

THE CONCIERGE TRAVELLER EDITION • ISSUE #1

With a focus on festivities and international gems  
Concierge Traveller brings you suggestions and offers  
that are just perfect for the festive season.

Concierge traveller

Welcome to  
The Concierge  
Traveller festive  
Edition, with  
samples of  
celebrations and  
hidden gems the  
world of travel has  
to offer you for  
this festive season.



In this Edition we have featured a calendar of 2009's top international events as a small sample of the endless possibilities for your coming journeys.

Included is a taste of 2009's small ship cruise offerings for your consideration. Focused on cultural experiences and significant sites, these ships exemplify excellence.

This Edition also provides our personal insights into the fascinating destinations of Easter Island and Chile, with a review of the extraordinary Explora Lodges.

At Concierge Traveller, we are dedicated to meeting your every need as a discerning traveller, with personalised attention, information and tailored itineraries.

To help you travel in even more refined style, whether for leisure or business, we are delighted to present to you 'Concierge Black'. Using bespoke arrangements and a suite of technological and personal touches, these exceptional products and services are designed to make your journey completely seamless and infinitely more enjoyable.

So let our experienced team of Concierge Advisors bring to life your next journey.

*Concierge Traveller*



1. Mary Gava - Executive General Manager  
2. Glenda McMillan-Andersson - Product Manager  
3. Paul Patane - Head of Concierge Advisory  
4. Nadine Lowe - National Sales Manager

# CRUISE CALENDAR 2009

## excellence in small ships



These ships have the ability to dock in ports inaccessible to larger vessels. The cruises are ideal for cultural experiences, visiting significant sites and lesser known gems. Some cruise companies provide onboard lecturers and the ambience is similar to a private club.

Our Cruise Masters have personally sailed aboard many a ship and can tailor an itinerary to personally suit your interests and requirements.

For more information contact Julie Richards direct on (02) 8270 4863 or email [jrichards@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:jrichards@conciergetraveller.com)

DATES	VESSEL	PASSENGERS	TITLE	NIGHTS	SAMPLE OF PORTS OF CALL	COST USD\$
09 February	Prince Albert II Silversea Expedition	132	Voyage the Antarctic in luxury	16	Ushuaia to Ushuaia via Falklands and South Georgia including return flights to Buenos Aires	\$22,990.00pp
March - September	Prince Albert II	132	Polynesia – Islands in Paradise	10	Papeete to Papeete via Tuomoto Archipelago	\$4,420.00pp
29 March	Orion	100	New Guinea Island Adventure	11	Cairns to Rabaul	\$8,000.00pp
27 April	Yacht Callisto	34	Crossroads of Mediterranean Civilisations	07	Palermo, Riposto, Syracuse, Trapani to Palermo	\$9,295.00pp
02 May	Clelia II	100	Garden of the Gods	09	Athens to Athens	\$10,295.00pp
23 May	Clelia II	100	Cultural Centres & Glorious Gardens	10	Rome to Lisbon	\$11,495.00pp
27 May	Yacht Callisto	34	Islands of Italy & Cinque Terre	08	Palermo to Genoa	\$9,895.00pp
05 Jun	Corinthian II	114	Turning Points of History	11	Piraeus to Civitavecchia	\$11,995.00pp
09 June	Prince Albert II	132	Pearls of the Pacific	15	Tahiti to Fiji via Cook Islands and Tonga	\$6,650.00pp
23 June	Corinthian	114	Cradles of Western Culture	07	Rome to Athens	\$9,795.00pp
21 July	Yacht Callisto	34	Glorious Dalmatian Coast	08	Dalmatian Coast and Islands	\$6,995.00pp
06 August	Yacht Callisto	34	The Treasure of the Adriatic Sea	10	Dubrovnik to Venice	\$10,395.00pp
03 September	Silver Shadow	382	Sail to Alaska	07	Vancouver to Vancouver	\$7,365.00pp
01 October	Silver Wind	298	Mediterranean Ports	07	Monte Carlo to Athens	\$6,290.00 pp
November	Tua Moana	30	Intimate Lagoon Cruise	07	Bora Bora to the Society Islands and return	\$7,400.00pp
03 December	Silver Whisper	382	Whitsundays Visitation	16	Singapore to Sydney via Darwin and Cairns	\$9,390.00 pp

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## IDEAL PLACES TO BE FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

Our well travelled Concierge Advisors are available to discuss any of the following destinations and programmes to tailor an itinerary to suit your interests and requirements.

For more information contact John Chekian direct on (02) 8270 4807 or email [jchekian@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:jchekian@conciergetraveller.com)

### PARIS - HOTEL PLAZA ATHENEE

Enjoy a Parisian stay with your child in a stylish room opening onto the Avenue Montaigne, lined with magnificent chestnut trees or a side view of the Eiffel Tower.

FROM AUD\$2,599.00 TOTAL (2 ADULTS, 1 CHILD UNDER 12YRS)

• 2 NIGHTS IN A DELUXE ROOM WITH UPGRADE UPON AVAILABILITY  
• CHILD'S BREAKFAST DAILY AND SURPRISE GIFT UPON ARRIVAL

1.



### HONG KONG - THE MANDARIN ORIENTAL

The Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong makes Christmas shopping a pleasure with its 'All Wrapped Up' package.

FROM AUD\$930.00 TOTAL (VALID 01 - 31 DECEMBER 2008)

• 2 NIGHTS IN A SUPERIOR SUITE WITH BREAKFAST DAILY FOR 2 ADULTS • WELCOME GIFT, 3 HOUR SHOPPING TOUR • A 2 HOUR 'TIME RITUAL' SPA TREATMENT FOR ONE

2.



3.

### SINGAPORE - THE MANDARIN ORIENTAL

Indulge in a romantic weekend at the Mandarin Oriental, Singapore. The restorative treatments merge ancient and modern techniques, using 100% pure essential oils.

FROM AUD\$1,380.00 TOTAL

• 2 NIGHTS IN A MANDARIN ROOM WITH IN-ROOM DRINKS • SPA INCLUSIONS • DAY 1: FOOT RITUAL, AROMATHERAPY BODY SCRUB & BODY MASSAGE FOR 2 PEOPLE. DAY 2: 1 HOUR YOGA CLASS, EXPRESS FACIAL TREATMENT FOR ONE, AND REVIVING FOOT REFRESHER FOR THE OTHER & SCALP MASSAGE



4.

### NEW YORK - THE PENINSULA

Experience the ultimate symbol of the festive season: the Christmas tree in Rockefeller Plaza. Conveniently located on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 55th Street, the hotel is within close reach of New York's iconic landmarks like the Museum of Modern Art & Central Park.

FROM AUD\$2,649.00 TOTAL NOVEMBER/DECEMBER IN WINTER OR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER IN AUTUMN

• 2 NIGHTS IN A SUPERIOR ROOM WITH CHEESE & FRUIT PLATE AND A BOTTLE OF WINE UPON ARRIVAL

### LONDON - THE RITZ

Immerse yourself in a world of style, sophistication and grace the likes of which can only be found in this legendary hotel.

FROM AUD\$2,990.00 TOTAL

• 2 NIGHTS IN A SUPERIOR ROOM WITH FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST DAILY FOR 2 • FRUIT, FLOWERS & A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE UPON ARRIVAL • A FOUR COURSE DINNER FOR 2 INCLUDING A BOTTLE OF WINE

5.



6.

### FINLAND

Santa Claus lives in Lapland, in the north of Finland. You can meet him in Santa Claus' Village in the Arctic Circle.

FROM AUD\$1,399.00PP TWIN SHARE

• 3 NIGHTS STAY IN ROVANIEMI & HELSINKI WITH ROUNDTrip AIRPORT TRANSFERS IN HELSINKI & ROVANIEMI • HELSINKI TO ROVANIEMI AND RETURN VIA TRAIN/AIR

### ST. PETERSBURG/MOSCOW

Come and imitate the lives of the Stroganovs and the Yusupovs. The fashions have changed and the carriages are now in the museums, but the season in St. Petersburg still very much exists.

TSAR'S NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA BALL FROM AUD\$9,200.00PP TWIN SHARE

• 4 NIGHTS IN ST. PETERSBURG STAYING AT THE ELISEEV PALACE HOTEL • 3 NIGHTS IN MOSCOW STAYING AT THE ARARAT PARK HYATT HOTEL • COACH TOUR FROM ST. PETERSBURG TO MOSCOW OVER 8 DAYS WITH SOME MEALS INCLUDED • TICKETS TO THE TSAR'S GRAND BALL AT CATHERINE PALACE AND A PERFORMANCE AT THE MARIINSKY THEATRE

7.



8.

### VIENNA - THE HOTEL SACHER

What better place to celebrate the end of the year than in Vienna. Step into a world of gilded baroque halls, filled with the music of Vienna's famous composers. Make your New Year festivities unforgettable and celebrate in royal style.

KAISERBALL FROM AUD\$10,675.00PP TWIN SHARE

• 5 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN VIENNA AT THE HOTEL SACHER • COACH TOURING AROUND VIENNA OVER 6 DAYS WITH BREAKFAST DAILY & 2 DINNERS • PRIVATE WALTZ DANCE LESSONS AT A VIENNESE DANCE SCHOOL



9.

### RIO DE JANEIRO - THE COPACABANA PALACE

The Copacabana Palace is the perfect location to enjoy the New Year celebrations in luxurious surroundings. At midnight find yourself in the best location in Rio to watch magnificent fireworks in front of the hotel.

FROM AUD\$15,500 FOR 2, VALID 28 DECEMBER TO 2 JANUARY

• 5 NIGHTS IN A DELUXE CITY VIEW ROOM WITH BUFFET BREAKFAST DAILY FOR 2



10.

### LUCERNE - ART DECO HOTEL MONTANA

Hotel Montana is positioned perfectly in this fairytale city overlooking the shores of Lake Lucerne and framed by the Swiss Alps. After dinner promenade within the old town admiring the lake and its glittering lights. A visit to the Christmas markets to discover traditional Swiss treats is a "must".

FROM AUD\$996.00 TOTAL 2 ADULTS TWIN SHARE

• 2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A SUPERIOR LAKEVIEW ROOM INCLUDING BUFFET BREAKFAST DAILY AND LOCAL TAXES AND ONE ENTRY TICKET TO THE PICASSO MUSEUM

PRICES ARE LAND ONLY, TWIN SHARE ACCOMMODATION AND BASED ON THE 2008/9 FESTIVE SEASON. ALL COSTS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION AND CURRENCY FLUCTUATION WITHOUT NOTICE.





Exclusive to the clients of Concierge Business Travel and Concierge Traveller is

# CONCIERGE BLACK

a suite of products and services designed to ensure maximum convenience, comfort and ease for travellers with a focus on time saving benefits to enhance your travel experience.

From your first contact with us and throughout your journey, to returning home, Concierge Black is the ultimate in travel services. Below is a sample menu of our Concierge Black Services.

#### ALERT-IT

An SMS pre-flight to confirm your reservation and inform you of any delays.

#### DIARISE-IT

Each travel segment is dropped into your desktop calendar and/or your Blackberry/PDA.

#### GO-AHEAD

Priority immigration clearance, avoiding queues (subject to government and country restrictions).

#### TRANSFER- IT

Private transfers from airports to hotels or business meetings.

#### DELIVER-IT

We will arrange shipping of your luggage from your hotel, office, cruise ship to your home from destinations around the world.

#### PRE CHECK-IN

Pre-registration of your arrival at participating hotels to check you in and advise you your room number before arrival.

#### DIRECT-IT

Our own Concierge Black portable GPS, delivered to you with your destinations pre-loaded.

#### CONCIERGE PRIVILEGES

When you least expect it, we will surprise you with upgrades, early check-in, late checkout and other special treats.

#### ALLOCATE-IT

Your seating is allocated, your boarding pass printed (participating airlines only) and a copy emailed to you for speedy check-in.

#### REGISTER-IT

Pre-registration of your travel arrangements on the Australian Government website.

For more information on our suite of Concierge Black services, contact Renos Rologas direct on (02) 8270 4829 or email [rrologas@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:rrologas@conciergetraveller.com)



# THE WORKING HOLIDAY

## London, Paris & Rome

Savvy executives are taking advantage of the benefits of apartment life. Ideal for those seeking greater space and comfortable surroundings during their stay for business or extending for pleasure, our apartments are conveniently and centrally located.

#### LONDON (1)

Privately owned apartments and houses located in the most desirable residential areas of London such as Belgravia, Chelsea, Knightsbridge and Kensington. With transport, shopping, restaurants, museums and galleries

within easy reach, these apartments are ideal for executives and those busy travellers wanting all the comforts of home.

**Weekly rentals, check - in any day. One bedroom, sleeps 2 from AUD\$3,650.00 per apartment, per week.**

#### PARIS (2)

Stunning apartments beautifully furnished and ideally situated in the heart of the Left Bank, near the Eiffel Tower. Within walking distance to monuments and major landmarks, conveniently surrounded by shops and cafés and

just steps from the beautiful Seine River.

**Weekly rentals, check - in any day. One bedroom, sleeps 2 from AUD\$5,115.00 per apartment, per week.**

#### ROME (3)

Characteristic studios and apartments perfectly located in the historic heart of Rome. The city centre is small and all points of interest are within walking distance. The Spanish Steps and Trevi Fountain are located in an elegant area filled with designer stores, upmarket restaurants and fashionable bars.

**Minimum 3 night rentals, check-in any day. One bedroom, sleeps 2 from AUD\$2,170.00 per apartment for 3 days.**

Our Apartment & Villa specialists are available to discuss options and suggestions for your next villa stay in Italy or France.

For more information contact Lindsay Allen direct on (02) 8270 4856 or email [allen@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:allen@conciergetraveller.com)

Lindsay has just returned from Europe where she visited several of our apartments in Paris and London.

# 2009 CALENDAR

## Special Events, Experiences & Places to Stay

Our well travelled Concierge Advisors are available to discuss any of the destinations listed below to tailor an itinerary to suit your interests and requirements...make a diary note now.

For more information contact Hayley Tidyman direct on (02) 8270 4845 or email [htidyman@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:htidyman@conciergetraveller.com)

Haute Couture week & Amiens Cathedral lights show (Notre Dame), France  
1 - 31 January  
Le Meurice, Paris  
Light up your nights and your wardrobe.



Chinese New Year Singapore/Hong Kong/China  
26 January  
- Fullerton Hotel, Singapore  
- The Langham, Hong Kong  
- St. Regis Hotel, Shanghai  
Experience the excitement of Chinese New Year and snap up bargains in a shopping mecca.

Cruise the Great Ocean Road, Victoria, Australia  
1 - 31 January  
Moonlight Head Villas, Moonlight Head, The Great Ocean Road Victoria  
After the bustle of Christmas, kick back at one of Australia's newest and most stylish villa hideaways on the Great Ocean Road.

JANUARY	1	2	3	4	5	6	Shopping Break, Singapore 1 - 31 January, Mandarin Oriental, Singapore Shop till you drop at one of the world's most popular shopping hot spots.		12	St. Patrick's Day, Ireland 17 March The Merrion, Dublin Go back to where it all began... take a "green" holiday.		15	16	17			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
FEBRUARY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Venice Carnival Italy 13 - 24 February Bauer Il Palazzo, Venice Mask up and head to Piazza San Marco for the most important occasion in Venice.		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Carnival, Rio De Janeiro 22 - 24 February, Copacabana Palace Hotel, Rio De Janeiro Rio's famous Carnival is the largest party on the planet. A "must" at least once in a lifetime - book early for the best seats.		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
MARCH	Iditarod, Anchorage, Alaska 7 March start date, The Sheraton Anchorage A dogsled race over the roughest but most beautiful terrain Mother Nature has to offer.		7							14	15	16	17	Cannes Film Festival 13 - 24 February, Hotel Martinez Cannes, France Rub shoulders with the glitterati and paparazzi at the film festival which outshines them all.		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Fashion Week Milan, Italy 1 - 31 March, The Bulgari Hotel, Milano Grab a girlfriend or two and make Milan the ultimate girls' week away.					
APRIL	1	2	3	4	5	Cherry Blossoms, Tokyo, Japan 31 March - 5 April Mandarin Oriental, Tokyo Over 400 varieties of spectacular cherry blossoms in peak bloom across Japan.				14	15			20	21	22	Kings Cup Elephant Polo Tournament 1 - 30 April (Various dates throughout the year) This is polo on a grand scale - join the regal celebrations in northern Thailand. Anantara Resort & Spa Golden Triangle.		30											
MAY	1	2	3	4	5	Cinco De Mayo, Mexico 5th of May Regional Celebration in Mexico of battle victory - Celebrations in La Casa Que Canta, Zihuatanejo and the Southern USA states Dance, imbibe and try the local fare during their most spectacular national holiday.				10	11	12	13			18	19	20	21	22	23	Great Migration of Africa – Big Five Safari 1 - 31 May (Various dates throughout the year) Singita Grumeti Reserves, Tanzania The world's most impressive annual animal migration – not to be missed.								
JUNE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			14	15	16	18	19	Verona Opera Festival June 19 - August 30, Arena di Verona The city's 25,000-seat Roman amphitheatre provides a stunning setting for this celebrated open-air festival.		23	24											
JULY	1	2	3	4	4TH of July Fireworks, Las Vegas Wynn Las Vegas Begin your Las Vegas holiday with a bang! See fireworks and spectacular shows.				12	13	Royal Ascot Races, UK 16 - 20 June The Ritz, London Five days of the finest racing, fashion & glamour – make a diary note.		16	Verona Opera Festival June 19 - August 30, Arena di Verona The city's 25,000-seat Roman amphitheatre provides a stunning setting for this celebrated open-air festival.		21	Inti Raymi The Festival of the Sun, Cusco, South America 24 June, Hotel Monasterio, Cusco, Peru Ascend to dizzying heights and see the sun in a new light.				29	The Palio, Siena, Italy 1 - 31 July, Grand Hotel Continental, Siena The traditional medieval horse race run around Siena's Piazza del Campo.								
AUGUST											10			13	Edinburgh International Festival, Scotland 14 August - 6 September, Rocco Forte The Balmoral, Edinburgh Three weeks of opera, dance and music from the world's greatest artists.		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
SEPTEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Calgary Stampede, Canada 3 - 12 July, Fairmont Hotel, Calgary Steer a course to the ultimate rodeo showdown - the greatest outdoor country fair on earth.		14	15	16			26	27	Grand Prix, Singapore, 27 September - 3 October, Mandarin Oriental, Singapore Imagine Singapore and fast cars! See this normally civilised city become the centre of speed racing.										
OCTOBER			1		Autumn Festival Lugano, Switzerland 1 - 15 October, Villa Principe Leopoldo and Residence, Lugano A culinary farewell to summer with Ticinese wine and lively folk music.						11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Festival of Lights, India 17 October, The Oberoi, Mumbai Oil lamps and gifts galore light up the Subcontinent during 5 days of prayers to the goddess of wealth.		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Pushkar Fair, Rajasthan, India 30 October - 2 November Aman-I-Khas, Rajasthan Crowds of camels, cattle, musicians, acrobats, sadhus and tourists-a dusty, heady, colourful mix.			
NOVEMBER	1	2	3	4	Melbourne Cup, Australia 4 November, The Lyall, Melbourne Hats off to Melbourne with the race that stops the nation and starts the festive season.				14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	NYE Worldwide 31 December New York, Vienna, Sydney, - The Peninsula, New York - Hotel Sacher, Wien/Vienna - Park Hyatt, Sydney Spend New Year's Eve in one of the world's mega-active cities or in culture-imbued Vienna.					
DECEMBER	1	2	3	Christmas Markets Augsburg, Germany 24 November - 24 December Rocco Forte The Charles Hotel, Munich (40mins on the train to Augsburg) Christmas markets make the early nights sparkle in most German towns and cities.						14	15	16			Christmas Worldwide 25 December - The London Hotel, New York (White Christmas) - Four Season Bora Bora, Tahiti (Beach Christmas) - Alden Hotel Splugenschloss, Zurich (Traditional Christmas)		25	26	27	31										



# CHILE & EASTER ISLAND experience

**CHILE:** The Atacama Desert, one of the driest places on earth, Patagonia with soaring peaks and awesome glaciers and the mysteries of the "Moai" of Easter Island. These are the regions in which you will discover "Explora Lodges".

My journey to Explora in the Atacama Desert in the North of Chile and Explora en Rapa Nui, Easter Island will give you an insight into these fascinating destinations. Accessed by flights from Sydney to Santiago on award winning LAN Chile.

The lodges of Explora en Atacama, Patagonia and Easter Island are the base from which guests explore the surrounding region by guided half day treks, cycling, horse riding (or absolutely nothing at all) and return to comfortable accommodation, great food and local Chilean wines.

Easter Island is an excellent stopover. Newly opened in December 2007, it offers the most comfortable base to get up close and personal with the mysterious statues of a forgotten people.

Explora en Atacama has just celebrated its 10th anniversary with a complete refurbishment of their public areas and the addition of four Suites. Viewing the stars from the observatory at night is a must see.

Explora en Patagonia has just been voted the number one overseas leisure hotel in the whole of the Americas and Caribbean by readers of Condé Nast.

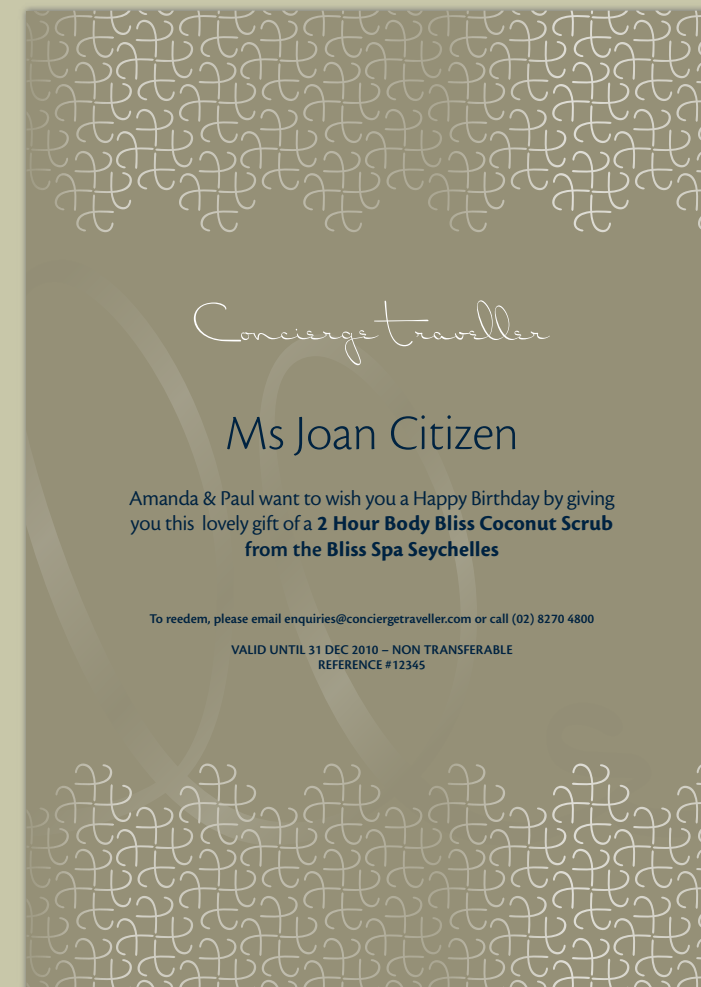
Explora Atacama from USD\$1,773.00 per person twin share for three nights. Explora en Rapa Nui from USD\$2,730.00 per person twin share. Explora en Patagonia from USD\$2,476.00 per person twin share for 4 nights. All rates inclusive of all meals, tours and activities. Prices are land only and subject to change.

Our Latin American experts tailor itineraries to suit your interests and special requirements.



For more information contact Paul Patane direct on (02) 8270 4820 or email [ppatane@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:ppatane@conciergetraveller.com)

Paul recently travelled to Chile and experienced Explora Lodges.



## INDULGE SOMEONE YOU LOVE with a Gift Certificate

Concierge Traveller offers Gift Certificates as a perfect way to indulge cherished family and friends. Whatever the occasion, our Gift Certificates can be redeemed for a wide range of holiday experiences; birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions or just to say "Thank You".

The Gift Certificate can be used to further enhance the experience of a Concierge Traveller's holiday; private in-villa dining, a candlelit dinner, a welcome bottle of chilled champagne, an indulgent spa treatment or simply as a contribution towards a holiday to get the traveller on their way.

To arrange a Concierge Traveller Gift Certificate and great gift concepts for friends or family contact Glenda McMillan-Andersson directly on (02) 8270 4857 or email [gmcmillan@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:gmcmillan@conciergetraveller.com)



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If you would like to share a copy of this Edition with a friend or require more information about a particular article please email Amanda Griscti on [agriscti@conciergetraveller.com](mailto:agriscti@conciergetraveller.com) and she will be happy to forward the details.  
P +61 2 8270 4800 • Concierge House, Level 3, 332 Kent St, Sydney NSW 2000