



Hosteria Pehoe (our lodge for 2 nights at Torres del Paine National Park)

PATAGONIA TORRES DEL PAINE(W HIKE) - PERITO MORENO – UPSALA FITZ ROY (CHALTEN) & USHUAIA (END OF THE WORLD TOWN) (ARGENTINA & CHILE)

Visit South America and travel to Patagonia - a fascinating region in the far south of Chile and Argentina, rich in natural beauty, dramatic vistas and cosmopolitan cities oozing with passion and culture. Feel the contrast as you trek TORRES DEL PAINE through the Patagonian wilderness and glaciers. From lodging near the end of the earth and witnessing gargantuan glaciers like PERITO MORENO & FITZ ROY to indulging in the modernity of Buenos Aires Argentina, this trip will reward those with a sense of adventure, an appreciation of nature and an interest in diversity.

GROUP LEADER

Juan Cardenas is the group leader & manager; he'll take the hassle out of your travels and help you have the best trip possible. Also during our trip, a local guide will be available and co-guide with Juan.

Your leader & guide will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the places visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, flora & fauna, religious and social aspects. We aim to support local guides who have specialized knowledge of the regions we visit.



Day 01

Bienvenidos! Welcome to Buenos Aires!. Travelers must arrive on a morning flight. We will welcome you upon your arrival and transfer you to our downtown hotel. Between today and tomorrow's morning we'll see as much as we can of Buenos Aires, this should be enjoyed from different angles, and this half-day sightseeing tour is designed to do just that. The combined coach and walking tour encompasses the best sights the City of Tango has to offer.

Start with the city's symbolic Obelisk, erected in 1936 to commemorate Buenos Aires 400th anniversary. See colonial Spanish squares, such as Plaza de Mayo, Plaza San Martín, and Plaza del Congreso, home to the large-domed Palacio del Congreso.

Travel down impressive Avenida Corrientes, leafy Avenida de Mayo, and the vast Avenida 9 de Julio. Explore commercial areas of Buenos Aires and discover Argentina's favorite past-time at numerous soccer stadiums throughout the city. You will go to colorful neighborhoods to give you a more local feel for the city. See the brightly-painted houses of La Boca, first settled by Italian immigrants, explore the home of tango in bohemian San Telmo, and see the city's first barrio at Montserrat. Discover a more sophisticated side to Buenos Aires in the upscale areas of Palermo and Recoleta, and get a feel for urban nature at leafy Lezama Park and landscaped Tres de Febrero Park. Late afternoon drive back to our hotel at Buenos Aires and Overnight. Meals on your own



Day 2

After breakfast, we will board our bus for a sightseen short morning tour of the famous Buenos Aires neighborhoods. Afternoon flight from Buenos Aires to Calafate (approximately 5 hours). From there we take a private bus to our hotel at El Calafate town, This is our gateway to the Glacier National Park. Being a major hub for adventurers headed for Perito Moreno, El Calafate has undergone a lot of development in recent decades, but retains plenty of charm. In the evening, perhaps take the opportunity to try some world-famous Argentinean steak or some fresh-caught local trout. Overnight at El Calafate Patagonia Rebelde Posada. During dinner (included) a meeting to introduce our local guide and talk about the day after plans.

Day 3 FULL DAY AT PERITO MORENO GLACIER

Today we drive into PARQUE NACIONAL LOS GLACIARES for views of the stunning PERITO MORENO GLACIER (approximately 2.5 hours). This huge advancing glacier is more than 3 miles wide at its front and over 20 stories high, witnessing some spectacular scenery on route to the Perito Moreno Glacier. Once you arrive, spend some time exploring this natural wonder. This is one of the few glaciers in the world that's actually advancing rather than melting away. At 3 kilometers wide and 35 kilometers long, it's an incredibly massive icescape. Eat your lunch sitting on the lateral moraine of the glacier, where you can absorb the magnificence of the glacier's anatomy and listen to its thunderous concerto of groaning and cracking ice dropping into the lake below.



Watch and listen to the crack of the ice as it plunges into the waters below. Interestingly, massive ruptures occur to the glacier every four to five years as part of cyclical ice bridge formations. In the evening, return to El Calafate and relax for the evening. Box lunch included , dinner on your own.

Day 4 FULL DAY AT UPSALA GLACIAR- ESTANCIA CRISTINA



We depart from Punta Bandera (Flag Point) Port at 8:30 am, ferrying on the northern arm of Lake Argentino up to the last permitted point of navigation on the Upsala Channel, where stunning views of the Upsala Glacier await.

After disembarking at Estancia Cristina, each group will be assigned a FWD vehicle with a specialized driver-guide. Our ride will take us in ascent along the Feruglio cordón for 9.5 km to the spot where we will leave our vehicle. Once there, we will start a 20-minute walk on glacial erosion terrain up to the Upsala Glacier Lookout Point, which features sweeping views of Lake Guillermo, the imposing Upsala Glacier's eastern front and the South Patagonian Continental Ice Field.

We then walk back to our FWD vehicles and return to the Estancia for a lunch service of approximately 1 hour. Afterwards we will visit the Estancia's Costumbrista Museum, formerly an old shearing shed, where visitors will learn about the history of the Masters Family pioneers, and their awe-inspiring experiences and on this remote corner of the earth some 100 years ago. There will also be a guided walk by the Caterina River, the well, the Chapel and the Estancia's colonial main house. Transfer back to our hotel at Calafate town. Overnight at Calafate



Day 5 MORNING DRIVE FROM EL CALAFATE TO EL CHALTEN

Between 4 to 5 hours drive from el Calafate to El Chalten (Fitz Roy Gate) Overnight at Patagonia Travelers hotel. Lunch & Dinner on your own. Note: There are 2 sides to this hotel we are staying on the lodge side.

Afternoon to explore the lovely town, enjoy some Patagonian lamb and the amazing views of the Glaciers.

Day 6 LAGO DE LOS TRES FITZ ROY MT.

After an early breakfast, we'll drive to the head trail at the end of Avenida San Martín, where El Chaltén town ends. Today we'll do one of the most surreal and outstanding hikes towards LAGO DE LOS TRES from where we'll have the best view of MT. FITZ ROY.

The slope is quite steep during the first hour until you reach Del Salto stream valley towards the Mt. Fitz Roy. You will notice that the Antarctic Beech become more and more numerous along the path and approximately after an hour and a half further down the way you will reach a well-marked natural viewpoint. There you will find a sign that interprets the whole landscape right in front of you. From there the path continues in ascent approximately 400m. until you reach Laguna de los Tres. The trail finishes at the old Moraine ridge with an extraordinary view of the lagoon and De los Tres Glacier. This is the closest view to the granite wall of Mt. Fitz Roy and the peaks around.



Total length 10 hours with stops, at the end of the day we'll spend another night at Patagonia Travelers Posada. Box Lunch included, dinner on your own.

Day 7

Full day drive from el CHALTEN ARGENTINA TO TORRES DEL PAINE CHILE. Approximately 8 hours with several stop to enjoy the wildlife of the area. Our time at Torres Del Paine is flexible and includes a menu of guided excursions; it all depends of weather conditions and availability. Lodging & dinner at Hosteria Pehoe. (B/D)



Day 08

This is a one hour journey by van crossing the Pampa Patagonia. We will begin trekking to the Ascencio Valley where from above you see the river (of the same name) running wildly past Refugio Chileno. After a quick stop here we will continue through a forest of the native Lenga (Beech) trees until reaching the glacial moraine. From here it's a 1-hour trek to the top where the towers appear from nowhere! This trek is spectacular where you get to view the 3 pink granite towers with its glacial lake below that made the park famous. (8 hours' round trip, 13miles). Lodging & dinner at Hosteria Pehoe. (B/L/D)



Day 09

We will travel by van through the national park and cross LAKE PEHOE on the mid-day catamaran. TREK TO THE FRENCH VALLEY. This valley is the most beautiful in the park and one of the most unique in the world. It's surrounded by hanging glaciers (where you can see & hear the ice calving off at various intervals) and an amphitheater of granite walls and spires. There are amazing views throughout this trek and the further you trek into the valley the better they become!

On this day we will reach the French Valley Main Lookout, from this point you can appreciate the whole natural amphitheater created by glaciers millions of years ago, it is absolutely breathtaking. This is a 5-6 hours and completed 10miles. 18h30 cross Pehoe Lake by catamaran, transfer to Amaraga Lake. Overnight at Hosteria Pehoe. (B/L/D)



Day 10

Transfer to Pudeto, cross Pehoe lake by catamaran. We will trek along enchanting Lake Grey (3-4 hours 8 MILES) with magnificent views of Glacier Grey and floating icebergs. Visit to the glacier lookout point and to the lakeshore for up-close views of vibrant-blue icebergs (Paine is a Tehuelche Indian word for "blue"). During the afternoon we will navigate aboard of the Grey III catamaran. Two hours navigation in this magic lake surrounded by ice bergs where the boat does a circuit right up to the front of the glacier whilst you stand on deck sipping your pisco sour served with glacial ice! Transfer from Grey lake to Puerto Natales. Farewell dinner and night at Natalino hotel. (B/L/D)

Day 11 FLIGHT TO THE END OF THE WORLD TOWN

Morning transfer back to the city of El Calafate (5 hours), from where we'll catch our flight to Ushuaia. It takes about 1 hour 20 minutes flight to arrive at THE END OF THE WORLD TOWN. In the afternoon we'll walk around the town to explore museums, markets, and enjoy the afternoon sunset by the harbor with nearly 60,000 inhabitants, on the south coast of Tierra del Fuego facing the Beagle Channel. Overnight at Ushuaia Los Naranjos hotel or similar. Lunch & dinner on your own.



Day 12 FULL DAY AT USHUAIA

Another Interesting day at the end of the world town. Head out from Ushuaia tourist pier on a full day tour on a beautiful catamaran. Sail through Ushuaia Bay into the center of Beagle Channel and weave through the islands of the Alicia Archipelago.



Watch local wildlife like the Imperial Cormorants, the majestic Black-Browed Albatross, the Skua, and the curious looking Steamer Duck. Continue the journey to Les Eclaireurs Archipelago and visit Seal Island, home of two playful species of sea lions.

Explore some other islands to observe a colony of elegant Magellan Penguins at work and play. The excursion continues to Estancia Harberton where visitors can enjoy a short tour to learn about this historical settlement. At the end of the walk, travel back to Ushuaia sailing through Guarani Pass and along the small fishing village of Port Almanza. Overnight at Ushuaia Los Naranjos hotel or Albatros hotel. Lunch included / dinner on your own.

Day 13 TIERRA DEL FUEGO NATIONAL PARK

Full day visit to Tierra del Fuego National Park. This 60,000 hectare national Park – the most southerly in the world – close to Ushuaia, protects dramatic scenery, including glaciers, waterfalls, coastline and mountains, and extensive sub – Antarctic Nothofagus forest, as well as a wealth of wildlife. After the catamaran tour we'll go back to the hotel, pick our luggage and continue to the airport to catch a late flight from Ushuaia to Buenos Aires (included in the trip). Overnight at Buenos Aires Argentina Hotel Dezzler at la Recoleta neighborhood. Dinner not included.



Day 14 LAST DAY AT BUENOS AIRES OR COLONIA URUGUAY

Depending of your international flight you'll be transfer to the Buenos Aires airport in the morning or in the afternoon to catch your flight back home. No meals included today. If your flight leaves at night, as an optional activity we can go for a day to the magical Portuguese Uruguayan town of COLONIA. Colonia del Sacramento is a city in the South West of **Uruguay**, and the

reason for the contrast to Buenos Aires is the old town and cobbled streets. It has a laid back vibe and buildings from the Portuguese era. You can get there in just under an hour on the ferry, and it's not too expensive to do so. But remember, you'll need to pass immigration and security, so arrive with plenty of time before departure. Late in the afternoon we'll travel back to Buenos Aires, stay there for another night or continue to the airport to fly back home.

END OF OUR SERVICES

PASSPORT AND VISAS

PASSPORT: Your passport details are required to complete your booking. Please ensure the name on your passport matches the name on your booking and airline tickets. As a general rule most countries expect that your passport has a minimum of 6 months' validity remaining. Take a copy of the main passport pages and other important documents with you, and leave another copy at home with family or friends.



VISAS: Visas are the responsibility of the individual traveler. The below countries specific information was correct at time of writing, however please visit the relevant consular website of the country or countries you're visiting for detailed and up-to-date visa information specific to your nationality. Visas can take several weeks to process, so familiarize yourself with any requirements as soon as you have booked your trip to allow for processing time. Also remember to check whether a transit visa is required on route to join this trip or on the way home. If you receive an immigration card upon entry, please ensure you keep this safe as it may be requested at point of exit.

ARGENTINA: Americans, Australian, Belgians, British, Canadians, Dutch, Germans, New Zealanders and South Africans do not currently require a visa for Argentina. For all other nationalities please reconfirm your visa or entry requirements with the Argentinian consulate in your home country.

Reciprocity tax for some passport holders:

The Argentine Government charges a reciprocity tax to Canadian and Australian passport holders which must be paid prior to arrival. A receipt for this payment must be produced at every border crossing into Argentina. The amounts are as follows:

Australians - US\$100 (multiple entry for up to 1 year from date of issue)

Canadians - US\$72 (multiple entry for up to 5 years from date of issue)

CHILE: Americans, Australian, Belgians, British, Canadians, Dutch, Germans, New Zealanders and South Africans do not currently require a visa for Chile. For all other nationalities please reconfirm your visa or entry requirements with the Chilean consulate in your home country. Reciprocity tax for some passport holders:

If you are entering Chile at Santiago International Airport, Australians are required to pay a reciprocity fee (US\$117 payable in USD\$ or credit card only). The fee does not apply to travelers arriving at other airports or entering the country via land borders.



FOOD AND DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

While travelling with us you'll experience the vast array of wonderful food available in this region. Your group leader will be able to suggest restaurants to try during your trip. To give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat, generally not all meals are included in the trip price. This also gives you more budgeting flexibility. As a rule, our groups tend to eat dinner together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There's no obligation to do this though.

DIET REQUIREMENTS

Generally speaking, in bigger cities/towns vegetarians can expect a reasonable range of vegetarian venues and/or vegetarian options within tourist restaurant menus. However, vegetarianism is not the norm in this part of the world so options can be limited when eating at home stays, small local restaurants, street stools, markets, etc. More restrictive diet requirements (vegans, celiac, gluten intolerance, fructose intolerance, lactose intolerance, etc.) can also be accommodated along this trip but you should expect a lesser variety than what you can expect at home. We recommend that, if possible, to bring your own supply of snacks with you. Please let us know your diet requirements before your trip starts.



SIMPLE BREAKFAST

Some of the included breakfasts along this trip can be quite simple: toasts, spreads, juice and coffee or tea. If you need some extra supplement, please bring your own.

SAFETY: Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas your itinerary covers.

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe-keeping of your passport, air tickets, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewelry at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of our hotels have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Your leader will accompany you on all included activities, however during your trip you'll have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your leader will assist you with the available options in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we make no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Please also note that your Leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it's deemed necessary due to safety concerns.

PETTY THEFT AND PERSONAL SAFETY: While travelling there is always the risk of pick-pocketing and petty theft, particularly in the more touristy cities. We recommend that you exercise caution when walking alone at night and encourage you to walk together and only on main, well-lit thoroughfares. Be particularly vigilant on public transport. Simple measures like carrying your day pack on your front, not hanging your bag over the back of your chair or on the floor and wearing a money belt will reduce any chance that your valuables should go missing.

LOCAL TIME GMT -3hrs in Argentina and GMT -4hrs in Chile

ELECTRICITY In Argentina and Chile electricity is 220 volts and it is easy to buy an adaptor at the airport or in Buenos Aires if needed. Batteries can be recharged in the hotels, and some plug sockets are available within the Torres Del Paine refugios (please ask your leader & guide if you need any extra adapters)



MONEY MATTERS:

Currency Information The national currency of Argentina is the Argentinean Peso (ARS), with an exchange rate at the time of publication of approximately 35 to the US\$. The national currency of Chile is the Chilean Peso (CLP), with an exchange rate at the time of publication of approximately 695 to the US\$. We recommend that you take most of your spending money in US Dollars cash. We also recommend keeping the money in US Dollars, changing as and when necessary into Argentine Pesos. It is always wise to have some local currency for buying meals, snacks, incidentals etc. There are exchange facilities at Chile airport so you have the option of changing some money upon arrival if you wish. Your tour leader will give you more information on exchanging currency as you go along. Torn, damaged or marked bills can be refused so please make sure all your notes are clean and not too old.

ATM availability/Credit Card Acceptance: The most straight forward method of obtaining travel money these days is simply to use your credit or debit card to withdraw cash directly from a cash machine at a local bank. ATMs supporting major credit cards are easily accessible in Santiago, Puerto Natales & Calafate. They will generally not be available in other more rural places visited on the itinerary. There is an ATM in El Chalten but it isn't always reliably functioning. If you intend on using your bank card then first inform your bank of your travel plans and destinations that you'll be visiting, and check that your card will indeed function outside of your home country.

Extra Expenses and Spending Money: Most meals are included in the itinerary, but for those not included, you should allow about US\$20-\$30 per meal to eat at good restaurants, or around US\$10-20 for light meals at inexpensive restaurants and cafes (this does not include alcoholic beverages). Bottled water and soft drinks are readily available for around US\$2 each. Please note that Argentina is experiencing a very high level of inflation and the cost of goods and services can increase without much warning. Patagonia in particular is an expensive destination in comparison to the rest of Argentina and the rest of the South American continent.

TIPPING (LEADER AND LOCAL STAFF) GENERAL TIPPING/KITTY: Tipping is at your own discretion but is very much part of the culture in South America and is usually expected. Your tour leader will usually offer and suggest to tip restaurant staff (5-10% of your bill), drivers, local guides (US\$1-2 per day) etc. throughout the holiday. Your leader will suggest how much to contribute, depending on group size, but it is usually in the region US\$6-8USD per person per day. There are 12 days US\$70-90 should be about right. Our leader Juan will suggest how this should be divided between guides, drivers, etc Tour Leader: Our local leader is paid well and fairly for their work with CAB- Inc. However, to show appreciation, a tip of around US\$3-5 per day from each group member is sufficient

SEAT BELTS: Please be aware that local laws governing transportation safety may differ from those in your home country and not all the transport which we use is able to provide seat belts.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Travel insurance is highly recommended for all our trips. We require that, at a minimum, you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

If you have credit card insurance your group leader will require details of the participating insurer/underwriter, the level of coverage, policy number and emergency contact number rather than the bank's name and credit card details. Please contact your bank for these details prior to arriving in-country.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL CLIENTS

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call us and ask to speak to one of the experts on this itinerary.

Although our leaders are well trained to deal with different capabilities, if they have any concerns about someone's ability to safely partake in an activity, or their impact on other people's enjoyment, we authorize them to take necessary action which, in some circumstances, may involve asking someone to miss that activity.

Although rarely enforced, by booking this trip you our Booking Conditions which clearly states that our leaders have the authority to do this. In these circumstances we will ensure anyone sitting out is safely provided for and offered alternative options where possible. Refunds will not be provided for activities missed and customers may be liable for additional costs incurred.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure or website, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure and website. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; Argentina & Chile • Classic Patagonia Treks, in order to enjoy them you should be prepared to be flexible where necessary. Occasionally, as stated in our brochure, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned. This may be for a variety of reasons - climatic, political, physical or other. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements that maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

This tour includes:

- All accommodations double occupancy. (There is an optional single supplement on this trip that will cover single hotel rooms (subject to availability)
- All breakfasts in hotels
- Other meals as mentioned in the itinerary
- All IN & OUT group transfers. If you are planning to arrive earlier or stay longer we can assist you during it, please contact us and we'll help you.
- Entrance fees & permits to visit the National Parks (including hikes)
- 3 Domestic flights at Argentina (Buenos Aires/Calafate - Calafate/Ushuaia & Ushuaia to Buenos Aires)
- Professional, English-speaking leader & guides
- Tours as mentioned in the itinerary (subject to vary in order due to the weather conditions)

This tour does not include:

- International flights
- Meals not listed in the itinerary (B,L,D)
- Tips to local guides and drivers
- Laundry, telephone calls & extra expenses.
- Travel and health insurance (highly recommended)

Please note that our tour is taking you to the 5 most south after locations in Patagonia. Torres Del Paine (Chile) - Perito Moreno – Upsala Glacier - Fitz Roy Chalten & Ushuaia Tierra del Fuego (Argentina).

Our tour is pretty much all inclusive including most meals, lodging, entrance fees and transportation. We have included information on the flights you need to book for your tour and to inform you of your need to be in Buenos Aires on day 1 of the trip, for a small additional fee we can provide accommodations and transfers if you happen to come in before that date. We highly recommend travel insurance at this time, but it is not mandatory as originally stated.

Juan Cardenas