

CHILE - EPIC PATAGONIA ADVENTURE



TRIP CODE

CLTSECMS

DEPARTURE

Daily (November to March)

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

Chile, Patagonia



INTRODUCTION

Enjoy the best of Chilean Patagonia on this multi sport adventure leading you through the highlights of Torres del Paine!

This adrenaline-pumping adventure features action-packed days of hiking, cycling, kayaking and horse riding. Relaxing evenings at EcoCamp offer the perfect opportunity for epic adventurers to wind down as they enjoy the fantastic food, wine and company of EcoCamp's community domes, in the heart of Torres del Paine National Park.

ITINERARY

CHILE - EPIC PATAGONIA ADVENTURE

DAY 1: Arrival at Eco Camp

Upon arrival at the Eco Camp, we are immediately greeted by the breathtaking beauty of our surroundings. The camp blends seamlessly with the natural environment, and the eco-friendly design of the lodging domes is inspired by the traditional huts built by the Kawesqar, the indigenous people of the region. Don't let their simple appearance fool you - these domes offer comfort and protection from the elements. After settling in, we gather for a delicious dinner and a warm welcome from our hosts. Over the course of the evening, we receive a comprehensive briefing on the exciting activities available both at the camp and in the surrounding park. Whether you're interested in hiking, kayaking, or simply taking in the stunning natural beauty, our knowledgeable guides will help you plan your adventure. *While most activities are included in your stay at our Eco-camp, a limited number of extra cost activities are available for you to choose from. These optional activities are at your discretion, and any fees associated with them will be paid locally.



TRIP CODE

CLTSECMS

DEPARTURE

Daily (November to March)

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

Chile, Patagonia



DAY 2: Cycling to Laguna Azul

After breakfast, our biking adventure begins, covering an 11 km morning route winding through various small lakes, providing an exceptional opportunity to witness the splendid flora and fauna of Torres del Paine. The path leads us to the serene Sarmiento Lake, offering a perfect spot to rest and relax at the lake's beach. Following our break, we transition to transportation that will take us to Laguna Azul, where a satisfying lunch awaits. Our cycling journey continues with a 14 km route along a single track through Cañadón Macho, concluding at a junction near Cascada Paine. While the excursion is generally moderate, certain segments of the trail present moderate difficulty, particularly when Cañadon Macho crosses a meadow and transitions into a climbing stretch. This is followed by an undulating descent, slightly steep and rocky in parts, adding a touch of challenge to an otherwise manageable biking experience.



CHILE - EPIC PATAGONIA ADVENTURE

DAY 3: Kayak and boat trip to Grey Glacier

After breakfast at EcoCamp, we depart at 7:30 a.m. for the Serrano area in the western sector of the park, arriving at Serrano Base around 9 a.m. From there, we board another vehicle and proceed to the Pingo River, where we participate in a safety talk (approximately 20 minutes). Then, it's time to get into the water! Once our kayaks are launched, we drift gently with the river's current towards the Grey Lake Peninsula to observe the glacier's impressive icebergs. After soaking in the moment, we continue down the Grey River for the next 3 hours. At Puente Grey, we stop to enjoy our box lunch before continuing downstream to the confluence of the Grey and Serrano Rivers. Approximately 20 minutes later, we return to our starting point at Villa Serrano after an amazing day on the water. We then take the van back to EcoCamp for our evening aperitif and meal.



TRIP CODE

CLTSECMS

DEPARTURE

Daily (November to March)

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

Chile, Patagonia



DAY 4: Patagonia Horseback Riding

One of the best ways to immerse yourself in the spectacular scenery of Patagonia is on horseback. After a hearty breakfast at EcoCamp, we'll start around 11:30 AM with an induction talk before embarking on our 8 km journey. As you ride along the deep blue shores of Lake Nordenskjöld, expert baqueanos will guide you in learning how to ride. With the wind in your hair, the sounds of the lake, and the rhythm of the horse's strong, sturdy movements, you'll experience the essence of Patagonia. Creating a genuine connection with nature, you'll feel the pure joy of the moment. Mount Almirante Nieto and its hanging glacier will loom in the skyline, offering numerous viewpoints and glimpses of Patagonian flora as you traverse pristine rivers and dense forests on horseback. Venturing into the Asencio Valley and crossing the Asencio River, you'll encounter an ecotone - the intersection of two distinct ecosystems. Here, the forest and the pampas seamlessly blend together. After a half-day of soaking in the sights and sounds of the area, we'll return to EcoCamp around 2 PM to rest and enjoy a free evening.



CHILE - EPIC PATAGONIA ADVENTURE

DAY 5: Trek Towers Base


After a tasty breakfast at EcoCamp, we'll depart for Cerro Paine, a nearby mountain characterized by its two imposing peaks. We'll hike along the mountain for half an hour, warming up while admiring the view of the surrounding pampas. The challenge begins as we start climbing the eastern part of Cerro Paine. Crossing the lenga forest with the sound of local birds, we'll enjoy a few stops to observe the immense Almirante Nieto Mountain and its glacier on our left side. With luck, we may even follow the tracks of the puma as the towers come into full view. It's a perfect spot for lunch, don't you think? As we prepare to tackle the steepest part of the hike, we leave the forest and ascend on rock. Along the way, we'll admire the spectacular panoramic view of the vast pampas and distant mountains, such as the Balmaceda mountain. We'll continue upward for about an hour, reaching an altitude of 1500 m/4920 ft to reach the eastern peak of Cerro Paine, offering an unforgettable lookout of the towers and the Ascencio Valley. After taking in one of the most striking views of the national park, we'll retrace our steps along the same trail and return to EcoCamp.



DAY 6: Departure Day

After your final breakfast at the lodge, you will be transferred to either El Calafate Airport or your hotel in the city for your onward travels.



TRIP CODE
CLTSECMS
DEPARTURE
Daily (November to March)
DURATION
6 Days
LOCATIONS
Chile, Patagonia


INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Domes
---------------	-------

CHILE - EPIC PATAGONIA ADVENTURE


Inclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation at EcoCamp’s • Meals as indicated in the price chart. • All ground transport as indicated in the itinerary. • English speaking guide. Guide ratio 1:12. Max group size: 12 people. • Park fees for Cueva del Milodon and Torres del Paine National Park. • Boat ticket for crossing Grey Lake. <p>Excluded</p> <p>Flight tickets.</p> <p>Insurance (it is mandatory you purchase appropriate insurance for this trip).</p> <p>Voluntary tipping of guides and staff.</p> <p>Soft drinks or snacks not served with the meals included at the EcoCamp. Bringing US\$ in cash for buying extra drinks/snacks or souvenirs in Torres del Paine NP is suggested.</p> <p>Items of personal nature.</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available Upon Request
Notes	Only superior domes have private bathrooms. Trip code: PAT027
Price Dependent upon	Season and accommodation standard.

SUSTAINABILITY

Eco camp has gained an award-winning reputation for its eco-friendly policies and innovative use of green technology. We are leaders in environmentally responsible travel to areas of fragile natural resources and we minimise the footprint of every visitor in Torres del Paine National Park through our careful development strategy and implementation of green technology. Our low impact design and focus on raising guests’ awareness of how to care for their environment highlights our commitment to a greener present and future for tourism. Conservation is central to the philosophy driving our operations, and we have been certified as complying with the highest international standards of environmental management, such as ISO14001.

The design premise behind EcoCamp was to create accommodation where travellers could connect with nature and explore Torres del Paine without leaving a footprint. At EcoCamp guests are immersed in their natural surroundings, hearing the wind race through the sky while looking up at the stars through the ceiling of their cozy dome. All natural light and heat energy is utilised and electricity comes from hydro and solar energy. Domes blend naturally into their surrounding environment and flora and fauna continues to flourish on EcoCamp ground.

Our premise from the start has been to take comfort to the limits of what is sustainable

TRIP CODE
CLTSECMS
DEPARTURE
Daily (November to March)
DURATION
6 Days
LOCATIONS
Chile, Patagonia


CHILE - EPIC PATAGONIA ADVENTURE

and for this reason we resist the concept of luxury because environmental conservation will always be prioritised over any luxurious amenities or practices which could be detrimental to the park.

EcoCamp's dome design was inspired by the The Kaweskars (Alacalufes), a group of nomadic Patagonian inhabitants whose presence in Torres del Paine is documented. They arrived by canoe in the 15th century and made no demands on natural resources as they travelled from place to place, setting up and dismantling their semi-circular huts built from simple materials, leaving no trace behind. To keep warm they lit fires inside the domes.

EcoCamp is a tribute to the ancient Kaweskar dwellings and way of life and the essence of their dome homes has been kept by maintaining a simple nomadic design in the midst of natural surroundings. Just like the Kaweskars, EcoCamp respects nature and aims to leaves no footprint behind in the wilderness.

All of our electricity (which is very little as most of our efforts go to efficiency and electricity saving) comes from a micro-hydro turbine and photovoltaic panels. Energy is gathered together in a 24V battery bank to power all of EcoCamp's refrigerators, lighting, electrical appliances, stereos etc. Propane gas is only used to heat water and superior domes. A pilot scheme to heat shower water with solar energy is in motion.

Water from the river enters the micro-hydro turbine at 5 litres per second with a net pressure of 38 meters delivering a steady power of 800 Watts. An inverter is used to switch from the 24V DC in the battery bank to 220 AC, the standard voltage in Chile. An array of 1700 Watt photovoltaic panels - also connected to the battery bank - collect the extra energy needed at Ecocamp.

Electricity is limited and only available to guests for charging camera batteries and laptops, not using hairdryers or electric razors. Solar energy is very efficient in summer when Patagonia receives up to 17 hours of sunlight daily.

Domes have skylight windows so natural light and heat can be utilized. This not only allows guests to follow natural light patterns but saves electricity, leaving us confident that our renewable energy sources are sufficient and fossil fuels are not needed. Suite domes have a wood stove for warmth, recycling dead wood from the park and avoiding the need to use diesel.

EcoCamp's sustainable design, structure, implementation and maintenance is all the direct work of the owners themselves. Javier Lopez and Yerko Ivelic, both Chilean engineers, worked to design a hotel concept which would allow them to rely almost entirely on green energy. They then installed the micro-hydro turbine and composting toilet devices and taught a team of skilled workers how to work and maintain these features. To this date, ten years after EcoCamp's opening, the owners continue to travel to Torres del Paine to oversee implementation and maintenance of the sophisticated structure they put in place all those years ago.

We have a basic policy of environmentally-sensitive waste management which includes bringing as little paper, tin and plastic into the wilderness as possible. All waste brought in is separated at the source and stored according to its recycling status: organic, paper, glass, and dangerous or toxic materials. All non-organic materials are removed and sent to the closest town of Punta Arenas to be recycled or disposed of and organic material is

TRIP CODE

CLTSECMS

DEPARTURE

Daily (November to March)

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

Chile, Patagonia



CHILE - EPIC PATAGONIA ADVENTURE

fed to a neighbouring pig farm.

Guides ensure guests leave no rubbish en route during treks, and that all non-biodegradable material is brought back to EcoCamp to be properly disposed of. Guests reuse zip-lock lunch bags and water flasks.

We choose all of our suppliers extremely carefully, ensuring they are all aware of and meet with our environmental standards. We buy in bulk so as to limit individual packaging and our suppliers limit packaging brought into the park to an absolute minimum.

Guests recycle their lunch bags everyday and use the same flask which they re-fill with water en route during their trek. We have a traveller handbook in all domes informing guests of our ecological practices and their responsibilities while in the park, which include staying on the raised wooden walkways, never smoking inside domes, using biodegradable hygiene products, always returning waste to the recycling point at EcoCamp, taking batteries back home, minimising time in the shower and sharing transport to and from EcoCamp.

EcoCamp has the world's southern-most composting device, and the first in the hotel industry in the whole of Chile and Patagonia. Composting chambers collect waste from toilets and solid waste remains in the chamber, mixed with paper and wood chips, and is heated to keep microorganisms alive and the compost process active. Liquids are passed through a cleaning chamber, filtered, then passed into the ground. Due to the low temperatures in Patagonia, great effort is required to maintain the active process.

TRIP CODE

CLTSECMS

DEPARTURE

Daily (November to March)

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

Chile, Patagonia

