BEST OF PATAGONIA

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Itinerary Overview

This active luxury Patagonia adventure circumnavigates the tip of South America – starting in the historic city of Santiago, Chile, traveling through vibrant Torres del Paine and Los Glaciares National Parks and ending in the “Paris of South America,” Buenos Aires, Argentina. Strategically based from luxury camps and lodges, enjoy easy walks or more challenging day hikes and optional horseback rides, glacier treks, and kayaking among spectacular mountain formations of glaciers, lakes, fjords, ancient forests and grassland habitat in the heart of Patagonia. Accompanied by our professional local guides, you have plenty of opportunities to spot wildlife such as guanaco, flamingos, and condors, and enjoy gourmet picnic lunches and exceedingly comfortable accommodations. Just 10 days in length, this trip is perfect for families on a tight schedule or leaves plenty of time to venture to other regions of Argentina or Chile. Popular trip extensions include Iguazu Falls, Mendoza wine country and extra days in charming Buenos Aires.

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Itinerary in Detail

**Day 1: Arrival in Santiago – City Tour**
Morning airport reception and transfer to Le Reve Hotel, a stylish new boutique hotel in the pedestrian-friendly neighborhood of Providencia. 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 at the **The Singular Santiago** or similar.

**Day 2: Fly to Punta Arenas & Transfer to Torres del Paine**
Transfer out for early morning flight to Punta Arenas, gateway to Torres del Paine National Park in Chilean Patagonia. Airport reception and travel north through the vast Patagonian Steppe, following the coastal route along the Straits of Magellan across the cold Antarctic waters of Tierra del Fuego. Late afternoon arrival at the border of Torres del Paine National Park. Overnight at Patagonia Camp, composed of luxurious, yurt-style accommodations with heat, private bath, and all the amenities of a fine hotel including fine dining and a wine bar. [BD]

*Note: Lunch is not included today, though a stop will be made in Puerto Natales with the opportunity to purchase snacks. The scheduled transfer from the Punta Arenas airport to Patagonia Camp is at 2:00 PM.*

Consider an optional 4-night upgrade to the luxury Explora Lodge Patagonia, situated at the heart of Torres del Paine National Park with stunning views of the Paine Massif and Lago Grey; inquire for pricing.

**Day 3-5: Exploring Torres del Paine**
Three full days of exploration in Torres del Paine National Park with your Patagonia Camp guides. Each day offers a choice between easier or more active treks and excursions through the park. Hike off the beaten path within the national park to the Salto del Toro waterfall to view the rushing glacial waters of Lago Pehoe pouring into Lago del Toro. Trek to Mirador del Toro, a lookout point with a spectacular view of Lago del Toro and the Paine Massif. Drive to the western side of the park to enjoy an easy-going walk with a splendid view over the lake and massive icebergs broken off the giant glacier at the headwaters of Lago Grey. Explore beech forests and flat glacial deposits forming the Grey Peninsula on a walk to a spectacular lookout point over the lake. On a clear day, an ambitious hike (6 mi/8 hours) to Valle Ascencio takes you to the base of the impressive granite massif where the iconic Towers of Paine rise from a glacial lake. The famous Torres del Paine (9400’) consist of 3 granite monoliths, remains of a great cirque sheared away by the forces of glacial ice over the millennia. If weather is poor with no visibility, you will hike in the beech forest at Laguna Azul trekking across the lush green “pampa” or steppe terrain. Watch for guanacos, fox and many birds. One night will feature a festive “asado” or typical Patagonian lamb barbecue. Overnight **Patagonia Camp. [BLD]**

**Day 6: Torres del Paine to El Calafate**
*Drive 4-5 hours to El Calafate.*
This morning depart Patagonia Camp and drive across the pampas to El Calafate in Argentina. El Calafate is the base for explorations of the Patagonian Continental Ice Cap and Los Glaciares National Park. The ice cap runs 560 miles from North to South between the 48 and 51 parallels. It is the origin of 47 major glaciers, including the famous Perito Moreno Glacier. Your accommodations for the next three nights are at Eolo Lodge, strategically located on a vast Patagonian landscape from which one can observe Lake Argentina towards the north, La Anita Valley towards the east, and the massif of Torres del Paine to the south. Overnight at the luxury boutique **Eolo Lodge. [BD]**

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DAY 7: PERITO MORENO GLACIER WALK
Meet your trekking outfitter then drive to a spectacular lookout of Perito Moreno Glacier in Los Glaciares National Park. Permanently advancing along its 3-mile-front, columns of ice over 20 stories high peel off the face and crash into Lago Argentino creating massive icebergs. You cross Lago Argentino by boat along the front wall of the glacier to the edge of the Patagonian Ice Cap and hike through the beech forest up onto the ice pack! Don crampons and walk for 2 hours across the ice field, exploring blue caves and hidden tunnels. Watch for Andean condor and Buff-necked Ibis while you listen to the glacier crack and see giant icebergs calving into the lake. (For a 6 hour trek on the glacier see our Big Ice Tour). Overnight at Eolo Lodge. [BLD]

NOTE: Participants in the glacier walk must be between the ages of 10-65 due to the park’s rigidly enforced age restrictions. Should you not meet these requirements, don’t fret! Inquire about available alternative glacier walks and experiences.

DAY 8: EL CALAFATE ACTIVITIES
Enjoy your day at leisure at Eolo Lodge to soak up all that this dramatic property has to offer. You might choose trekking nearby on Mount Frias or in La Anita Valley, mountain biking over unique terrain and rugged trails, or bird-watching around the lodge property.

Prefer to spend your day discovering what it’s like to be a Gaucho, a Patagonian cowboy? Nibepo Aike is a working estancia (farm) and it retains the essence of the old Patagonian estancias. Originally named La Jeronima, this 30,000 acre farm is an ideal place to get on a horse and experience the land in the traditional way. The trails will lead you and your horse through native woodland with an abundance of local floral and fauna. Enjoy a traditional lunch of lamb asado in the quincho, the farm’s rustic dining room. Overnight at Eolo Lodge. [BLD]

Extra cost for Nibepo Aike experience is $360 per person for 2-3 people; $270 for 4-5 people; $220 for 6 or more. Cost includes lunch, horseback riding and a tour of the farm. A half-day kayaking adventure on Lago Argentina to Upsala Glacier is also available. Inquire for pricing.

DAY 9: EL CALAFATE TO BUENOS AIRES, TANGO SHOW
Transfer to the Calafate airport for your early afternoon flight to Buenos Aires. Upon arrival, you’ll be escorted to the Hotel Mio, an iconic Buenos Aires property in the Recoleta Neighborhood. Evening transfer to Esquina Carlos Gardel tango show at a restored theater reminiscent of 1950’s Buenos Aires tango ballrooms. Our VIP service includes reserved seating with a guaranteed excellent view of the stage and gourmet dinner with select wines of South America. Overnight at the luxury Hotel Nuss. [BD]

DAY 10: BUENOS AIRES CITY TOUR AND DEPARTURE
Enjoy a privately guided Four Balconies tour of Buenos Aires for an in-depth look at the city with a local expert who will introduce you to the city, its history, its style, and the peculiar psychology of “Porteño” residents. You visit historical sites such as the Barrio Norte with its splendid old homes; San Telmo where the artist and musicians live and work; La Boca, a neighborhood of brightly painted Italian family homes and restaurants; and the Avenida 9 de Julio with its towering obelisk as much a symbol to Buenos Aires as the Eiffel Tower is to Paris. Your hotel room is available for day use until evening transfer to airport for onward flight. [B]

Note: Consider adding an extra day to enjoy the beautiful city with free time for walking and shopping or a variety of other half day tours exploring by bike or kayak, or visit some of the more than 150 art galleries and museums.

END OF SERVICES

Actual routes and activities may vary. Local trip coordinators reserve the right to change accommodations to similar quality alternatives.
Pricing and Dates:
Click here for pricing
Click here for dates

*Internal airfare cost is subject to change until ticketed.

Note: Travel over the Christmas and New Year holidays will incur additional supplements.

Included:
- Lodging and accommodations
- English-speaking certified naturalist guides
- 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
- Wildland Adventures’ travel consultation and pre-departure services.

Not included:
- International air transportation
- Local airfare Santiago-Punta Arenas, Calafate-Buenos Aires (listed separately)
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional or suggested services that are on your own
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Alcoholic beverages
- Travel insurance for trip cancellation, medical services, or evacuation
- Any other items not mentioned above
Accommodations

THE SINGULAR, SANTIAGO
Built to blend seamlessly into the Neighborhood of Lastarria, The Singular Santiago combines the style of early 20th century buildings with neoclassical French architectural influences. The result is a striking new addition to the Santiago cityscape. The hotel’s design embraces the artistic heritage of the neighborhood, while adding a cutting-edge modernity: it is an innovative homage to the city’s history and culture. The Lastarria neighborhood is the epicenter of the arts in Santiago. Walk just a few minutes, and you can discover some of the finest visual and performance art Chile has to offer at The Museum of Fine Arts, The Museum of Visual Arts, the Gabriela Mistral Center, and more.

PATAGONIA CAMP, TORRES DEL PAINE
Chile’s first luxury camp is designed and operated to minimize environmental impact on Patagonia’s Torres del Paine National Park. 18 free-standing yurts offer ensuite bathrooms and private terraces overlooking Lago del Toro and the Torres del Paine range. Enjoy first class cuisine in the shared dining room or sip on a Pisco Sour or glass of Chilean wine at the lakefront bar, all of which are connected by a raised boardwalk, to protect the fragile lands of Torres del Paine National park.

ELOO LODGE, EL CALAFATE
Located in the stunning La Anita Valley, Eolo spreads over 7,000 acres between the Perito Moreno Glacier, Lago Argentina, and Torres del Paine. An experience at Eolo emphasizes the essence and raw beauty of its natural surroundings, bringing guests to a simple awe of this location. Eolo is a country lodge designed as a classic Patagonian estancia with modern comforts including a restaurant, bar, living room, library, indoor swimming pool, and sauna.

NUSS HOTEL, PALERMO, BUENOS AIRES
Once a Spanish-style convent, the Nuss Hotel sits alongside the trendy Plaza Serrano, a perfect place to call home during your stay in Buenos Aires. 16 rooms and 6 suites are bright and airy, punctuated with unique art pieces. A central patio adds to the already luminous and green environment of the hotel and each room looks out over tree-lined streets. A roof top garden boasts an outdoor swimming pool. Although the hotel has no official restaurant, a generous breakfast is served in the lobby, a room-service menu is available (with delivery from a nearby deli) and countless bistros and restaurants line the surrounding streets. Service is friendly and the staff speaks perfect English.
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.

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.