



## **Argentinian Explorer**



### **TORRES DEL PAINE & TIERRA DEL FUEGO TREKKING**

*The southernmost trekking itinerary, going through Torres del Paine National Park in Chile and Tierra del Fuego National Park on Isla Grande Tierra del Fuego in Ushuaia, in the end of the earth. From traditional circuits of southern Chile to hikes on glaciers and Andean Fuegian forest. This trek is ideal for those who have already done the adventure in El Chalten and Perito Moreno Glacier.*



A journey full of trekking thought exclusively for those who have already gone through all the trails of the Fitz Roy and around El Chalten. This itinerary focuses on the Torres del Paine in Chile and Isla Grande of Tierra del Fuego at the ends of the earth, being the southernmost trekking.

In this trekking along the Southern Patagonia we will visit places such as Torres del Paine in Chile and the island of Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. This journey mixture hiking with adventure in the two southernmost National Parks. In Chile we will do the most typical circuits del Paine and the region to later complete the program in Ushuaia and its surroundings, from the National Park Tierra del Fuego, up to Laguna Esmeralda (Emerald Lagoon), Vinciguerra Glacier or Laguna de los Témpanos (Iceberg Lagoon). In the way from Chile to Argentina we will visit a traditional Patagonian ranch in close to Río Grande, where begins the transition between the Patagonian steppe and the last mountain's range of the Andes. We will get to experience the traditions of the countryside and also tried a traditional Patagonian lamb on the spit; we will never forget this experience. This trekking full of adventure, adrenaline and mountain spirit that each of us carry within.

## Day 1 – From El Calafate Airport to El Calafate

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Reception at the airport of El Calafate. From there we will head to the touristic city of El Calafate to enjoy the first dinner.

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

## Day 2 – Torres del Paine National Park

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After breakfast, we will leave from the city of El Calafate to take a road surrounded by beautiful views of the Patagonian steppe. Flamingos and Choiques are species of the region that can be easily seen. After completing a course of about 4 hours, we will arrive at a border crossing between Argentina and Chile, this step is called "Cancha Carrera" / Cerro Castillo. We will continue our way to enter to the huge Torres del Paine National Park, one of the most beautiful parks in the world named a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Once inside the Park, we will descend the bus to take a short hike that allow us to enjoy the first views and become familiar with the beautiful flora and fauna that gives us this vast park. In the evening we will arrive at the camp which is situated at the foot of the mountain. The total journey time is 6 hours plus almost 2 hours walk in the park.

- » Lodging: Las Torres Full Camp in double or single (area with sanitary services)
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch & Dinner
- » From/To: El Calafate / Torres del Paine National Park / Las Torres Camp Full
- » Duration: 8 hours – 2 hours de trekking
- » Difficulty: Mild

## Day 3 – Las Torres – Valle del Río Ascensio (Ascensio River Valley)

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Today we will do one of the most classic and beautiful walks along a path which offers the park and take us to the Torres del Paine. After finishing breakfast will go towards the bridge over the Ascensio River and we will start our trekking. Through the foothills of Mount Almirante Nieto and the beautiful river valley that runs through the mountain. After doing 1 hour walk in ascent we will enter the valley and reached the Chilean refuge. The trail that starts from there will take us through the forest to the base camp of Torres del Paine, where climbers await the right conditions to do the ascent to the high walls that have 900 meters of altitude. After 1 hour of travel we will finally arrive at the viewpoint of the Torres, designed by nature with an amphitheater at the foot of the spectacular granite towers 2800 meters. After having enjoyed this awesome and wonderful view, we will go back along the same path. The trek takes about 7 hours.

- » Lodging: Las Torres Full Camp in double or single (area with sanitary services)
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch & Dinner
- » From/To: Campamento Lago Pehoe / Las Torres
- » Duration: 7 hours
- » Difficulty: Intermediate

## Day 4 - Lake Pehoe crossing - French Valley

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Early in the morning we will take the bus and go to the port to board the Pudeto boat to cross transparent and spectacular Pehoe Lake. Navigation will last for about 45 minutes. We will land in the area of the Refugio Pehoe and from there we will start walking towards the French Valley, a beautiful mountain valley that comes the inside of the massif into Lake Nordenskjold, surrounded by large horns on the east and the majestic Paine Grande (3050 meters).

We will climb up the valley towards the intermediate viewpoints that offer stunning views of Paine Grande and glaciers suspended in the air; we will also enjoy the view of the Cuernos del Paine and its black sedimentary topping. Along with the forest and the sound of the winds, the fall of the ices and snow located on the slopes of Paine Grande, make this magical place unforgettable postcard. We will make the descent through the same path to reach the base of the valley, and then we will take to the west and around the lake Skottsberg to find the campsite where we will spend the rest of the night, which is located next to Refugio Pehoe. The total journey will last for about 5 hours.

- » Lodging: Camp. Full Refuge Pehoe double or single room (service area)
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch & Dinner
- » From/To: Pehoe Camp Full / Valle del Francés / Pehoe Refuge
- » Duration: 5 hours
- » Difficulty: Intermediate

## Day 5 - Glacier Grey viewpoints

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Today we expect another unforgettable day dedicated to visit the magical Valle del Lago Grey (Grey Lake Valley) surrounded by glaciers descending from the Hielo Sur (Southern Ice) Field. Among the glaciers we can see the spectacular Glacier Grey of approximately 300 km of extension and 25 km long, is a great mass of ice falling into the lake at its northern end. Continuously, large blocks that become amazing blue icebergs that sail southward by wind action.

We continue hiking on a trail for a few hours and we will reach the spectacular Lake Pehoe viewpoint from which you can contemplate the entire lake, the glacier and the mountains rising Ice Field to the west.

We will leave early to get to the port at noon and start sailing again on Lake Pehoe to our lodging in the city of Puerto Natales.

- » Lodging: Hostel room with shared bathroom/ Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch
- » From/To: Pehoe Refuge / Grey Glacier/ Puerto Natales
- » Duration: 5 hours
- » Difficulty: Intermediate

## Day 6 - From Puerto Natales To Río Grande

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Today we will have a long journey, which is definitely worth it because the objective is to maximize the time while exploring the south of Chile and we will try to make it to the evening to a typical estancia in Patagonia located in the Province of Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. Around eight we will depart by bus from the city of Puerto Natales. The road will take us to a place called "Primera Angostura" and from there we will cross the Strait of Magallanes on a ferry for about 20 minutes. We enter Argentina by border crossing point called San Sebastián and from there we will go towards Rio Grande and then move another 65 Km to finally arrive at the beautiful Patagonian Estancia of about 18 hectares, where we will have a warm welcome and of course we will enjoy a delicious grilled lamb after an extended trip.

- » Lodging: Dormis con baño compartido (area con servicios)
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch & Dinner
- » From/To: Puerto Natales / Estancia Patagónica en Río Grande

## Day 7 - Tierra del Fuego National Park

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After breakfast, we will visit the facilities of ranch and will observe the typical activities of the beautiful countryside, and the methods of production of wool and how the dogs herd the sheeps. By midmorning we will embark on a journey to Lake Fagnano, named in tribute to Salesian Catholic priest Monsignor José Fagnano which in those days was the first Catholic administrator of Southern Patagonia. The lake is in the middle the stunning Andes. We will continue our journey to the city of Ushuaia. Upon arrival we will walk in the Tierra del Fuego National Park. In this particular place, we can see how the Cordillera falls into the sea

presenting us a beautiful landscape that characterizes the island. We will return to the road to go to the city of Ushuaia to spend the night.

- » Lodging: Hostel room with shared bathroom/ Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch & Dinner
- » From/To: Patagonian Ranch in Río Grande/ Tierra del Fuego National Park

## Day 8 - Ushuaia - Beagle Channel Navigation

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After breakfast we will go towards the tourist dock the city of Ushuaia to board and enjoy an unforgettable navigation on the legendary waters of the Beagle Channel. We will visit Alicia Island inhabited by a large colony of sea lions, we will continue to the Bird Island where we can see the home of royal and imperial cormorants, and finally we will have the opportunity to see the famous lighthouse Les Eclaireus built in 1919 with a height of 11 meters and painted in red and white. This lighthouse has been accepted by their importance and particular location, as the symbol that the locals have adopted. The walk allows us to enjoy the wonderful views of the Mountain range Darwin and the located on the city of Ushuaia. We will return to port back to town. The afternoon of that day is free to rest.

- » Lodging: Hostel room with shared bathroom/ Hosteria or Inn, double or single room with private bathroom
- » Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch & Dinner
- » From/To: Ushuaia /Beagle Channel / Ushuaia

## Day 9 - Trekking at Laguna Esmeralda

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The trekking we will do in this day is considered one of the simplest that can be done near the city of Ushuaia.

The Laguna Esmeralda (Esmeralda Lagoon) is located in a deep valley surrounded by the Cordón Toribio on its east side and the west Cerro Bonnette (Hill Bonnette).

The easiest access to go to the winter sport center of Valle de Lobos (Wolves Valley), is taking the National Route 3 northbound for just 18 miles away from the city tour. Once there we will pass the field house to take a path to the left at the fork. We will start the trekking through a small forest area, crossing a typical peat bog until a bridge built with a log that crosses the Esmeralda creek.

Once we cross the stream we will take the right path west to skirt the beautiful river and through the woods and bogs again. The final part of this wonderful walk is characterized by not having a vegetation of trees but we will also enjoy the clear stream that crosses its source in the lagoon.

To find the Laguna Esmeralda (Emerald Lagoon) is always necessary to go towards the valley to find a hill because we know that on the other side is one of the most beautiful and perfect lagoons. Upon arrival, the scenery is spectacular, and we will be amazed by its unique beauty, and if we have a sunny day will be able to appreciate the wonderful emerald waters. Immersed in the peace and magic of the place, we will enjoy a snack and then continue the trekking back to the vehicles that will take us back to Ushuaia.

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

## Day 10 - Trekking to Vinciguerra Glacier and Laguna de los Témpanos (Iceberg Lagoon)

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We leave the hotel to go by bus to the Valley of Andorra which is a newly developed town with beautiful forests and peatlands located near the Ushuaia area. The hike is considered the most popular trekking of the summer where we can appreciate and understand the unique local flora, and peat bogs, completely wet vegetation named Turbales de Shagnum (Sphagnum Turbales) which at the present is protected. In this tour, in addition to the adventure tour, we will learn how it has developed the Fuegian flora and landscape from the glacial period to these days. We will begin the hike on a trail that is on flat ground and easily walkable, on the way we can see peatlands in reddish tones and the forest that runs alongside the Arroyo Grande (Big Creek).

We will cross the watercourse to take the first leg of the ascent in the middle of nature, surrounded by beech, cohigües, ñires and many more species. The trail is demanding, but does not mean that people who go to explore it need to have previous experience or be trained, anyone with good physical condition can make this walk as the rhythm of the walk is adapted to the physical conditions of the group. We will make a short break once we get halfway, on a plain with pastures and where we can find bogs again accompanied by a beautiful landscape. We return to the path to continue the ascent then we will cross the top of the forest

where the trees show their strange shapes do to the permanent action of strong winds typical of high mountain.

When moving through the last part of the trekking we can see how we are located at the limit of vegetation, and if we are in the spring while we do this walk, it will be possible to enjoy one of the most beautiful flower species typical of this place: the Chocolate Flower. The scenery that nature gives us when reaching the end of the path is stunning. The Laguna de los Témpanos (Iceberg Lagoon) offers a unique beauty for its colors and its environment. There is also possible to observe the melting Vinciguerra Glacier which feeds the waters of the lagoon. The trek to the summit is completely worth to do it, as the views, landscapes, nature and fresh air combine will give you the satisfaction of having achieved and be part of a unique place in the world. After having recharge energies, we will return through the same path. Upon arrival the Valle de Andorra, a vehicle will be waiting to return to the city of Ushuaia.

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

## Day 11 - Ushuaia Airport

After breakfast we will be transfer to Ushuaia airport where will end the service.

### Services

#### Included:

- ✓ Mountain guide
- ✓ Navigation of Pehoe Lake
- ✓ Transfers during the trekking by public and private transport
- ✓ Accomodation

#### Not Included:

- ✓ Entrance to the national parks
- ✓ Medical insurance
- ✓ Life Assurance
- ✓ Tips
- ✓ Drinks
- ✓ Air tickets
- ✓ Optional excursions and all services which are not included in the journey program

### Season 2016-2017

#### [Prices and outputs of the Trekking to Patagonia 2016-2017](#)

11 Days / 10 Nights

#### Prices

HOSTEL	Spanish language			Other languages		
	ROOM	DOUBLE ROOM	SINGLE ROOM	ROOM	DOUBLE ROOM	SINGLE ROOM
Season High	2.295 USD	2.465 USD	2.800 USD	2.382 USD	2.553 USD	2.906 USD
Season Low	2.195 USD	2.365 USD	2.700 USD	2.282 USD	2.453 USD	2.806 USD

## Departures (Spanish language / English language)

OCT		NOV		DEC		JAN		FEB		MAR
Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure
07OCT16	15OCT16	04NOV16	12NOV16	02DEC16	10DEC16	06JAN17	14JAN17	03FEB17	11FEB17	03FEB17
14OCT16	22OCT16	11NOV16	19NOV16	09DEC16	17DEC16	13JAN17	21JAN17	10FEB17	18FEB17	10FEB17
21OCT16	29OCT16	18NOV16	26NOV16	16DEC16	24DEC16	20JAN17	28JAN17	17FEB17	25FEB17	17FEB17
28OCT16	05NOV16	25NOV16	03DEC16	23DEC16	31DEC16	27JAN17	04FEB17	24FEB17	04MAR17	24FEB17
				30DEC16	07JAN17					

## Departures (German language)

OCT		NOV		DEC		JAN		FEB		MAR
Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure
07OCT16	15OCT16	18NOV16	26NOV16	09DEC16	17DEC16	20JAN17	28JAN17	10FEB17	18FEB17	03MAR17
28OCT16	05NOV16			30DEC16	07JAN17					24MAR17

## Departures (Language French)

OCT		NOV		DEC		JAN		FEB		MAR
Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure
14OCT16	22OCT16	04NOV16	12NOV16	16DEC16	24DEC16	06JAN17	14JAN17	17FEB17	25FEB17	10MAR17
		25NOV16	03DEC16			27JAN17	04FEB17			31MAR17

## Departures (Italian language)

OCT		NOV		DEC		JAN		FEB		MAR
Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure
21OCT16	29OCT16	11NOV16	19NOV16	02DEC16	10DEC16	13JAN17	21JAN17	03FEB17	11FEB17	17MAR17
				23DEC16	31DEC16			24FEB17	04MAR17	

## Lodging

Lodging	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Hostel Double Room with Private Bathroom	x				x		x	x	x	x

Hostel with Shared Bathroom	x				x		x	x		
Dormis with Shared Bathroom						x				
Camp Full Double Room (Services Area)		x	x	x						
Additional Single	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

## Lodging

Lodging	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
HOSTERIA DOUBLE ROOM WITH PRIVATE BATHROOM	X				X		X	X	X	X
HOSTEL WITH SHARED BATHROOM	X				X		X	X		
DORMIS WITH SHARED BATHROOM						X				
CAMP FULL DOUBLE ROOM (AREA SERVICES)		X	X	X						
ADDITIONAL SINGLE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

## 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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## **ARGENTINIAN EXPLORER**

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