

# Chile Private Journey

THE LAKE DISTRICT AND PAINE NATIONAL PARK



## WHEN TO GO

November to March

For our Private Journey trips, you choose your own group and your preferred dates—there are no set departure dates. Private Journeys are available to groups as few as two people or as large as you like. While many guests choose to book this tour exactly as is, our Area Specialists can work with you to customize it to your wishes. Contact us for availability, questions, or to book your adventure!



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## Chile Private Journey

### THE LAKE DISTRICT AND PAINE NATIONAL PARK

This Private Journey features Chile's volcano-dotted Lake District and the sublime world of Patagonia's Torres del Paine National Park, one of the scenic masterpieces of the planet. In the Lake District, enjoy day hikes on immense Volcán Osorno, the snow-crested icon of the Lake District, and in the mist-shrouded mountains of Alerce Andino National Park. In Paine National Park, hike fantastic trails amid Paine's famed peaks, known as The Towers for their vertical spires. Paine Grande, the highest tower, tops 10,000 feet, its dazzling rock pinnacles rising from snow and ice. Accommodations in Torres del Paine National Park are lodges in majestic settings with hiking trails right at the door step. Extend your journey to the world-famous wine country of Chile's Colchagua Valley, or to mysterious Easter Island, an open-air archaeological museum of a fascinating but vanished Polynesian culture.

#### ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

Wilderness Travel Private Journeys are designed for people who want to travel with their own small private group, but who still want to experience the same superb itinerary design, great accommodations, and signature quality of Wilderness Travel's escorted group trips. These Private Journeys allow you to choose your own dates and your traveling companions—even if it's just the two of you—yet still enjoy a guided adventure.



Wilderness Travel

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# Itinerary

Please note: You must depart the US a day early to reach Chile on Day 1 of the program. Most airlines arrive in Santiago in the very early morning. We recommend an overnight in Santiago to rest up from the flight. We are happy to book a hotel and city tour for you (an 'on your own' expense).

## DAY 1

### SANTIAGO, CHILE / PUERTO MONTT / PUERTO VARAS

Arrive in Santiago, Chile, in the early morning and connect directly with your flight to the small city of Puerto Montt in southern Chile. On arrival in Puerto Montt, you are met for a drive to the charming town of Puerto Varas in the heart of the Lake District. The town is set on the shores of volcano-ringed Lake Llanquihue. Dinner is on your own. Your lodge, the Cabanas del Lago, is on the edge of the lake, a five-minute walk from town.

## DAYS 2-3

### LAKE DISTRICT HIKES

The volcano-dotted Lake District is a dramatic world, with its Fuji-like peaks, lava fields, emerald lakes, and enchanted forests filled with rare native flora. One of your Lake District options is a full-day visit to immense Volcán Osorno, the snow-crested icon of the Lake District. From the slopes of Osorno, surrounding views include the huge, symmetrical volcanoes of Calbuco, Antillanca, and Tronador, with the Andes in the background. Trails high on the mountain cross fields of Osorno's sculpted lava. The next day, head out to mist-shrouded Llanquihue National Reserve, with its native forests of coigüe, mañío, and tepa, and Volcán Calbuco dominating the views. Overnights at Cabanas del Lago...BL each day

## DAY 4

### PUERTO MONTT / PUNTA ARENAS / TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK

Transfer to Puerto Montt and fly to the city of Punta Arenas on the Strait of Magellan, where you are met for an afternoon drive by private vehicle into the sublime world of Torres del Paine National Park, one of the scenic masterpieces of the planet, declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. The park's centerpiece is the Cordillera Paine Massif, a wonderland of eye-popping scenery that emerges in a breathtakingly sheer rise from the plains of the Patagonian steppes. Overnight at Hotel Las Torres, situated on a private 4,000-acre ranch just below the magnificent Paine Towers, with a fine restaurant and spa services...BLD

Optional Upgrade: For your four-day stay in Torres del Paine National Park, we offer an optional upgrade to the Explora Lodge, strategically set on the shore of Lake Pehoé in Paine National Park. This stunning hotel offers gourmet meals, vintage wines, a heated pool, and a fantastic view of Paine's granite towers and Lake Pehoé. Please call us for cost details.



## TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

<b>Length:</b>	8 days
<b>Arrive:</b>	Santiago, Chile
<b>Depart:</b>	Punta Arenas, Chile
<b>Lodging:</b>	7 nights in comfortable hotels and hosterias
<b>Meals:</b>	All meals included except 3 dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
<b>Activity:</b>	Cultural Adventures, Hiking / Trekking
<b>Trip Level:</b>	1 2 ③ 4 5 6 Moderate day hikes on mountain terrain

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the dramatic volcano-dotted Lake District, with its cathedral-like forests and emerald lakes
- Hike fantastic trails below the world-famous rock pinnacles of Torres del Paine National Park
- Enjoy a spectacular landscape of tumbling glaciers, sparkling lakes, and magnificent snowy peaks

# Itinerary (cont'd)



## DAY 5

### TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK

Torres del Paine's famed peaks are known as The Towers for their vertical spires. Paine Grande, the highest tower, tops 10,000 feet, its dazzling rock pinnacles rising from snow and ice. The east face of the Central Tower ends in a sheer 4,000-foot-high rock wall that challenges the world's mountaineers. One of the best hiking options today is to set out with your guide through beautiful old-growth beech forests to reach the ultimate views of the Paine Towers. Other hiking options are available, as are horseback rides from the lodge (at extra cost). Overnight at Hotel Las Torres...BLD

## DAY 6

### TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK

A beautiful drive by private vehicle brings you to your accommodation at the southern end of the Paine Massif, where you are close to Massif's famous cuernos (horns)—incredible twisting monoliths of granite with knife-edged ridges, famously photogenic when they are mirrored in the emerald waters of Lake Nordenskjold. This afternoon, enjoy a boat excursion across iceberg-dotted Lago Grey to the edge of the huge Grey Glacier. Your accommodation, Hosteria Lago Grey, has walking trails and a breathtaking location on Lago Grey, with its active calving glaciers.....BLD

## DAY 7

### TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK

Options today include a half-day hike (about four hours) up the slopes of Mt. Ferrier for panoramic views of the cuernos. This is a moderately strenuous hike with a steep climb of about 1,500 feet to a magnificent viewpoint of Paine's mountains, lakes, and glaciers. An easier option is a half day (3-4 hours) hike through classic lush meadows and forests of giant lenga and coigue trees, with river views, some Paine views, and a chance to spot huemul (Patagonian deer). Overnight at Hosteria Lago Grey...BLD



## DAY 8

### DEPART

A private transfer brings you back to Punta Arenas, where you connect with flights to Santiago and homeward (or join one of our extensions)...B

# Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

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## TRIP COST

**Prices are per person, valid through Spring 2024**

\$6195 (4 members)

\$6495 (3 members)

\$6745 (2 members)

Single supplement: \$1345

Explora Lodge Optional Upgrade: Please call for details

Holiday surcharges apply December 16, 2023 to January 5, 2024

*Prices are based on double occupancy and not guaranteed until services are confirmed.*

### **Make it Your Trip!**

The prices above are for the ready-to-book adventure outlined in this Detailed Itinerary, a popular option that has been handcrafted by our Area Specialists to include the best of every destination. While many travelers choose to book this tour as is, our Area Specialists are also happy to work with you to customize this Private Journey to suit your specific interests and style of travel. We can arrange for longer or shorter stays, or add an extension to additional places of interest. We can even add special activities or customize excursions depending on your interests. We invite you to contact us to discuss your options!

## TRIP COST INCLUDES

- All accommodations, based on double occupancy, as described
- All meals included except 3 dinners
- Services of local agents and local guides
- Sightseeing and land transportation as noted

## TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, any activities described as optional, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to staff, additional hotel nights made necessary by airline schedule changes or other factors, pre-trip expenses such as medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

## SIGNING UP FOR A TRIP

Early reservations are recommended since accommodations often sell out far in advance. Please call 1-800-368-2794 and ask for our Latin America Manager or email us at [latinamerica@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:latinamerica@wildernesstravel.com) with any questions that you may have about this trip. To reserve your Private Journey, we will need to know your preferred dates of travel. We will then check availability and send you a proposed itinerary with exact pricing for your adventure. We can typically hold a provisional booking for one week. At that time, we must collect your initial deposit or accommodations will be released. We accept Visa, Mastercard, or American Express card. Upon receipt of your deposit, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a letter of confirmation, Detailed Itinerary, Trip Application, Medical Form, and Pre-Departure Information Booklet with information to help you prepare for your adventure. Please see our Cancellations and Transfer Fee Schedule for specific payment information.

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation	\$1000
90 days prior to departure	Balance

## CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Minimum fee: \$500 per person
61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost
46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost
45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

\*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details:

<http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/travel-insurance>

# Arrival & Departure

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## ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

Our local agent will meet your flight at the Puerto Montt, Chile, airport on Day 1. At the end of the trip, you are transferred to Punta Arenas airport for a flight to Santiago, where you connect with international flights. Our Arrival & Departure Logistics memo, included in your confirmation packet, has details.

## FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

Trip members are responsible for making their own arrangements for air transportation. Please do not purchase your airline tickets until you are confirmed on the trip and have reviewed your proposed air schedule with our office. Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule so that we can send it on to the local guide (make sure to include your Trip Name and Trip Dates on it). Note: The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly; otherwise you may be denied boarding. Please remember this when reserving your flights. In addition, your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US (in most cases).

# Lodging



## CABAÑAS DEL LAGO

*Puerto Varas, Chile*

*Days 1 to 3 (3 nights)*

The Cabañas del Lago has unobstructed views of Lago Llanquihue and the surrounding volcanoes, and it's just a five-minute walk into town. Rooms are simple but clean, and the staff is professional and helpful. There is a swimming pool, and spa services are offered.



## HOTEL LAS TORRES

*Paine National Park, Chile*

*Days 4 to 5 (2 nights)*

Las Torres is located in an extraordinary, privileged site—inside Paine National Park and right at the foot of the majestic Torres del Paine. Founded as an 8,000-acre cattle ranch before the park even existed, the property has stunning Paine views, a stable of Patagonian horses, and direct access to trails. The guest rooms are comfortable, spa services are available, and the restaurant was recently recognized with an award for the best cuisine in the park.



## EXPLORA LODGE

*Paine National Park, Chile*

*Days 4 to 7 (4 nights)*

Strategically set on the shore of Lake Pehoè in Paine National Park, the 5-star Explora Lodge is a luxurious respite with sweeping views that frame Paine's granite towers and Lake Pehoè. Constructed in a modern, sleek Scandinavian style with beautiful exposed wood and glass, the Explora has attractive decor, delicious food (given the remoteness of the location), a good Chilean wine list, and panoramic mountain vistas from the public areas as well as most of the rooms. Many of the guest rooms also have jacuzzi-type bathtubs (great for a soak after a long hike) and there is a heated indoor pool. The Explora offers explorations including horseback riding, hiking, and overland adventures led by the expert staff. Please note that the Explora Lodge requires a 3-4 night minimum (depending on the season).



## HOTEL LAGO GREY

*Paine National Park, Chile*

*Days 6 to 7 (2 nights)*

With its prime setting along an iceberg-dotted lake in Paine National Park, Hotel Lago Grey gives us direct access to Paine's glaciers and trails. From the dining room's large picture windows, we'll have a stunning perspective on the calving ice of the Grey Glacier. There are great places around the property to watch the sunset, and the views of massive Paine Grande provide a constant visual feast.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Chile Private Journey* webpage and click on the "Lodging" tab.

# Trip Details

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## WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is Level 3, Moderate. It features vehicle-based sightseeing and day hikes, with hotel accommodations. Although the pace of this trip is relaxed, this is an active vacation. The shape you're in is an important factor in your enjoyment of your trip. We recommend you make a special effort to get in good condition by walking, bicycling, swimming, or other forms of exercise.

## WEATHER

This journey can be enjoyed from November through March, which is “summer” in the Southern Hemisphere. The region is characterized by a cool climate with plenty of rain year-round. Southern Chile's weather can provide spectacular clear days but can also be very changeable, and we want you to be well prepared for all that you may encounter. The average annual rainfall is approximately 23 inches in higher elevations, while it may rain as much as 100 inches per year closer to the sea. The average temperature is 50°F, and from December to March, the average often reaches 70°F or more. Come prepared for some rain and bring appropriate rain gear so you can remain comfortable no matter what weather blows in.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Latin America Manager or email us at [latinamerica@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:latinamerica@wildernesstravel.com).

## REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

## ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

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## TOUCAN CLUB

Please note that Toucan Club discounts do not apply for our Private Journeys. However, your participation on these trips will count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular expeditions. For more information regarding our Toucan Club bonus program, please visit our website at [www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan).

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At [www.wildernesstravel.com](http://www.wildernesstravel.com), you can find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and special WT Expeditions that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access a complete library of our detailed itineraries and browse the customized reading guides for each of our adventures.

## HELPFUL LINKS

Wilderness Travel has compiled a list of useful websites for travelers. Find the Client Forms & Helpful Links page of our website: (<http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/links>).

# Travel Notes

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## WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

**World's Best Tour Operators:** *Travel + Leisure*, 2021, 10-time winner

**Best Travel Specialists in the World:** *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2021 & 2020

**Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips:** *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *USA Today*, 2020

**Trip of the Year:** *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

**50 Tours of a Lifetime:** *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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