



Argentinian Explorer



SAN RAPHAEL LAGOON IN 5 DAYS

Our ferry goes to San Raphael Lagoon, which is correctively called a lake, which we find in the Aysén region in the south of Chile. We follow the Moraleda Canal passing gulfs and inlets to the north. In the eastern direction the limit is the Isthmus of Ofqui and the Taitao Peninsular. The northern ice fields are on the south of the Lagoon and their formation is a consequence of the recession of the San Raphael Glacier and for this reason it is called post-glacier.



The San Raphael Lagoon is considered the ultimate testimony of the glaciers that are of post-glacier origin due to the retrogression of the glacier of the same name.

Day 1 - Calbuco, Seno de Reloncaví, Gulf of Ancud, Paso Nao y Gulf of Corcovado

Previous to embarkation we have an introductory talk and security video before we commence our voyage. We weigh anchor in the afternoon at Port Montt to make our way to the Lagoon by Calbuco, a region inhabited by huiliches and chonos and discovered by Pedro de Valdivia in his search for the Magellan Straits. We cross the Seno de Reloncaví and the Gulf of Ancud to nearly reach the Gulf of Corcovado that delimits the Lakes with that of Aysén in the extreme south of Chile.

Day 2 - Canal Moraleda, Islas Guaitecas, Puerto Aguirre, Caleta Andrade, Fiordo Aysén

With the first lights of dawn we enter by the Moraleda Canal that divides the Chonos Archipelago and the Guaitecas Islands from the continent. After breakfast we have an informative morning talk giving an interesting brief of the XI Region Aysén del General Carlos Ibáñez del Campo and of the San Raphael Lagoon. It is treated as one of the fifteen regions of Chile that borders with the X region of the Lakes to the north and with the XII Magellan Region to the south and has the beautiful city of Coihaique as its Zonal capital.

With its area of 120 square kilometers the lagoon is better defined as a lake and its origin comes from the regression of the San Raphael glacier. Its limits are the Moraleda Canal to the north and the Isthmus of Ofqui and the Peninsular of Taitao to the south separating it from the Northern Ice Fields. After lunch in the early afternoon, we reach Port Chacabuco, the principal port of the region of Aysén. As an option we can go and visit Coyhaique and enjoy a Patagonian barbecue. Those that want to stay on board can enjoy dinner before the party organized for that night. We leave from Chacabuco the same night.

Day 3 - Estero Elefante, Laguna San Rafael, Puerto Chacabuco, Canal Concepción

On our route we pass through Paso Quesahuén, the Elefante Estuary, Paso de Bidts and the Témpanos River. In the river the navigational speed is only 5 to 6 knots due to the strong currents and the drifting icebergs. While we are having breakfast we can observe the entering of the San Raphael Lagoon.

The Lagoon offers interesting activities such as its hot springs of Chilconded, Maca and Puyuhuapi with water temperatures of 50° C, rafting in the River Baker, the major flowing river of Chile, and the possibility of sport fishing, with many species of fish such as brown and rainbow trout. Here we have an informative talk and a list of instructions for disembarkation. Always dependent on the weather we disembark into rubber dinghies and with a whisky in hand we have an arrival toast. Once on land we encounter different trails and the River Saltón waterfall. In the middle of the night we reach Port Chacabuco.

Day 4 - Puerto Chacabuco, Canal Moraleda, Golfo Corcovado

After we have breakfast there is an optional tour of Aysén. After lunch there is a class of knot making. Between Port Chacabuco, the major maritime port of Aysén, and Port Montt there isn't a highway and the only physical communication is by sea producing both light and heavy transport between the two. Leaving Port Chacabuco in the mid-afternoon we go by the Moraleda Canal before entering the North and South Pérez Canals and arriving at our final destination for the day, the Gulf of Corcovado. Here, between the Chiloé Island and the Continent is the exclusive place for sighting the blue whales during the summer months from December until March. On board we can enjoy a document relating to this beautiful region. After dinner we have a game of bingo before retiring.

Day 5 - Golfo de Ancud, Seno Reloncaví, Puerto Montt

We arrive at Port Montt in the middle of the afternoon after passing by the Gulf of Ancud and again the Seno Reloncaví.



General information

Climate

The ruling climate on the Navimag navigation routes is sea drizzle with annual rainfall between 2,000 and 4,000 millimetres and low temperatures with little change over the whole area.

How to arrive

At Port Montt it is possible to arrive by bus, car or aeroplane. For those that arrive by bus, the Navimag company offices are about 5 minutes from the terminal. The 'El Tepual' airport is 16 kms away and there are taxis and minibuses that go to the city centre.

¿Where to go for embarkation?

Puerto Montt: Av Angelmó n° 1735, Ferry Terminal.

Puerto Natales: Pedro Montt n° 308.

Puerto Chacabuco: In the Ferry Terminal.

In the supposed case of having a ticket it is possible to embark directly.

Discounts

Rebates to be effective to be validated by presenting identity card or student certificate (in the case of students) and must be requested prior to check-in and must be clarified in the reserve. Discounts for Seniors (over 60) and students are valid even in low and high season. The shipping company reserves the right to change tariffs and itineraries at the time it deems appropriate.

Children under 2 years	80%
Children between 2 and 12 years	20%
Adults older than 60	15%
Students	10%

Trip delay

To request the postponement of the trip it must be made in writing with a minimum of two Days and must pay 10% of the ticket value. Within 2 Days of departure may be delayed trip but in this case you must pay half of the ticket value.

Penalties

Passengers may cancel, be subject to the following deductions from the total value of the passage:

- 15 Days before the date of the trip, 10% retention
- Between 14 Days and 5 Days before the start, 30% retention
- From 4 Days to 2 Days, 70% retention
- Between 48 hours and the beginning of the trip, 90% retention
- After the start of the trip, 100% retention

The percentages of withholding shall be made on the total value of the passage reserved.

 CONSULTAR

 RESERVAR

ARGENTINIAN EXPLORER

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