



SSAFR 2019

GUIDE TO

PUERTO VARAS



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SSAFR 2019
MARCH 3-7 2019

PUERTO VARAS
CHILE

about puerto varas

Located on the shore of Lago Llanquihue, Puerto Varas is one of Chile's most charming cities. It is an adventure travel hub, and it is also the gateway to the Parque Nacional Vicente Pérez Rosales. Unlike its neighbor Puerto Montt, 20 minutes away, it is a quaint little city, with wood-shingled homes, a rose-encircled plaza, a handsomely designed casino, and an excellent tourism infrastructure that provides all the necessary services for visitors without seeming touristy. The city was built by the sweat and tenacity of German immigrants, and later it became a port for goods being shipped from the Lago Llanquihue area to Puerto Montt (mostly timber). Today many of the area's residents call Puerto Varas home and commute to Puerto Montt and other surrounding places for work.

highlights

Puerto Varas is compact enough to explore by foot, which is the best way to view the wooden colonial homes built by German immigrants from 1910 until the 1940s. Eight of these homes have been declared national monuments, yet there is at least a dozen more constructed during the period of expansion that began with the installation of the railroad connecting Puerto Varas with Puerto Montt. Much of the city's charm is found in its quaint stores, selling everything from adventure gear to homemade preserves and chocolates. For more active pursuits, the lakeshore makes for an excellent spot to walk or run.

the venue

The venue for the Symposium is **Enjoy Puerto Varas**. The hotel has a privileged location on the shores of Lake Llanquihue, with a wonderful view of the Osorno volcano. Its 91 rooms offer a modern decoration that is complemented by artisan touches to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for its guests. Hotel services include the outstanding Kalül Spa, which offers therapeutic and relaxation massages, as well as aromatherapy, a sauna and a jacuzzi among other things. Visit the pools and indulge yourself with the highest level of gastronomy at the Tiznao Restaurant or the Kütral Bar.

services

Puerto Varas may have a certain old-world charm, but it is a modern town with an excellent infrastructure.

- Shops and supermarkets open at 9.00am and close at 9.00pm, with the smaller shops taking a break between 1.00pm and 3.00pm.
- Bank hours are 9.00am-2.00pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays.
- ATMs are found throughout the town in banks (open 24/7), supermarkets, and gas stations. These ATMs distribute Chilean Pesos only and there will be a charge of approximately 7 USD for any transaction with a non-Chilean bank card. An English option is available on all ATMs.
- There are several exchange houses (casa de cambio) in Puerto Varas. These establishments will offer a better exchange rate than the hotel.

shopping

There is an arts and crafts fair on the Del Salvador street side of the plaza. For high-end arts, clothing, and jewelry, head to Primitiva, Santa Rosa 302, or Vicki Johnson, Santa Rosa 318. The little wagons at the shore in front of the pier offer arts and crafts, but hours are erratic and most are open during the summer only.

restaurants

Local cuisine in this area is hearty, often with a German influence, with beef, salmon and trout being local specialties. Puerto Varas offers a wide variety of excellent restaurants including the following:

upscale

- ❖ **Mercado 605** is Puerto Varas's best fine-dining restaurant. The presentation of the food is beautiful; there is a pleasant ambience; and the service is friendly. This is both a place to eat lightly from a wide selection of appetizers and tapas, or choose a main course served in generous portions like ravioli stuffed with boar meat or red wine braised short ribs.
- ❖ **Casavaldés** is mostly known for its seafood, but there are several other options on the menu. The cooking style is influenced in part by Basque cuisine, with its fish and other plates often accompanied by peppers, beans, and potatoes.
- ❖ With a distinctly rustic charm and mainly local crowd, **La Marca** specializes in high quality meat and traditional recipes of southern Chile. The rich and varied menu covers all the classics, and each dish has a distinctly 'home-cooked' style. A particularly good option for dinner.

midrange

- ❖ **La Olla** has been around since the dawn of time, and this is without a doubt the place to go for those seeking fish and seafood dishes.
- ❖ The legendary **Café Hausmann** serves the must-try steak tartares, along with a wide range of classics and excellent draft beers.
- ❖ At **La Jardinera Gastropub** you will be served by the owners. Very comfortable atmosphere, delicious food, and a very nice executive lunch.

informal

- ❖ Simple foods inspired by local, seasonal ingredients and a strong sense of community. That's what **La Gringa** is about. Flavorful soups, sandwiches, quiches, and salads.
- ❖ **Onces Bellavista** is the place to go for high tea. An unbeatable list of gateaux, tarts, and pies of all descriptions, each one created on-site with care, love, and tradition.
- ❖ **Café Danés** is a nice place for lunch, with a focus on comfort foods. The food is great, and the daily menu is a bargain at just US\$8.
- ❖ **Mesa Tropera** is a wildly popular brewery/pizzeria transplant merges a jovial mix of families and hopheads. It's majestically located, jutting out over Lago Llanquihue, framing three volcanoes on a clear day.
- ❖ **Bless Yuz** serves Vegan-friendly, American cuisine, with a juice bar. Serves vegetarian and vegan sandwiches and pastries, including falafel, soups, veggie burgers, and vegan ice cream. Also has a food truck.
- ❖ Beer lovers will adore **Mesa Tropera**. The focus is very much on its twelve craft beers, but they also serve superb comfort food and bar favorites. A great choice for a late night.

accommodation

Puerto Varas is a popular destination for both Chilean and international travelers and boasts one of the most complete hotel infrastructures in the country. The venue for the Symposium is the excellent **Enjoy Puerto Varas**, arguably the city's best hotel. For those preferring to stay in a different property to the Symposium venue, Puerto Varas offers a wide range of alternatives from luxury hotels to hostels. Here is a selection of highly recommended properties, which for the sake of convenience are all within walking distance of the Symposium venue.

	Property	Rooms	Category	Average Room Rate in USD	Website
1	Enjoy Puerto Varas (Symposium Venue)	91	Luxury	130	LINK
2	Hotel Cabaña del Lago	157	Luxury	150	LINK
3	Cumbres Puerto Varas	90	Luxury	140	LINK
4	Hotel Solace	62	Luxury	125	LINK
5	Hotel de los Volcanes	50	Luxury	130	LINK
6	Radisson Puerto Varas	98	Luxury	120	LINK

	Property	Rooms	Category	Average Room Rate in USD	Website
1	Casa Kalfu Hotel Boutique	19	Midrange	95	LINK
2	Dein Haus	21	Midrange	90	LINK
3	Hotel Puelche	21	Midrange	95	LINK
4	Gran Hotel Germania	40	Midrange	95	LINK
5	Park Inn by Radisson Puerto Varas	86	Midrange	90	LINK

	Property	Rooms	Category	Average Room Rate in USD	Website
1	Hostal Chancerel	15	Budget	75	LINK
2	Hotel Boutique El Greco	36	Budget	80	LINK
3	Hotel Guest House Puerto Varas	11	Budget	65	LINK
4	Estancia 440 Hotel Boutique	7	Budget	75	LINK
5	Galpon Aire Puro	8	Budget	60	LINK

	Property	Dorms	Rooms	Category	Average Room Rate in USD	Website
1	Casa Azul Hostel	■	■	Hostel	15/60	LINK
2	Compass del Sur		■	Hostel	40	LINK
3	Hostal Puerto Varas		■	Hostel	40	LINK
4	Margouya Patagonia	■	■	Hostel	13/30	LINK
5	Ruca Hostel	■	■	Hostel	14/40	LINK