

SELF GUIDED Torres del Paine “O” Circuit TREK

7 days Trekking- and Nature Trip | Chile

On this unique trekking-adventure you will explore the impressive mountain range of Torres del Paine with its peerless gleaming glaciers, hike along emerald-green shining lakes and massive ice fields until you finally reach the famous granite towers of Torres del Paine. The National Park obtained its name from its three imposing rocky needles. Watch the wonderful Patagonian sunset and admire the enclosing mountains turn into an incomparable red color. You will sleep under the “Southern Cross” and feel at one with Chile’s untouched and breathtaking nature.

Trip Highlights:

- **Torres del Paine O Circuit independently:** 7-day self guided trek around the Torres del Paine massif , one of the world's Top 10 Treks
- Dive into a world of eternal ice fields, granite spires & alpine lakes and resist the strong gust of wind while crossing the John Gardner pass
- Overnight in spectacular campsites surrounded by superb mountain scenery and ancient forest
- Drink Mate-tea and try “Pan del Indio”, an edible mushroom similar to a ping pong ball
- Observe iconic species such as guanacos, pumas & condors on the self-guided hikes
- Paddle between huge icebergs on the Grey Lake and hear the creaking movements of the vast Grey Glacier

Trip Info:

Trip length: 7 days
Start/End of the trip: from / to Puerto Natales
Group Size: min. 1 person
Departures: see set departures on our website
Trip Style: self-guided trekking, camping & ice hiking or kayak

What’s included in the trip price:

- Accommodation in Torres del Paine National Park: 6 nights in roomy, high quality 2-person-expedition-tents
- Simple, thin foam camping mat (not inflatable)
- Meals: 6 x breakfast, 6 x box lunch, 6 x dinner
- Transport: all public and private transfers as per the detailed itinerary
- Public shuttle bus within the park
- Boat ride / Catamaran Pehoe Lake
- Entry Fees/Admission: to Torres del Paine National Park

What’s NOT included in the trip price:

- Sleeping bag (**can be rented with additional costs**)
- Local English / Spanish speaking certified trekking guide Torres del Paine
- Local Porters (**can be booked with additional costs**)
- Meals and beverages not indicated on the itinerary
- Accommodation in Puerto Natales before and after the trek
- Tips for drivers and porters
- Local payments
- International and domestic airfare and airport charges
- Travel insurance is not included in this tour. Travel insurance is mandatory and must be purchased prior to the start of the trip.

Optionally bookable for an extra charge

- Airport pick up & drop off: can be booked with additional costs
- Sleeping bag: the optional rented sleeping bag is provided by the respective refuge and is located in the tent, which is already set up, together with the sleeping mat, which is always provided. Rental fee sleeping bag for 6 nights = **USD 200 per person**.
- Trekking poles: can be hired for an extra charge

- **Optional excursions on day 5:** Appr. 3 hours kayak excursion on Grey Lake along icebergs of Grey Glacier (230 USD p.p.) or appr 4-5 hours ice hike excursion on the Grey Glacier (310 USD p.p.). Due to weather conditions, the excursion may be cancelled (with full refund for this excursion). You can cancel the excursion free of charge up to 72 hours in advance.

The following porter service can be booked with additional costs:

- Local **PORTER** during days 1 to 5 on the Torres del Paine "O" Circuit, to carry your personal items such as your sleeping bag, (optional) inflatable camping mat, vanity bag, toiletries, extra-set of clothes // **up to 15 kg per porter // additional costs per porter: 950 USD**. We recommend sharing the service of one porter between 2 or 3 participants. The porter transports a maximum of three dry bags.

Our company will provide the waterproof bag for the porter. It is a high quality 30-liter waterproof SealLine dry bag.

The porter does not take on the work and tasks of a certified hiking guide. He merely transports the dry bags with the personal belongings from one camp to the next and does not hike with you.

This means that you do not have access to the dry bag during the hikes, but only when you arrive at camp!

Itinerary:

We will send you the detailed day-by-day-description, all tickets, information and vouchers for your self-guided trip approx. 4 weeks before the start of your trip.

Important note: The itinerary described in the program is a planned itinerary or a guide. Changes or deviations of individual travel services from the contractually agreed content of the travel contract, which become necessary after conclusion of the contract and which were not brought about by MOSER Active against good faith, are permitted, provided that these are not significant and do not affect the overall design of the booked trip. MOSER Active will endeavor to offer an equivalent replacement. Additional costs that may arise due to changes to the tour itinerary are to be borne by the participant on site and will not be reimbursed by MOSER Active.

Day 1: Public transfer to Torres del Paine National Park – Trek to Camp Serón

Please remember to take your original passport and your original “tarjeta de turismo” with you to the Torres del Paine National Park for the check-ins at the campsites. You will receive the “tarjeta de turismo” from the PDI, Policía de Investigaciones, when you enter Chile.

At **06:30 a.m.** you take a private transfer from your accommodation in Puerto Natales to Puerto Natales bus station.

At **07:00 a.m.** you take a regular bus 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 hours, driving distance approx. 130 km). In the afternoon your first self-guided 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 350 m (1,150 ft) descent. You spend the night in tents with unobstructed views of the starry sky on campsite Seron. **Meals included: dinner.**

Day 2: 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 350 m (1,150 ft) descent.

Overnight: in tents on campsite Dickson. **Meals included: breakfast / box lunch / dinner.**

Day 3: 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. **Meals included: breakfast / box lunch / dinner.**

Day 4: 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: 9-10 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. **Meals included: breakfast / box lunch / dinner.**

Day 5: Optional Kayak tour or Ice hike excursion on Glacier Grey – Trek to Camp Paine Grande

In the morning you can choose an optional 3 hours day kayak excursion on the Lago Grey along the icebergs of the Grey Glacier or an optional 4-5 hours ice hike on Glacier Grey (extra costs 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.

Appr. walking time: 4-5 hours, walking distance: 12 km (7,5 miles), elevation gain of approx. 350 m (1,150 ft) ascent and 350 m (1,150 ft) descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Paine Grande. **Meals included: breakfast / box lunch / dinner.**

Day 6: Hike to the French Valley

Starting from Camp Paine Grande, 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 600 m (1,950 ft) ascent and 600 m (1,950 ft) descent. Overnight: in tents on campsite Paine Grande. **Meals included: breakfast / box lunch / dinner.**

Day 7: Panorama boat trip – Trek to the Torres del Paine Granite Needles – Private transfer back to Puerto Natales

In the morning you cross the beautiful 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: 21 km (13 miles), elevation gain of approx. 950 m (3,120 ft) ascent and 950 m (3,120 ft) descent.

After this challenging hike you take a **private transfer** back to Puerto Natales.

Driving time 2 hours, driving distance approx. 130 km. **Arrival at Puerto Natales between 9pm and 10pm.**

Meals included: breakfast / 2 x box lunch.

What does "self guided" mean?

This multi-day trekking tour is suitable for experienced and independent hikers who like to hike on their own and at their own pace. You love the physical challenge and have no problem finding your own way along the marked hiking trails without a guide. In the event of illness or injury during the trek, you can easily take care of yourself.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Please note that the Torres del Paine O-Circuit itinerary is a planned itinerary or guide that is subject to change at any time due to officially mandated closures of sections/sectors of the Torres del Paine O-Circuit trail. If the local government, the park authority CONAF, or the Carabineros de Chile close parts of the Torres del Paine circuit, such as the John Garner Pass, for one or more days due to bad weather conditions (strong gusts of wind, snowstorms, or snow drifts on the trail) for one or more days and you are currently at Camp Dickson or Camp Perros, you will have to hike back the distance you have already covered to the starting point at Camp Central.

If it becomes clear shortly before departure that the park authority CONAF will close the northern part of the national park for several days, we will immediately work out an alternative itinerary for you and inform you as soon as possible.

MOSER Active has no influence on the implementation of safety protocols and standards, nor on the interpretation and evaluation of weather forecasts by the park authority CONAF and the associated arbitrary decisions. Should one of the above cases occur, this does not constitute a travel shortage and therefore does not give rise to any claim for compensation, not even partial.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Excellent physical fitness are necessary requirements for this tour. Furthermore, you should be able to walk with your backpack 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).

Trip Profile

- All the equipment for your belongings throughout the trek must be carried by you.
- During your trip in the Torres del Paine National Park you will spend 6 nights in high quality 2-person-expedition-tents which you will find all set up when you arrive at each camp. We provide simple, thin foam camping mat (not inflatable).
- All campsites are equipped with toilets, showers and refugios (Mountain huts/Lodges).
- Breakfast and dinner are served in the dining rooms of the refugios which are always close to the camp sites. Packed lunch for the hiking day can be picked up at the reception of the mountain hut during breakfast.
- The rest of your luggage, which you do NOT need on the 7 days trekking tour, stays locked at your accommodation in Puerto Natales.

ONLY for those participants who booked PORTER support:

Our company will provide the waterproof bag for the porter. It is a high quality waterproof SealLine dry bag with a capacity of 30 liters, maximum three dry bags per porter.

Each participant – who has booked the porter support – can put the following items in their dry bag: your personal items such as your sleeping bag and optional inflatable camping mat (approx. 2,5kg / 5.5lbs for the sleeping bag/mat) and 2,5kg / 5.5lbs for personal belongings like vanity bag, toiletries, trekking towel, extra-set of clothes. The bag's weight must not exceed 5 kg / 11lbs.

The porter does not take on the work and tasks of a certified hiking guide. The porter merely transports the SealLine dry bags with your personal belongings from one camp to the next and does not hike with you. This means that you do not have access to the dry bag during the hikes, but only when you arrive at camp!

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

MOSER ACTIVE Trekking Team