

TORRES DEL PAINE & ISLA NAVARINO

14 Days Trekking Adventure on the Edge of the World | Chile

Terra Australis Incognita - or "unknown land of the South" is how the very first sailors and discoverers called this mystic landscape on the edge of the world. Today it still exudes the same fabulous and mysterious atmosphere of these times - just one reason why this secluded area is so incredibly attractive to the real adventurers.

Our fantastic adventure tour takes you to two of the most unique places on this planet that amaze even experienced trekkers. First, you are heading for the famous **"W" - Hike** in the Torres del Paine National Park to reach the vast Southern Patagonian Ice field. After this awesome experience, you will spend unforgettable days on the **"Dientes de Navarino Circuit"** in the wild interior of Isla Navarino on the mythic Tierra del Fuego. During your various trekking tours, you will camp next to sub-Antarctic rainforests, snow-capped mountains and turquoise green lagoons.

This is definitely an outstanding adventure for all trekkers who are looking for a unique and authentic trekking experience!

Trip Highlights:

- Hike one of the most famous treks in Patagonia, the 5 day **"W-Trek" in Torres del Paine National Park** and immerse yourself in a world of granite and ice
- Torres del Paine granite towers, **French valley** and Grey Glacier
- Take a boat ride along the **Grey Glacier**
- **Fly over the Darwin mountain range**, the legendary Strait of Magellan and Beagle-Channel
- Hike the **southernmost trek at the edge of the world**, the 4 day wilderness trek **Dientes de Navarino Circuit**
- Observe local gauchos riding through the wind branded Patagonian Pampa
- Look out for Guanacos, Condors, Nandus and Beavers

Insider Tip:

- Take a boat trip from Punta Arenas to walk with **Magellan penguins** on Magdalena Island

Trip Info:

Trip length:	14 days
Start/End of the trip:	from Puerto Natales / to Punta Arenas or Ushuaia
Group Size:	min. 3 – max. 8 persons
Departures:	see set departures on our website <u>or</u> individual on request (with the possibility to book other people on this trip)
Trip Style:	wilderness trekking & camping
Best Season:	from November to March

What's included:

- **Local porters** for the expedition tents and all cooking equipment throughout all trekking days
- Guide:
 - Local English / Spanish speaking certified trekking guide (day 2–6, 8-12) (WFR)
 - Local English / Spanish speaking certified assistant guide from 7 people
- Accommodation in Torres del Paine National Park and Isla Navarino: 7 nights in roomy, high quality 2-person expedition tents
- Accommodation in Punta Arenas and Puerto Natales: 4 nights in hotel in double room with private bathroom
- Accommodation in Puerto Williams: 2 nights guesthouse in double room with private bathroom
- Meals: 13 x breakfast, 8 x box lunch, 9 x dinner
- Transport: all public and private transfers as per the detailed itinerary
- Boat ride on day 7 along the Grey Glacier
- Roundtrip domestic flight Punta Arenas-Puerto Williams-Punta Arenas (alternative: boat ride to Ushuaia, if available)
- Entry Fee: to the Torres del Paine National Park
- Emergency equipment: including a first-aid kit and satellite phone or VHF-equipment

What's excluded:

- International and domestic airfare and airport charges - except the flights to/from Puerto Williams
- Meals and beverages not indicated on the itinerary
- Sleeping bag and camping mat
- Optional trips:
 - 3 hours kayak tour on the Grey Lake (160 USD p.p.) or
 - 4-5 hours ice hike on Grey Glacier (220 USD p.p.) on day 5
 - Excursions on day 7
 - Boat trip to the Magellan penguin colony on Magdalena Island (130 USD p.p.) on day 14
- Tips for guides and porters
- Local payments
- 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**

Upon arrival at the hotel 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 late afternoon you meet your trekking guide for a short briefing about the next hiking days.* You spend the first night in a hotel in Puerto Natales in double room with private bathroom. Overnight: Hotel in Puerto Natales in double room with private bathroom. (B/-/-)

Day 2 – Torres del Paine National Park – Trek to the Torres del Paine Granit Needles

In the morning you take a private transfer to the Torres del Paine National Park and will see some of the native wildlife of this fantastic region like Guanacos and Ñandus (driving time 2-3 hours, driving distance approx. 130 km). Upon arrival in the park your first hike leads you to the famous 'Torres' granite needles. At first you hike up to the Ascencio-Valley where you take a break at the Refugio Chileno next to the Ascencio river. After 2+ hours and a tough ascent your efforts will be rewarded: You will stand in front of the impressive needles with a green lagoon lying at your feet.

Altitude Las Torres Lookout: 900 m (2,950 ft). Appr. walking time: 8 hours, walking distance: 19 km (11,8 miles), elevation gain of approx. 950 m (3,116 ft) ascent and descent.

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

Day 3 – Hike along Nordenskjöld Lake

Today, you hike along Lago Nordenskjöld and the gigantic Monte Almirante Nieto to the wonderful campsite Cuernos, close to the lake and the "Cuernos" or "the Horns". Near the camp you will have a picturesque view on the Paine Grande massif. There will be enough time to enjoy this inviting campsite while sitting together and sharing your one-time impressions.

Appr. walking time: 4-5 hours, walking distance: 12-13 km (7,5-8 miles), elevation gain of approx. 400 m (1,310 ft) ascent and descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite "Cuernos" or campsite "Frances". (B/BL/D)

Alternativ itinerary (if the campsites / refugios Cuernos and Frances are fully booked):

Today you go on a half day hike along Nordenskjöld Lake with its colorful waters. Passing Monte Almirante Nieto (2,640 m), you can probably watch condors circling in the sky. Appr. walking time: 4 hours, walking distance: 10 km (6 miles). In the afternoon you continue your journey in a public transfer to "Pudeto sector" (approx. one hour panoramic trip). Afterwards, you cross the beautiful Pehoe Lake with a catamaran (approx. 30 min). The Lodge / Camp Paine Grande will be your "base camp" for the next two days. Overnight: in tents on Campsite "Paine Grande". (B/BL/D)

Day 4 – Trek to the French Valley

Today you will hike up to the camp Italiano. From there you walk further up until you reach a superb viewpoint of the Valley Frances. You will see the impressive "Circuito de Granito" which looks like a colosseum. With a bit of luck, you may witness ice cracking off the Paine Grande (3,050 m / 10,000 ft) sounding like a roaring thunder. Altitude of French Valley Lookout: 550m. Afterwards you descent to the next campsite near the emerald green Lago Pehoe. Appr. walking time: 6-7 hours, walking distance: 17 km (10,5 miles), elevation gain of approx. 600 m (1,970 ft) ascent and descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite "Paine Grande". (B/BL/D)

Day 5 – Trek to the Grey Glacier - Optional Kayak tour or optional Ice hike

Today you continue to the “Camino de los Vientos” until you reach a nice viewpoint from where you can admire a striking view over the Glacier Grey. Afterwards, you scale down along the impressive Grey Lake to your next camp. Altitude Grey Glacier Lookout: 280 m (920 ft).

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.

In the afternoon 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 per person; reservation recommended in advance) - or enjoy some free time to relax. Overnight: in tents on campsite “Grey”. (B/BL/D)

Day 6 – Boat Ride Lago Grey – Puerto Natales

In the morning you take a boat ride on the splendid Lago Grey passing along the icy glacier and crossing the beautiful lake. Appr. walking time: 0,5 hours. Subsequently you take a private transfer back to Puerto Natales. Driving time 2 hours, driving distance approx. 100 km. Overnight: Hotel in Puerto Natales in double room with private bathroom. (B/BL/-)

Day 7 – Puerto Natales – Optional excursions – Bus ride to Punta Arenas

Today you will have time to explore the tiny fishing village of Puerto Natales on your own (*without a guide*). Also, you can choose an optional excursion: a boat trip over the Ultima Esperanza Fjord to the gorgeous hanging Glaciers Balmaceda and Serrano or a horseback riding excursion through the vast Patagonian pampa. In the evening you take a regular bus to Punta Arenas (*without a guide*, driving time 3 hours, driving distance approx. 250 km). Overnight: Hotel in Punta Arenas in double room with private bathroom. (B/-/-)

Day 8 – Flight to Puerto Williams

In the morning you fly to Puerto Williams where you start your exciting expedition. Puerto Williams (2,300 inhabitants) is the southernmost settlement north of the Antarctic.

In the afternoon you have time to explore the tiny fishing village of Puerto Williams on your own and to visit the interesting Martin Gusinde Museum, where you can learn about the culture of the Yamana Indigenous. Overnight: Guesthouse in Puerto Williams in double room with private bathroom. (B/-/D)

Day 9 – Dientes de Navarino Trek – Laguna Salto

Today you hike through a deep forest of beech trees and swampland uphill to Laguna Salto (480 m / 1,575 ft). You set up camp close to the gorgeous Laguna where you spend the night in tents. Appr. walking time: 5-6 hours, walking distance: 9 km (5,6 miles), elevation gain of approx. 600 m (1,970 ft) ascent and 200 m (660 ft) descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Laguna Salto. (B/BL/D)

Day 10 – Dientes de Navarino Trek – Laguna Escondida

Today you hike over the Paso Primero to the Mirador de los Dientes and enjoy a picturesque view over the Dientes Mountain range with its blue lagoons. Afterwards, you hike further over terrain that might be partly snow covered to reach the Paso Australia (805 m / 2,640 ft). Along the way you will discover small lagoons and the sharp rising Dientes mountains until you arrive at your next campsite. Appr. walking time: 5 hours, walking distance: 9,5 km (5,9 miles), elevation gain of approx. 400 m (1,310 ft) ascent and descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Laguna Escondida. (B/BL/D)

Day 11 – Dientes de Navarino Trek – Laguna Martillo

Today you walk through the hidden and untouched valleys of Isla Navarino and cross the Paso Ventarron (696 m / 2,280 ft). You move towards the valley where you can observe forests and dams built by beavers. If you are lucky, you may have the chance to watch one of these animals busy at work. Appr. walking time: 5 hours, walking distance: 8 km (5 miles), elevation gain of approx. 300 m (985 ft) ascent and descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Laguna Martillo. (B/BL/D)

Day 12 – Dientes de Navarino Trek – Puerto Williams

You hike uphill on a sometimes muddy trail to Paso Virginia (829 m / 2,720 ft), the highest point of the Dientes de Navarino-Circuit. From up there you have views back to the rock spires of Monte Lindenmayer and also to Hoste island and Ushuaia.

Afterwards, you descent to Laguna Guanacas and hike back to Puerto Williams, passing dense Coigue forest and fire-cleared slopes until you reach Los Bronces. From there you have a private transfer back to your guesthouse in Puerto Williams followed by a farewell dinner. Appr. walking time: 7-8 hours, walking distance: 15

km (9,3 miles), elevation gain of approx. 420 m (1,380 ft) ascent and 830 m (2,720 ft) descent. Overnight: Guesthouse in Puerto Williams in a cozy familiar atmosphere in double room with private bathroom. (B/BL/D)

Day 13 – Return flight to Punta Arenas or boat ride to Ushuaia

After breakfast, you say goodbye to our local trekking-guide. You will fly back over the Darwin Mountain range to Punta Arenas (alternative: boat ride to Ushuaia, if available). Overnight: Hotel in double room with private bathroom. (B).

Day 14 – Goodbye Patagonia

After breakfast, you will continue your journey individually.

TIP: In the morning, you can take an optional boat trip to observe the Magellanic penguins on Magdalena Island and walk among them (international participants, additional costs 130 USD per person; advance booking recommended). (B/-/-)

Trip Notes:

Excellent physical fitness and team spirit are necessary requirements for this tour. Moreover, you should be able to walk long distances (4 to 8 hours a day) on muddy, rocky and sometimes snowy trails carrying your own backpack of 50-60 liter (10-13 kg / 22-29 lbs). Your personal items, camping mat and sleeping bag as well as some meals for the trek have to be carried by you.

PORTERS CARRY THE EXPEDITION TENTS, ALL COOKING EQUIPMENT AND SET UP CAMP!

Torres del Paine National Park: In every campsite you will find toilets, showers and a Refugio. The luggage that is not required during the trekking tour will be locked in the hotel in Puerto Natales.

Isla Navarino: Special comfort like dining-/cooking-tent, showers and toilets should not be expected on Isla Navarino Trek.

The luggage that is not required during the trekking tour will be stored in the hotel in Punta Arenas and in the guesthouse in Puerto Williams.

Gear Checklist Tierra del Fuego & Patagonia:

Travel Documents

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

Luggage

- Duffel bag or travel bag or suitcase for all the rest of your luggage, which you do not need on trekking days (to leave locked at your guesthouse)
- Backpack (50 – 60 liter) for the trekking tour
- Rain cover for your backpack
- Passport pouch or money belt

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

Bring 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
- 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

Footwear

- Hiking socks, blister-free
- Sturdy hiking boots, waterproof, lightweight, broken in, aggressive tread - over ankle **mandatory**
- **Gaiters, knee-high, we use and recommend crocodile gaiters or similar - they are mandatory on Dientes de Navarino Trek**
- Sandals or flip-flop or Crocs

Important

- **Trekking poles are mandatory on Dientes de Navarino Trek!**

Travel Accessories

- Water bottle – 500-750 ml
- Headlamp and batteries
- Sunglasses and retainer strap
- Sun blocker + 20 and lip balm
- Toiletry kit
- Trekking towel
- Hand sanitizer gel
- Personal prescription medication
- Watch with alarm or travel clock
- Ziploc with toilet paper

Optional equipment

- Camera, memory cards and batteries
- 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 (to be used for 2 people); or Doite Himalaya (to be used for 1 person)
- Cooking equipment while camping
- First aid kit and satellite phone or VHF-equipment

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

MOSER Active Trekking-Team