The Route of Parks
THE HEART OF PATAGONIA
The Route of Parks was born from an amazing vision - to protect and promote the natural beauty and heritage of Chilean Patagonia.

30 years in the making, Route of the Parks has now come to fruition thanks to an unwavering dedication and passion for conservation and the biggest private land donation in history from Tompkins Conservation.

With over four million hectares of national parkland, roughly the size of Switzerland, the route stretches 2,800km, through 17 National Parks in Chile’s far south. It is longer than Australia is wide!

It is packed with pristine landscapes, fragile ecosystems, rich history, and diverse culture. All in one unforgettable experience.

It is designed to protect the environment, to foster tourism that safeguards the natural and cultural riches which helps the economic development of local Patagonian communities, and continues the vision.

We have been closely following the progress of the Park, and the above picture is our Director, Rose visiting the park in 2016 for a first hand look at it.

We’re looking forward to planning your journey there soon.

Welcome to one of the greatest conservation stories of all time, and the world’s most scenic route.
The Route of Parks is a one of the World’s greatest conservation initiatives. A scenic route through Chilean Patagonia spanning 2,800 kilometres of pristine landscapes, fragile ecosystems, and diverse local cultures.

It stretches through 17 National Parks from Puerto Montt and Cape Horn in Chile’s far south. The pristine landscapes, diverse ecosystems, and more than 60 local communities, make this a one-of-a-kind journey. The Route of Parks also protects nature and fosters the economic development of local Patagonian communities.

HOW WAS THE ROUTE OF PARKS CREATED?
In March of 2017, Tompkins Conservation signed an unprecedented agreement with the Chilean government. The foundation donated more than one million acres to create five new National Parks (Pumalín Douglas Tompkins, Melimoyu, Cerro Castillo, Patagonia, and Kawésqar), and expand three others already in existence (Hornopirén, Corcovado, and Isla Magdalena). To achieve this, the Chilean government also contributed nearly 2.5 million acres and reclassified 5.4 million acres of nature reserves as National Parks.

These new National Parks, along with those already in existence, helped to form the Patagonian Route of Parks: 28 million acres of protected land in 17 National Parks—the equivalent of three times the size of Switzerland, or more than twice the size of Costa Rica.

THE VISION
To be recognised as the most important conservation route in the world, promoting Chile as a pristine natural destination for outdoor tourism as well as becoming an international model for ecologically minded economic development.

THE PURPOSE
Promote and protect the natural and cultural heritage of the Chilean Patagonia and the 17 National Parks that make up the route, in addition to fostering economic development through tourism that safeguards the natural riches of this special place.

THE GOALS
To connect the largest number of National Parks in the world, and inspire local communities to value and protect their natural heritage, making it as a source of belonging and pride using conservation to encourage tourism. The route comprises protects more than 90% of Chile. It features more 28 million acres of onstine ecosystems, home to many species of flora and fauna at risk of extinction. The route helps more the 60 local communities, through ecologically minded tourism, spurring investment and employments well as the local job market, with the hope of each dollar invested to return six to ten dollars to the local economy.

THE RESULT
An inspiring, exciting and amazing travel adventure waiting for you. We are thrilled to introduce the Route to you and hope to help you discover it for yourself as well.

INTRODUCING SOME OF THE PARKS

ALerce Andino National Park, Los Lagos
The forests are a global icon of endemic fauna, one in three species in this forest is not found anywhere else on the planet. Vertical walls of granite surround the park’s fifty or so lagoons, and its rugged geography has long protected millennia-old Alerce (Fitzroya) trees that grow over more than half of the park’s surface.

Pumalín Douglas Tompkins National Park
The deep forests of Pumalín reach all the way to the fjords, creating one of the most spectacular coastlines on the planet. Hundreds of waterfalls cascade down from glaciers, and Chaitén Volcanoes crown the landscape. The ancient trees’ 3,000 years of life help to tell a timeless story of this pristine ecosystem, tucked in the Palena Province.

Queulat National Park, Aysén
This park was first seen in the eighteenth century by Jesuits searching for the mythical City of the Caesars. Today, Queulat National Park, is admired by thousands of visitors each year, who are attracted by its beautiful evergreen and Andean Patagonian forests, its waterfalls, fjords, jagged rock walls, abundant rivers, and famous hanging glacier or Ventisquero Colgante which can be seen from the Carretera Austral.

Parque Nacional Cerro Castillo, Aysén
The magnificent Cerro Castillo peak lies 7,605 feet above Couvalacht, and in the area surrounding it, you’ll find a trekking circuit that has been named one of the most beautiful in all Chile. The forests are home to rare Huemules (South Andean Deer) and the hanging glaciers form lagoons with bright turquoise waters, giving colour and life to a unique landscape that captivates visitors from around the world.

Patagonia National Park, Aysén
This is Patagonian steppe in all its splendor—mountain ranges, Lenga and Firre forests that burst with red in fall, active wildlife, and dozens of spectacular lagoons and lakes, such as Cochrane and Jeinimeni, which nourish these landscapes of overwhelming beauty. All this helps to tell the story of one of the most important ecosystem restoration projects in the country.

Bernardo O’Higgins National Park, Magallanes
Chile’s largest park, and one of the largest in the world, the parks 49 glaciers make up part of the 3rd largest hold of water on the planet Pío XI is the largest glacier in the southern hemisphere and the only one in the region that is not receding. Travel by boat to find the marine life and explore the ancestral homeland of the Kawésqar people.

Torres del Paine National Park, Magallanes
Declared the Eighth Wonder of the World and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, this is one of the most beautiful mountains on the planet. Formed around 12 million years ago, this geologic work of art is a magnet for trekking and climbing aficionados. Turquoise lakes, pristine glaciers, gorgeous forests, and striking pampas, are home to Pumas.

Cabo De Hornos National Park, Magallanes
The only place in the world where the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans meet, Cape Horn’s history is steeped in the legends of hundreds of sailors who set out upon it’s waters in search of the planet’s southernmost point. The park is home to a surprising diversity of marine birds, and sub-Antarctic forests, which adapt to the gale-force winds.
The Carretera Austral is the road from Puerto Montt to Villa O’Higgins. It meanders through The Route of The Parks, using ferries to cross stretches of water in some parts. The road is famously long and gas stations are few and far between, so fill up at every opportunity. You can start in Puerto Montt or Balmaceda, both serviced by daily scheduled flights from Santiago.

Many travelers like to drive themselves, although fully guided trips cangue you a special insight to the local secrets along the way.

We are excited to talk about your ideas and interests to help plan your own tailor-made journey. All our journeys include a meeting with a local guide at the start to give you more information and tips for your journey.

This is a suggestion for the full Carretera Austral. The Northern part takes you on an unforgettable driving adventure through breathtaking landscapes, forests and ferries. Raft the fast-flowing Futaleufú River, be amazed by the impressive hanging glacier at Queulat National Park. Make the most of your time and freedom, lingering longer in places you like. Then head south to the glaciers and hidden valleys in the heart of Patagonia. Trek to Cerro Castillo, an oddly-shaped hill that resembles a castle of rock and ice. Cruise, glide, or paddle on a lake where water has carved caves out of the marble. Drive to the end of the road at Villa O’Higgins, and take some rest in the magnificent Patagonia National Park on the way back.

**DAY 1 - PUERTO MONTT - HORNORIPIREN**

Pick up your car at Puerto Montt airport and start your trip along the Carretera Austral. Pass the towns of Chamirosa and Weih before arriving at your first ferry, a 45-minute trip from Caleta Arena to Caleta Puelche. From here it is a 2-hour drive to reach the town of Hornoripiren.

**DAY 2 - HORNORIPIREN - PUMALIN PARK (B)**

Take a 3hr ferry to Leptepu, accompanied by the most impressive view of the Andes Mountain range and Patagonian fjords. Then drive 10 km and arrive at the first ferry, taking you to Caleta Gonzalo, the entry of the Pumalín Park. You can also reach the park by bus from Puerto Montt on a gloriously scenic journey of 9 hours.

**DAY 3 - PUMALIN PARK (B)**

Explore and enjoy the glorious Pumalín Park, which stretches from the heart of the Andes to the fjords of the Pacific Coast. An initiative of Tompkins Conservation it was created to preserve and protect the Valdivian temperate rainforest. There are many walking trails to wander or take to the water for rafting or kayaking.

**DAY 4 - LAGO ROSAPATÓN, EL PANGUE (B)**

Today will take you further south, driving through humid evergreen forests. Pass the marmious Lago Velchí, and the town of La Junta to arrive at the Lago Rosapatón, where you can soak in the lodge’s own hotel’s own hot springs.

**DAY 5 - DAY AT LEISURE (B)**

Many options await you. You can try fly fishing, kayaking, hiking, or simply relax and admire the impressive location. The lodge mixes ingredients and flavours from the mountains, the sea and the forest, to create delicious meals.

**DAY 6 - QUEULAT NATIONAL PARK (B)**

You keep driving south watching the beautiful landscapes that seem to change every 15 minutes! The Queulat National Park will impress you and pay attention to the tiny mosses that create their own miniature forest in the wet underground.

**DAY 7. COYHAIQUE OR BALENCHEADA (B)**

Make sure you stop at the Ventisquero Hanging Glacier before reaching Coyhaique, the regional capital of Aysén.

**DAY 8. RIO TRANQUILLO**

Driving south the scenery gives way to green forests and incredible peaks. Stop to admire the views at Cerro Castilla, with its unique shape and beauty of making it one of the most iconic and eye-catching mountains in the area. After time to explore the scene, continue to Rio Tranquilo.

**DAY 9. MARBLE CAVES – PUERTO GUADAL (B)**

Take a morning boat trip through the marble caves, an incredible formation built by water and wind. Then drive the short distance to your lodge in Puerto Guadal, on the southern shore of Lake General Carrera. You should have time for a walk or general look around this afternoon.

**DAY 10. CALETA TORTEL**

Continue along the unexploited Carretera Austral. Arrive at Caleta TorTEL, a town completely built on stilts, where raised pathways act as roads.

**DAY 11. CALETA TORTEL**

Time today to explore this unique village or maybe visit some of the local glaciers, or even cruise to the Isla de los Muertos, with breathtaking scenery. It was only in 1950 the island’s grim contents were found. No statues, no graveyards, or even names, only thirty-three wooden crosses indicating that the lcoals have other stories to tell. It was only in 1950 the island’s grim contents were found. No statues, no graveyards, or even names, only thirty-three wooden crosses indicating that early land clearers killed during the tortuous journey. The end of the road is also the entry to the Southern Ice Fields.

**DAY 12. VILLA O’HIGGINS (B)**

Reach the end of the road at Villa O’Higgins, a small village isolated between mountains and fjords. Take a lovely 45min ferry from Puerto Yungay and Rio Bravo. You can drop your car at Balmaceda airport, or stay in Coyhaique to continue your journey south.

**DAY 13. VILLA O’HIGGINS (B)**

Day at leisure. We highly recommend taking the trip to the great O’Higgins Glacier.

**DAY 14. PATAGONIA NATIONAL PARK (B)**

Drive north to the hidden jewel of the Chacabuco Valley. Park Patagonia is a conservation project preserving and protecting the area. Staying here you will see guanacos everywhere, and if lucky you may even glimpse a puma.

**DAY 15. PATAGONIA NATIONAL PARK (B)**

Explore the park at your leisure. Hike or drive along empty roads and trails.

**DAY 16. BALENCEDA (B)**

Start early for your drive back to Balmaceda. Drop your car at the airport and fly onwards.

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**THE CARRETERA AUSTRAL: THE SPINE OF PATAGONIA**
Patagonia National Park (752,503 acres) features the greatest terrestrial biodiversity in the region, with habitats ranging from Patagonian steppe to lenga forest and wetlands. It’s home to numerous endangered and threatened species, including ten percent of the global population of huemul, the south Andean deer. A former estancia, its central area was historically overgrazed and poorly managed as a product of intensive ranching. Through a long process of restoration and rewilding, the native grasslands have recovered and wildlife has returned in numbers, including herds of guanaco, a South American camelid, flamenco, puma and a population Darwin’s rhea under restoration. Top notch infrastructure includes a lodge, restaurant, visitor center and museums, as well as campgrounds and trails. Patagonia National Park consists of the Tompkins Conservation donation in addition to the former national reserves of Jeinimeni and Tamango, plus fiscal land. It’s located 180 miles south of Coyhaique, the regional capital of Aysén.

We’ll let KRISTINE TOMKINS, Founder and President, Conservacion Patagonica, explain what it means...

Patagonia Park is a gem that shines in one of the most wild, untamed parts of the world. When we set out, our goal was to create a national park with world-class scenery and wildlife. We envisioned an exceptional park where visitors would experience untrammeled nature, and that would contribute to a vibrant local economy. That vision is becoming reality here in the Chacabuco Valley.
What to Do in the Park

Get Outside

Hiking, backpacking, wildlife watching, boating, mountain biking, and scenic drives are all permitted activities within Patagonia Park. (Other activities, including fishing, whitewater rafting, horseback riding, and guided trips are available outside of the park. Please check with the park office for recommendations.)

**WILDLIFE VIEWING** There may be no better place in Chilean Patagonia to grab a pair of binocs and watch the passing nature show. Care to see waterfowl? Head for one of the park’s lakes or wetlands. While you’re there, look for the Chilean four-eyed frog and other amphibians. Want to add a painted butterfly to your life list? You’re in the right place. Whatever your focus, the park affords myriad opportunities to experience the region’s distinctive wildlife.

**DAY HIKING** Patagonia Park’s expanding trail network welcomes everyone, from casual strollers to ambitious ramblers. Hikers may explore on their own or with a professional guide. You might choose to visit the confluence of the Baker and Chacabuco Rivers, hike to Lago Chico, or enjoy a 4.5-mile loop hike that begins near the lodge. (Visit the park headquarters for more ideas, and see some suggested hikes on pages 28–31.)

**BACKPACKING** If you’re interested in an overnight hike, the Avilés Valley Trail is an established multiday trail, at present the only one in the park. Intrepid explorers will enjoy this trail’s scenic beauty—and can help sustain that beauty by following leave-no-trace principles, camping well off the trail, and following the park’s “no campfire” policy. Please notify the Patagonia Park office before departing on your trip.

**MOUNTAIN BIKING** Mountain biking is a great way to explore the park and cover more ground than you would by foot. The dirt-and-gravel Paso Roballos Road (X-83), the park’s main artery, is perfect for exploring on two (sturdy) wheels. Biking is allowed only on existing roads but coming in 2017, the first two designated mountain biking trails will be added to Patagonia Park’s trail system. (While the park doesn’t rent bicycles, there are local tour operators that offer mountain bike adventures in the area.)

You will need your passport and vehicle registration papers if planning to cross the border into Argentina.

**LA RUTA ESCÉNICA (THE SCENIC ROUTE)** We’re biased, of course, but think that a drive through Patagonia Park offers scenery as lovely as anyplace on Earth. Traverse the park by vehicle to enjoy the majesty and beauty of Chilean Patagonia, where you’ll see the flamingo-filled waters of Laguna Seca, expansive views of snowcapped Cerro Kristine, and clay-red peaks adorned in glacial ice. The route starts at the western entrance of the park and continues to the eastern entrance at the border. The drive takes about an hour-and-a-half each way, but if you bring your passport and vehicle papers, you can explore the Argentina side of the mountains (including the new Patagonia National Park, Argentina) and make it a full-day trip. Do the drive on your own, or hire a Patagonia Park guide.
Flourishing Wildlife

What You May Encounter During Your Visit

With herds of guanacos gracing the grasslands, the endangered huemul a ghostly presence in the forest, and Andean condors—Earth’s largest flying bird—soaring overhead, Patagonia Park’s varied ecosystems and strict protection make it a haven for wildlife. Conservacion Patagonica’s rewilding team, as well as visiting biologists, have made the Chacabuco Valley a center of scientific research with an immediate, practical purpose: to restore and protect the region’s native species.

Charismatic creatures like the puma may be a rare sight, but every visitor to the park will have ample wildlife-viewing opportunities. You may see nosy guanacos on the lodge lawn or pink Chilean flamingos bathing near the banks of Laguna Seca. Whether you are hiking the trails or gazing out your lodge room window, experiencing the abundant wildlife is sure to be a memorable part of any visit to Patagonia Park.

**What You May Encounter During Your Visit**

**Culpeo Foxes** and kits can be found darting through the grasslands, hunting small rodents or eating calafate berries.

**Hairy Armadillos** can often be seen along the main road, so drive carefully!

**Pampas Cats** are very elusive; only a few sightings have been recorded in the park.

**Darwin’s Rheas** live in the eastern side of the valley; the park’s rhea breeding center is helping grow their population.

**Pumas** live throughout the park but are experts at hiding in the day. Their main prey are guanacos and European hare, both of which are abundant in the valley.

**Guanacos** are prolific in the park and can be seen along the main road throughout the valley.

**Chilean flamingos** can be viewed on Laguna Seca.

**Chilean flamingos** can often be spotted while hiking along the Lagunas Altas Trail, or as they feed on carcasses in other parts of the park.

**Pumas** may see nosy guanacos on the lodge lawn or pink Chilean flamingos bathing near the banks of Laguna Seca. Whether you are hiking the trails or gazing out your lodge room window, experiencing the abundant wildlife is sure to be a memorable part of any visit to Patagonia Park.

**Huemul Deer** occupy habitat along Lago Cochrane, near the Tamango Reserve. Lucky visitors to the Lago Chico trail may spot one of these solitary forest dwellers.

**Andean Condors** often can be spotted while hiking along the Lagunas Altas Trail, or as they feed on carcasses in other parts of the park.

**Austral Vizcachas** often stay hidden among rocky outcrops, but can sometimes be spotted sunning themselves in the cliffs along the main park road to Argentina (the X-83).

**Liolaemus chacabucoense** (an endemic lizard) is frequently spotted scrambling over rock outcroppings.

**Crested caracara**
**Black-chested buzzard-eagle**
**Andean tapaculo**
**Chilean hawk**
**Chilean flicker**
**Long-tailed meadowlark**

**Other Notable Species in the Park**

**BIRDS**

**AMPHIBIANS/REPTILES**

Large four-eyed frog
Liolaemus chacabucoense (lizard)
Inspired by iconic national park lodges from around the world, the Lodge at Valle Chacabuco, with its detailed woodwork and original photography of local culture and nature, reflects Patagonia’s distinctive character. The central living and dining room are the ideal setting for resting after a day of travel, hiking, or exploration. Drink Chilean wine at the living room bar and enjoy views of looming Mount Tamanguito to the south through expansive paneled windows. Nestle into overstuffed sofas, lounge by the fire, or venture to the patio by night to view an endless spread of stars.

Complementing its natural surroundings, the Lodge is built from stone quarried in the Chacabuco Valley. The rustic beams overhead and flooring below were crafted from recycled and refurbished wood, and the building’s lush grounds welcome frequent and personal wildlife encounters. Patagonia Park’s energy system is moving toward a goal of 100 percent renewable energy sources, a model for other parks around the world.

The Lodge is available for weddings, conferences, and other private events. The Lodge is open from October 1 through April 30; closed from May through September.
Explore the heart of the Route of Parks, with a 3 night stay at Parque Patagonia. You will go by boat inside caves of marble and can also hike inside the tunnels of a glacier. Stay at the fabulous Lodge and Chacabuco and immerse yourself inside the postcard of Patagonia.

**DAY 1: BALMACEDA - COYHAIQUE**

**You will be met at the airport in Balmaceda by a local host who will talk you through the details for your trip. They’ll give you the travelling pack, map and details on excursions and answer any questions you have. Then pick up your car, RAV4 or similar, and drive north about 45 minutes to Coyhaique and check in to your hotel for the evening.**

**DAY 2: PARQUE PATAGONIA**

**Begin the journey south on the Carretera Austral, crossing the Cero Castillo National Park where you might see Huemuls, the national deer, if lucky, and the impressive views of the imposing Cero Castillo peak.**

After following the Ibanez and Murta Rivers, arrive at Puerto Tranquilo on General Carrera Lake. This would be a good place to stop for some lunch before continuing the drive to Parque Patagonia for your 3 night stay, approximately 1.5hrs.

**DAY 3: PARQUE PATAGONIA**

**Explore the amazing Parque Patagonia, the world’s newest National Park and one of the most pristine and beautiful parts of Patagonia. It is an amazing result of the passion and vision of Kris and Doug Tompkins.**

It was once an overgrazed sheep and cattle ranch that now protects an abundance of Patagonian steppe grasslands, glaciated peaks, and rebounding wildlife. Experience the dramatic transformation in ecosystems as you drive east to the border with Argentina. In less than two hours, you’ll be looking east across the vast expanse of the Argentine Patagonian steppe. Along the way, stop to count flamingos, black-necked swans, and myriad other bird species that reside within the park. On your return, take a detour to hike the Lago Chico trail, a 12-km (7.5-mile) loop in the eastern sector of the park. You’ll appreciate the big views of Mount San Lorenzo, Patagonia’s second-highest peak, and the massive Lago Cochane. There’s a shorter hike too, a 10-minute stroll to an excellent lookout point over the lake. For dinner, you could gather around the parrilla (grill) in the restaurant for a traditional asado (BBQ) and buffet alongside team members and other guests.

**DAY 4: PARQUE PATAGONIA**

**Day to explore the area.**

**DAY 5: RIO TRANQUILO**

**Take your time today exploring the area or more of the park. Then drive 110km north (2.5hrs) to Rio Tranquilo.**

**DAY 6: RIO TRANQUILO**

**You’ll be picked up for an exploration of the Marble Caves, one of the most isolated natural treasures of the world. The Cathedral, the Chapel and the Cave are the three formations that make up this natural spectacle that will certainly leave you breathless. Take time to admire the black and white columns reflected on the blue waters. After the caves, return to the hotel, and explore the area.**

**DAY 7: ICE TREKKING ON EXPLORADES GLACIER**

**What an exciting day! You’ll be driven 52km west and see the scenery become increasingly green and lush, as you enter impenetrable forests.**

Hike through the forest, manoeuvring over the boulders to reach the Lago Chico trail, a 12-km (7.5-mile) loop in the eastern sector of the park. You’ll appreciate the big views of Mount San Lorenzo, Patagonia’s second-highest peak, and the massive Lago Cochane. There’s a shorter hike too, a 10-minute stroll to an excellent lookout point over the lake. For dinner, you could gather around the parrilla (grill) in the restaurant for a traditional asado (BBQ) and buffet alongside team members and other guests.

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Hike through the forest, manoeuvring over the boulders to reach the ice where you’ll put on the crampons and be immersed in a quiet world of blue, green and white. Be guided through some of the ice caves and walk through the crevasses, touching ice that is tens of thousands of years old.

If you don’t want to ice trek, you can do a day navigation to the San Rafael Glacier, Aysen’s largest Glacier, or head back to Balmaceda today instead. Tonight is your final night in Rio Tranquilo.

**DAY 7: DRIVE TO BALMACEDA**

**Drive to Balmaceda Airport (4hrs) to drop off your car and fly to Santiago, or continue travelling.**

2020 prices per person for a self drive trip start at $3,466 based on 2 people travelling. Prices for solo travellers and more than 2 travellers are available well. Ask us for details.
Have you ever felt completely insignificant in comparison to nature? Well, get ready to feel precisely that way among the turquoise waters, glaciers and towering granite horns of the Torres del Paine National Park. The jaw-dropping landscapes of this eighth wonder of the world are humbling indeed.

Immerse yourself in this vast national park; a backpack and comfortable shoes are all you require for a trekking adventure, the best possible way to explore this UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve.

Take full advantage of the 17 hours of daylight in summer and don’t miss out on sunrise, when the horns of the Torres del Paine massif glow purple and red. Sail on Lake Grey to admire the eponymous glacier, or paddle a kayak through its colossal blue and white icebergs.

You’ll enjoy terrific wildlife-watching in Torres del Paine. See majestic condors wheeling in the pristine skies overhead. Look out for foxes, huemul or Andean deer and guanacos along the way, and if you lie in wait patiently, you might be lucky enough to spot the reclusive puma.
It’s a question we get asked often, and the answer is always the same: It depends on you. If you want to do extended hikes, multiple park activities, or have the most spectacular park views right from your room, then you should stay ‘in’. If you want to see the highlights, and more of the region then you may be better staying ‘out’. We’ll talk about it and help you make the right choice.

IN OR OUT??

The park is open all year round and we think the best time to visit is October to April. Summer temps reach 20C, winter drops below 0. Wind chill makes it seem much cooler. Winter is less crowded and more likely for puma viewing.

WILDLIFE

There’s terrific wildlife-watching in the park. See majestic condors wheeling in the skies overhead. Look out for, huemul (Andean deer) and guanacos along the way, and if you are really lucky you could spot the reclusive puma.

THE W

The most famous walk in Patagonia. During your four-day, 75km journey, you will see the park’s most important landmarks, including the Torres Lookout, the Cuernos Lodge and its visiting condors, the constant murmurs of the Frances Glacier, and the much-anticipated finale at the Grey Glacier.

The so-called W trekking trail runs around the main tourist attractions of Torres del Paine. The journey is named by the union of the three large areas which the trail runs through, the Ascencio Valley, the Frances Valley and the Grey Glacier Valley.

It is definitely one of the favourite treks for nature lovers. Dare living this adventure which lasts between 4 and 7 days, walking through lenga forests, amazing lookouts and steep slopes. Get ready to push yourself to the limit!

The W trek departs from the Lago Grey, with options for the 5-day or 7-day tour. It is a walk through incredible landscapes, including the Grey Glacier, massifs, forests, and streams. It is a full-time trek with options for 3-5 nights, depending on the choice of accommodation and the distance covered.

THE O

A complete and demanding path along the wonderful Torres del Paine is what the so-called “O” Trail offers. The 93.2 km long walk begins in the Amarga Lake area and completely circles the famous mountain.

Dare to be part of this challenge, lasting between 7 and 10 days and feel the privilege of getting to know places such as the John Garner Pass, the highest place on the circuit, at 1,350 meters, has a impressive view of the Southern Patagonian Ice Fields.

THE HOTELS

There are several accommodation choices, both inside and outside the park, from basic accommodation to luxury lodges. We have personally inspected most of them so will be happy to give you personal advice to help you choose where to stay, and what to do.

We have included some of the more popular options on the next few pages, but it is always best to call us to talk about what matched your taste. Most properties offer 3 night all inclusive packages which is a great way to really explore the region. There are also plenty of hotels and guesthouses in Puerto Natales which can be a great option if you want a more independent or lower cost option.

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Dare to be part of this challenge, lasting between 7 and 10 days and feel the privilege of getting to know places such as the John Garner Pass, the highest place on the circuit, at 1,350 meters, has a impressive view of the Southern Patagonian Ice Fields.

THE HOTELS

There are several accommodation choices, both inside and outside the park, from basic accommodation to luxury lodges. We have personally inspected most of them so will be happy to give you personal advice to help you choose where to stay, and what to do.

We have included some of the more popular options on the next few pages, but it is always best to call us to talk about what matched your taste. Most properties offer 3 night all inclusive packages which is a great way to really explore the region. There are also plenty of hotels and guesthouses in Puerto Natales which can be a great option if you want a more independent or lower cost option.

THE HOTELS

The park is open all year round and we think the best time to visit is October to April. Summer temps reach 20C, winter drops below 0. Wind chill makes it seem much cooler. Winter is less crowded and more likely for puma viewing.

WILDLIFE

There’s terrific wildlife-watching in the park. See majestic condors wheeling in the skies overhead. Look out for, huemul (Andean deer) and guanacos along the way, and if you are really lucky you could spot the reclusive puma.

THE W

The most famous walk in Patagonia. During your four-day, 75km journey, you will see the park’s most important landmarks, including the Torres Lookout, the Cuernos Lodge and its visiting condors, the constant murmurs of the Frances Glacier, and the much-anticipated finale at the Grey Glacier.

The so-called W trekking trail runs around the main tourist attractions of Torres del Paine. The journey is named by the union of the three large areas which the trail runs through, the Ascencio Valley, the Frances Valley and the Grey Glacier Valley.

It is definitely one of the favourite treks for nature lovers. Dare living this adventure which lasts between 4 and 7 days, walking through lenga forests, amazing lookouts and steep slopes. Get ready to push yourself to the limit!

The W trek departs from the Lago Grey, with options for the 5-day or 7-day tour. It is a walk through incredible landscapes, including the Grey Glacier, massifs, forests, and streams. It is a full-time trek with options for 3-5 nights, depending on the choice of accommodation and the distance covered.

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The best located lodge for views and the most indulgent experience in Torres del Paine. Attention to detail and personalised excursions that are unmatched inside the the park. Explorer has always set the benchmark for the most complete Torres experience, and they still do. The minimum 4 night stay is because they believe you need that long to really see and experience Torres del Paine.

Located in the most spectacular location in the park

Anchored like a white ship on the shores of turquoise Lake Pehoé, explora Patagonia’s unique location places you literally in the middle of Torres del Paine National Park, while greeting you with award winning architecture.

Explora Patagonia is the only luxury hotel located within the Torres del Paine National Park. Due to its privileged location within the park, explora Patagonia has breathtaking views to the Torres del Paine Massif.

Over 50 carefully planned and guided excursions offer you breathtaking views of glaciers, lakes and mountains giving you the most in depth experience of Torres del Paine.

Simplicity and luxury are the keys for the hotel design with light wood and a ‘country club’ feel creating a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

The views are superb from every window, a constant reminder of how special it is to be here.

SAVE 10% WHEN YOU STAY AT MORE THAN ONE EXPLORA PROPERTY

Open all year!

A feast for all your senses. Excellent service, luxurious comfort and fantastic scenery. We think of it as The Singular Experience as it is more than a hotel. The concept, the rooms, the dining, the excursions, and the service are all wonderful. You have plenty of time to savour the magic of Patagonia, especially Torres del Paine NP, and indulge in the serenity of the hotel.

We consider The Singular to be an experience, not a hotel. It is a five-star luxury hotel, located just outside Puerto Natales, 100km from Torres del Paine National Park. The former cold storage plant, built 100 years ago was declared a national monument in 1996, and has been completely rebuilt internally and transformed into a hotel unlike any other.

The 57 large and luxurious rooms (45sqm) all have a 400kg glass wall overlooking the fjord. The common areas have a welcoming club feel with every piece of furniture being designed and built specifically for the hotel. The care and thought that has gone in to each aspect of your stay has been equally well crafted.

The inclusive package covers all your meals, excursions and drinks, including house wines, beers and liquors, and transfers from the 3 nearest airports. Expedition leaders will help you choose excursions from the extensive menu, ranging from horse riding, glacial boat trips, relaxing sojourns through Torres del Paine, and active trekking. Some Spa treatments are also on the excursion list.

The Singular is recognised as one of South America best hotels and we completely agree. If you wish to relax, enjoy and indulge, The Singular is for you. We have stayed there several times, so please ask us any questions you have to help plan the perfect stay for you.

ASK US FOR DISCOUNTS WHEN COMBINING A MINIMUM 3 NIGHT STAY HERE WITH THE SINGULAR SANTIAGO, OR THE ALTA ATACAMA
LAS TORRES

Our pick in the park if you are keen to do some of the challenging walks. Includes a visit to an authentic Patagonian ranch and a traditional lamb barbecue.

Las Torres is in a great location. It's the starting point for the Las Torres (Base of the Towers) trail; one of the park's great walks.

Rooms are spacious and there are many lounge areas with picture windows to catch the view away from the wind and weather. It has two levels, a nice lodge feel, and even the cliched uniforms of the staff add to its charm. The restaurant serves regional dishes and sources much of the vegetables from its own organic garden. It has 150 horses ready for you to ride across the pampas and when you book at least 3 nights you’ll also get 35% discount on all spa services.

LAGO GREY

A great place, surrounded by the majestic beauty of the lakes, rivers, forests, mountains and glaciers.

In the western side of the park the hotel has commanding views to the Grey glacier. Plenty of walks, of all levels, near the hotel which are only accessed if staying here. Excellent option if you’re not wanting intense hiking and more looking for a relaxed stay with some hiking. Standard rooms are small, so the superior rooms are the better option and have good views.

Public areas in and outside the hotel offer fantastic views to sit and look at the view after a day exploring.

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1300 738 168

TIERRA

Opened in 2012 it has a very relaxed, modern feel, with absolutely spectacular views, equalled by the stunning architecture.

There is one main common area combining restaurant, bar and lounge, and a downstairs area with egg chairs to relax in. There is something truly delicious about curling up on a lounge and staring out the window at the sublime views.

Rooms are 36sqm and we recommend the superior rooms, so you have the bath tub where you expect it, as the standard rooms have it in the bedroom.

AWASI PATAGONIA Luxurious and private indulgence

Awasi Patagonia is luxurious indulgence. Designed for people seeking a completely private escape. Each excursion is individually designed and tailored for each guest.

The oversized suites (80sqm) are the most indulgent in the area and offer the ultimate in comfort.

Naturally there are stunning views and the site is protected from the strong Patagonian winds by lush native forests.

RIO SERRANO

Great value and superb views. The hotel has great lounge areas, inside and outside, to sit in awe and admire the views.

Superior rooms have views to the Paine massif, and the rooms at either end of each floor also have balconies, which we can request for you. The hotel is a step up from Las Torres in terms of hotel comfort, but does not have the Patagonian atmosphere Las Torres offers. You can arrive from Puerto Natales by boat navigating through the Sereno River which we definitely recommend.

LAGO GREY

For those seeking a completely private, luxurious, and personalised experience.

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Naturally there are stunning views and the site is protected from the strong Patagonian winds by lush native forests.
We’re looking Forward to planning your journey, even if you don’t know where it will be.