

HARVARD

ALUMNI TRAVELS



THE NATURAL GEMS & LUXURY LODGES OF PATAGONIA

OCT 21–NOV 1, 2022

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

Santiago, Pucón, Villarrica, Puerto Varas, Puerto Natales, Torres del Paine National Park

- Explore the lakes, rivers, fjords, and peaks of Chile's Lake District
- Enjoy reflective walks among the majestic massifs of Torres del Paine National Park
- Unwind at three of Patagonia's top luxury lodges after each day of successful adventures
- Choose from tailor-made excursions including day hikes, wilderness bike rides, horseback adventures, kayaking expeditions, and river rafting

ACTIVITY LEVEL: 4

STUDY LEADER: To be announced

ACCOMMODATES: Up to 28 guests. This is a Harvard exclusive program.

PRICING: \$9,995 per person, double occupancy / \$13,645 single occupancy

SCHEDULE BY DAY

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

U.S. / SANTIAGO

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Santiago.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

SANTIAGO

Arrive in Santiago and transfer to your hotel.

This afternoon embark on a city tour of Santiago exploring San Cristobal Hill and the Pueblo de Los Dominicos Handicraft Market.

Overnight: *Ritz-Carlton* (D)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

SANTIAGO / TEMUCO / PUCÓN

This morning fly to Temuco and transfer to Pucón.

Generally considered as the adventure capital of Chile, the area around Pucón offers myriad outdoor activities. There is, however, far much more to this multi-faceted destination:

National parks, volcanoes, mountains, and lakes create one of the most beautiful natural places Chile has to offer. The area is also the seat of the Mapuche, Chile's main ethnic group. Their culture is very much alive in the area through cuisine, traditions, and language.

Your lodge the Vira Vira is nestled amidst a spectacular sprawling 56-acre estate facing the forests and Andes mountains and of the

Lake District. The primeval forests of 1,000-year-old monkey-puzzle trees draped in feathery lichen are only a short hike away.

Because of the lakes nearby and the steep mountains, there's an enormous range of all-season land- and water-based activities that are offered. This afternoon, choose from tailor-made excursions hosted by knowledgeable and engaging guides, including hikes, wilderness bike rides, horseback riding, kayaking expedition, and river rafting. All excursions are specifically tailored according to your interests and fitness levels.

Overnight: *Vira Vira* (B, L, D)

MONDAY–TUESDAY, OCT 24–25 **PUCÓN**

Explore the lakes, rivers, fjords, and peaks of Chile's Lake District. *Vira Vira*'s personal excursion managers and your tour director will assist guests in choosing from tailor-made excursions for each day.

Excursions and choices include: kayaking on Lake Tinquilco, stand-up paddle boarding on the Liucura River, rafting on clear waters toward Villarrica Lake, trekking in National Parks (various levels of difficulty, both half and full-day), horseback riding, mountain biking, cooking classes, bird watching walks and tours of the nearby farm and cheesemaking facility or visit to a Mapuche community and weavers; or, just enjoy the tranquil surroundings of *Vira Vira* from one of the outdoor hot tubs along the river.

Overnight: *Vira Vira* (B, L, D x2)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26 **PUCÓN/PUERTO MONTT/PUERTO VARAS**

Enjoy your morning at *Vira Vira*. After, transfer to Puerto Varas. Along the way witness remarkable vistas of emerald lakes, green forests, and snow-capped volcanoes.

Arrive at your hotel perched along the sparkling shoreline of Lake Llanquihue, just outside of popular Puerto Varas. Each of its

guest rooms boasts uninterrupted views across Lake Llanquihue to Volcano Osorno.

Overnight: *Hotel AWA* (B, L, D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 **PUERTO VARAS**

In the morning, enjoy a private excursion to Petrohué Falls, a succession of rapids with its capricious forms of volcanic rocks bathed by emerald color waterfalls against a backdrop of Andean mountains and Chile's magnificent Osorno Volcano. Next explore the town of Puerto Varas, known as "La ciudad de las rosas" or "The city of roses", and its central streets and boulevards are decorated with these gentle, fragrant rosettes. In the company of a guide, peruse through the quaint stores for Mapuche handicrafts.

Continue to Frutillar, founded in 1856 by German settlers and distinguished by its beautiful lakeside setting, colorful Victorian and Bavarian-style houses, churches, and teahouses.

Overnight: *Hotel AWA* (B, L, D)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 **PUERTO MONTT / PUNTA ARENAS /** **PUERTO NATALES**

Transfer to the airport in nearby Puerto Montt for a flight to Punta Arenas, Chile's southernmost city, located on the Strait of Magellan opposite Tierra del Fuego. Founded in 1848, in its golden age it served as a port of call for ships circumnavigating the world. Transfer to Puerto Natales to the Singular Lodge and gateway to Torres del Paine National Park, the crown jewel of Patagonia.

Overnight: *The Singular Hotel* (B, D)

SATURDAY–SUNDAY, OCT 29-30 **TORRES DEL PAINE**

Torres del Paine National Park was declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 1978. The dramatic mountain formations of towering

rock, windswept pampas, ice fields, and glaciers, make it an impressive sight. Look out for herds of guanacos and rheas, flamingos, condors, foxes, geese, and black-necked swans. Lakes and lagoons abound in hues of blue, green, and gray.

Each evening at cocktail hour, choose from a variety of excursions including excursions in the national park and surrounding area for the following day. Activities range in difficulty from easy to challenging and include navigating the Patagonian glaciers via boat, kayaking, cooking lessons, hiking, mountain biking, or horseback riding.

On Sunday evening gather for a farewell dinner.

Overnight: *The Singular Hotel* (B, L, D x2)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31
PUERTO NATALES / PUNTA ARENAS /
SANTIAGO / U.S.

Return to Punta Arenas and transfer to the airport for a flight to Santiago. Connect with flights back to the U.S.

B

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
ARRIVE U.S.

Arrive this morning in the U.S. and connect to your home airport.