CHILE - SHORT W TREK | ECO CAMP



TRIP CODE
CLTSSWP
DEPARTURE
Sundays from Oct-Apr (During the Patagonia Season)
DURATION
5 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 like a giant W. This is the right trip for energetic people who like to be active and have a spirit of adventure and a positive attitude. This short version of the W trek will take you on trails reaching amazing glaciers, lakes, forests and the mighty Paine Towers, providing constant delight to your trekking-hungry soul!

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 7 day W Trek

**Please note this itinerary includes 1 night 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.



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DAY 2: The Heart of the Paine Massif: French Valley

Our second day at Torres del Paine National Park begins with a hearty breakfast, followed by a drive to Pudeto dock where we will board a catamaran to Pehoe. Once we reach our destination, we will embark on a challenging trek to the Valle Frances (French Valley). The trail is steep, leading us to the heart of the Paine Massif. The group's trekking rhythm will determine how far we will go. We can expect stunning views of the valley from the hanging bridge over the French River, located at the foot of the Massif's southeastern face. We will continue our trek towards the upper section of the valley, marveling at the extensive mass of the geological formations. Later, we'll stop for a picnic and enjoy the breathtaking views of the valley. The day's trek will end with a descent through a mixed grassland and light forest, leading us to Paine Grande campsite, situated on the serene shores of Lake Pehoe. Upon arrival, we'll receive a briefing on tomorrow's trek. *The excursion to French Valley varies throughout the season depending on the catamaran connecting Pudeto and Refugio Pehoe: From October 1st to 31st and from April 1st to 30th the navigation operates only once a day, therefore the hike will be limited and only reach Italian campsite depending on the passengers walking pace. From November 1th to March 30th the excursion operates on a regular basis. * If you wish to upgrade from camping to a refugio 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: Grey Glacier Trek & Boat Ride

In the morning, we'll embark on a scenic hike from Paine Grande Refugio, following the picturesque shoreline of Lake Pehoe towards the northern side of the stunning Lake Grey. We'll pause for a picnic lunch before boarding a boat that sails directly to the face of Glacier Grey. While on the boat, you can sip on a refreshing drink with fresh glacier ice and marvel at the unreal views of this beautiful glacier. In case the boat trip is canceled due to unforeseen circumstances, we'll trek up to a sightseeing point to enjoy panoramic views of the glacier instead. After the boat ride, we'll transfer to EcoCamp. *Please be aware that boat trips may be canceled if the minimum number of 10 passengers has not been reached. If this is the case, we will trek up to the sightseeing point to enjoy panoramic views of the glacier instead. Then we will return on foot to Paine Grande and take a catamaran to the dock, where we will be picked up and driven to EcoCamp.



DAY 4: Torres del Paine

The goal of this day will be completing the most famous trekking trail in Torres del Paine. It's a challenge, but definitely worth it! From the campsite, we journey towards Hostería Las Torres, ascending to Ascencio Valley's eastern edge. Our path, framed by mountain ridges, beech forests, and streams, leads to a challenging steep moraine. This boulder-strewn climb rewards us with the iconic view of the Towers, three towering granite structures, remnants of ancient glacial activity. At their base, we're treated to a majestic sight and a perfect lunch spot beside a glacial lake. We then retrace our steps through Ascencio Valley, returning to EcoCamp for dinner and Chilean wine.



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DAY 5: 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. Please note: The shuttle to Punta Arenas departs between 8am and 9am 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.



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. 3 nights accommodation at EcoCamp (dome of your choice). 1-night accommodation at Camping Paine Grande/Los Cuernos or El Francés (dorm upgrade available at an additional cost/subject to availability) Boat crossing over Pehoe Lake and Grey Lake. Sleeping bag for the mountain huts 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.

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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 61kms. 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.
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality and availability at time of booking.

SUSTAINABILITY

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