

# PATAGONIA TREKKING

DETAILED ITINERARY

TO THE END OF THE WORLD

Sep 29/26



Cerro Torre

Travel to the end of the world and experience the most stunning panoramas on Earth - snow-capped peaks, arid plateaus, crashing glaciers and turquoise lakes are among Patagonia's greatest natural wonders. Our 16-day adventure travels through one of the planet's wildest spaces, revealing nature in its primordial splendor.

We begin by exploring the sophisticated capital of Buenos Aires, before flying to El Calafate. Spend three nights in the Fitz Roy area of Glacier National Park hiking through gorges, alongside glaciers, and through forests to approach the famed Mount Fitz Roy.

Explore Glacier National Park - a UNESCO World Heritage Site - and spend a full day along the edge of the Perito Moreno Glacier, one of the greatest natural attractions in the Americas.

Crossing into Chile, breathe the "cleanest air in the world" at Torres del Paine National Park and hike up to the viewpoint to take in the awesome granite spires of the Blue Towers.

Our journey concludes in Punta Arenas.

## FACTS & HIGHLIGHTS

- 16 land days • Maximum 16 travelers • Start in Buenos Aires, Argentina, finish in Punta Arenas, Chile • All meals included
- Includes 1 internal flight • Buenos Aires tour • Hike to Mount Fitz Roy area • Explore Perito Moreno Glacier • Hike in Torres del Paine • Penguins at the Strait of Magellan

## DEPARTURE DATES & PRICE

**Jan 28 - Feb 12, 2027** - **\$9295 USD**

**Jan 25 - Feb 09, 2028** - **\$10495 USD**

**Combines with...** Some Antarctic departures and the following extensions: Iguazu Falls, Easter Island adventures

## Activity Level: 5

**Comfort Level:** Some rough roads and long drives. Windy and cool hiking conditions.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Comfortable accommodations with private bathrooms. Single occupancy may not be guaranteed for all nights.

**ELDERTREKS**



**SMALL GROUP  
EXOTIC ADVENTURES  
FOR TRAVELERS 50 PLUS**

## DAY 1 ARRIVE IN BUENOS AIRES

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you are met and transferred to our centrally located hotel. The remainder of the day is free to explore the city of Buenos Aires. In the evening, we have our introductory meeting and dinner.

Overnight in Buenos Aires.

## DAY 2 BUENOS AIRES

Today, we discover the highlights of Buenos Aires. Traveling by bus and walking through the unique “barrios”, we have a close look at daily life in Buenos Aires.

We see Parliament Square, Mayo Avenue, Tortoni Cafe, La Boca, Recoleta and the ornate cemetery where Eva Peron is buried.

Enjoy a traditional dinner while watching a fantastic tango show.

Overnight in Buenos Aires.

## DAY 3 TO EL CHALTEN, FITZ ROY MASSIF

In the morning, we transfer to the airport for our flight to El Calafate. Upon landing in Patagonia, we transfer to ground transportation and drive across the steppe to El Chalten, our staging point for the Fitz Roy Peaks in the southern Andes, and our hikes in the region.

The drive takes us across semi-arid steppes as we approach the famous peaks of the Patagonian Andes.

Overnight in El Chalten.

## DAY 4 HIKE TO LAGUNA TORRE

Today is our first hike in Patagonia. In the morning, we hike to a viewpoint where we can see the magnificent Cerro Torre and Fitz Roy Peak. For those keen to walk further, a spectacular hike takes us to Laguna de los Tres for a panoramic view of the lake, glaciers and the principal peaks of the southern Fitz Roy Range. Enroute, we hike past a gorge, the towering peaks of the Andes, and alongside the glacial waters of the Fitz Roy River.

Overnight in El Chalten.



The Parliament Building in Buenos Aires.



## **DAY 5 TREK TO MOUNT FITZ ROY**

Today, we spend a full day trekking to Mt. Fitz Roy. Mt Fitz Roy sits in its granite glory surrounded by Poincenot and Mermoz Peaks. Enroute, we pass through Nothofagus forest and see glaciers. As we travel alongside the Rio Blanco (White River), the sounds of the rushing water echo off the mountainsides. Keep a watch for the world's second largest bird, the Andean condor, circling the peaks.

Note: For those who are keen for more adventure and a spectacular view of the upper lakes of Laguna Sucia and Lago de los Tres, a challenging hike from the Fitz Roy base camp is offered.

Overnight in El Chalten.

## **DAY 6 HIKE PIEDRA DEL FRAILE AND POLLONE GLACIER**

Today we will walk through a less visited area of the Glacier National Park, north of Mt. Fitz Roy. On a splendid day, we get good views of the famous mountain and the surrounding massif. Our trail takes us through old lenga forest (tall deciduous southern beech trees) along the River Eléctrico until we reach a small campsite. The distance until the Piedra del Fraile campsite (1800ft/540m altitude) is about 4 miles/6.5

km. People that want to traverse the Southern Patagonian Icefield take the same trail to get to the entrance (Marconi Pass). Avid hikers can go further to the Eléctrico Lake (1.5 miles/2.5 km) or continue to the Pollone Glacier viewpoint (1 mile/2 km further (altitude: 2400ft/725m). The same trail takes us back to our lodge.

Overnight El Chalten.

## **DAY 7 ESTANCIA NIBEPO AIKE**

Driving from El Chalten in the Los Glaciares National Park, we travel south through the steppe to reach the Andean Patagonian forest and mountain scenery filled with glaciers and lakes. Enroute we will enjoy a short hike where we shall enjoy our picnic lunch and the wonderful views.

This afternoon in our privileged lodge, we can make an optional hike in the surroundings to know more about this pioneer farm.

Overnight at the Estancia.

## **DAY 8 ESTANCIA NIBEPO AIKE**

The farm is located in the National Park Los Glaciares, not too far in a straight line from the Perito Moreno Glacier. In a hike to the Cerro Cristal (subject to weather conditions), we will

find the most representative native flora and fauna species of this area discovering the characteristic species of the Magellanic forest, *Nothofagus Antarctica*, *Nothofagus Pumilio* and in some isolated places *N. Betuloides*. During this trek, we may see condors. We will also appreciate the southern front of Perito Moreno Glacier, some 20 kms far from our position. Except for the family that owns the land and some occasional hikers, no human can be found around. After the demanding hike we will enjoy our dinner.

Overnight at the Estancia.

## **DAY 9 PERITO MORENO GLACIER**

Today we have a full-day excursion to the magnificent Perito Moreno Glacier, which is located within Glacier National Park and has been declared a World Heritage Site. The glacier is a river of ice, 2 miles wide, 20 miles long and 200 feet high, which we view from a tour boat only 500 feet away! It is considered to be one of the greatest natural attractions in all of South America. Hiking along the shore we can watch icebergs calving off the glacier into Lago Argentino.

As we arrive at our nearby estancia, we can watch the kelpi dogs gathering the sheep. Dinner tonight is a wonderful feast with many local specialties.

Overnight at the estancia.

## **DAY 10 LIFE ON THE ESTANCIA**

Our day is open to enjoy the activities of the estancia. Sheep-shearing and herding, a walk to the lake and bird watching by the lagoon. If you want more adventure you may wish to go further afield on a horseback-riding excursion.

Tonight, another feast accompanied by the magnificent view over Lago Argentino and the Cordillera de Los Andes.

Overnight at the estancia.

## **DAY 11 TO TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK, CHILE**

Today, we have a long drive across the border into Chile.

Enroute, we have lunch at a Patagonian estancia from where we can see the Paine Massif and the rolling steppe.

In the afternoon, we arrive in the famous park of Torres del Paine, reputed to have the cleanest air in the world.

Overnight near the park.



Fitz Roy



Perito Moreno

## **DAY 12 GREY GLACIERS, PEHOE LAKE, SALTO GRANDE**

We have a full day starting with a hike to Grey Lake adorned with icebergs from the calving glacier.

We see Pehoe Lake, set amongst the Paine Massif and we walk to Salto Grande, a spectacular waterfall that empties into Pehoe Lake.

Overnight near the park.

## **DAY 13 TREK IN TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK, TOWER PEAKS VIEWS**

Today, we go on a spectacular hike to Torres del Paine. This is a challenging hike but well worth the effort because of the spectacular views of the Tower Peaks.

The hike takes us up a slope with beautiful views of the countryside, through a valley and then up a moraine slope to see the Torres del Paine rising above a small glacier and lake. Torres del Paine translates to Blue Towers, in reference to the blue hue of the granite towers.

Overnight near the park.

## **DAY 14 TO PUNTA ARENAS**

This morning, we leave Torres del Paine and head south to Punta Arenas on the Strait of Magellan. This is a long trip through amazing scenery from the high mountains of Torres del Paine to the coastal city of Puerto Natales on the shore of Esperanza Bay. We will enjoy the fresh sea breeze in this busy port town and then continue for another 250kms through this mountain-

ous Magallanes region of Chilean Patagonia. We will arrive in Punta Arenas late afternoon.

Dinner and overnight in Punta Arenas.

## **DAY 15 PENGUIN RESERVE, EXPLORING PUNTA ARENAS INCLUDING THE SARA BROWN MUSEUM**

Today we have an early start to the day, as we take a short trip to Isla Magdalena where we will travel by zodiac boat to see the colony of Magellanic penguins - sometimes numbering 100,000 strong. The sight, sounds (and smells) of these curious creatures is truly an amazing sight. (High winds can delay the departure until the afternoon.)

Returning to Punta Arenas, located on the Strait of Magellan, we will have time to explore the central plaza with its elaborate buildings reminding us of its wealth when wool and wood were king. Traces of its history as a staging ground for Antarctic adventures are evident and the city still has a strong maritime base. We will also visit the Sara Brown Museum where you will learn more about the history of this city.

Tonight we recollect our Patagonia adventures at our farewell dinner.

Overnight Punta Arenas.

## **DAY 16 DEPART PUNTA ARENAS**

We transfer to the airport for our homeward flights or join our extension to mysterious Easter Island, the most remotely inhabited place on Earth, Igauzu Falls or Machu Picchu. Some trips connect to our Antarctic expedition cruises departing from Ushuaia, Argentina.

Hike to the Paine Massif





**The Horns, Torres del Paine**



Torres Del Paine





## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

### 1. HOW BIG ARE THE GROUPS?

Each group is limited to 16 participants. Small groups are an important ingredient in adventure travel. They allow for more interaction and more personalized service throughout the itinerary.

### 2. WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE?

All accommodations throughout; all meals, starting with dinner on day 1 and finishing with breakfast on departure day (i.e. the last day of the ElderTreks tour); bottled drinking water throughout the trip; all internal transportation; airport transfers on day 1 and departure day (i.e. the last day of the ElderTreks tour); all day trips and entrance fees as outlined in the itinerary; tips for hotels (porterage), national guide, bus driver, restaurants and spot guides; services of a trip leader.

### 3. WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE?

International flights, tips to ElderTreks tour leader, alcoholic drinks, visas and travel insurance.

### 4. ARE THESE “EDUCATIONAL” TOURS?

Yes, in the broadest sense of the word, “educational”. We visit museums, National Parks and Reserves and have talks and discussions on many aspects of history, culture and nature. But this is only a portion of the educational experience. We believe that it is equally educational to meet local people on a non-commercial basis, visit their homes and even try to learn a few words in the native language. Sometimes the most “educational” moments are spent sipping a cold drink in a street market.

### 5. HOW DO WE TRAVEL DURING THE TOUR?

We travel by minivan or minibus and fly between Buenos Aires/Calafate. At Moreno Glacier we enjoy a boat ride and on Day 10 we have an option to go horseback riding at the estancia. The penguin tour is by Zodiac.

### 6. WHAT ARE OUR ACCOMMODATIONS LIKE?

We always stay in good accommodations – both hotels and lodges. Accommodation can be in hotels or in cozy estancias up against the Andes Mountains. Please note single accommodation may not be guaranteed for all nights on this tour.

### 7. WHAT ABOUT THE WEATHER?

Weather in Patagonia can change rapidly; in one day you can experience 4 seasons. Dampness and wind can make the temperatures feel lower and rainfall can be encountered throughout the travel season. However, it can also get warm enough to wear shorts.

### 8. WHEN IS PAYMENT DUE?

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 USD (plus insurance if you require it) is due at time of booking and will reserve your place on the tour. Payment of the full land cost is due 120 days before departure. Cancellation charges are applicable and are outlined in the “Terms and Conditions” section of our brochure.

### 9. IS MEDICAL INSURANCE REQUIRED?

Insurance coverage is not included in the cost of your trip. Please note that medical insurance is not required for this adventure but is recommended. ElderTreks offers comprehensive travel insurance and we are happy to provide you with a quote if you call our office. If you are purchasing insurance elsewhere, please ensure you provide the details to ElderTreks as soon as possible.

*\*Please note those travelers with pre-existing medical conditions must take out travel insurance at the time of deposit*

### 10. WHAT SHOULD I TAKE ON THE TOUR?

There is a detailed “What to Take” list in our Trip Kit, which we will send to you once you book the tour.

### 11. WHAT MEALS ARE INCLUDED?

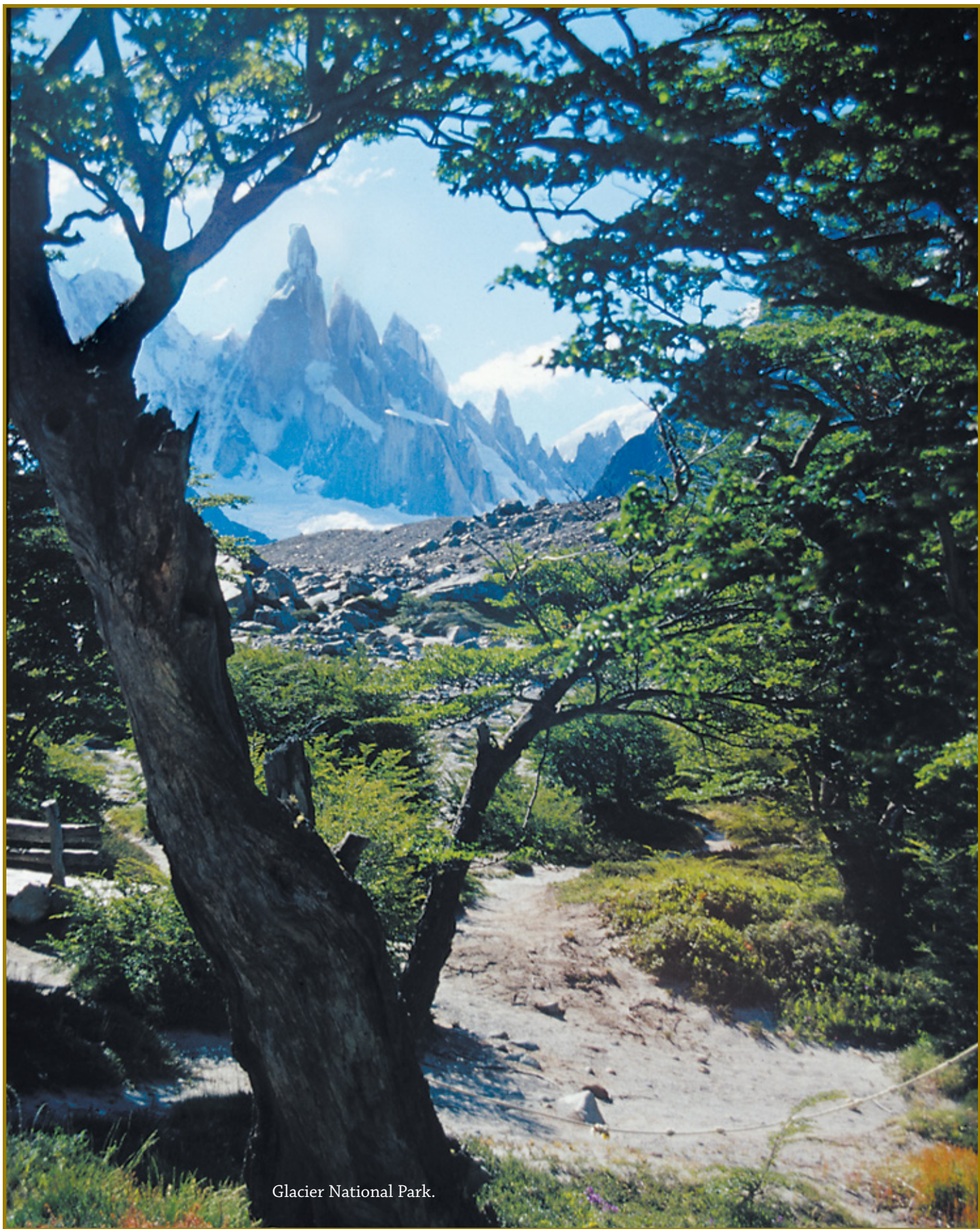
All meals are included, starting with dinner on day 1, and finishing with breakfast on day 16. We eat a variety of local foods delivered in a wide range of settings.

### 12. CAN YOU ARRANGE MY FLIGHTS?

We would be happy to take care of your air arrangements. ElderTreks offers personalized flight itineraries — not group flights. Stop over en route, come in a few days early, or extend your stay. Call us for a customized itinerary.

### 13. WHAT IF I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION?

If you have any further questions about the trip, please contact our office for additional information. A Trip Kit containing further details on the destination will be sent to you once you have booked the tour.



Glacier National Park.