Patagonia: A Journey of Discovery
Itinerary Overview

Experience all that Chilean Patagonia has to offer as we embark on a guided journey of personal exploration and discovery through one of the most spectacular, beautiful, and inspirational places in the world. After spending a day exploring the vibrant city of Santiago, Chile, you'll head deep into Torres del Paine National Park. Three days of extensive hiking (5—13 miles per day) will lead you into the Paine Massif, including the three primary sites along the famous W route: Grey Glacier, Francis Valley/Paine Grande, and the Towers of Paine. Carrying just a day pack with clothing and personal items, you'll hike among spectacular mountain peaks on trails that contour past turquoise lakes, waterfalls, hanging glaciers, and alpine meadows where guanaco roam. Optional hikes to high base camps and lookouts afford spectacular views of sheer rock walls, calving glaciers, soaring condors, and daring climbers. You’ll return to Santiago for a day of wine tasting and biking before departing for home.

As you explore Patagonia, you will have the opportunity to:

- Experience sensory overload in the city of Santiago, Chile
- Explore the vast expanse of the plains surrounding Torres del Paine National Park
- Challenge yourself as you trek some of the routes along the famous W Circuit
- Spend two nights in rustic, shared bunk style mountain refugios
- Learn about Chilean culture, history, and traditions from locals
- Travel with a small group of fun and like-minded individuals
- Engage in inspirational conversations about your experiences

Along the way, you’ll be supported by Michael Bennett, Ed.D., of Muddy Shoe Adventures on your journey of personal exploration and discovery. Join Michael and your fellow travelers on a series of pre-trip calls designed to help you prepare for your life-changing adventure. Once in Patagonia, Michael will use the trip's many adventures as catalysts for casual yet inspirational discussions that will help you reflect on and learn from what you are experiencing. You’ll even develop an action plan for kick-starting the next chapter of your life! Your journey continues even after the adventure ends with a month-long post-trip program where you’ll work with your new friends and Program Leader as you continue to integrate what you learned on your adventures into your day-to-day life.

If you are ready to travel the world with a small group of amazing people, challenge yourself with exciting physical adventures, immerse yourself in Patagonian culture, and engage in light-hearted yet powerful conversations as you explore one of the most iconic destinations on the planet, this trip is for you!
### Itinerary in Brief

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Overnight</th>
<th>Hotels</th>
<th>Meals</th>
<th>Highlights</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Saturday, April 1</td>
<td>Santiago</td>
<td>Luciano K</td>
<td></td>
<td>Arrival in Santiago, City Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sunday, April 2</td>
<td>Torres del Paine</td>
<td>EcoCamp Patagonia</td>
<td>BLD</td>
<td>Fly to Punta Arenas, drive to Las Torres EcoCamp</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Monday, April 3</td>
<td>Torres del Paine</td>
<td>Refugio Paine Grande</td>
<td>BLD</td>
<td>Valle Francis</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 4</td>
<td>Torres del Paine</td>
<td>EcoCamp Patagonia</td>
<td>BLD</td>
<td>Glacier Grey Lookout Trail</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 5</td>
<td>Torres del Paine</td>
<td>EcoCamp Patagonia</td>
<td>BLD</td>
<td>Las Torres Trail, Valle Ascencio</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Thursday, April 6</td>
<td>Santiago</td>
<td>Luciano K</td>
<td>BL</td>
<td>Return to Punta Arenas and fly to Santiago</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Friday, April 7</td>
<td>Departure</td>
<td></td>
<td>BL</td>
<td>Bike and Wine Tour. Night departure home</td>
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### Itinerary in Detail

**Day 1: (SAT) Arrival In Santiago, City Tour**
Early morning airport reception and transfer to the Luciano K Hotel. In the afternoon take a historic tour of Santiago including the Presidential Palace once the National Mint and thus called "La Moneda", the historic main square or "Plaza de Armas", the Cathedral, the National History Museum, and "Casa Colorado" the historic residence of the Governor. Continue on to Santa Lucia the hill upon which the Spanish founded Santiago in 1541. Overnight @ The Luciano K.

**Day 2: (SUN) Torres Del Paine National Park**
Transfer for a morning flight to Punta Arenas, Patagonia. Airport reception and travel north through the vast Patagonian "pampa," following the coastal route along the Straits of Magellan in Tierra del Fuego, to Puerto Natales (256km/160 miles/3 hrs). After lunch in Puerto Natales, continue to Torres del Paine National Park (246 km/153 miles/ 2 hrs), stopping at the Milodon Cave, where the remains of a giant prehistoric sloth were discovered. Arrive at the EcoCamp, located in the heart of the National Park, and dine under the southern constellations. Overnight in Standard Domes @EcoCamp Patagonia. [BLD]
THE FAMOUS ‘W’ ROUTE: Hiking distances, approx. duration, and altitudes for next three days:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trail Name</td>
<td>Valle del Frances</td>
<td>Mirador Grey</td>
<td>Las Torres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>EcoCamp</td>
<td>Refugio Paine Grande</td>
<td>EcoCamp Patagonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finishing Point</td>
<td>Refugio Paine Grande</td>
<td>Mirador Grey</td>
<td>EcoCamp Patagonia</td>
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<td>Trekking time</td>
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<td>4 hrs</td>
<td>10 hrs</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7 mi/11 km</td>
<td>14 mi/23 km</td>
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<tr>
<td>Max altitude point</td>
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<td>800 ft / 244 mts</td>
<td>3000 ft / 914 mts</td>
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Day 3: (MON) Valle Francis | Hiking: 10 Hours/12 Miles
Trek along the shores of beautiful Lago Nordenskjold to reach Campamento Italiano. Follow Rio Frances to Mirador del Frances and cross a hanging bridge to an awe-inspiring cirque (glacial valley) high in the Paine Range with breathtaking views of the Frances Glacier and the lakes below. Return to Campamento Italiano, where we'll hike through the undulating terrain of grassland and forest. Overnight @ Refugio Paine Grande near Pehoe Lake. [BLD]

*Note: The excursion to French Valley varies throughout the season depending on the catamaran connecting Pudeto and Refugio Pehoe; From October 1st to November 15th and from March 16th through April, the navigation operates only once a day. Thus, the hike will be limited and will only reach Italian campsite, or if hiking quickly, to Mirador del Frances.

Day 4: (TUE) Grey Lake Lookout Trail | Hiking: 4 Hours/7 Miles
Hike from Refugio Paine Grande to the northern end of Lago Grey. In the forests along the lake, keep your eyes peeled for the impressive Magellanic woodpecker. After a picnic lunch, board a boat to cross the sparkling lake to Grey Glacier, where you'll observe the many faces of this actively calving glacier. At the end of the navigation, return to EcoCamp Patagonia in Standard Domes (30-45 minutes by van) for dinner and overnight. [BLD]

*Note: Occasionally the weather may not permit sailing across the lake. During the shoulder season (October and April) sailing might be cancelled if the required minimum of 10 passengers isn’t reached. In this case, we’ll trek up to the sightseeing point offering a spectacular view of the glacier, then return on foot to Paine Grande and take a catamaran to Pudeto’s dock and drive back to Ecocamp.
Day 5: (WED) Las Torres, Valle Ascencio | Hiking: 10 Hours/14 Miles
This challenging, all-day hike ascends steeply up to Valle Ascencio to the base of an impressive granite massif where the iconic Towers of Paine rise from a glacial lake. The famous peaks of Las Torres (2,900m/9,400ft) consist of three granite monoliths, the remains of a great cirque sheared away by the forces of glacial ice, wind, and rain over millennia. Weather permitting, lunch above the turquoise glacial lake at the base of the Towers. Overnight at EcoCamp Patagonia in Standard Domes. [BLD]

Day 6: (THU) Punta Arenas–Santiago
Early in the morning board the vehicle back to Punta Arenas in time to catch the late afternoon flight back to Santiago. Airport reception and transfer to the Luciano K. [B]

Day 7: (FRI) Bike & Wine Adventure
In the morning you're picked up from your hotel and driven south to wine country. Once you arrive in the village of Alto Jahuel in the famous Maipo valley, you'll eat a good breakfast to give you energy for the day. After breakfast, you'll offload the bikes and start riding. As you ride you have the opportunity to observe local people living and working in agricultural Chile before you head into Viña Santa Rita. You'll ride through Santa Rita’s extensive grounds and have the opportunity to taste wines from three wineries there: Santa Rita, Carmen, and Nativa.

These wineries all vary in history and in the wine they produce. The first stop is at Viña Santa Rita, one of the oldest wine cellars in Chile, where you discover the vineyard’s rich tradition in winemaking and find out about the important role it played during Chile's struggle for independence. You get back on your bikes and continue through the grounds, riding past the very spot that the Carmenere grape of Bordeaux was rediscovered, long after it was thought to be extinct. The grape was reintroduced by Viña Carmen, which to this day still produces some of Chile's finest wines. Upon reaching the winery, you take a tour through its state-of-the-art production facilities before moving on to your next stop.

The third winery is the 100% organic Viña Nativa. Here, you'll learn all about the delicate relationship between grapevines and flowers and stroll through the picturesque gardens full of swans, ducks, chickens, deer, and even llamas. In the shade of a marquee you try two of the best wines that Viña Carmen and Viña Nativa have to offer. You then ride to Viña Santa Rita’s shop where you try your third wine of the day and have time to browse and buy wine to take home. Afterwards, you finish by driving to a countryside restaurant for lunch. Satisfied after great food, wine, and the scenic bike ride, you return to your hotel in Santiago. Evening departure for Santiago airport for flight home. [BL]

END OF SERVICES

Actual routes and activities may vary. Local trip coordinators reserve the right to change accommodations to similar quality alternatives.
Extension Options

Option A: Extra Day In Santiago
Day 7 (Fri): Overnight in Santiago at Luciano K.

Day 8 (Sat): Enjoy a day at leisure to explore Santiago on your own. Evening transfer from Hotel Luciano K to Santiago airport. [B]

Option B: Day In Vina Del Mar + Valparaiso
Day 7 (Fri): Overnight in Santiago at Luciano K.
Day 8 (Sat): You start your tour by driving west to the coast, passing through the central wine producing valley of Casablanca with its fertile farmlands famous for their orchards, citrus groves, grape plantations, and wonderful mountain backdrop. The ocean comes into view as you arrive in Valparaiso. ‘Valpo’, as it’s fondly known by locals, was declared a world heritage site by UNESCO, and it’s not difficult to see why. Picturesque architecture and multi-colored urban housing spread out over more than 40 hills, creating one of world’s most eclectic, unique cities. Narrow, winding streets line the hills, connected by hidden staircases and ancient elevators still in use.

You climb up Cerro Florida, admiring the colorful views, and arrive at Neruda’s house La Sebastiana. This house, just like his house in Santiago, contains wonderful artifacts and furniture in its original positions. The house overlooks the bay, offering a stunning view of the Pacific - the same view which Neruda enjoyed every New Year’s eve when he looked out at the fireworks. After the museum, you wander around Cerro Concepción and Cerro Alegre, marveling at the fantastically steep winding streets, lined with small and colorful houses. The views of the port are spectacular from up in the hills, and the ocean horizon dotted with colorful houses evokes the kind of enchantment usually reserved for on-screen magic. You make your way back down the hill using one of the iconic elevators. From there, it’s just a short walk to the main square, ‘Sotomayor’, housing the Monument for the Heroes of the Pacific War and the National Navy headquarters.

From here you head to fashionable neighboring coastal city Viña del Mar. En route you stop for lunch at a seaside restaurant. In ‘Viña’ you admire the famous city ‘flower clock’ and visit the center city main square with its amphitheater hosting the famous Viña del Mar International song festival every summer. The tour ends with the return journey to Santiago and a chance to reflect on the day’s colorful sights and poetry! Evening transfer from Hotel Luciano K to Santiago airport. [BL]

Option C: Horseback Ride To El Morado Glacier
Day 7 (Fri): Overnight in Santiago at Luciano K.
Day 8 (Sat): After an 8am pick up from your hotel in Santiago, you head out of the city across the Maipo Valley and towards the Andes Mountains. It’s surprising how quickly the grand metropolis of Santiago turns into countryside and busy avenues turn into small streets selling typical local produce. The spectacular El Morado Reserve is nestled at the foot of a towering mountain, exemplifying the dramatic rock formations of the Andes. It’s a truly breathtaking sight and one of the lesser-known sites in Chile, adding to the mystical mountain feel.
Your trusty local horses will be ready and waiting for you as you arrive. They are very gentle and you'll feel at ease from the moment you begin riding your way through rocky slopes dotted with wildflowers and moss, surrounded by the towering mountains. Condors soar overhead with wingspans of up to 3 meters and small yellow Cometocinos fly by as you follow an icy river up through mountainous paths. After 3 hours of horseback ascent you arrive at the summit and are met with the spectacular sight of an enormous glacier and glacial lake. You feast on a tasty box lunch while soaking up the view and relaxing from the climb. Afterwards you begin your descent, arriving back at the park entrance around 17:00 hours and boarding your comfy van for the scenic ride back to the hotel in Santiago. Evening transfer from Hotel Luciano K to Santiago airport. [BL]

**Pricing 2017:**
[Click here for pricing]
[Click here for dates]

*Single supplement: $285*

**INCLUDED SERVICES:**
- 6 nights lodging and accommodations
- English-speaking certified naturalist guides
- Porters and/or pack animals, sleeping bags and camping gear
- Guided tours and excursions
- Airport-hotel transfers and land transportation
- Meals as specified [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Services of in-bound land operator offices for airline reconfirmation; and tour operations and Wildland Adventures’ travel consultation and pre-departure services.

**NOT INCLUDED SERVICES:**
- International air transportation
- Round-trip air Santiago-Punta Arenas (estimated at ~$500 per person)
- Tips and gratuities
- Drinks, alcoholic beverages, and meals other than listed above
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Travel insurance for trip cancellation, medical services, or evacuation
- Any other items not mentioned above

**Terms and Conditions:** Wildland Adventures, Inc. has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary. It is however possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included. We highly recommend purchasing traveler’s insurance for trip delay, trip cancellation, baggage, accident or sickness. Representatives are available for assistance at any time during your trip. If preferred hotels are not available, every attempt will be made to reserve alternative accommodations of similar quality. (If upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply.) All information and services provided are subject to our Terms and Conditions.
Accommodations

THE LUCIANO K, SANTIAGO
The Luciano K is a cultural jewel in the heart of the gastronomic Lastarria neighborhood of Santiago, originally designed by the architect Luciano Kulczewski in the 1920s. At the time, it was the tallest building in Chile, the first with a lift and central heating. The glamour and elegance of the 1920s is showcased in the architecture and design, accompanied by the highest levels of comfort and technology. A rooftop terrace of 300 square meters accommodates: the spa, sauna, bar, heated swimming pool; and, spectacular views over Parque Forestal and Alameda Avenue.

EcoCamp Patagonia, Torres del Paine
EcoCamp Patagonia is located in the heart of Torres del Paine National Park within view of the famous Torres. The low-impact, comfortable dome tent facility is designed and operated to minimize environmental impact, and was nationally recognized in 2012 as the most sustainable tourism operation in Chile by the Federation of Tourism Businesses. In contrast to traditional lodges constructed in unprotected areas outside the national park boundary that have septic plumbing, diesel generators, and daily linen changes, EcoCamp’s facilities make it easy for guests to participate in conservation through the use of less water, minimizing use of limited solar energy for electricity, employing composting toilets, regulating temperature based exclusively on insulation, and reducing waste. Accommodations vary from standard domes (16’ wide and 7’ high set on a raised wooden platform) to deluxe 12’ high suite dome lofts capable of housing four travelers that are outfitted with a low-emission wood-burning stove, sitting area, private terrace, ensuite bathroom with hot water showers, and composting toilets. Public spaces include a cozy shared bathhouse for use by standard dome guests, an enormous 30’ tent, and several other connected domes that form a common living area, dining room, and a lounge with bar and kitchen. At EcoCamp, take guided hikes of varying lengths among the granite spires, glaciers, waterfalls, lakes and the spectacular landscape of the park, a habitat for exotic flora and fauna like guanaco, rhea, condor, penguin, fox, and flamingo. Two different mountain biking trips, offered three times weekly, follow undulating trails past lake shores and through lenga forest.

Refugio Paine Grande
Rooms at Refugio Paine Grande have wonderful views of Lake Pehoe and Paine Grande. Up to 60 guests are accommodated in rooms with 3 bunk beds per room and shared bathrooms with hot water showers. The Lodge has reading rooms, lounges, a dining room for about 120 people, a bar and a mini-market.
Booking Your Wildland Adventure

How to Reserve a Trip:
You can book online using our Reserve a Trip form or by calling 1-800-345-4453. Your space on a trip is confirmed once we receive your reservation form and initial trip deposit. All travelers must sign and submit a Release of Liability.

Deposit requirements are as follows:*  
- $1000 per person for all trips in South America.

*Some trips require additional non-refundable deposits, especially when yachts have been chartered, or if permits to visit archaeological or wildlife sites have been purchased in advance.

CUSTOM TRAVEL
This trip isn't exactly what you're looking for? We are happy to design a private custom itinerary to accommodate your travel dates, interests and style of accommodations. Call us at 1-800-345-4453, send an email to info@wildland.com, or use the Ask The Program Director button on the trip itinerary page on our website.

Payments, Cancellations and Refunds
Full payment of the trip balance is due 90 days prior to departure. If you must cancel before departure, money will be returned less the cancellation fees charged by WA Inc. plus any additional non-refundable cancellation fees and payments already advanced to airlines, hotels and local operators:

Days Prior to Departure: Fee per person  
- 91 or more: $300  
- 61-90 days: Initial deposit amount  
- 31-60 days: 50% of land cost  
- 30 or less: 100% of land cost

Pre-departure services
Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will send you a comprehensive Pre-departure Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including immunizations, visas, trip insurance, packing checklist, reading list, maps, cross-cultural information, optional trip extensions and more. You will receive a final trip packet including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

REFERENCES AND QUESTIONS
Have any questions or concerns? Call us a 1-800-345-4453 or email info@wildland.com. We’re here to help and are happy to provide you with references from previous Wildland travelers.