CHILE - 7 DAY W TREK | ECO CAMP

TRIP CODE
CLTSWTP
DEPARTURE
Mondays from Oct-Apr (During the Patagonia Season)
DURATION
7 Days
LOCATIONS
Chile, Patagonia

INTRODUCTION

Take on the challenge of the W Trek, one of the world's great treks. A mind-blowing run of twisted volcanic peaks, tumbling glaciers and aquamarine lakes, it zigzags across the Cordillera del Paine resembling a giant 'W'. The trails in between the famous Torres del Paine mountains are among the world's classic trekking routes. Teeming with a plethora of unrivaled flora and fauna this is a truly magnificent experience. Undertake incredible hikes, walks and cycling experiences surrounded by some of natures most incredible vistas.

The EcoCamp Experience

Let yourself experience the first one of its kind in the world - EcoCamp Lodge. Located in the heart of Torres del Paine National Park, EcoCamp perfectly fits its pristine surroundings. Modelled on the ancient shelters of the region's Kaweskar people, the dome styled accommodation is made from renewable materials and offers big panoramic windows to catch as much daylight and reduce electricity usage. The camp is also powered by solar panels and battery banks help to reduce the negative tourism footprint in Patagonia and preserve its pristine and uniqueness. While still considering nature, you can enjoy cozy and spacious domes, socialize during yoga classes or in community domes with other visitors. In order to cherish the surrounding nature, activities like multi-sport adventures, wildlife watching and a variety of hiking and walking trails are provided for your comfort. Eco Camp has many itineraries to choose from, including Short W Trek

**Please note this itinerary includes 2 nights in a refuge stay, camping. Upgrade to dorm style bunk bed accommodation for an additional cost/subject to availability.*

ITINERARY

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DAY 1: Arrive Eco Camp

In the morning, you will be picked up by a local representative either from Punta Arenas or Puerto Natales and taken to EcoCamp Patagonia, located in the world-renowned Torres del Paine National Park. Upon arrival at the Eco Camp, you will be 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, enjoy a delicious dinner and a warm welcome from our hosts. Throughout the evening, receive a comprehensive briefing on the exciting activities awaiting you in the days to come. *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.

DAY 2: Los Cuernos Trek

We'll dive into our Patagonian adventure with a pleasant walk along the Cuernos Trail which leads to the beautiful Lake Nordenskjold. During this warm-up walk, we will have the opportunity to admire the park's exquisite flora and fauna and take in the views of the horn-like peaks of slate that sit atop the gray granite of the Paine Massif. The trek may end at Refugio Los Cuernos, a small and cozy mountain guesthouse located on the shores of Lake Nordenskjold. Or it will end at Domo el Francés, located between Cuernos and Italiano camping sites, with an amazing view of Nordenskjöld Lake. The evening is at your leisure. Overnight at Camping Cuernos or Camping El Francés (depending on availability). * If you wish to upgrade from camping to a refuge stay for this night, please enquire at time of booking to check availability. An additional cost applies and is subject to availability.

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DAY 3: The Heart of the Paine Massif: French Valley

Get your boots ready for today's challenging, yet rewarding, trek. After breakfast at Refugio Los Cuernos, we'll begin hiking along a steep trail leading into the very heart of the Paine Massif - the famed French Valley. How far we'll go depends on our group's trekking rhythm. A swifter walk will lead us to the French River's hanging bridge, located at the foot of the south-eastern face of the Massif. We will then continue to ascend towards the upper section of the valley to marvel at the extensive mass of the valley's geological formations: Hoja (Blade), Máscara (Mask), Espada (Sword), Catedral (Cathedral), Aleta de Tiburón (Shark's Fin) and the magnificent Fortaleza (Fortress). After our upward trek, we will pause for a tasty picnic and relax for a while. The day's trek will end with a descent through an undulating terrain of mixed grassland and light forest to Paine Grande campsite. Please note: An optional trek to Mirador Britanico is also possible with previous coordination with the guides. * If you wish to upgrade from camping to a refuge stay for this night, please enquire at time of booking to check availability. An additional cost applies and is subject to availability.

DAY 4: Grey Glacier

Embark on a picturesque hike from Paine Grande Refugio along the stunning Lake Pehoe to the northern side of Lake Grey, where we'll indulge in a delightful picnic lunch. Following that, we'll hop on a boat that sails to the spectacular, crystalline facade of Glacier Grey. However, please be advised that boat trips across the lake are subject to cancellation or may be postponed if the minimum requirement of 15 passengers is not met, due to the unpredictable weather of the region. But worry not, as an alternative, we'll trek up to the lookout point to relish the panoramic views of the Grey Glacier. After this exciting adventure, we'll return on foot to Paine Grande and take a catamaran to the dock, where we will be picked up and driven to EcoCamp.

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DAY 5: Torres del Paine

On this day, we will embark on the highly anticipated trek to the base of the renowned Paine Towers. Our journey commences from the campsite, leading towards Hostería Las Torres and ascending towards Ascencio Valley on the eastern face of the Towers. The trail boasts stunning vistas of mountain ridges, beech forests, and small rivers. The real test of our mettle comes in the form of the steep moraine, a massive collection of boulders that guides us to the iconic base of the three massive granite monoliths that remain from a great cirque sheared away by glacial ice. Following an arduous uphill climb, the Towers come into full view, towering magnificently before us, with the glacial lake glistening below. What better spot in the world to savor a delicious lunch? After basking in the views, we will retrace our steps through Ascencio Valley, returning to EcoCamp for a delectable dinner and a glass of exquisite Chilean wine.

DAY 6: Eastern Lakes

On the sixth day of our adventure, we'll take a break from challenging treks and opt for a more relaxed trail. Following a hearty breakfast, we'll embark on a leisurely car ride to Laguna Azul, a stunning location known for its abundance of wild guanacos and ñandús. Along the way, we'll make stops to soak up the breathtaking views of the Patagonian steppe and the Towers from various angles. Once we arrive at Laguna Azul, we'll set off on a scenic hike to a lookout point, where we'll be rewarded with a stunning view of the lagoon and the granite towers. After a delicious lunch, we'll drive to the northern shore of Sarmiento Lake, where we'll begin our hike on the Fauna Trail. During our leisurely stroll, we'll have the opportunity to spot a wide range of Patagonian wildlife in their natural habitat, and we may even come across puma tracks! As we pass the charming Goic Lagoon, we'll continue our relaxed walk for approximately 5 km until we reach the Laguna Amarga ranger station, where we'll be picked up and driven back to EcoCamp to celebrate with a farewell dinner. *Please note: if there are more than 6 travelers in the group, there is an option to split into two groups, with one group (or the whole group if everybody's in the mood!) cycling to Laguna Azul!

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DAY 7: Depart Eco Camp

After your final breakfast at the lodge, you will depart Eco Camp aboard their shared shuttle service to be transferred to the airport for your onward travels. Eco camp includes transfers to either Punta Arenas, Puerto Natales or a bus to El Calafate depending on your itinerary. Note: The shuttle to Punta Arenas departs between 8am and 10am and stops in Puerto Natales along the way. For flights departing earlier than 3pm, an early drop-off service must be booked for an additional cost.

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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Trekking Lodge with Tents and Eco Camp

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Inclusions	Inclusions Scheduled group transfers to/from Puerto Natales or Punta Arenas or local bus transfers to/from El Calafate One expert English/Spanish speaking trekking guide who will accompany you and the group throughout the trip Torres del Paine National Park fee. 4 nights accommodation at EcoCamp (dome of your choice). 2-nights accommodation at Camping Paine Grande (dorm upgrade available at an additional cost/subject to availability) Boat crossing over Pehoe Lake and Grey Lake. Sleeping bag for the mountain hut if needed. Luggage transport (while trekking you will carry just your day pack). Meals: 4 Breakfasts, 5 Lunch/Box Lunches, 4 Dinners. Exclusions Flight tickets unless otherwise specified Visas or Reciprocity Fees if applicable Travel Insurance Voluntary tipping of guides and staff 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 recommended Items of a personal nature **During Shoulder and low season (October and April), some excursions are subject to the weather conditions and might be cancelled or modified for reasons of security, for example the Navigation on Grey Lake, the excursion to the French Valley and to the Tower base trek. In any case we will either modify the original itinerary or offer you a good alternative of excursion within the park.
Difficulty Rating	4 (Active Adventure - Reasonable Fitness Required)
Single Surcharge	Single supplement applies. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Only superior, suite and suite loft domes have private bathrooms at Eco Camp. Prices are based on per person, twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. You will require a moderate level of fitness to participate in this trip. You will walk a total of 77kms. While you are away from the Eco Camp base you will stay in more basic tents, but there is the ability to upgrade to guesthouse accommodation with bunks for these nights at an additional cost and subject to availability. Please speak to one of our Destination Specialists for more information.

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Price Dependent upon	Availability, Seasonality, Accommodation Standard and Currency Fluctuations.

SUSTAINABILITY

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