

SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

FAUNA



San Pedro de Atacama, an oasis in the Chilean desert, is home to a surprising diversity of wildlife species, from majestic birds to small desert survivors.



VIZCACHETA

It is one of the most abundant and robust rodents in the area. It has soft fur like a hare, but unlike it, it has a long tail and smaller ears. It's not so easy to spot because it's nocturnal, but if you want to try your luck, Salar de Tara is your destination.



SALAR DE TARA

In the Atacama Desert, you can find not one, but three different types of flamingos: the Andean, the Chilean, and the James's flamingo. Laguna Chaxa is a favorite spot for many to observe these birds, although you can also see them in Salar de Pujsa and Vegas de Quepiaco.



FLAMENGO



SALAR DE PUJSA



ZORRO CULPEO

The culpeo fox is a highly recognized animal within Chilean fauna, as it is found in a wide variety of locations, from the north to Tierra del Fuego. This animal is capable of building its home in any place that allows it to create its den, such as shrublands, steppes, and low, dense shrub communities.

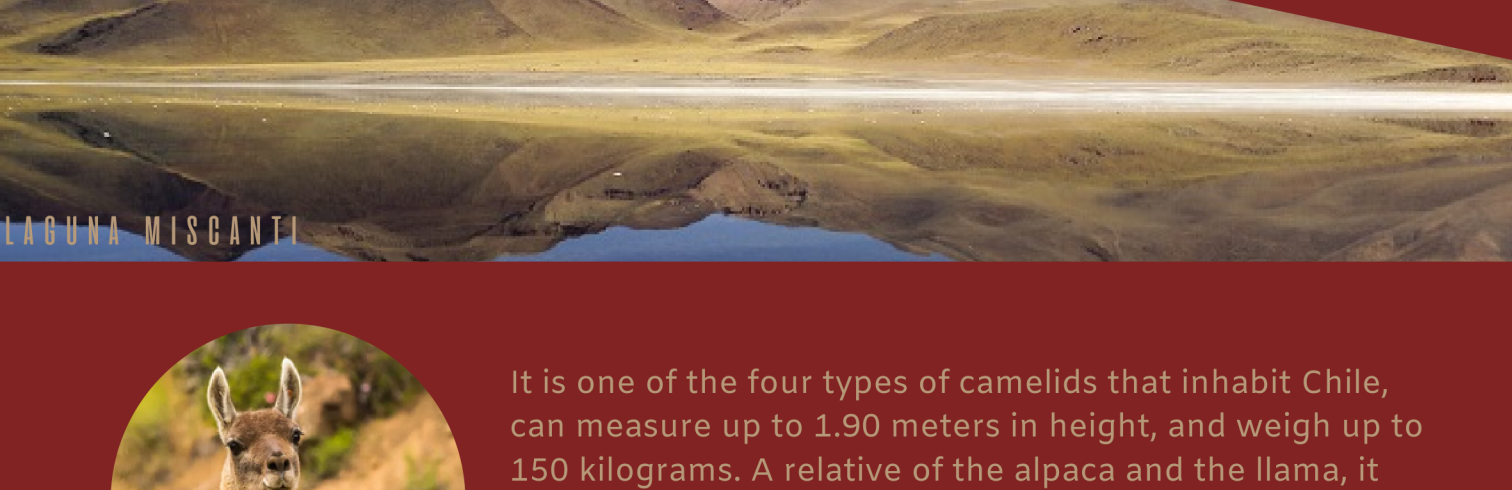


RESERVA NACIONAL LOS FLAMENCOS

Little-known, this bird lives at altitudes ranging from 3000 to 5200 meters. It nests in the Miscanti and Miñiques Lagoons, where they have been observed in greater numbers during the autumn season. It differs from other coots by having fleshy skin that protrudes from the forehead instead of the typical frontal shield that most birds have.



TARMA CORNUA



LAGUNA MISCANTI



GUANACO

It is one of the four types of camelids that inhabit Chile, can measure up to 1.90 meters in height, and weigh up to 150 kilograms. A relative of the alpaca and the llama, it has a grey face, small ears, and fur that varies from light brown to dark red. You can find it at Reserva Nacional Los Flamencos.



VALLE DE LA LUNA

The vicuña, like the guanaco, is a South American camelid that has not been domesticated like the llama and the alpaca. Unlike the guanaco, the vicuña is much smaller, weighing up to 65 kg. It is found in the grasslands of Los Andes highlands, and one of the most common places to see it is at the Salar de Tara.



VICUÑA



MIRADOR PIEDRAS ROJAS



LLAMA

The llama is a highly valued animal in Andean culture. Unlike the guanaco, llamas are more robust and have been domesticated. Salar de Tara is an excellent place to spot this camelid.



SALAR DE ATACAMA

If there are guanacos, there are pumas lurking. The puma, also known as the mountain lion, inhabits Chile from Arica to Magallanes, ranging from 5000 meters in altitude down to sea level. You can find it anywhere in Reserva Nacional Los Flamencos, habitat of its prey.



PUMA

LEAVE NO TRACE SEVEN PRINCIPLES

- Plan ahead and be prepared.
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- Dispose of waste properly.
- Minimize the impacts of campfires.
- Respect the wildlife.
- Be considerate of other visitors.

