



PATAGONIA & BUENOS AIRES

October 10 - 19, 2018



Experience the dramatic landscapes of Patagonia. Enjoy city tours of Santiago and Buenos Aires, the “Paris of the South”. Explore amazing nature in Torres del Paine and Los Glaciares National Parks along with Perito Moreno Glacier.

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TOUR OVERVIEW

Itinerary Overview

Main Tour	Optional	
	Easter Island Pre-Trip	Mendoza Post-Trip
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 night in Santiago - 2 nights in Torres del Paine National Park - 2 nights in El Calafate - 2 nights in Buenos Aires 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 nights in Easter Island 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 nights in Mendoza

Pricing

Main Tour: \$2375 (Single Supplement \$699)

Land Only (plus \$450 internal flights): \$2825 (Single Supplement \$699)

Easter Island Pre-Trip: \$1750 (Single Supplement \$249) - optional

Mendoza Post-Trip: \$799 (Single Supplement \$199) – optional

Main Tour Inclusions

- Accommodations at superior hotels for 7 nights
- 16 meals: 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 5 dinners
- Comprehensive sightseeing as per itinerary below
- Airport transfers
- Ground transportation to and from all included activities as indicated on itinerary
- Tour director throughout
- Experienced, English-speaking tour guides
- One large checked luggage (44 lbs or less) and one small carry-on
- Porterage at hotels and airports

Tour Exclusions

- Airfare (will be quoted and provided when made available by the airlines)
- Gratuities
- Meals not listed as included (B,L,D marked in itinerary below to indicate included meals)
- Optional tours as described in Optional Tour list
- Travel Insurance (\$179/pp extra- optional) <https://www.smartours.com/travel-insurance/>

Payment Schedule

Fall Expedition 2018 Trip Application – Patagonia & Buenos Aires:
[Link](#)

Recommended Payment Schedule	Mandatory Payment Schedule
October 10, 2017 - 10% of Balance November 10, 2017 - 10% of Balance December 10, 2017 - 10% of Balance January 10, 2018 - 10% of Balance February 10, 2018 - 10% of Balance March 10, 2018 - 10% of Balance April 10, 2018 - 10% of Balance May 10, 2018 - 10% of Balance June 10, 2018 - 10% of Balance July 10, 2018 - Balance Due	Immediately - Non-Refundable Deposit - \$200 January 10, 2018 – 25% of Balance March 10, 2018 – 25% of Balance May 10, 2018 – 25% Balance July 10, 2018 – Balance Due
<p><i>Note: Payments not received by the date on the 'Mandatory Payment Schedule' will incur a \$50 late fee.</i></p>	

Pay Online – www.paypal.me/skijammers

- Must select 'Personal Payment'
- Check for Friends and Family no fee
- Note: PayPal will charge a convenience fee for the use of a credit card
- Please indicate the 'Patagonia' on your payment

Contact: Valerie Smith at valgaltx@gmail.com
 Andrea Yowman at aryowman@aim.com

MAIN TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Depart USA

Today, please make your way to the airport to catch your overnight, international flight to Santiago.

Meals: -
Hotel: -



Day 2: Arrive in Santiago

Welcome to Santiago, the capital of Chile and the country's largest city! Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to the Santiago's vibrant city center for your introductory tour of the city.

Santiago Introductory Tour

Today's highlights include The Alameda, or Santiago's main avenue; the gorgeous Palacio Cousiño which was built by Luis Cousiño for his wife Isidora; the bustling Central Market; and San Cristobal Hill where you can enjoy panoramic views of the city below. To round off your tour, drive through the residential areas of the city to appreciate the local architecture.

This evening, enjoy dinner and then retire early for tomorrow's early morning flight to Patagonia.

Meals: Dinner
Hotel: Atton Vitacura



Day 3: Santiago to Punta Arenas to Torres Del Paine

Early this morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Punta Arenas. Considered the “City at the End of the World,” Punta Arenas is the main harbor of the Straits of Magellan.

Estancia Cerro Negro Visit

En route to Torres del Paine National Park, stop at Estancia Cerro Negro. You will be greeted with a welcome drink, your first Pisco Sour, and then learn about the sheep shearing process and see a sheep get sheared. Watch the shepherd dogs of the estancia round up the sheep and learn more about estancia life. Enjoy a BBQ lunch, and then continue on your journey to arrive at your hotel located inside the National Park.



The balance of the day is at your leisure to unpack and relax. This evening, enjoy dinner at your hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel: Hotel Las Torres Patagonia

Day 4: Torres Del Paine

Today, enjoy a full-day excursion in Torres Del Paine National Park, one of the most spectacular scenic regions of Patagonia. Featuring cascading waterfalls, roaring creeks, shimmering majestic blue lakes, and jagged spires of mountains, today's excursion is sure to be a highlight of your trip. Discover the unique fauna which include guanacos, foxes, swans, and many bird species.



Choose from two full-day excursions which are approximately 7-10 hours and vary in level of difficulty. Depending on the activity you select, your lunch may be a box lunch created by the chefs at your hotel which will include local Chilean specialties. The two optional excursions below are included in your tour at no additional cost.

Optional Full-Day Paine & Glacier Grey – Low/Medium Difficulty – free

This excursion gives guests the fullest introduction to Torres Del Paine National Park in the shortest amount of time. This road trip into the heart of the park features stops at scenic overlooks, short easy hikes to natural landmarks, and a wonderful lake cruise to Grey Glacier.



This cruise lasts about 3 hours and can be affected by weather conditions. On your bus tour of the National Park, you will make stops at Puente Negro (Black Bridge), Nordenskjold Lookout, Sarmiento Lookout, Lake Pehoe, and Salto Grande Waterfall.



After enjoying an al fresco gourmet lunch, you will have a choice to participate in a 2.5 mile hike along the southern shore of Lago Grey to a point where you can gaze down at icebergs and the massive Southern Patagonia Ice Field! For those who wish to have a low difficulty day, choose this tour and do not participate in the hike. For those who wish to have a medium difficulty day, choose this tour and enjoy the hike!

Optional Valle del Frances – Medium Low/Medium High Difficulty – free

Venture into the famous Valle del Frances. After a 45 minute drive from the hotel, board a catamaran and take a short cruise across Lake Pehoe. Disembark and begin your trek, which is relatively flat. Guests have the option of turning back around here, or continuing on upwards to various distances based on the interest of the group.



Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel: Hotel Las Torres Patagonia

Day 5: Torres Del Paine to El Calafate

After waking up in Torres Del Paine National Park and enjoying breakfast at the hotel, you will have the choice to relax, take your own independent hike from the hotel, or join an optional tour (additional cost).



After enjoying lunch at the hotel, board the motorcoach and cross the border into Argentina. Arrive in El Calafate and enjoy some time in this quaint town with restaurants and shops. Enjoy an included dinner at a local restaurant tonight.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel: Hotel Kosten Aike

Day 6: El Calafate

Los Glaciares National Park Tour

Today, enjoy a must-see for all visitors to Argentina: a visit to Perito Moreno Glacier at Los Glaciares National Park. It forms part of the Patagonian Continental Ice Field from which 13 glaciers descend on the Atlantic side to slow into the Viedma and Argentino lakes. The continuous pieces of wall breaking off the glacier will astonish you should you be lucky to see it!



There are a series of boardwalks at varying levels that you can walk on to view the glacier from different perspectives. If you opt out of the glacier trekking tour, you will enjoy a delicious lunch at a restaurant inside the park. Afterwards you may sign up for an optional cruise around the glacier.



For those who wish to go ice hiking on the glacier, you will break off from the group after entering the National Park and you will follow a separate schedule (see optional tours). You will be provided with a boxed lunch instead of the restaurant lunch. You will conclude your day at the same boardwalks that the rest of the group visited earlier this morning.

Return to your hotel and enjoy dinner and a night at leisure at one of the many restaurants or bars that El Calafate has to offer!

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
 Hotel: Hotel Kosten Aike

Day 7: El Calafate to Buenos Aires

Today, fly from El Calafate to Buenos Aires, often referred to as “the Paris of South America.”

Recoleta Walking Tour

Enjoy a two-hour walking tour in the posh Recoleta neighborhood where your hotel is located.

The rest of the night is at leisure, and you may wish to participate in an optional added dinner for those who are interested in tasting a delicious dinner at one of the very best Italian restaurants in all of Buenos Aires which incorporates Italian dishes with an Argentinean touch.



Meals: Breakfast
 Hotel: The BRICK by MGallery Collection

Day 8: Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires City Tour

Today, see the highlights of Buenos Aires including the widest avenue in the world, the Colon Theatre, the Plaza de Mayo, and the Metropolitan Cathedral. Visit San Telmo, a historical neighborhood and the oldest district of Buenos Aires which is home to many antique stores. Continue to Palermo with its parks and lakes, and finally stop at La Boca, a very colorful neighborhood of painted houses and tango dancing in the streets!



This afternoon, relax or select from one of the numerous optional activities available such as a bike tour around the ecological reserve in Buenos Aires, an Argentine wine tasting, an Argentine cooking class, tango lessons, or a tour of the Tigre Delta with a boat excursion.



This evening, rejoin the group for an included dinner and tango show at one of the most classic tango clubs in Buenos Aires. Enjoy dinner in a private room at the tango house, and then join other guests for a tango performance open to the public.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
 Hotel: The BRICK by MGallery Collection

Day 9: Depart Buenos Aires

Today is at leisure. Explore Buenos Aires independently, or select an optional tour for a guided tour of this beautiful city. Later, transfer to the airport for your return flight home.



Meals: Breakfast
 Hotel: -

Day 10: Arrive in USA

Those who are skipping the Mendoza extension will arrive in the USA early this morning.

Meals: -
 Hotel: -

OPTIONAL EASTER ISLAND PRE-TRIP ITINERARY

Day 1: Depart USA

Today, please make your way to the airport to catch your overnight, international flight to Santiago.

Meals: -
Hotel: -



Day 2: Santiago to Easter Island

Welcome to Santiago, the capital of Chile and the country's largest city! Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to the Santiago's vibrant city center for your introductory tour of the city.



Santiago Introductory Tour

Today's highlights include The Alameda, or Santiago's main avenue; the gorgeous Palacio Cousiño which was built by Luis Cousiño for his wife Isidora; the bustling Central Market; and San Cristobal Hill where you can enjoy panoramic views of the city below. To round off your tour, drive through the residential areas of the city to appreciate the local architecture.

Head back to the airport late this afternoon for your flight to Easter Island. After arriving late tonight, you will be transferred to your luxury hotel less than 10 minutes from the airport.

Meals: -
Hotel: Hotel Hanga Roa Ecovillage & Spa



Day 3: Easter Island

Easter Island Tour

Drive to the south coast and see Ahus Vaihu in the bay of Hanga Te'e and Akahanga where the famous king Hotu Matua is said to have been buried. Proceed to Rano Raraku where there are almost 900 stone statues at the slopes of an extinct volcano/crater lake. Visit on to Ahu Tongariki, the most recent and biggest restoration on Easter Island – over 15 Moais have been restored. See the beach of Anakena and have the opportunity to enjoy the warm waters.



A box lunch will be included today. This evening is at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel: Hotel Hanga Roa Ecovillage & Spa

Day 4: Easter Island

Easter Island Full-Day Excursion

After breakfast, embark on a full-day excursion. Drive up to the extinct volcano Rano Kau. On the way you will have a view of nearly the entire island and its distinct geological features. Next you will see a ceremonial village called Orongo where the birdman competition took place. See the petroglyphs common within this culture and enjoy the breathtaking views of the three islets: Motu Nui, Motu Iti, and Motu Kao Kao. You will also see some cave paintings and (not restored) pre-Inca artifacts in Ahu Vinapu. After returning to the hotel, the balance of the day is at your leisure.



Meals: Breakfast
Hotel: Hotel Hanga Roa Ecovillage & Spa

Day 5: Easter Island to Santiago

This morning and the early afternoon are at leisure. Take this time to rest and relax, or join a short optional excursion from the hotel. Transfer to the airport for your mid-afternoon flight to Santiago where you join the main trip group. Arrive in Santiago after dinner tonight. Tomorrow morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Patagonia.

Arrive in Santiago late in the evening of Day 2 on the main itinerary. Join the group for their Day 3 flight to Patagonia.

Meals: Breakfast
Hotel: Atton Vitacura

OPTIONAL MENDOZA POST-TRIP ITINERARY

Day 9: Buenos Aires to Mendoza

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your short flight to Mendoza, the land of sunshine and good wine. Upon arrival, enjoy a guided tour of Mendoza.

Mendoza City Tour

Colonized by the Spanish four centuries ago, Mendoza is a green city within a desert. Visit Pedro del Castillo Square, the oldest part of the city, and see the ruins of San Francisco church. Continue down tree-lined streets and cross into the new area of the city. Proceed to the Hill of Glory, a place for a wonderful panoramic area of the city.



Enjoy a night at leisure and hopefully sample some local wines!

Meals: Breakfast
Hotel: Hotel Diplomatic

Day 10: Mendoza

Wine Tour

After breakfast, visit one of the best wine regions of South America. You will be led by a local wine expert as you visit wineries in either the Maipu or Lujan de Cuyo areas. This is the home of the Malbec grape, a popular red wine. Enjoy a wine tasting session and learn about the production process. Lunch will be included at the winery. After a full-day of winery visits, you will return to your hotel and enjoy a night at leisure.



Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel: Hotel Diplomatic

Day 11: Depart Mendoza

After breakfast, enjoy a morning and early afternoon at leisure. Your flight will likely depart around 5pm. If you would like to join an optional half-day hiking tour, you may do so before departing Mendoza for your evening flight back to the USA via Santiago.

Meals: Breakfast
Hotel: -

Day 12: Arrive in USA

Very early this morning you will arrive in the USA where you can connect to your home town if applicable.

Meals: -
Hotel: -

HOTELS

Easter Island Hotel Hanga Roa Ecovillage & Spa
 Optional 3-night pre-trip Av. Pont S/N
 Isla de Pascua, Chile
 Tel: + 56 2 2957 0141

This 4- star hotel features natural, earthy rustic décor. The hotel is located in a privileged part of Easter Island on the main promenade of Rapa Nui, close to the center of the island. This will allow you to easily be inserted into the local community and learn more about their customs. You are also located less than 10 minutes away from the airport, allowing for an easy arrival and departure. This hotel is locally categorized as a 5-star property though by US standards it is a 4-star hotel.



Santiago Atton Vitacura
 1 night Av. Vitacura 3201 Vitacura
 Santiago, Chile
 Tel: + 56 2 2944 7800

This 4.5 star contemporary and modern hotel is located within the Vitacura. Updated and recently renovated, this hotel is centrally located in the city center with close access to the airport for your brief stay in Santiago. The Citadino Restaurant is close by the lobby and is a spacious, lovely venue to welcome you to South America for your welcome dinner.



Torres Del Paine Park Hotel Las Torres Patagonia
2 nights Region of Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica
Chile
Tel: + 56 6 1236 0280

This 4 star hotel is located inside the park. With an incomparable location by the Ascencio Valley and the famous Paine massif, there are astounding views all around. The hotel is strategically positioned at the “W” and “O” trails, providing wonderful access to trekking routes. The lodge is located on the grounds of the only working ranch in the National Park.



El Calafate Hotel Kosten Aike
2 nights Gdor. Moyano 1243
El Calafate, Santa Cruz, Argentina 9405
Tel: + 54 29 0249 2424

A charming 4.5 star small hotel located in the heart of El Calafate. This smaller, quaint hotel property offers a home-like feel and is located only two short blocks from the town center lined with shops and restaurants.



Buenos Aires The BRICK by MGallery Collection
2 nights Posadas 1232
Buenos Aires, Argentina 1011
Tel: + 54 11 4819 1100

Located in Recoleta, the most upscale neighborhood of Buenos Aires, this 5-star luxury property is newly renovated and well located. This neighborhood is filled with greenery, upscale shops, and restaurants.



Mendoza Hotel Diplomatic
2 nights Avenida Belgrano 1041
Mendoza, Argentina
Tel: + 54 261 405 1900

This 5-star hotel is strategically located in the most convenient and valuable part of the city, with amazing views of the Andes Mountains.



OPTIONAL TOURS

Day 5: Torres Del Paine

Short Horseback Ride \$35 USD per person

A low difficulty horseback ride appropriate for beginners. This ride will last approximately one hour / 2 miles.

Cerro Paine Horseback Ride \$75 USD per person

This horseback ride follows a steep trail climbing up the western slope of Cerro Paine. This should not be taken by beginner riders. The altitude reaches approximately 5,000 feet and will offer spectacular views and the opportunity to see and hear a variety of birdlife. The ride will last approximately 4 hours / 4 miles.

Salto Grande Hike \$40 USD per person

After a forty-five minute drive, reach the National Park's lake district. Join a local National Park guide and hike on a relatively easy trail for approximately two hours. See some of the park's astounding highlights including Sendero Mirador Cuernos, Lake Nordenskjold, and Salto Grande, a raging aquamarine cascade that channels water between Lake Nordenskjold and Lake Pehoe. Note that you may experience high winds during this trek! The entire experience should last approximately 4 hours.

Day 6: El Calafate

Ice Trekking \$150 USD per person

After arriving in the Los Glaciares National Park, you will separate from the group and board a short boat ride. Disembark the boat and take a short hike to reach the glacier. Spikes will be hooked onto your shoes and you will walk on the Perito Moreno glacier for approximately two hours. A box lunch will be provided and you will also be awarded with a drink at completion of your trek. The maximum age permitted for this tour is 65 and travelers should be physically fit.

Perito Moreno Boat Navigation \$42 USD per person

Gain an entirely different perspective of the famed Perito Moreno glacier by viewing it from different angles and getting closer to the glacier! Hopefully you will witness falling pieces.

Day 7: Buenos Aires

Italian Dinner \$100 USD per person

Minimum of 15 travelers required to operate

Enjoy dinner at one of the most famous Italian restaurants in Buenos Aires! You will be transported to this lovely restaurant and back to the hotel after your meal. With a strong Argentine influence, this restaurant incorporates blends of the two commonly found cuisines in this city. You will be served a three-course dinner with a half bottle of wine per person. The tiramisu is reportedly a must! Coffee and soft drink also included.

Day 8: Buenos Aires - Afternoon

Tango Lessons \$49-60 USD per person

10-19 people at \$60 per person or 20-35 people at \$49 per person

Maximum of 35 people at a time

Learn the basic step of the tango! Don't worry, a welcome drink will be included in the class to help you loosen up. You will enjoy a 90 minute class with a tango instructor.

Wine Tasting \$79-99 per person

Maximum of 35 people at a time

Enjoy an exclusive wine tasting with a sommelier. You will be able to taste representative wines from various regions of Argentina.

Day 9: Buenos Aires

Optional Morning Tours

Bike Tour Around Ecological Reserve \$89 per person

Minimum of 5 travelers required to operate

Take a 1.5 hour bike ride (approximately 6 miles) around an ecological reserve in the heart of Buenos Aires! You will be provided with a bike, helmet, and bottle of water as well as medical assistance insurance.

Half-Day Tigre with Cruise \$75-115 per person

5-9 people at \$115 per person, 10-19 people at \$85 per person, or 20+ people at \$75 per person

Boat on private basis if there are 15+ people

Drive to the northern district and outskirts of the city to get to Tigre, a charming region where many have summer homes. Enjoy a cruise along the innumerable channels of the delta to see hundreds of islands.

Optional Afternoon Tours

Argentine Cooking Lessons \$125 per person

Minimum of 15 travelers required to operate

Discover the wonders of Argentine cuisine! Late morning or early this afternoon, you will learn with the guidance of a well-established chef how to make various types of empanadas including a desert version. You will be able to enjoy eating them while accompanying them with Argentinean wines. The class itself will take approximately 2 hours.

Day 11: Mendoza

Quebrada Del Salto Hike \$100 USD per person

Minimum of 10 travelers required to operate

Depart from your hotel after breakfast for an area called Potrerillos, located about forty-five miles outside Mendoza. Located in the Andes range, the area is surrounded by mountains and local vegetation and is a base for various activities and sports. You will be led by a local English-speaking guide and your hike will take you to a waterfall. The hike will last

approximately 2 hours (+/-) depending on the fitness level of the group. Groups larger than 10 people will be divided so that group size will not exceed 10 people. Bottled water and granola bars included. Return to the hotel after the hike and in due time, you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight back to the USA.