource professionals, students, and anyone else interested in learning about the forests and forestry in Chile, one of the world’s most dynamic and beautiful countries. Our 10-day tour will expose you to a varied cross section private and public forests, wood products facilities, communities, and Chilean landowners and managers. You will learn about one of the world’s most innovative forest sectors, visit fast-growing plantations and native temperate rain forests, and gain an appreciation for the country’s culture, history and landscapes. You will come away with new ideas, new perspectives, and perhaps a better understanding and renewed appreciation for forest management in your home area.

Tour guides:

Fred Smith, Anglatin Travel. Fred, a retired OSU professor, now spends most of his time in Chile with wife, operating a travel company that organizes study tours all over the world. Anglatin recently completed its 100th study tour.

Nicole Strong, OSU Extension Service. Nicole is an Extension Forester based in Bend, Oregon. She grew up in Peru, and has worked throughout Central and South America, so is particularly excited about this trip to Chile.

Max Bennett, OSU Extension Service. Max is an Extension Forester in Medford, Oregon who enjoys travel, especially to Spanish-speaking countries.

Tour objectives:

-Gain insight into forestry operations in a country where forest products are the country’s second leading export. Develop an appreciation for the truly global nature of the wood products market and the role of plantation forestry in this market, with Chile as a case study.

-Learn about the Chilean approach to protection of native forests and biodiversity, and the role of citizens and non-governmental organizations play in conservation issues.

-Meet with Chilean landowners and foresters and see how they manage forests ranging from small woodlands to fast-growing commercial plantations to native forests emphasizing non-timber values.
-Enjoy the beauty and culture of Chile and get to know Chileans and each other. We will have fun!

Tentative Tour Itinerary
* All sites and times are subject to change. Alternative sites, if required, will be similar in nature and duration.

Sunday, 02 November
Santiago. Chile’s capital is a cosmopolitan city of 6 million at the base of the Andes Mountains.
• Arrive Santiago’s new international airport.
• Welcome by Anglatin and transfer to our hotel located in Providencia, Santiago’s upscale residential and commercial district.
• Rest at the hotel or take a guided city tour including historical and cultural sites.
• In the evening, take a walking tour of the neighborhood and see how the modern urban class spends their evenings. Enjoy a welcome dinner featuring Chile’s finest wines and unique cuisine.
• Overnight Santiago

Monday, 03 November
Wine country. Travel through the heart of Chile’s scenic central valley featuring wineries, rural landscapes and forests as we make our way to the coastal city of Concepcion.
• Meet with the personable director of the Chilean Forestry Institute. Get an overview of Chilean fascinating forests and forestry, including history, species, forest regions, and current management issues.
• Stop at a winery for lunch, wine tasting and first-hand perspective of this important Chilean industry that exports wines throughout the world.
• Overnight Concepcion

Tuesday, 04 November
Plantation forestry. Get a close-up look at Chile’s globally-renowned, intensively managed plantation forests of radiata pine and eucalyptus.
• Explore Parque Allesandri, a unique park owned and managed by a large forestry company. Browse park museum and take an optional guided walk of native and planted forests.
• Tour pine and eucalyptus forests on lands managed by CMPC-Minnico, a large industrial forestry firm whose operations have recently been certified by FSC. See examples of regeneration, young stand tending including pruning and thinning, and harvesting – on a cycle of 22 years in radiata and 12 years in eucalyptus!
• Overnight Concepcion.
Wednesday, 05 November

The wood products industry. Gain a unique perspective on the truly global nature of the wood products market.

- Visit the port at Lirquen, one of the largest wood products export facilities in Chile, with lumber and other products destined for Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America.
- Get a first-hand look at the manufacturing process during a tour of CMPC’s modern sawmill in Yumbel.
- Lunch at the scenic Saltos de Laja waterfall.
- Overnight Temuco

Thursday, 06 November

Forestry research. Visit an arboretum and research forest managed by the University of Austral, the leading forestry school in the country.

- Travel through the hills and valleys of La Araucanía and Los Ríos regions, the heart of the Chilean forest sector, to the university town of Valdivia.
- Visit the University arboretum with our outgoing, entertaining guide, who will show us fragments of native forests and planted stands featuring species from around the world – some growing in combinations you’ve never seen before!
- Tour the University of Austral’s experimental forest with some of the University’s friendly forestry faculty learn about their research projects, from fertilization trials to canopy studies. In addition to recent plantings and mature stands of radiata and several eucalyptus species, see research projects with Chilean natives as well as familiar species such as Douglas-fir and Port Orford-cedar.

Friday, 07 November

Native forests and conservation issues. Visit a new national park in the Chilean temperate rainforest, see some of Chile’s oldest trees, and learn about forest issues from a conservation perspective.

- Visit the lush Valdivian Coastal Reserve, guided by local representatives of The Nature Conservancy. Unique features of this area include protected stands of Alerce trees, which can reach huge diameters and live up to 4,000 years, and many endemic wildlife species, such as the world’s smallest deer, one of its largest woodpeckers, and a tree-dwelling marsupial (“mountain monkey”) found nowhere else in the world.
- Discuss native forest protection strategies and projects including a carbon offset program and sustainable development projects in nearby native communities.
- No trip to Chile would be complete without a visit to the ocean. Travel a short ways northwest of Valdivia to Punta Curinanco, where we can walk the beach or explore stands of coastal forest in this small national park.
• If you enjoy beer, this is your town! Spend the evening visiting the microbreweries of this German-influenced city.
• Overnight Valdivia.

Saturday, 08 November
Agroforestry and small woodlands management. Meet family forest and farm owners, who together control much of the forest land in Chile.
• Tour a large and impressive forest farm showcasing management of fir, pine, and a cow-calf operation. Sip Pisco sours while viewing the smoking Villarica volcano and enjoy a barbecue lunch.
• Overnight Pucon.

Sunday, 09 November
Free day. This is your chance for some down time in Pucon, a mecca for ecotourism and adventure sports. Hang out at the beach, browse the shops in town, or, if you’re feeling energized, head to the slopes for some recreation in this world-class ecotourism destination. Options include hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, whitewater rafting and much more. We will help you make arrangements for an activity of your choice. Depending on individual and group interests, we may join together or strike out on our own.

Monday, 10 November
Lakes, snow-capped volcanoes, and native forests. From the shores of Lake Villarica to the slopes of nearby volcanoes, this is your chance to see the famous monkey puzzle tree amidst a wild and scenic landscape.
• Guided by staff from the Chilean State Forestry Agency (CONAF), visit nearby native forests including stands of the monkey puzzle tree, Araucaria araucana. Also, see forest management inside a private condominio. Learn about efforts to combine ecotourism, private enterprise, and protection of native forests.
• Overnight Pucon.

Day 10 -- Tuesday
Homeward bound.
Free time in the morning, then transport to Temuco for the short flight back to Santiago and the flight home.

Cost per person in double occupancy $2975
Single occupancy supplement $867

Included in cost:
1. Accommodations. Eight nights in tourist class hotels or resorts plus one night in a
five star hotel, double occupancy. Single occupancy available for extra fee.
3. Land transportation. Modern passenger coach or van.
4. Meals. Nine breakfasts, eight lunches, one reception and one dinner. Meals are programmed to make the most efficient use of time when visiting sites and participating in workshops during the day.
5. Tour coordinator and guides
6. Technical visits and activities. As shown in itinerary.
8. Non technical visits and activities. As shown in itinerary.
9. Economy class one-way flight from Temuco to Santiago.

**Services not included:**
1. Round-trip airfare from U.S. locations to Santiago, Chile
2. Alcoholic beverages
3. Beverages/meals not shown in itinerary.
4. Airport skycap, bus driver or guide gratuity.
5. Medical expenses.
6. Replacement of damaged property.
7. Recovery of lost or stolen property.