

ACTIVE PATAGONIA HIKING ADVENTURE



Mt Fitzroy, El Chaltén



**WILDLAND
ADVENTURES**
AUTHENTIC WORLDWIDE
EXPLORATIONS

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Itinerary Overview

Venture into the heart of Chile's Torres del Paine National Park, roam Argentina's Glacier National Park, and trek the trails that lead to the base of Fitzroy-Chalten on this active hiking tour of Patagonia. On this adventurous exploration of one of the world's most spectacular hiking regions, you'll be strategically based near the towering rock spires of Torres del Paine in yurts at Patagonia Camp and at boutique mountain lodges in Calafate and Chalten. Amble along mountain peaks, mostly under 3,500 meters in elevation, on undulating trails that curve past turquoise lakes, waterfalls, hanging glaciers, and alpine meadows teeming with roaming llama-like guanaco and soaring condors. Take optional hikes to high base camps and lookouts, with spectacular views of sheer rock walls and calving glaciers and the chance to observe rock climbers. Every day of this Patagonia adventure tour, rich with wildlife and photographic opportunities, presents different hiking options, including a non-technical mini-trek on Perito Moreno Glacier – all accompanied by professional Patagonia guides. Get to know Patagonia's wild side on this hiking adventure!

DAY	OVERNIGHT	HOTELS	MEALS	HIGHLIGHTS
1	SANTIAGO	The Singular		Arrival, City tour
2	TORRES DEL PAINE, CHILE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Santiago to Patagonia Camp
3	TORRES DEL PAINE, CHILE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Torres del Paine National Park Hiking
4	TORRES DEL PAINE, CHILE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Torres del Paine National Park Hiking
5	TORRES DEL PAINE, CHILE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Torres del Paine National Park Hiking
6	EL CALAFATE, ARGENTINA	Xelena	B	Drive to El Calafate
7	EL CALAFATE	Xelena	BL	Perito Moreno minitrekking
8	EL CALAFATE	Estancia Helsingfors	BLD	Transfer to Helsingfors
9	EL CALAFATE	Estancia Helsingfors	BLD	Hiking and horseback riding to the Blue Lagoon
10	EL CALAFATE	Estancia Helsingfors	BLD	Trekking to Laguna del Morro
11	EL CHALTEN	El Puma	BL	El Calafate to Chalten
12	EL CHALTEN	El Puma	BL	Rio Blanco Base Camp trek
13	EL CHALTEN	El Puma	BL	Torres Hike
14	BUENOS AIRES	Hotel Nuss	B	El Chalten to Buenos Aires
15	DEPARTURE		B	Buenos Aires half day city tour

Itinerary in Detail

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN SANTIAGO, CITY TOUR

A morning airport reception and transfer to the Singular Santiago kick off your Patagonia adventure. In the afternoon, roam historic Santiago. You'll visit the the Presidential Palace, site of the former National Mint ("La Moneda"); the historic main square; the 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 **Singular Santiago**.

DAY 2: SANTIAGO TO 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 (5 hrs). Arrive at Patagonia Camp, located in the heart of the National Park, and dine under the southern constellations. Overnight at **Patagonia Camp**.



DAYS 3-5: TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK TREKKING

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 us 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. *Optional fishing, horseback riding and boat trips to the Grey and Balmaceda Glaciers can be arranged for an additional cost. Ask for a description if interested.* All meals are included while at Patagonia Camp and one night will feature a festive "asado" or typical Patagonian lamb barbecue. Overnight **Patagonia Camp**.

DAY 6: EL CALAFATE, ARGENTINA

Drive 5 hours to El Calafate

Today's drive to El Calafate, one of the most beautiful transfers you'll ever take, winds along Ruta 1 via Puerto Natales across the pampas to the border* of Argentina. The mountain town of 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 48th and 51st parallels and is the origin of 47 major glaciers, including the famous Perito Moreno Glacier. Overnight at **Xelena**

**Vehicle change required at border crossing. Have passports on hand for inspection*

DAY 7: PERITO MORENO MINTREKKING

Drive to a spectacular lookout over the vivid blue 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. Cross Lago Argentino by catamaran along the front wall of the glacier to the edge of the Patagonian Ice Cap. Watch and listen to the cracking booms as the glacier calves enormous shards of ice into the lake. Disembark, walk through the beech forest for a safety briefing and then strap on crampons for a guided hike onto the ice pack! Watch for Andean condor and Buff-necked Ibis flying overhead as you explore the pools, caves and crevasses of the glacier's surface. Overnight at the **Xelena**

Note: The “Moreno Glacier Walk” is a group excursion of up to 20 persons conducted by a local park concession for ages 12-65. Ask about our “Big Ice Exploration,” an alternative, longer, 6-hour hike with a smaller group that ventures deeper into the depths of the glacier for ages 18-50. A navigation of the lake near the face of the glacier is available for travelers outside of the permitted age range for participation.

DAY 8: TRANSFER TO HELSINGFORS – LOS GLACIARES NATIONAL PARK

Drive to Helsingfors, a charming converted ranch house in Los Glaciares National Park perched on the shores of Lago Viedma. Unique Helsingfors blends with and complements the natural surroundings of Patagonia, its scenery reminiscent of *The Lord of the Rings*' Middle Earth. Knowledgeable guides will point out dozens of species of birds, recommend hikes of all difficulties, and show you the ropes of horseback riding to help you channel your inner *gaucho*. Inside, a cozy fire warms the sitting room and friendly staff serve fine food. Spend the evening reminiscing about the day's adventures over a glass of Argentinian wine in a warm, family atmosphere with the guests in the 9 other rooms. Overnight at the **Estancia Helsingfors**.

DAY 9: EXPLORE HELSINGFORS – OPTIONAL HORSEBACK RIDE

Choose from a number of activities during your stay at the lodge with assistance from the on-site guides. If you'd like, head to the “jewel of Helsingfors” with a breathtaking trek or horseback ride to a blue lagoon. Set out on an old grass trail that starts at the Helsingfors lodge. Wind through the valley of the River Alfredo (the same river that provides energy to the lodge) and follow a small river before arriving at a viewpoint. Gaze at the magnitude of Mt. Fitz Roy emerging from the opposite side of Viedma Lake with the Blue Lagoon glacier visible on the horizon. Keep your eyes peeled for guanacos and condors along the path.

Reach the end of the valley, hop off your horse, and embark on a 1-hour walk. This hike's extra effort is well worth the reward: a cascading waterfall 300 meters tall. Continue upward on a nice trail, reaching the hike's namesake, the Blue Lagoon. The bright blue of the lagoon stands in stark contrast to the darkness of the mountain and the whiteness of the glacier that descends from the highest of the Andes Mountains to the lagoon's bank. These beautiful, serene surroundings invite contemplation and reflection in absolute silence. Return to the estancia for a well-deserved dinner. Overnight at the **Estancia Helsingfors**.



DAY 10: EXPLORE HELSINGFORS – OPTIONAL TREK TO LAGUNA DEL MORRO

Partake in all the activities Helsingfors offers. If you feel inclined to hike, you can choose to take off into the mountains on another classic Patagonian trek. Lagunas del Aserradero is a truly magical place full of beautiful colors and contrasts. Well worth the trip, the pristine, natural pool shimmers and often appears a vibrant emerald green, reflecting the trees. Return to the lodge for an afternoon at your leisure. Overnight at **Estancia Helsingfors**.

DAYS 11: EL CALAFATE -- CHALTÉN

Say goodbye to Helsingfors and drive to Road N°23 as you make your way towards El Chaltén, a small mountain village in Patagonia regarded as the trekking capital of Argentinian Patagonia. Rising sharply above the flat town are Fitz Roy's two magnificent, towering peaks (3,405 m) and Cerro Torre behind them (3,128 m). During the summer months (December to March), trekkers make their way to explore the many lagoons, lakes, glaciers, and mountains within. The Patagonia steppe is inhabited by herds of guanacos, foxes, partridges, pumas, deer, guanacos, and rheas, all of which run freely across the steppes.

Continue on to El Chaltén to check into your hotel, **El Puma**

DAY 12: EL CHALTEN – RIO BLANCO BASE CAMP TREKKING

Today brings you to the iconic spires of Patagonia at close range! Trek to Rio Blanco base camp and Laguna de los Tres vantage point (full-day) for an absolutely stunning view (weather permitting) of the complete Fitz Roy massif. This jagged group is formed by Mt. Guillaumet, St. Exupery, Mermoz, and Juarez, among others. Mt. Fitz Roy itself rises almost two miles vertically in a single stretch, visible directly across a small glacial lake. If you've got spare energy, take a further walk to the Piedras Blancas glacier. While the majority of today's hike is of moderate difficulty through native lenga tree forests, the last hour to the viewpoint is a little more difficult. Once you see the view, though, it will be well worth the effort – it's guaranteed to be one of the highlights of your Patagonia trip. Return to El Chaltén and take the evening to drink a beer at the craft brewery, eat Patagonian lamb, or simply relax at the hotel.

Overnight at **El Puma**



DAY 13: EL CHALTEN – CERRO TORRE HIKE

Embark on a day hike to Torre Lake (826 m) for an impressive view of the slender shapes that make up Cerro Torre and its neighbors, Egger (2850 m) and Stanhardt spires (2730 m). The trail winds along beech forest, bogs, and shrubland. From the camp, it's a short hike to Laguna Torre, enclosed by moraines and with the Glacier Grande calving in its west side. See icebergs being pushed by the wind along the coast of the lagoon with the thin and elegant peaks of the Cerro Torre group and the Adela range in the background. Return to El Chalten and overnight at **El Puma**

DAY 14: EL CHALTEN – BUENOS AIRES

Driving time: 3 hours

Transfer back to El Calafate and bid a fond farewell to the rugged beauty of Patagonia. Fly to Buenos Aires and transfer to your hotel in the Recoleta neighborhood of Buenos Aires. Known for its elegant French-style architecture, old money, cemetery, and abundance of parks, plazas, cafés, and galleries, Recoleta has some serious old-world charm. The neighborhood's name comes from the Monastery of the Recollect Fathers (*Convento de Recoletos Descalzos*), a faction of the Franciscan Order that established itself in Recoleta in the early 18th century. Recoleta is one of the most pleasant and tranquil neighborhoods in Buenos Aires, and is regarded as the city's cultural center. Overnight at **Hotel Nuss**.

DAY 15: BUENOS AIRES – HALF DAY TOUR – DEPARTURE

Head out on a half-day city tour to see the highlights of diverse, gorgeous Buenos Aires. Visit South America's broadest avenue (9 de Julio Avenue), the iconic Plaza de Mayo (May Square), the colorful

neighborhoods of San Telmo and La Boca, and the traditional neighborhood of Palermo with its large parks, rose gardens, and lakes before ending your tour where you began – the Recoleta district.

Sip one last glass of Argentinian Malbec before an evening transfer to the international airport (EZE) to board your flight home.

Note: Consider adding a trip extension to Iguazu Falls; Mendoza wine country; or an extra day in Buenos Aires to enjoy the beautiful city with a bit more free time for walking, shopping, a tango show, half-day tours of the city by bike or kayak or exploring 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:

For current pricing please click here: [Pricing](#)

For scheduled departure dates please click here: [Dates](#)

Travel over the Christmas and New Year holidays may incur an additional supplement. October and April departures have reduced pricing. Please inquire for details.

INCLUDED SERVICES

- 14 nights first class 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 SERVICES

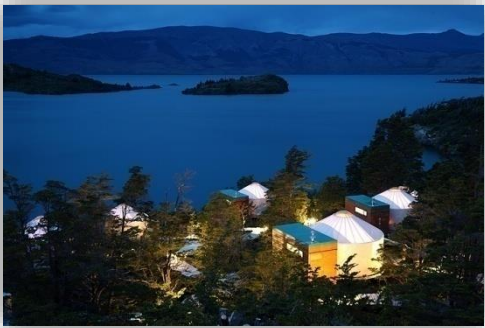
- International air transportation
- Internal air transportation (listed separately)
- Tips and gratuities
- Drinks, alcoholic beverages, and meals other than listed above
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Travel insurance for trip cancellation, medical services, or evacuation
- Any other items not mentioned above

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.



XELENA HOTEL, EL CALAFATE

Xelena Hotel is located just outside the main town of El Calafate on the shores of Argentino Lake. Its quiet and secluded location is complemented by spacious rooms with gorgeous views of the surrounding natural beauty. A free shuttle runs into town and the hotel has a number of amenities on site as well. Wellness facilities include a hot tub, Scottish shower, sauna, gym, massages room and spa treatments. The breakfast area and restaurant have expansive views of the lake.



ESTANCIA HELSINGFORS, EL CALAFATE

Helsingfors is set among the charming landscape of Los Glaciares National Park, a place of incredible beauty. The design of this luxurious converted ranch house is intended to compliment the natural surroundings. Helsingfors boasts nine luxury rooms with large windows and garden views. The building decor features gabled wooden roofs and parquet floors. There is a central fireplace in the living area where guests can mingle and share travel tales, or enjoy a drink at the bar.



EL PUMA, EL CHALTEN

Located in the heart of Argentina's Glacier National Park is the town of El Chalten: the gateway to some of the finest climbing, trekking, and horseback riding trails in Patagonia. Set at the convergence of the area's trailheads is Hosteria El Puma, the perfect accommodations for visitors to Patagonia who appreciate a relaxing and comfortable place to call home while in the area. Started by an avid mountaineer, the cozy and welcoming lodge features historical pictures and news stories throughout the lodge about notable ascents in the area.



NUSS HOTEL, PALERMO, BUENOS AIRES

Once a Spanish-style convent, the Nuss Boutique Hotel is located across from the trendy Plaza Serrano, a perfect place to call home during your stay in Buenos Aires. 16 superior rooms and 6 suites are bright and airy, punctuated with unique art pieces. A central patio adds to 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, room-service is available (delivered from a nearby deli), and countless bistros and restaurants line the surrounding streets.

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:*

- 20% land cost 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](#).