



Argentinian Explorer



PATAGONIA TREKKING ADVENTURE VIP

A program that adds to the pure adventure trekking in Los Glaciares National Park and on Isla Grande of Tierra del Fuego, all paths of El Chalten, minitrekking on the Perito Moreno Glacier, climbing with crampons in the Viedma Glacier and trekking in the National Park Tierra del Fuego, Laguna Esmeralda (Emerald Lagoon), Vinciguerra Glacier, etc.



A first-class trekking in the Southern Patagonia very complete that won't leave any path to do in the Los Glaciares National Park and Tierra del Fuego, mixing adventure, including sailing on the Desert Lake, Viedma Lake, trekking on the Perito Moreno Glacier and climbing on the Viedma Glacier.

Patagonia Trekking Adventure is a first class trekking program throughout Patagonia, because in the whole itinerary accommodation is in private rooms in hostels and not sharing hostel rooms and camps, covering the two most important national parks of Southern Patagonia, Los Glaciares National Park in El Calafate and El Chalten and the Tierra del Fuego National Park. We will arrive in El Calafate to go immediately to El Chalten, the national capital of trekking. In this beautiful mountain village located in the foothills of the Andes we will do as many hiking circuits as we can. We will start doing the Fitz Roy path, first walking the tracks that lead us to Lagoon Capri and then after some training we will start with the demanding climb to the base of the Fitz Roy Hill, in Laguna de Los Tres. We complement these with some adventure, sailing on Desert Lake but without letting our goal aside, crossing great places like Lake Huemul and its homonymous glacier, as well as trekking in the North Point until the International Milestone with Chile. We connect both rides with the navigation on the misnamed Lagoon of Desert.

But not satisfied with this, we will move toward Loma del Pliegue Tumbado on the southern end of the village, we will trek to Tower Lagoon and then we will return sailing the river Las Vueltas arriving at the bridge over the river Eléctrico and then we will hike the Piedra del Fraile and Glacier Pollone. Before leaving El Chalten we will enjoy a unique day, we will sail on the Viedma Lake to reach the wall of the Viedma Glacier and with the help of crampons we will discover the inside, a unique experience we will never forget. With our expectations reached we will return to El Calafate to do a trekking on the most famous of all the Patagonian glaciers: the Perito Moreno Glacier.

Now we will change our destination and travel further south to reach the Tierra del Fuego National Park where we will enjoy great days in the further end of the earth. We can get there by car or by plane, if we do it by land we will have an advantage and a disadvantage. The advantage is that the journey is really lovely to see the transition between the flat, arid and desolate Patagonian steppe and the last mountain range of the Andes. Passing the city of Río Grande we will begin to see the abrupt change of scenery. If we fly to Ushuaia we will miss this natural metamorphosis. The disadvantage is the time it takes traveling by bus from El Calafate to Ushuaia; it takes about 10 to 12 hours, depending on the delay in migrations at the border with Chile. Once we arrive to Ushuaia we will do a trekking in the Tierra del Fuego National Park and some kayaking adventure in the Beagle Channel, we will visit the Lagoon Amarga also called Lagoon Esmeralda or Vinciguerra and the Iceberg Lagoon. A pure adventure trekking worth while to enjoy.

Day 1 - El Calafate - El Chaltén

Reception in the morning at El Calafate airport and transfer to the bus station to take the shuttle to El Chalten. It is a village located on the west side of the province of Santa Cruz in the Argentinian Patagonia, situated in the inner part of Los Glaciares National Park, on the Andes Mountain Range. This little city is known as the Capital of Trekking. Along with the Torres del Paine are the most important hiking center of Patagonia. Our guide will be waiting for us at the bus station in El Chalten to take us to the lodge. Once we meet our mountain guide, we will start to prepare the necessary equipment to take on the first day of trekking.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » From/To: El Calafate / El Chaltén

Day 2 - Trekking to Capri Lagoon

Breakfast at the hostel. This is going to be the first day of hiking the trails of Fitz Roy, we will start doing a mild to moderate trekking to Capri Lagoon. The trail begins on the north side of El Chalten, where San Martín Street ends. In the first part of the trekking the slope is slightly ascending, about 30 minutes of walking path we will reach a viewpoint that gives us a magnificent view of the valley of the River of Las Vueltas, then we will continue with the trekking until we enter the valley in the cerro Fitz Roy direction. The dense forest of lenga beech and Antarctic beech after nearly two hours of walking we will find a split of the road, we must take the left to get to our first destination: Capri Lagoon, the trail to the right will leads us to the base of Fitz Roy. After 3 or 4 hours of walk, we will return to the village to rest.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, box lunch
- » From/To: El Calafate - El Chaltén
- » Duration: 3 to 4 hours
- » Difficulty: Mild to Moderate

Day 3 - Trekking to Laguna de Los Tres: Cerro Fitz Roy

First thing in the morning breakfast at the lodge. We will go down the same path that takes us to Lagoon Capri but today the challenge is bolder because we already have a few hours of experience from the previous day. The first challenge of the trekking is the rise to the River Valley Salto. This time, when we get to the bifurcation we will take the right until the drainage area of the Mother and Daughter lagoons. We will pass through one of the camps mostly used by mountaineers, Camp Poincenot to cross the White River and leave footprints in another camp, only used by professionals such as Camp White. The road is uphill, with almost 410 meters of altitude, this trail will take us to the morena, this stretch may require 1 hour exigency.

The trail ends at the base of Cerro Fitz Roy where we will have a fantastic view of the lake and glacier. This is the closest point to the famous granite wall of the mountain and its surrounding delicate needles. We can descend the morena to follow a path that goes alongside the lake to its mouth, getting to see the Lagoon Sucia and the spectacular hanging glaciers. We will continue with our adventure to keep going up to the Lagoon of Los Tres, a very steep climb covered with stones. Is considered the most emblematic place of all Los Glaciares National Park, declared World Heritage Site for its sublime beauty. Finally we will return through another road that leads us to the Hosteria Del Pilar to enjoy another fantastic landscape. After this activity we will only rest after an exhausting but amazing day.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, box lunch
- » From/To: El Chaltén / Laguna de Los Tres / El Chaltén
- » Duration: 8 hours
- » Difficulty: Moderate to Heavy

Day 4 - Loma del Pliegue Tumbado

We will enjoy breakfast at the hostel. Pliegue Tumbado is located in the south of the River Fitz Roy. We will head to the entrance of the town, in the opposite side of the previous days, as if we were going to the campsite in Lagoon del Toro. We will start the trekking and stepping into a fine southern Patagonian vegetation in a barren and clayey ground, where there is no bushes and trees on the road, along the way we have the spotless image of Cerro Fitz Roy and Torre. We are going to border the stream, and after a long while of trekking we will find a dense forest of beech and ñires we will leave the steppe to dive in the heart of the Andean vegetation. The shadow is reliving if it is a sunny day, then we will reach another junction, this time we turn to the right to go to Loma del Pliegue Tumbado.

When we climb the hill, we will clearly see the Viedma glacier and Viedma lagoon. After walking for a while, we will enter into a forest. When we leave the forest, we are going to be in a fairly broad course, as a pasture. And after a few minutes of walking we will find the turnoff to the right that will take us to Loma del Pliegue Tumbado. Immediately we will go up the hill from which we could see the glacier Viedma and Lagoon. We will continue along the trail ascending and guided by a stone walls. The final hill is very steep but we will need to put our maximum effort to enjoy the reward of a breathtaking view of Fitz Roy and Torre and its glacier and lagoon beside the glacier morena. You can also see Lake Viedma. This kind of walks is ideal to discover the Patagonian steppe, enjoying the Fitz Roy and Torre, valley glaciers and mix between magnificent mountains rising from the Patagonian Continental Ice.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, box lunch
- » From/To: El Chaltén / Pliegue Tumbado / El Chaltén
- » Duration: 8 hours
- » Difficulty: Moderate to Heavy

Day 5 - Trekking Huemul Glacier and Hito Border Lake Desert

We will have breakfast at the hostel. After three days of intense trekking we will take a well deserved break to recover. We take the morning to relax, in the afternoon we will visit the Desert Lake. This is one of the most beautiful tours that can be done in El Chaltén. We will head along a gravel road that accompanies the River de las Vueltas for its rapids and its crystal clear waters.

The beautiful scenery is unique despite the desolate area, a forest of coniferous of beech and ñires, green vegetation and the eternal images of Fitz Roy and Torre along with glaciers and waterfalls. Is located on the international border with Chile. We need to go over the bridge to cross the White River. We continue down to the lake for about 20 km leaving on the way the Lagoon El Condor. Prior to navigation we will take a walk to the Lagoon & Glacier Huemuel. Then we will sail the lake from the South Point to North Point with the alternative of making a short trek to the viewpoint Sentinel. This navigation is always subject to weather conditions. At North Point we will do the second trekking of the day to Punta Norte on the border with the neighboring country.

Trekking to the Glacier and Lagoon Huemul

We will start from the parking lot at South Point; we will enter a private property, once on the path we will walk by a beech forest. Within 30 minutes of climbing we will approach an edge overlooking the river valley De Las Vueltas and Fitz Roy. We continue along the ridge and within 20 minutes we will discover the beautiful Huemul lagoon with crystal clear waters that are poured from melting glacier under the same name. The trail starts just behind the National Gendarmerie installations, where the forest begins near a small stream. The road begins to ascend, and as it gains altitude will discover the landscape behind us: Lake Desert in their full extent framed by Del Bosque and Vespignani laces with its hanging glaciers. The slope begins to decrease and the trail enters a beech forest very quiet and with little traffic.

Trekking to North Point of the Desert Lake: Chilean Border

The path we will take, crosses different bridges over a creek that leads into the Lagoon Larga. After 60 minutes of walk we will find a muddy field or mallín with high humidity, we need to go around it to pass through the last forested area on the rise. The landscape gives us a brilliant view of the Lagoon Larga that is trapped in this Fuegian forest. We finished with the activity arriving to the Landmark Boundary that is the dividing line of water that marks the border with Chile.

- » Lodging: Hotel, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, box lunch
- » From/To: El Chaltén / Lago del Desierto / El Chaltén
- » Duration: 8 hours
- » Difficulty: Mild

Day 6 - Trekking to Lagoon Torre

Breakfast at the Hotel. Today the trekking will intensify visiting the Lagoon Torre. We leave around 8:00 AM by any of the 2 paths that lead us to the lagoon, this paths after a few meters will be reunify before getting to the river valley Fitz Roy and trace the course of that water to its source. We will find the viewpoint of the Fitz Roy River Gorge, which guarantees a unique landscape of the hills Solo, Adela, Torre and the Mount Fitz Roy. In the other side of the river we can see the waterfall Margarita. When we approach the middle of the trekking we will approach a natural viewpoint overlooking Adela and Cerro Torre and granite needles. We reach base camp De Agostini and then minutes later Laguna Torre. This lake has numerous icebergs that are on its shores because of the detachment of the Great Glacier. We returned to the lodge to spend the night.

- » Lodging: Hotel, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, box lunch
- » From/To: El Chaltén / Laguna Torre / El Chaltén
- » Duration: 8 hours
- » Difficulty: Moderate to Heavy

Day 7 - Piedra del Fraile & Pollone Glacier

Breakfast at the hostel. We will approach to the bridge over the Electric, 16 km from the village to start the the trekking to Piedra del Fraile and Pollone Glacier. The trail begins before crossing the bridge orienting to the west, we will enter a dense forest of beech and other native conifers of the fueguina Patagonia. Now we will have spent half of the hike when we approach the Electric lake. We will turn to the left to advance to the river Pollone. After 30 minutes of walking this trail we will turn left again following the river towards Glacier Pollone and Fitz Roy. We continue walking to the source of the river Pollone in an area of unstable morenas that slow our way for safety issues. Once the objective of the day is approached we will start our way back to the village for a well deserved rest.

- » Lodging: Hotel, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, box lunch
- » From/To: El Chaltén / Piedra del Fraile / El Chaltén
- » Duration: 4 to 5 hours
- » Difficulty: Mild to Moderate

Day 8 - Trekking in Viedma Glacier

Breakfast at the inn. Today is one of the most expected days of the trekking. We will leave in the morning to the harbor at Bahia Tunel to navigate through the Lake Viedma towards the glacier homonymous. From the boat we will enjoy a great view of Fitz Roy and Huemul. We will approach Cape Horn at the southeastern end of the glaciers, the ship will turn to the west having an

overwhelming view of the glacier. We will disembark in a rocky area, the mountain guides will prepare the equipment for the trekking, besides giving a quick explanation about the study of the glaciers. From this place we begin a short trek along the surface until the edge of the glacier, this is where we get the crampons to climb the glacier. The trek takes about 2 to 3 hours, where we will discover from crevices and caves to sinks. We will have a break for lunch. Please wear coat, gloves, sunglasses for intense reflection of glacier. The trekking shoes are provided on the boat.

- » Lodging: Hotel, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, box lunch
- » From/To: El Chaltén / Viedma Glacier / El Chaltén
- » Duration: 9 hours
- » Difficulty: Moderate

Day 9 – Return to El Calafate

Breakfast at the hostel. We will have the morning off to rest or explore the town of El Chalten. After lunch we will head to the bus station in El Chalten to take the bus to El Calafate. Reception at the bus station in El Calafate and transfer to the lodge.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast
- » From/To: El Chaltén / El Calafate

Day 10 – Trekking on the the Perito Moreno Glacier

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will go to visit the most famous glacier in Patagonia: the Perito Moreno Glacier. We will reach port "Under the Shadow" 6 km. from the viewpoints of the glacier, to embark and cross Lake Rico to the front of the south wall of the glacier. Once we disembark, we will go to the shelter to meet the guides for the trekking over the glacier. The hike begins on the shore of the lake to the glacier, as we approach the edge of the ice we will put on crampons, previously we will receive instructions for the use of them.

The trekking on the the Perito Moreno Glacier takes 2 hours, we are going to be able to observe cracks, tiny lagoons, sinks and seracs.

The trekking is moderate. Consider that the area in which we will walk is irregular, but despite of this is a strong and secure surface. The activity is complemented by a brief talk about the glaciers and flora and fauna of the region and the whole process of breaking the Perito Moreno Glacier, as it is one of the few glaciers in the world that is in full progress, when the vast majority are in full retreat because of the global warming that produces the hole in the ozone. After we finish, we will return to the shelter leaving on the trail a lush pine forest.

- » Lodging: Hotel, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast & Box Lunch
- » From/To: El Chaltén / Glaciario Perito Moreno / El Chaltén
- » Duration: 6 hours
- » Difficulty: Moderate

Day 11 – Calafate–Ushuaia

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to El Calafate airport to take the flight to Ushuaia. Reception and transfer from airport to hotel in Ushuaia.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast
- » From/To: El Calafate / Ushuaia

Day 12 – Trekking to Amarga Lagoon (Esmeralda Lagoon)

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will take a gentle hike to Esmeralda Lagoon which is in a valley that was covered by glaciers years ago, in the west it borders the Bonete Mount and on the east by Toribio Mount. We will head to the outskirts of Ushuaia, after 18 km on route 3 we will arrive at Valle de Lobos and from there we will start the trekking along a path through a wooded area, then will go into a turbal until we arrive to a bridge made of logs located in the stream Esmeralda. We leave behind the bridge to go back

into the Fuegian forest and arrive to another area of peatlands. Towards the end of the tour we will walk on a muddy field and without trees and the stream which rises in Esmeralda Lagoon. We will move up the valley because behind it we will find the beautiful lagoon that magically appears. Our expectations are overcome with scenery size, the charm of the area leaves us puzzled. Then we go back to the car to return to the city.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch
- » From/To: Ushuaia / Laguna Amarga / Ushuaia
- » Duration: 5 hours
- » Difficulty: Mild

Day 13 - Trekking in the Glacier Vinciguerra and Lagoon of Icebergs

After having breakfast at the hotel, we will move to the Valley of Andorra, near the city. This trek gives us the opportunity to discover the local flora and wetlands (Turbales Sphagnum). At present this area is a protected zone of RAMSAR, both Glacier Vinciguerra as the surrounding peatland. This trekking is not only synonymous of adventure and physical effort but it is a full contact with nature and an ideal way to understand the different steps of evolution of the region from the glacier area until nowadays. The beginning of the trekking is relatively mild to moderate, requiring almost no additional effort walking on red peatlands and the Grande stream forest.

Then we will go through this water mirror to start the first stage of ascent, along with native conifers. The road forces us to work harder. We will take a break in an area of pasture and peat and enjoy the breathtaking views of the landscape. Once we recover air and recharge batteries we will continue ascending to approach the highest point of the Fuegian forest, where we can see trees bent almost 45 degrees by the continuous action of the Patagonian wind. Finally, we will be amazed with the presence of majestic The Iceberg Lagoon, and the Vinciguerra Glacier, which feeds the lake at the time of snowmelt, we can discover their caves, crevices and moray eels. We returned to the Valley of Andorra stunned of the beauty of the place.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch
- » From/To: Ushuaia / Vinciguerra Glacier / Ushuaia
- » Duration: 8 hours
- » Difficulty: Moderate to Heavy

Day 14 - Trekking in the Tierra del Fuego National Park & Kayak in Roca Lake

After breakfast we will head to Bahia Ensenada, within the Tierra del Fuego National Park, where it leaves the Coastal Path. On the way we can observe seabirds and marine mammals. The trekking is smooth, we will cross the famous middens of the Beagle Channel, this is an archaeological remains, taking us to the ancient locals as the Yamana or Yagans Indians who lived in this island. In the forest on the coast there are species that we can hardly see inside the park, as the Canelo and Notro, characteristic for its beautiful flowers in clusters. The trekking after three hours of walking without pause will lead us to Rock Lake, where we will have lunch and enjoy the view. In the early afternoon our journey continues, we will get into the kayaks to sail by the river Lapataia and / or Ovando.

We will embark the Lake Roca and sailed up to the river Lapataia. The descent lasts for an hour and a half, enough time to do a distance of 5 miles. In continental waters of the Beagle Channel, we can see multiple wildlife from aquatic birds like black-necked swans or grebes with their typical floating nests. Then as we approach the Archipelago Cormorants, we will pass from continental waters to marine waters, ending in Lapataia, landmark because there ends the famous Route 3 that begins in Buenos Aires and ends in here on its 3,000 km long.

Note: Navigation in kayaks is subject to weather conditions, for this reason it may be canceled due to high winds, rain or bad weather. The guide in charge of kayaks, is responsible to cancel the departure if necessary and monitor the safety and protection of seafarers.

- » Lodging: Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch
- » From/To: Ushuaia / Tierra del Fuego National Park / Ushuaia
- » Duration: 8 hours
- » Difficulty: Mild to Moderate

General information

Recommended gear for the trekking

The following is the suggest equipment and clothing required for the trekking:

- » 50 litre rucksack
- » Synthetic interior garments
- » Long Sleeved T-Shirt and another of cotton
- » Walking trousers
- » Under trousers without feet
- » Polar jumper
- » A pair of leggings and a pair of gloves
- » Two pairs of woolen socks
- » Two pairs of light socks
- » Walking shoes
- » Woolen hat (better woolen than fibre)
- » Sun visor
- » Hand and bath towel
- » Sun glasses
- » Sun cream protector
- » Torch
- » Walking sticks (fundamental)
- » Documents necessary to enter to Chile (Passport etc.)
- » Personal medicines

 CONSULTAR

 RESERVAR

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