



What is an Solar Eclipse?

Between 2019 and 2020, Chile will focus the world's attention by being the scene of two total solar eclipses that will be appreciated throughout the national territory, in different percentages of visibility.

We call this unique phenomenon in our recent history "Eclipse Season".

But what is a solar eclipse?

An eclipse of the Sun occurs when the Moon comes between it and us, casting its shadow on the Earth's surface. At the time of the eclipse, the Moon casts two shadows on Earth, one thinner and darker, known as Umbra; and another that surrounds it called Penumbra.

There are two types of solar eclipses that will be seen in Chile:

- The first and most spectacular is when the Moon completely covers the Sun. This can be seen only being located within the Umbra area, which is why the path that runs through the shadow is known as the "Totality Zone".
- The second type of eclipse is partial and will be appreciated by people who are in the Penumbra area that will cover the entire national territory on both occasions, to a greater or lesser degree depending on where you look at it.

On July 2, 2019, the Totality Zone will be concentrated in Coquimbo and Atacama, while on December 14, 2020 it will be the turn of La Araucanía.

Chile, with its clean skies and impressive astronomical infrastructure, is the ideal setting for astronomers from all over the world and lovers of observation to witness one of the most spectacular phenomena that can be seen with the naked eye, always taking the shelter of using Authorized protection lenses throughout the eclipse. And all Chileans, without distinction, will be participants in this great civic festival that will bring astronomy and science closer to everyone.