

HARVARD

ALUMNI TRAVELS



ULTIMATE PATAGONIA

OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 11, 2021

DETAILED ITINERARY

Embark on a captivating 12-day journey through the vast, pristine wilderness of Patagonia. After touring the vibrant metropolis of Santiago, head south to Chile's Patagonian Lake District, a region of snow-capped volcanoes, crystal clear lakes and mystic forests. Your first stop will be Pucón and the lovely Vira Vira lodge. Choose from tailor-made adventures such as trekking in a national park, horseback riding with a Chilean huaso (cowboy), white-water rafting on the Trancura River, kayaking on Lake Tinquilco, or mountain biking to the foot of the Villarrica Volcano.

Travel onward to the Hotel AWA, perched along the sparkling shoreline of Lake Llanquihue, just outside of Puerto Varas. Enjoy a private excursion to Petrohué Falls and explore Vicente Pérez Rosales National Park. Finally, head to Puerto Natales, gateway to Patagonia's crown jewel, Torres del Paine National Park, set amid monolithic granite spires, azure colored lakes, and glaciers. The Singular Patagonia lodge offers a comfortable base from which to choose from a number of excursions both in and surrounding the park including a boat trip to massive glaciers, spectacular kayaking, horseback riding, bird-watching, and biking.

GROUP SIZE: 14-20 guests

PRICING: \$9,995 per person double occupancy / \$13,635 single occupancy

STUDY LEADER: To be announced

SCHEDULE BY DAY

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

DEPART U.S.

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

ARRIVE SANTIAGO, CHILE

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)*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

SANTIAGO / TEMUCO / PUCON

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. National parks, volcanoes, mountains, and lakes create one of the most beautiful natural sites 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 sprawling 56-acre estate facing.

With the nearby lakes and mountains, there is an enormous range of all-season land- and water-based activities. This afternoon, choose from tailor-made excursions hosted by knowledgeable 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)*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

PUCON

Today, explore the lakes, rivers, fjords, and peaks of Chile's Lake District. *Vira Vira's* personal excursion managers and your tour director will help you choose from tailor-made excursions for each day.

Excursions and choices include: Kayaking on the Tinquilco River, boat floats on the Liucura River, white-water rafting on the rapids of the Trancura River, trekking in National Parks (various levels of difficulty, both half and full-day), horseback riding, mountain biking, volcano climbing, cooking classes, bird watching walks and tours of the nearby farm and cheese making facility; 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)*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

PUCON

Spend another day enjoying tailor-made excursions and activities.

Excursions and choices include: Kayaking on the Tinquilco River, boat floats on the Liucura River, white-water rafting on the rapids of the Trancura River, trekking in National Parks (various levels of difficulty, both half and full-day), horseback riding, mountain biking, volcano climbing, cooking classes, bird watching walks and tours of the nearby farm and cheese making facility; 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)*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

PUCON / PUERTO MONTT / PUERTO VARAS

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

Arrive at your hotel perched on the shoreline of Lake Llanquihue, just outside of popular Puerto Varas. Each room boasts uninterrupted views across Lake Llanquihue to Volcano Osorno.

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6 PUERTO VARAS

This morning enjoy a private excursion to Petrohué Falls, a succession of rapids and emerald color waterfalls against a backdrop of Andean mountains and Chile's magnificent Osorno Volcano.

Later explore the town of Puerto Varas, known as "La ciudad de las rosas" or "The city of roses", with its central streets and boulevards decorated with gentle, fragrant rosettes. In the company of a guide, peruse the quaint stores for locally-crafted Mapuche artifacts.

Next travel 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)*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 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, gateway to Torres del Paine National Park, the crown jewel of Patagonia.

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8 TORRES DEL PAINE

Today, explore Torres del Paine National Park. 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.

In the 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.

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 TORRES DEL PAINE

Again, spend the day in Torres del Paine National Park, choosing from a variety of excursions including excursions in the national park and surrounding area. 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.

Tonight, gather for a farewell dinner.

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 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)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11 ARRIVE U.S.

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