

PATAGONIA ACTIVE – TREKKING ROUND TRIP

**15 days - Superb treks through the world's famous mountain landscapes
Chile & Argentina**

Patagonia – this impressively wide and wind burnt region with its fantastic pastel-colored pasture land, its mountains of steeply rugged rock and icy glaciers is definitely the “El Dorado” for every adventurer, hiker and nature lover. Who hasn't heard of the world-renowned Torres del Paine, Monte Fitz Roy or the Perito Moreno Glacier?

On this unforgettable trekking trip, you will hike in 7 days the “O-Circuit” of the amazing Torres del Paine National Park. Admire robust chiseled mountains that are formed by the movement of Glacier tongues. Discover the emerald green-colored lakes, Magellan forests of beech trees and the perpetual ice of this inspiring UNESCO World Heritage site. Meet hardworking gauchos who call the wind branded steppe their home. Watch vigorous Guanacos fighting for their territories while condors majestically hover above you. After having faced the mystic Torres del Paine – granite towers, the trek leads you to the gigantic Perito Moreno Glacier. What's more, you will be rewarded with picturesque views of Patagonia, Monte Fitz Roy, and the legendary Cerro Torre during the trip.

Trip Highlights:

- Hike in 7 days one of the world's Top 10 Treks, the **Torres del Paine “O” Circuit**: Paso John Garner – Grey Glacier – French Valley – Torres Granite Needles
- **Dive into a world of eternal ice fields**, granite spires & alpine lakes and resist the strong gust of wind while crossing the John Garner pass
- **Overnight in spectacular campsites** surrounded by superb mountain scenery and ancient forest
- Hike to the rock spire of the **mystic Cerro Torre and the legendary Monte Fitz Roy**
- Discover the perpetual ice of the **Perito Moreno Glacier** and take a boat ride across the Argentino Lake
- **Relish the local cuisine**: Argentinian steak & Malbec red wine
- Observe the **local wildlife** like guanacos, condors and Ñandus & the Patagonian pampa and gauchos

Insider Tip:

- Paddle between huge icebergs on the Grey Lake and hear the creaking movements of the vast Grey Glacier

Trip Info:

Trip length : 15 days
Start/End of the trip: from / to Puerto Natales (or to El Calafate)
Group Size: min. 2 / max. 12 people
Departures: see set departures on our website or
individual on request (with the possibility to book other people on this trip)
Trip Style: trekking, camping & kayaking
Best season: from November to March

What's included:

- Local **PORTERS** carry personal belongings (5 kg per person) throughout the Torres del Paine "O" Circuit
- **GUIDE:**
 - Local English / Spanish speaking certified trekking guide Torres del Paine O Circuit (Day 2 - 8) (WFR)
 - Local English/Spanish speaking certified assistant guide from 7 people (Day 2 - 8)
 - Local English / Spanish speaking certified trekking guide El Chaltén (Day 10 and 11) (WFR) and during the excursion to the Perito Moreno Glacier (Day 13)
- Accommodation in Torres del Paine National Park: 6 nights in roomy, high quality 2-person-expedition-tents
- Accommodation in the cities: 8 nights in hotels in double rooms with private bathroom
- Meals: 14 x breakfast, 8 x box lunch on the hiking days, 6 x dinner
- Transport: all public and private transfers as per the detailed itinerary
- Boat ride / Catamaran across Pehoe Lake
- Boat ride across the Argentino Lake
- Entry Fees/Admission: to all National Parks
- Emergency equipment: including a first-aid kit and satellite phone or VHF-equipment

What's excluded:

- Meals and beverages not indicated on the itinerary
- Sleeping bag and camping mat
- Tour guide on the days of transfer
- Airport pick up & drop off
- Optional trips, esp.
 - 3-hours kayak tour on the Grey Lake (appr. \$150 USD p.p.) on day 6 or
 - 4-5-hours ice hike on Grey Glacier (appr. \$210 USD p.p.) on day 6
 - Excursions on day 12
- Tips for guides and porters
- Local payments
- International and domestic airfare and airport charges nor excess luggage fees
- Travel insurance is not included in this tour. Travel insurance is mandatory and must be purchased prior to the start of the trip.

Itinerary:**Day 1 – Arrival in Puerto Natales**

After arriving at the hotel in Puerto Natales, you will have time to explore this little town on your own. In good weather, the first impressive panorama of the Paine Massif and Monte Balmaceda can be seen from here. In the evening you meet your trekking guide for a short briefing about the following days.

Overnight: Hotel in Puerto Natales in double room with private bathroom (Hotel Hallef or Hotel Lady Florence Dixie or similar). (-/-/-)

Day 2 – Torres del Paine National Park – Trek to Camp Seron

In the morning you take a private transfer to the Torres del Paine National Park and enjoy spotting the local wildlife of this fantastic region, like Guanacos and Ñandus (driving time 2-3 hours, driving distance approx. 130 km). In the afternoon your first hike leads you to campamento Seron. Depending on the weather and season you will spot various birds and plants like the Palomita (a white orchid). Appr. walking time: 4-5 hours, walking distance: 12 km (7,5 miles), elevation gain of approx. 350 m (1,150 ft) ascent and descent.

You spend the night in our tents with unobstructed views of the starry sky on campsite Seron. (B/-/D)

Day 3 – Trek to Camp Dickson

Today you hike along Lago Paine and Rio Paine to the wonderful Refugio and Campamento Dickson. Near the camp you will get a picturesque view on the enclosing Dickson Glacier. There will be enough time to enjoy this inviting campsite while sitting together and sharing your overwhelming impressions.

Appr. walking time: 6-7 hours, walking distance: 18,5 km (11,5 miles), elevation gain of approx. 350 m (1,150 ft) ascent and descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Dickson. (B/BL/D)

Day 4 – Trek to Camp Perros

You leave the camp on Lago Dickson and walk through a mystic Magellan forest of Southern beech trees to reach your next camp. Campamento Los Perros is fabulously situated at the edge of a forest and glacier of the same name. Appr. walking time: 4-5 hours, walking distance: 9,5 km (5,9 miles), elevation gain of approx. 400 m (1,310 ft) ascent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Los Perros. (B/BL/D)

Day 5 – Trek Paso John Garner – Camp Grey

Today you probably face the most exhausting but most impressive part of the tour. You leave the camp Los Perros and hike uphill to the Paso John Garner where you can admire a striking view over the Southern Patagonian Ice field. Altitude Paso John Garner: 1250m. Afterwards you scale down along the impressive Grey Glacier to your next camp, Campamento Grey.

Appr. walking time: 8-10 hours, walking distance: 22 km (13,7 miles), elevation gain of approx. 800 m (2,625 ft) ascent and 1,300 m (4,265 ft) descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Grey. (B/BL/D)

Day 6 – Optional Kayak tour or Ice hike – Trek to Camp Paine Grande

In the morning you can choose an optional 3 hours kayak excursion on the Grey Lake along the icebergs of the Grey Glacier or a 4-5 hours ice hike on Glacier Grey (extra costs 150/210 USD per person; reservation recommended in advance) - or enjoy some free time to relax.

In the afternoon you hike along Lago Grey to the black lagoon (Laguna Negra) while exploring and learning about the surrounding nature. From there, you walk down to the camp Paine Grande that is beautifully located at the turquoise colored Lago Pehoe. Altitude Grey Glacier Lookout: 280m. Appr. walking time: 4-5 hours, walking distance: 12 km (7,5 miles), elevation gain of approx. 350 m (1,150 ft) ascent and descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Paine Grande. (B/BL/D)

Day 7 – Hike to the French Valley

Today, you walk along the splendorous Lago Skottsberg to Campamento Italiano. Subsequently you move towards the French valley and its viewpoint "Mirador" where you gain deep insight into the mountains. With a bit of luck you witness ice cracking off the Paine Grande (3,050m) sounding like a roaring thunder. After 6-7 hours of walking you come back to Camp Paine Grande on Lago Pehoe. Walking distance: 18 km (11 miles), elevation gain is about 600m ascent/descent.

Overnight: Overnight: in tents on campsite Paine Grande. (B/BL/D)

Day 8 – Panorama boat trip – Trek to the Torres del Paine Granite Needles – Puerto Natales

In the morning you cross Lake Pehoe with the catamaran (approx. 30 min) and continue your journey in a private transfer to the Las Torres sector (approx. one hour panoramic trip).

Afterwards, you will hike to get an excellent view on the no. 1 highlight: The famous Torres Towers. At first it leads you up to the Ascencio Valley where you take a break at the Refugio Chileno next to the lovely Ascencio River. After 2+ hours and a tough ascent you are rewarded for your efforts: You will stand in front of the impressive Needles with a green lagoon lying at your feet. Altitude Las Torres Lookout: 900m (2,950 ft). Appr. walking time: 8 hours, walking distance: 19 km (11,8 miles), elevation gain of approx. 950 m (3,120 ft) ascent and descent.

After this challenging hike you take our private transfer back to Puerto Natales (driving time 2 hours, driving distance approx. 130 km). Arrival at the hotel between 9pm and 10pm. Say goodbye to our local trekking guide and handover of all travel documents for the coming days in Argentina.

Overnight: Hotel in Puerto Natales in double room with private bathroom (Hotel Hallef or Hotel Lady Florence Dixie or similar). (B/BL/-)

Day 9 – Puerto Natales – El Calafate

Transfer in a regular bus through the wind-shaped Pampa to El Calafate in Argentina (without a guide, departure around 07:30 a.m., driving time including border formalities approx. 5-6 hours, driving distance approx. 270 km).

In the afternoon you will have some time to go shopping or to try the famous Argentine steaks. The bird sanctuary "Laguna Nimez" on Lago Argentino also invites you to visit.

Overnight: Hotel in El Calafate in double room with private bathroom (Hotel Picos del Sur or similar). (B/-/-)

Day 10 – El Calafate – El Chaltén – Cerro Torre Trek

Today you are heading to El Chaltén with a regular bus (without a guide, departure around 08:00 a.m., driving time approx. 3 hours, driving distance approx. 215 km), taking a break at the Estancia La Leona. El Chaltén is a lovely village in the mountains, where you will meet your trekking-guide for the next hikes. An afternoon guided walk leads you to Laguna Torre where you will have an outstanding view of the Cerro Torre (3,102 m / 10,180 ft) with its glaciers. Later on, you take a break at the Agostini Camp that is the Base camp for all Cerro Torre mountaineers.

Altitude Cerro Torre Lookout: 650 m (2,130 ft). Appr. walking time: 6 hours, walking distance: 18 km (11 miles), elevation gain of approx. 250 m (820 ft) ascent and descent.

Overnight: Hotel in El Chaltén in double room with private bathroom (Hosteria El Paraiso or Hosteria Fitz Roy or similar). (B/BL/-)

Day 11 – Trek to Laguna de los tres – Monte Fitz Roy Trek

Approx. 30-40 minute panoramic drive (in a shared transfer) to the starting point of the hike.

You hike to Laguna de los Tres and the viewpoint of Laguna Sucia. You also pass the Base Camp Rio Blanco that serves all Fitz Roy Mountaineers. Your efforts will be rewarded with an unforgettable view on the Fitz Roy (3,406 m / 11,174 ft) and the surrounding mountains.

Altitude Fitz Roy Lookout: 1250 m (4,100 ft). Appr. walking time: 8 hours, walking distance: 23 km (14 miles), elevation gain of approx. 750 m (2,460 ft) ascent and descent. Overnight: Hotel in El Chaltén. (B/BL/-)

Day 12 – El Chaltén – Optional trips - bus back to El Calafate

Today you can go on a full day hike to "Loma del Pliegue Tumbado" (without a guide; highly recommended in good weather) or you can choose an optional half day or full day excursion to the lake "Lago del Desierto". Or

you have some time to discover this pristine place on your own and go on short hikes to the viewpoints "Condores & Aguilas" or to the waterfall "Chorillo del Salto".

In the evening, you take a regular bus back to El Calafate (without a guide, departure around 18:00 p.m., driving time approx. 3 hours, driving distance approx. 215 km).

Overnight: Hotel in El Calafate in double room with private bathroom (Hotel Picos del Sur or similar). (B/-/-)

Day 13 – El Calafate – Full day Perito Moreno Glacier

Today, you participate in a full day guided and shared excursion to the incomparable Perito Moreno Glacier in the Los Glaciers National Park that is part of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field. If you are lucky you will witness the glacier calving. Altitude Perito Moreno Glacier Lookout: 200m (660 ft). Furthermore, you take a boat ride over the Argentino Lake along the imposing ice walls of the glacier (appr. 1 hour).

Driving time approx. 2 x 1.5 hours, driving distance 2 x 80 km. Overnight: Hotel in El Calafate. (B/-/-)

Day 14 – El Calafate – Puerto Natales

You travel from Argentina back to Puerto Natales, Chile on a regular bus ((without a guide, driving time including border formalities approx. 5-6 hours, driving distance approx. 270 km). You can use the afternoon to explore the small town at the Ultima Esperanza Fjord. Overnight: Hotel in Puerto Natales in double room with private bathroom.

Alternatively, you can stay another day on your own in El Calafate, overnight: Hotel in El Calafate. (B/-/-)

Day 15 – Goodbye Patagonia

After breakfast, you will continue your individual journey. (B/-/-)

Trip Profile:

Excellent physical fitness and team spirit are necessary requirements for this tour. Furthermore, you should be able to walk with your daypack (8-10 kg / 17-22 lbs) long distances (once to 10 hours a day) with some strenuous ascents and descents. Differences in elevation from 250 m to 1,300 m per day (from 820 ft to 4,265 ft). The equipment for your belongings must be carried by yourself throughout the duration of the trip day (rain gear, fleece or light down jacket, trekking poles, gloves, cap, photo camera, lunch and water for the day).

Notes for the O-Trek in Torres del Paine National Park:

**PORTERS FOR PERSONAL BELONGINGS & CAMPING GEAR ARE INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE.
NO EXTRA COSTS FOR PORTERS!**

During the trekking days you need to carry just your own day-backpack (approx. 8-10 kg / 17-22 lbs). We would recommend at least a 35/40 liter daypack, better 45/50 liter. Your day-backpack should include: Rain coat, rain trousers, fleece or light down jacket, trekking poles, gloves, cap, camera, lunch and water for the day (and also gear for good weather conditions!).

The rest of the luggage, which you need for the hiking days, will be carried by porters in a 30-liter waterproof kitbag. We provide a 30-liter waterproof kitbag for each of you ("SealLine Dry Bag").

Each participant will be able to put the following items in their 30l waterproof kitbag: your personal items such as your sleeping bag and camping mat (approx. 2,5kg / 5.5lbs for the sleeping bag/mat and 2,5kg / 5.5lbs for personal belongings like vanity bag, toiletries, extra-set of clothes). The bag's weight should not exceed 5 kg / 11lbs.

The rest of your luggage, which you do NOT need on the 7 days trekking tour, stays locked at your hotel in Puerto Natales.

During our trip in the Torres del Paine National Park you will spend 6 nights in roomy, high quality 2-person-expedition-tents.

All campsites are equipped with toilets, showers and Refugios (Mountain huts/Lodges).

Breakfast and dinner are served in the dining rooms of the Refugios/mountain huts which are always close to the camp sites.

Notes for the Cerro Torre & Fitz Roy Treks:

Your day-backpack (40-50 liter) should include: Rain coat, rain trousers, fleece-apparel, trekking poles, gloves, cap, camera and box lunch (and also gear for good weather conditions!).

GEAR CHECKLIST TORRES DEL PAINE O CIRCUIT / PATAGONIA ACTIVE:

Travel Documents

- Valid passport
- Airline tickets
- Vaccination card
- Cash (USD) / credit card and/or debit card

Luggage

- Duffel bag or travel bag or suitcase, big enough for the remaining luggage, which you do not need on the Torres del Paine trek (to be stored / locked at your hotel in Puerto Natales)
- Backpack (45 – 50 liter) for the trekking tour
- Rain cover for your backpack
- Passport pouch or money belt or wallet

Personal Camping Gear

- Sleeping bag with compression stuff sack **minus 5 Grad/C comfort (minus 15 Grad/C extreme) (rated to approx. 20° Fahrenheit comfort)**
- Inflatable camping mat (e.g. Therm-A-Rest NeoAir)

Clothing

We recommend bringing a few lightweight, easily washable items - for using as layer clothing system "onion principle".

- Hiking pants, lightweight, synthetic and loose-fitting – quick dry
- Long sleeve shirts, synthetic or merino
- T-Shirts, synthetic or merino
- Breathable underwear, polypropylen or merino or similar
- Hiking socks, blister-free
- Rain jacket, waterproof and breathable (Goretex, Sympatex etc.)
- Rain pants, waterproof and breathable, side-zip pants are highly recommended
- Windstopper / fleece jacket
- Light Down or synthetic Jacket

Clothing Accessories

- Sun hat – Bandana – Scarf
- Hat (warm) - Beanie
- Gloves – Fleece
- Gaiters, knee-high (optional, recommendable for tours in November)

Footwear

- Sturdy hiking boots, waterproof, lightweight, broken in, aggressive tread - over ankle
- Sandals or flip-flop or Crocs

Important

- **Trekking poles – highly recommended**

Travel Accessories

- Water bottle – 500ml-750ml (throughout the treks you can refill water appr every two hours in the little creeks)
- Headlamp and batteries
- Sunglasses and retainer strap
- Sun blocker + 20 and lip balm
- Toiletry kit
- Trekking towel – quick dry
- Hand sanitizer gel
- Personal prescription medication
- Insect repellent / Mosquito repellent
- Watch with alarm or travel clock
- Ziploc with toilet paper

Optional equipment

- Camera, memory cards and batteries
- Charger (recharging is possible almost every day)
- Small binoculars for bird watching
- Thermos
- Spare contact lenses or glasses
- Ear plugs
- Several Ziploc plastic bags

Provided Gear by MOSER Active

- Tents: roomy, high quality 2-person expedition-tents
- Cooking equipment while camping
- First aid kit and satellite phone or VHF-equipment
- **SealLine waterproof kitbag 30 liter for each participant (during the O Trek)**

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

MOSER ACTIVE Trekking Team