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Betreff: on the road again... South America IV
hola compadre

que tal? ok, let s stop the spanish here, even though i do know a few more words by now, after spending almost 2 months here in arica, chile [see arica.jpg].

to hear what i m doing here, read on, to just see what i ve seen here, check out these links:

<http://picasaweb.google.ch/cheesenoc/SouthAmericaIV>
<http://picasaweb.google.ch/cheesenoc/SouthAmericaPanoramasII>

Work

ok, maybe "work" is not the right title 😊 but what i do here is help helena and alonso, who are running a small travel agency called tierra expediciones here in the north of chile.

unfortunately, due to the low season and the recent earthquake, i only had to guide 2 tours, the first being with my parents 😊 [see parents.jpg] and led us from arica via the magnificent altiplano, early-morning geysers [see tatio.jpg], the atacama desert [see desert.jpg] and some whale- and dolphin-watching [see whale.jpg] along the coast down to santiago and valpariso.

the second was just half a day, but it was the first time i got a tip for my work 😊

apart from that, i m basically helping them with computer stuff, like trying to speed up their web page.

Family

yeah, after 10 years in my flat i m staying with parents again 😊 but it s not as bad as it sounds, and great for my spanish... jorge, sarah, rodolpho and jorge jr. are very likeable [see family.jpg], and for some fun, there s bruno, the single-mother-neighbour s son [see bruno.jpg]. i ve got my own room here [see room.jpg], a bicycle [see house_bike.jpg] (as pic was taken in front of the house)) and even internet access (bribed some other neighbours with (swiss) chocolate to get their wi-fi password).

Free time

yes, there is some 😊 and i even use it (partly) to study spanish grammar (and coding a bit, before i forget everything)... but yes, i also had to give surfing a shot again, and i ve spent a few days trekking in the altiplano, the highlight of which certainly was being one of the first to climb cerro casiri [see casiri.jpg and gps_casiri.jpg], but camping and eating fondue at 4400m [see fondue.jpg] was not too bad either...

Arica

...is the most northern town of chile (closer to la paz and lima than santiago) with about 200'000 inhabitants, directly at the sea, surrounded by desert and with an average of 0.8mm rain per year (and indeed just today it rained for the first time, about 0.1mm...). arica is also called the city of eternal spring, and indeed it s basically sunny every day... there are several beaches and a famous wave called "el gringo", where currently the body board world championship is taking place [see bodyboard.jpg].

oh, and as many other places here on this continent, arica is sitting at

the intersection of 2 continental plates, which gave me the chance to experience my first earthquake (6.4, epicenter 50km north of arica)...

What s next

i ll be around here for about 2 more weeks, before i head east towards buenos aires (most likely via la paz, paraguay and the iguazu falls), where my plane is leaving on june 28. so if anybody s in the area, let me know, otherwise, see you in july in good old suiza...

que te vayas bien
marcelo [see marcelo.jpg]

Anhang 1: arica.JPG (76KB) 0-1 a



Anhang 2: parents.JPG (66KB) 0-2 a



Anhang 3: tatio.JPG (26KB) 0-3 a



Anhang 4: desert.JPG (93KB) 0-4 a



Anhang 5: whale.JPG (29KB) 0-5 a



Anhang 6: family.JPG (60KB) 0-6 a



Anhang 7: bruno.JPG (52KB) 0-7 a



Anhang 8: room.JPG (45KB) 0-8 a



Anhang 9: house_bike.JPG (41KB) 0-9 a



Anhang 10: gps_casiri.JPG (50KB) 0-10 a



Anhang 11: casiri.JPG (61KB) 0-11 a



Anhang 12: fondue.JPG (81KB) 0-12 a



Anhang 13: bodyboard.JPG (40KB) 0-13 a



Anhang 14: marcelo.JPG (53KB) 0-14 a

