



Southern Patagonia Ice Cap Expedition

Note: Price printed on this PDF is valid until **02-05-2025** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

Private Touring

- Flexible Dates
- 24-Hour Local Assistance
- Flexible Itinerary
- Upgrade Accommodation
- Local Guide Service
- Modern Airconditioned Vehicle

Tour Vehicle

Car or Small Van AC

Tour Guide

Local Multi Lingual only guide

Detailed Itinerary

Day 01: Arrive El Chalten

Arrival at El Chalten at noon, from El Calafate. Accessibility: Private Land Transfer from El Calafate airport or hotel | Shuttle transfer from El Calafate Airport or hotel | Regular Bus from El Calafate Bus Station. Estimate time: 3-3.30 hours. El Chalten is a small mountain village in the west of Santa Cruz Province, Argentina; to the south of Los Andes Mountain range. It is located at 2,755 kilometers from Buenos Aires and at 220 kilometers north of El Calafate. El Chalten counts with a strategic position inside the Glaciares National Park, at the base of Cerro Torre and Cerro Fitz Roy mountains, both popular for climbing. This charming village was built in 1985 to help secure the disputed border with Chile; however, today El Chalten is considered an excellent touristic attraction where you can enjoy a wide range of trekking while contemplating the dazzling mountains and glaciers. In the afternoon, meeting with the Expedition Leader and rest of the staff: -General briefing about the Southern Patagonia Ice Field -Instructions about how to use camping and technical gear -Equipment check Chalten Suites is nestled in one of the most spectacular corners of Patagonia, observed by the majesty of Mount Fitz Roy and the hills and lakes that surround it. It offers a personalized service in very recently opened facilities, designed exclusively for those who like peace, tranquility, comfort, good food and the unsurpassed view of the Andean mountains. Chalten Suites is an intimate and magical refuge, with only 14 rooms, designed to create a relaxing atmosphere and enjoy the nature of the Patagonian Andean forest. Chalten Suites Hotel is an ideal environment to enjoy the area. 01 Overnight accommodation at Chalten Suites Hotel - Standard room.

Day 02: Ice Field Expedition

Private transfer to Rio Electrico and Valley Trekking towards Marconi Glacier. One-way transfer to starting point. English speaking expedition guide for the reduced size group (up to 12). Walking distance: 10km (6 hours) | Elevation gain: 100mts | Box lunch and Dinner included. Mineral water during the day. The day begins with a private transfer to the bridge over Rio Electrico, 15 km northwest of El Chalten, and the start point of our trek towards the base of Marconi Glacier. We will walk the first two hours on a well-marked path, through a forest of Lenguas and Ñires alongside Electrico River. At the end of the vegetation, we will stop a few minutes in Piedra del Fraile Campsite, last encounter of civilization before our return to El Chalten, at the end of the expedition. We will then enter into a great glacier valley surrounded by Treinta Aniversario, Marconi South and North Peaks. From Piedra del Fraile we will follow the southern shore of Lake Electrico, crossing moraines and rocky formations left by glaciers less than 70 years ago. Along the way, we will cross Pollone River walking, from where we will be able to observe the North-west face of Fitz Roy. One more hour of trekking will bring us to the western shore of Lake Electrico. We will set up our

camp there, only 20 minutes away from Marconi Glacier. After a well-earned rest, we might have some extra energy to explore the area. Overnight at tent in Campsite La Playita.

Day 03: Ice Field Expedition

Ice trekking at Marconi Glacier. English speaking expedition guide for the reduced size group (up to 12). Walking distance: 9km (7/9 hours) | Elevation gain: 850mts | Breakfast, Box lunch and Dinner included. Mineral water during the day We will wake up with dawn, to start our daily routine of the expedition: breakfast, packing up of camp and backpacks, and trekking... Only 30 minutes of walking will bring us in front of the Marconi Glacier. A gigantic scree moraine is our first obstacle; the terrain here is unstable and moves constantly, impeding the formation of a marked path. After this short but difficult stretch, we will climb on the glacier itself entering slowly in a kingdom of snow and ice. This day might be the toughest of the expedition. We will climb 2400 ft (800mt) on ice and snow, using crampons, and round crevasses with the assistance of the guide and his team – with the aid of ropes if necessary. Marconi Glacier forms a pass that creates a bottle effect with the winds coming from the Southern Patagonian Ice Field and the Pacific Ocean. Hence, participants will need to be not only physically, but also mentally prepared to trek in a rain or snowstorm. At the end of the day, we will arrive at our second campsite, in the shadow of Marconi South Mt and only an hour away from the Southern Patagonian Ice Field itself. Our almost aerial campsite offers fantastic sunsets and sunrises over the Fitz Roy Range, Cerro Pier Giorgio and Gorra Blanca Overnight at tent in Campsite Paso Marconi.

Day 04: Ice Field Expedition

Enter the Patagonian Ice Field through Marconi Pass to Circo de los Altares. English speaking expedition guide for the reduced size group (up to 12). Walking distance: 13km (7 hours) | Elevation gain: 0mts | Breakfast, Box lunch and Dinner included. Mineral water during the day. In the morning, we will cross Marconi Pass. Guide and assistants will use sledge for the first time, carrying most of the general equipment (tents, food, gas). Only an hour of trekking with snowshoes will bring us into a land of rock and ice. The Patagonian Ice Field will open itself up giving away fantastic views (if weather permits) of Lautaro Volcano (Still active), Mariano Moreno Range (almost higher and much larger than Fitz Roy Range), the De Los Cuatro Glaciares Pass and Chico Glacier, further south. A day of southbound trekking on the ice field to the “Circo de los Altares”, at the foot of the mythic Cerro Torre’s West face, take us to the place where we will set up our camp on the ice. Overnight at tent in Campsite Circo de los Altares.

Day 05: Ice Field Expedition

Trekking from Circo de los Altares to Paso del Viento Hut English speaking expedition guide for the reduced size group (up to 12). Walking distance: 10km (8 hours) | Elevation gain: 100mts | Breakfast, Box lunch and

Dinner included. Mineral water during the day. Trekking to De Los Esquies Lagoon, on the lateral moraine of Viedma Glacier – where we will exit the ice itself. If the weather and the physical condition of the participants permit, we will continue up to Paso del Viento Hut Overnight at tent in Campsite Paso del Viento.

Day 06: Ice Field Expedition

Trekking to Laguna Toro and Zip Line Adventure. English speaking expedition guide for the reduced size group (up to 12). Walking distance: 10km (6 hours) | Elevation gain: 250mts | Breakfast, Box lunch and Dinner included. Mineral water during the day. After breakfast, we will begin our trekking towards Paso del Viento, where we will rest and enjoy the overwhelming landscape. Then, we will head downwards to the Túnel River Valley and back into the vegetated area. Before arriving at the Toro Lagoon campsite we must cross the Túnel Glacier and also a zip line across the valley's river. Overnight at tent in Campsite Laguna Toro.

Day 07: Weather Day | Extra Day

This day is to be used at any point of the Expedition in case the weather doesn't allow continuing. If it is not necessary, guests can dispose it to spend an extra day in Los Altares, rest or add another camp during the program. This will be decided by the guide. Overnight at tent in Campsite.

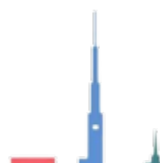
Day 08: El Chalten

Trekking back to the town of El Chalten. English speaking expedition guide for the reduced size group (up to 12). Walking distance: 16km (6 hours) | Elevation gain: 250mts | Breakfast and Box lunch included. Mineral water during the day. We will begin walking next to Tunnel River following the path that will take us to El Chalten and enjoying the last views of Cerro Torre and Fitz Roy. El Chalten arrival, and check in at your hotel. Overnight at El Chalten Suites.

Inclusion

- Private bilingual guide during the expedition
- All meals, transfers, staff necessary, permits during the trekking
- 1 assistant guide from 3 participants. Rate 1:3
- Technical gear when required (harness, carabiners, ropes, crampons, snow shoes)
- Tents and any gear necessary except what is personal
- Satellite communication
- Entrance and necessary permits
- All taxes and reservations expenses.

Exclusion



- International and Domestic airfare.
- National Park tickets, museums or Natural reserves entrances in case not mentioned as included in itinerary.
- Airport arrival/departure taxes (if any).
- Meals and beverages not mentioned in itinerary.
- Gratuities, tips for guides, drivers, porters, waiters, Sleeping bag etc.
- Expenses of personal nature (laundry, beverages, telephone calls, etc.).
- Extra nights
- Personal Equipment

Note

SUGGESTED GEAR

- 75/85 liter (4800 cubic inches or larger) backpack
- Sleeping bag allowing -10°C (10°F) – we recommend at least 800g of down shell, or synthetic
- Sleeping pad – we recommend closed cell foam or Therm – A – Rest Type
- Mountain Boots: Crampon compatible (either waterproof leather or plastic double boots) – we recommend the leather ones (Boreal Latok or Sportiva Nepal Top); double plastic boots are also possible to use, but they make the walking sometimes arduous
- 2 pairs of medium polar socks
- 2 pairs of thin synthetic socks
- A pair of good quality gaiters
- One set of synthetic underwear (pants and long sleeve shirt)
- One long sleeve synthetic shirt
- Rain Parka with hood – we recommend Gore – Tex shell or similar
- Rain pants with full size zips – we recommend Gore – Tex shell or similar
- Polar fiber jacket
- Warm duvet or synthetic jacket, to wear after walking or at night
- Polar fiber pants or trekking pants
- One T-Shirt
- Sun hat
- Warm hat
- Polar fiber Balaclava
- One pair of liner gloves
- One pair of synthetic mittens
- Waterproof over-mitts – we recommend Gore – Tex shell or similar
- 2 ski or trekking poles
- Glacier glasses (with UV filter and side shields) – plus a spare one in case of loss
- Lip protection
- Sunscreen (with SPF of at least 16/20)
- Athletic tape for blisters (1.5 inch wide tape)
- Personal hygiene and medical kit (reduced to a minimum)
- Pocket knife (Swiss army style or multi-tool like Victorinox or Leatherman)
- Water bottle (better if it is wide-mouthed)
- Headlamp and lighter (e.g. Petzl or Black Diamond) – with set of extra batteries and bulb
- Camera and extra batteries
- Reading material

Day 8- Suggested Optional Extension: (Rates available on request)

Extend your stay in El Chalten and relax at Aguas Arriba Lodge. Accommodation with full board (breakfast, lunch/picnic, dinner). Soft beverages. Coffee & tea offered all day. Daily activities programmed by Aguas

Arriba Lodge. Fly fishing activities can be arranged.

Accessibility : By boat from Lago del Desierto South Point port. If preferred the guests can choose to leave the luggage in the boat and get to the Lodge by a 3-hour hike through the forest.

In the Argentinian Patagonia, Aguas Arriba Lodge is located by the Lago del Desierto, 37 kilometers from El Chalten, the national capital of trekking. Aguas Arriba Lodge is an exclusive and secluded place with total privacy for its guests. On the East shore of the Lake, rests this charming place, where guests can enjoy majestic views of the lake, the north face of Mt. Fitz Roy, Mt. Torre and the Vespignani Glacier. The Lodge is part of the Estancia Rio de Las Vueltas, a property with 700 hectares of mountain and 900 meters of shore line, covered with centenarian trees from the Nothofagus species. Includes: Boat navigation from/to Lago del Desierto - South Point (15' boat ride along the East shore) Check in: 03:00 p.m. Check out: 10:00 a.m.

- Rates liable to changes and availability.

****Not valid for Festive Season or Holidays****

Passport and Visa Requirements

You should clarify visa requirements with the Embassies of the countries that you plan to visit as certain countries may require you to take out a visa. It is the passenger's responsibility to have all the proper and valid documentation to enter the countries involved in the trip. Prior to confirming your travel arrangements, you should check your Passport and establish that it will remain current for the entire period of your travel. Please be aware that the name on your airline ticket must be identical to that on your Passport.

Vaccinations

Certain countries require that travelers be vaccinated against specific diseases. Check with your doctor and the Embassies of countries to which you are traveling to satisfy yourself as to whether your destination has any requirements in this respect.

All prices are indicative and starting from prices. Final price will be available based on availability and dates of travel.

International Bank Wire Fee – AUD 70.00

Tour Dates & Pricing

Hotel		
13 May 2024 Till 30 Apr 2025	AU\$7,430 Per Single AU\$6,994 Per Twin	On-Request

