

ARGENTINA - HIGHLIGHTS OF CHILEAN PATAGONIA



INTRODUCTION

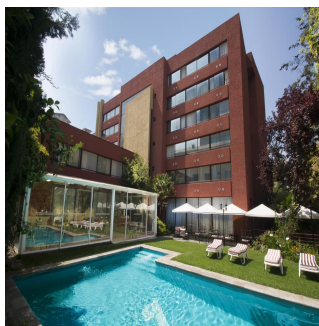
Choose this suggested itinerary or customise to create your own unique journey. Operates daily to suit your travel plans. Price based on Standard accommodation. Superior or Deluxe also available.

This seven-day snapshot of Patagonia takes you to all the must-see spots. Starting in the Chilean capital, Santiago, take a few days to explore the city before heading to Torres del Paine National Park to experience its awesome mountain peaks and glaciers. Next, head to El Calafate, situated on the shores of Lago Argentino and on the edge of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field. Take a tour to Los Glaciares National Park to see the world famous Perito Moreno Glacier before bidding this beautiful destination farewell.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival transfer in Santiago

On arrival at Santiago Airport, please make your way through Customs and Immigration. There are now two exiting gates, one for taxis and one for pre-booked transfers. All travellers who have prebooked and prepaid for an arrival transfer, must exit through gate 4, which is for pre-booked transfers. Our representative will be holding a sign with your name on it and waiting for you outside this exit. Please only make contact with our representative. This service includes a driver and local English speaking guide who will provide you with any useful information needed for your stay.



TRIP CODE

MCTSHP

DEPARTURE

Daily October to April

DURATION

7 Days

LOCATIONS

Chile, Argentina, Patagonia



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DAY 1: Santiago de Chile

Santiago, Chile's capital and largest city, lies in a valley surrounded by the snow-capped mountains of the Andes and the Chilean Coastal Range. Founded in 1541, Santiago has been Chile's capital since colonial times. It is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city and although it features many colonial buildings, it has grown into a modern metropolis and the cultural centre of the country.

*Please note Australian passport holders are required to obtain a Chilean tourist visa or if transiting for longer than 8 hours before arrival.



DAY 2: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight. This service includes a Spanish speaking driver only.



DAY 2: Hotel Las Torres - Arrival

Today, you will be met your arrival point and transferred to Hotel Las Torres, located inside Torres Del Paine National Park. This transfer is up to 5 hours in length on good paved and dirt roads and offers a great introduction in the wide open expanses of the Patagonian pampas. Pick ups at 9am and 3pm from Punta Arenas City and 9.30am and 3.30pm from Punta Arenas Airport.



DAY 3: Explore Torres del Paine National Park

There are no set itineraries for your stay at Hotel Las Torres. Each day you can choose from a selection of five to ten different activities selected according to the weather and your interests. These include hiking, horseback riding, van or motorboat excursions. In groups no larger than ten guests accompanied by a bilingual guide, explorations allow an in-depth contact with the wonders of Torres del Paine National Park, year round.



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DAY 4: Explore Torres del Paine National Park

There are no set itineraries for your stay at Hotel Las Torres. Each day you can choose from a selection of five to ten different activities selected according to the weather and your interests. These include hiking, horseback riding, van or motorboat excursions. In groups no larger than ten guests accompanied by a bilingual guide, explorations allow an in-depth contact with the wonders of Torres del Paine National Park, year round.



DAY 5: Hotel Las Torres - Departure

Early this morning you will depart Las Torres Hotel aboard their shuttle service transfer. Departure times will be reconfirmed to you directly by the hotel the evening prior to your departure. Please note journey times are as follows however they are dependant on weather and road conditions: El Calafate via Cerro Castillo (border crossing) will be approximately five hours and 30 minutes departing at 7am. Puerto Natales will be approximately two hours departing at 2pm. Punta Arenas will be approximately five hours departing at 7.30am and 1pm.



DAY 5: El Calafate

El Calafate flanks the southern shore of Lago Argentino in the southwest part of Argentina's Santa Cruz Province. The town is near the edge of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field and one of the gateways to World Heritage Listed Parque Nacional Los Glaciers. The name El Calafate is derived from the calafate plant common in Patagonia. The town's main street, Avenida del Libertador General San Martín, is lined with restaurants, cafes, chocolate shops and souvenir shops.



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DAY 6: Perito Moreno with South Wall Cruise

This morning you will be collected from your hotel to venture into Los Glaciares National Park to see the world famous Perito Moreno Glacier. The glacier is more than two miles wide and averages 74m in height above the surface of the water of Lake Argentino. It is one of the very few glaciers in the world that continues to advance and if you are lucky you may see the glacier calving as large masses of ice break away from the glacier and collapse into the water. Enroute to the glacier, stop at the pier for a short boat trip to the south wall of the glacier. From the water level you get a feel for the size of this remarkable glacier - a true highlight of Patagonia. Reaching the Icebergs Channel, the boat will stop at a safe distance from the glacier, continuing to sail down all its front, allowing a spectacular view of the high wall of ice. On completion of the tour you will be taken to your hotel.



DAY 7: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel
Inclusions	Airport transfers Internal flights Accommodation with breakfast All meals at Hotel Las Torres Tours as detailed in itinerary Other meals where stated EXCLUSIONS: Personal Expenses Visa and reciprocity fees (where applicable) International flights Gratuities for staff/drivers Any items not mentioned as included

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Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Contact us for details.
Notes	This itinerary only available between October to April due to Patagonia season. This itinerary can be done in the reverse. Contact us for more details.
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

During your tour you will stay at Hotel Las Torres. Protecting the wilderness of the Tierra del Fuego National Park is at the heart of Las Torres philosophy. On top of critical conservation activities such as trail maintenance and waste management, Hotel Las Torres also engages in scientific investigation and provides essential educational services in the region. They also work regularly with Chilean schools to improve environmental performance through expeditionary educational programs. While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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