

ACTIVE HIKERS' PATAGONIA



30 WILDLAND
WILD YEARS ADVENTURES

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	-	Arrive Santiago. City tour
2	TORRES DEL PAINE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Fly Punta Arenas. Drive to Patagonia Camp
3	TORRES DEL PAINE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Torres del Paine National Park Hiking
4	TORRES DEL PAINE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Torres del Paine National Park Hiking
5	TORRES DEL PAINE	Patagonia Camp	BLD	Torres del Paine National Park Hiking
6	EL CALAFATE	Los Ponchos	B	Drive to El Calafate
7	EL CALAFATE	Los Ponchos	BL	Perito Moreno Glacier
8	EL CALAFATE	Estancia Cristina	BLD	Drive and boat to Estancia Cristina, view Upsala Glacier enroute
9	EL CALAFATE	Estancia Cristina	BLD	Excursions at the estancia
10	EL CALAFATE	Los Ponchos	BL	Morning activities. Return to Calafate.
11	EL CHALTEN	El Puma	B	Drive El Calafate to Chalten. Afternoon free.
12	EL CHALTEN	El Puma	BL	Cerro Torres Hike
13	EL CHALTEN	El Puma	BL	Hike Laguna de los Tres
14	BUENOS AIRES	Legado Mítico	B	Fly Buenos Aires
15	DEPARTURE	(Day use)	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

Driving time: 4-5 hours

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.

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.*

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

Driving time: 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 **Los Ponchos**.

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

DAY 7: PERITO MORENO MINTREKING**

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. (For a 6 hour trek on the glacier see our [Big Ice Tour](#)). Overnight at **Los Ponchos**.

***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 experiences](#).*

DAY 8: UPSALA GLACIER – ESTANCIA CRISTINA

Estancia Cristina is one of the most remote and beautiful of Calafate's estancias. Located inside Los Glaciares National Park and accessible only by boat this historical estancia offers incredible trekking, breathtaking vistas, and a chance to see one of the region's largest glaciers – the Upsala – from the water. Begin your day with a 45-minute drive to Punta Banderas. Board Cristina's catamaran and start your day with a 3 hour sailing through the fjords and up to the



Upsala arm. Here, you can see the massive Upsala glacier. One of the most active glaciers in the region, your ship will sail close to icebergs. Continue your sailing to arrive at the estancia. The estancia is a compound of buildings with a backdrop of snow covered peaks, horses roaming the estancia land, and friendly guides waiting to greet you.

After disembarking, you'll be whisked away to settle in to the estancia. There are 5 cabins with 4 rooms each, all with vistas of the surrounding mountains and steppe. Meet with your guide to best determine your afternoon activity which you will embark on after lunch. You will also discuss the next day's activity with your guide with options to go trekking, horseback riding, fly fishing (*ask Program Director in advance*), or a visit to the Upsala viewpoint. Overnight at **Estancia Cristina**.

DAY 9: DAY AT THE ESTANCIA

The day is yours at the estancia. Head out trekking, horseback riding, fly fishing (*ask Program Director in advance*), visit to the Upsala viewpoint, or stay back at the estancia for a historical tour of the Estancia and its history. Overnight at **Estancia Cristina**.

DAY 10: RETURN TO EL CALAFATE

Rise and shine and head to the octagon for breakfast. Around 9 am, you'll head out on the excursion you chose yesterday with your guide – ahead of the day trip boat that arrives at 11:30. The entire 20,000 hectares of land will be yours to explore. If you do a full day excursion you will have a box lunch. If you do one or two half day excursions you will return to the estancia for lunch in the octagon. The fossil canyon hike is highly recommended. The boat returns to Punta Banderas at 5pm. Transfer back to your hotel. Overnight **Los Ponchos**.

DAYS 11: DRIVE TO EL CHALTÉN

Driving time: 3 hours

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: CERRO TORRE HIKE

Hiking distance: 12.4 miles/20km

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 13: HIKE FITZ ROY

Hiking distance: 13 miles/21km

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 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 Palermo District of the city. Overnight at **Legado Mitico**.

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:

[Click here for pricing](#)

[Click here for possible dates](#)

Travel over the Christmas and New Year holidays may incur an additional supplement. Please inquire for details.

INCLUDED SERVICES

- Nights' accommodations, as indicated or similar
- Meals as specified [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Guided tours and excursions
- English-speaking naturalist guides
- Airport-hotel transfers and land transportation
- Wildland Adventures' travel consultation and pre-departure services.

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

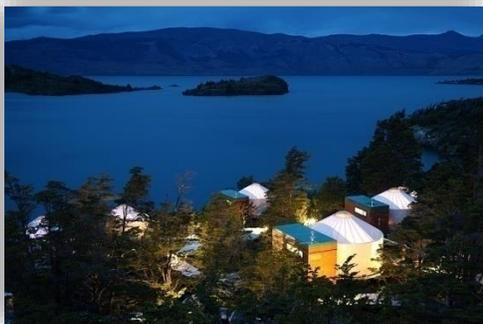
- International air transportation
- Internal air transportation
- Tips and gratuities
- Drinks, alcoholic beverages, and meals other than listed above
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Travel insurance for trip 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.



LOS PONCHOS, EL CALAFATE

Los Ponchos Apart feels like a home away from home. The individual apartments are warm and decorated with local products such as alpaca throws and driftwood side tables. The main hotel has an extensive art collection ranging from silver studded gaucho saddles to mate cups from around the country – all lovingly hand curated by the owner herself. The hotel is just over three kilometers from the town center allowing for a quiet, tranquil atmosphere. Bicycles are available on site for easy trips into town.



ESTANCIA CRISTINA

Estancia Cristina is surrounded by a land of beauty, tranquility, and adventure. This inviting Estancia boasts typical Patagonia hospitality, and has only 20 comfortable rooms distributed throughout 5 lodges. The rooms are decorated in traditional Patagonian style and integrate Estancia's Cristina's history and landscape into the design. You can choose from various excursions of horseback riding, hiking, 4x4 excursions, bird watching, or fishing.



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.



LEGADO MITICO, BUENOS AIRES

A superb luxury boutique accommodation in the heart of the infamous Palermo Viejo district, Hotel Legado Mitico offers a quirky and intimate representation of the city. Each of the 11 large rooms are styled with a different famous Argentine theme, with iconic nick-nacks and photos adorning the rooms. A restored town house surrounded by other antique houses from the 1900's, common interior rooms feature leather armchairs and bookshelves to give the feel of a home rather than a hotel. The outdoor garden patio provides a tranquil respite from the bustle of the city.

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](#).