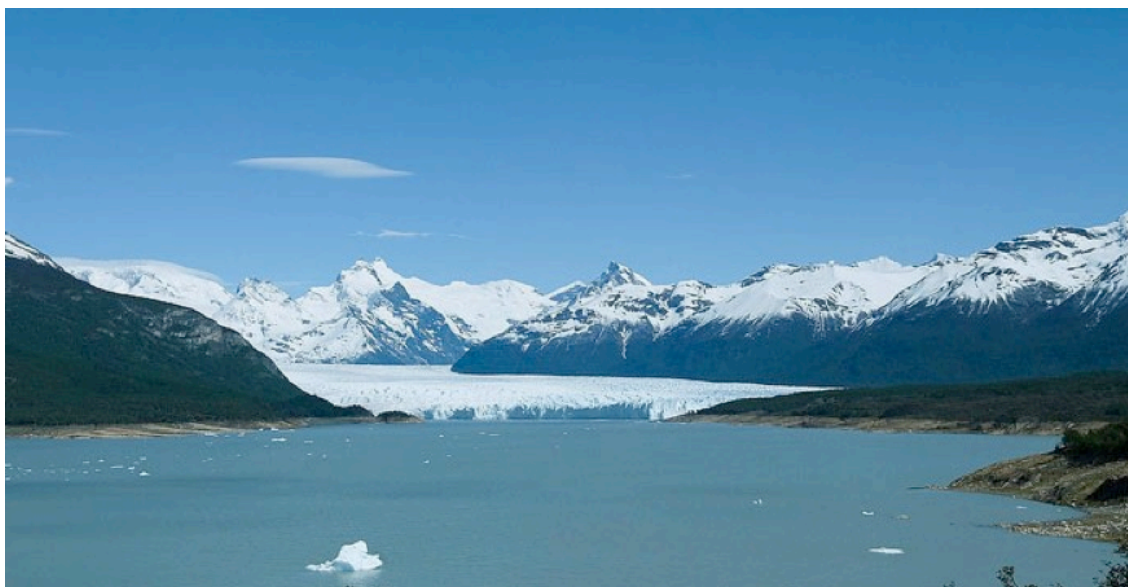


Trekking in Patagonia



Great Value Classics

Day 1: Arrival in Buenos Aires

On arrival in Buenos Aires you will be met by our English speaking guide and taken to your hotel in a private vehicle.

Overnight at the Hotel Gran Buenos Aires in a standard double room with breakfast included.

Day 2: Buenos Aires

This is a premium shared city tour. Throughout the tour you will enjoy an audiovisual experience prior to each stop, the bus will turn into a micro-cinema and you will see a series of 5-minute video-clips. You will see Evita speaking to the crowd from the Casa Rosada, or the Argentines celebrating the return of democracy. The tour explores the busy centre, including the Plaza de Mayo, where the Casa Rosada Presidential Palace is located; trendy Palermo and the working-class South, such as the famous La Boca and San Telmo districts, heartland of the Tango; and the elegant neighborhoods of Recoleta & Puerto Madero.

Overnight at the Hotel Gran Buenos Aires in a standard double room with breakfast included.

Day 3: Buenos Aires to El Calafate

You will be taken to the airport by private car at a prearranged time. On arrival in Calafate airport our driver will be waiting to take you via minibus to the trekking village of El Chalten, around 3 hours drive north of Calafate.

Overnight at the Posada del Barranco in a standard double room with breakfast included.

Day 4: Trekking to Lago de los Tres (FD)

Today's shared walking tour starts with a beautiful 18 kilometer drive up the valley to Hosteria Pilar, from where we trek through sub-Antarctic forest and pass the small glacier lake named Piedras Blancas. From here the route crosses the Rio Blanco before you begin the toughest part of your trek - a fifty minute climb that weaves its way up a 45° slope. From the top of the climb you can see glacial Laguna de Los Tres and one of Patagonia's most majestic views. We then return to Chalten on foot via a different route.

Notes: Depart: 8am; Return: 6pm; Technical Difficulty: Beginner; Stamina Level: Moderate; Duration: 8/9 hours

Overnight at the Posada del Barranco in a standard double room with breakfast included.

Day 5: Trekking to Pleigue Tumbado (FD)

This simple trek is a good leg warmer and offers the best general view of the region. From Pleigue Tumbado we can see the Paso del Viento, the Continental Ice Field and Tore Laguna, and of course all the granite massifs that dominate the area. This is a small group trek.

Notes: Depart: 8:30am; Return: 4pm; Technical Difficulty: Beginner; Stamina Level: Moderate; Duration: 6/7 hours

This evening you will be taken to the bus stop in a shared transfer in order to catch the bus to El Calafate. On arrival in El Calafate our driver will be waiting to take you to the hotel in a shared transfer.

Overnight at the Hosteria Hainen in a standard double room with breakfast included.

Day 6: Perito Moreno Glacier

This shared tour takes you into Parque Nacional Los Glaciares for views of the gigantic Perito Moreno Glacier. En route to the glacier you stop at the pier for a short boat trip (shared) to the south wall of the glacier. From the water level you get an amazing feel for the sheer size of this remarkable glacier, which is more than 3 miles wide and over 20 stories high - a true highlight of Patagonia. Eolo can organize a gourmet picnic lunch to enjoy on the walkways overlooking this formidable glacier.

Overnight at the Hosteria Hainen in a standard double room with breakfast included.

Day 7: Into Chile: Torres del Paine (FD)

After crossing the Patagonian steppe south of Calafate, you arrive at the border post of Cancha Carrera, some two hours' drive. After crossing the border you start to travel through Southern Chile until you arrive at the Torres del Paine National Park. The trip from El Calafate to National Park Torres del Paine takes around 4 hours in total. Once in the park, you mainly move about by vehicle but will also combine this with some excellent short hikes, as there are hundreds of hiking paths from one side of the park to the other. The itinerary and hikes are adapted to the group (by default, the level of difficulty of the activities in our program is low). You will go to strategic points to get the most beautiful views of the park. Among the different places and viewpoints, you will be able to see: Sarmiento de Gamboa Lake viewpoint, Azul Lagoon, a panoramic view of Las Torres, the Saltos del Rio, Cerro Almirante Nieto and Cuernos del Paine, Laguna Amarga, Salto Grande viewpoint, Nordenskjöld Lake, Pehoe Lake, and the Interpretation Centre. The places and viewpoints that will be included depend on the weather conditions, your physical condition and available time, and the development of the excursion is left to the discretion of our excellent bilingual guide. At around noon, we will offer you an outdoor picnic – with a fantastic view of course (if the weather is bad we will use mountain shelters).

Notes: Includes box lunch. Does not include entrance fee to the National Park.

You will finish the tour at around 4pm at the park entrance. A driver will be waiting to take you to the Las Torres trekking *refugio*.

Overnight at the Refugio las Torres in a dorm bed with breakfast included.

Day 8: SELF GUIDED Trekking to "BASE TORRES" (8-9 hours).

Recommended hour to start: 9.00 AM. The first hour and a half is up with fantastic views of lake Nordenskjöld and Almirante Nieto Mn (2.670 m.s.n.m), with its hanging glacier until you reach Refugio El Chileno to recover energies. Then the trail continues through a millenary Lenga forest (1 hour) until the base of "the moraine" which challenging ascent (45 min), will take you to one of the most impressive places in the park: the lookout of the "Base of Torres del Paine" where you will enjoy the view of Torre Sur (2,850 m.s.n.m.), Torre Central (2.800 m.s.n.m), Torre Norte (2.600 m.s.n.m) and Cerro Nido de Cóndor. Difficulty Level: High

Overnight at the Refugio las Torres in a dorm bed with breakfast included.

Day 9: Torres del Paine to El Calafate to Buenos Aires

This morning you will be taken back to El Calafate airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. This transfer will take around 5 hours. Depending on flight schedules and availability, it may be necessary to add a night in Calafate. On arrival back in Buenos Aires our driver will be waiting to take you to the hotel.

Overnight at the Hotel Gran Buenos Aires in a standard double room with breakfast included.

Day 10: Buenos Aires

Today you will be taken to the international airport in plenty of time for your flight home.