

# The Grand Adventure

## Argentina & Chile

### with Lake Argentina, Paine National Park & Chilean Lakes

#### Special Feature: Strait of Magellan Cruise



### Itinerary I - 21 Days

#### Day 1, Mon or Thu: Depart Home City

**Day 2, Tue or Fri: Arrive in Santiago** Morning flight arrival in Santiago and transfer to your selected hotel. You will have the morning to rest and refresh before an afternoon city tour via motorcoach. Enjoy visits to Santa Lucia Hill and San Cristobal Hill before stopping at Bellavista, Santiago's Bohemian district, replete with art galleries, restaurants and theaters.

#### Day 3, Wed or Sat: Leisure Day in Santiago (B)

**Day 4, Thu or Sun: Santiago to Puerto Montt (Puerto Varas)** Fly south to the gateway to Chile's Lake District, Puerto Montt, on the Reloncavi Estuary. There, you will be met for a tour of the quaint fishing village of Angelmo with its open-air crafts market. Continue on to her sister city, Puerto Varas, on the shores of Lake Llanquihue, and overnight in your choice of hotel. (B)

**Day 5, Fri or Mon: Two-Day Lakes Crossing (available all year)** Begin this overland journey through pine forests, past tranquil farms, and over broad lakes to Argentina. Bus past Lake Llanquihue to Petrohue and board a boat crossing Lake Todos Los Santos to Peulla for an overnight stay. **Note:** See page 31 for regional map. (B, D)

**Day 6, Sat or Tue: Arrive Bariloche** Continue through the Lake District with a bus ride over the Continental Divide into Argentina, cross Lake Frias by boat, and continue on to Puerto Blest by bus. Cruise on Lake Nahuel Huapi to Puerto Panuelo, and proceed overland to downtown Bariloche and your hotel. (B)

**Day 7, Sun or Wed: Bariloche Tour** In town, see the main square and important government buildings. Then, skirt the lake to Cathedral Mountain for an overview of the surrounding lakes, hills and mountains that make Bariloche one of the most scenic spots in the world! (B)

**Day 8, Mon or Thu: Bariloche to Buenos Aires** Fly from Bariloche to Buenos Aires, and transfer to your selected hotel. Remainder of the evening at leisure. (B)

20 or 21 Days from **\$3999**



**Day 9, Tue or Fri: Buenos Aires City Tour** Drive down 9th of July Avenue, the widest street in the world, past the Colon Opera House to the Plaza de Mayo. Facing the plaza are both the pink Presidential Palace and the National Cathedral, which houses the tomb of the liberator, San Martin. Next, visit the old port district, "La Boca," with its pastel houses and shops. You will have time to browse through the shops for souvenirs. (B)

**Day 10, Wed or Sat: Tango Show** A day completely free to explore on your own. Sip traditional tea at a local tea shop, or visit one of the *estancias* in the distant suburbs. This evening, enjoy a typical Argentine beef dinner followed by a folklore show and Tango performance. (B, D)

**Day 11, Thu or Sun: Buenos Aires to Lake Argentina** Transfer to the Municipal Airport in Buenos Aires for a flight to El Calafate in Argentina. You will be met upon arrival and transferred to your selected hotel. (B)

**Day 12, Fri or Mon: Perito Moreno Glacier Tour** Today you will take an exciting, scenic tour of the Perito Moreno Glacier. Depart early in the morning via motorcoach for the Magellan Peninsula, and continue to the cliff overlooking the glacier. You will have several hours to explore this great natural wonder from many different perspectives. This is the only glacier in the world that is still growing, and it encompasses an area larger than cosmopolitan Buenos Aires. The deep blue color of the ice is

*The magnificent Towers of Paine, Paine National Park, Chile*



attributed to its age, over 30,000 years. If you are lucky, you will witness one of the calvings, in which 30-foot pieces of ice break off the glacier and crash into the lake. What a show! (B, L)

**Day 13, Sat or Tue: Upsala and Onelli Glaciers Cruise** Early in the morning depart for a boat trip to the confluence of the northern and southern branches of Lake Argentina. Its big basin has been formed by the glacial erosion of over 15,000 years, and it is filled with the thawing of seven glaciers. Enjoy splendid views of blue icebergs, virgin forests and mountains guarded by the condor, known as the *Senor de los Andes*. At midday, have lunch by Onelli Bay, then on the way back, admire Spegazzini Glacier and Peineta Peak. (B, L)

**Day 14, Sun or Wed: Lake Argentina/Tierra del Fuego/Embark Cruise** Transfer to the airport for a flight to Ushuaia, the southernmost commercial airport in the world on the island of Tierra del Fuego, where the Andes meet the Beagle Channel. Transfer directly to the pier to commence your exciting adventure on board the *Australis* cruise around the southern tip of South America to Punta Arenas, Chile. (B, D)

**Sailing on the M/V Via Australis (Sun-Wed) or Sailing on the M/V Mare Australis (Wed-Sat)**

**Note:** Rates for cruises are not included in the tour prices. See page 36 for rates, map and deck plans.

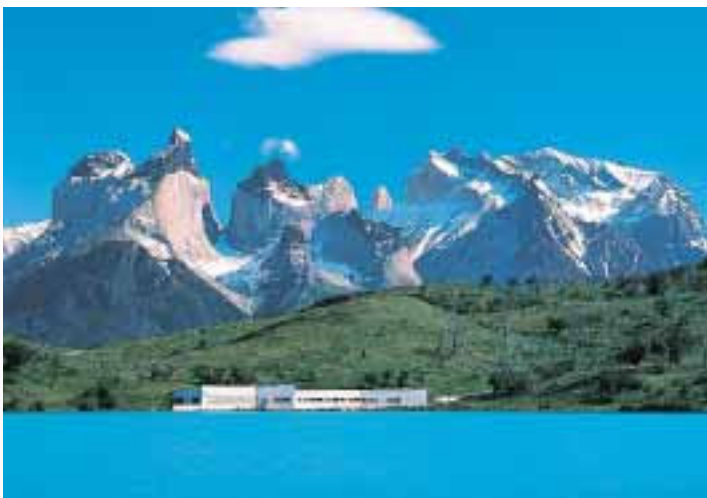
**Day 15, Mon or Thu: Cape Horn and Walaia Bay** Special navigation into the Beagle and Murray Channels into the open sea to circle Cape Horn, with an opportunity to visit the southernmost point in South America, weather permitting. Here you will get a panoramic view of the famous and mythical Cape Horn, the place where the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans merge and the last promontory of South America. (B, L, D)

**Day 16, Tue or Fri: Bay of Günter Plushow Glacier**

Sail the main branch of the Beagle Channel. Disembark at the Bay of the Günter Plushow Glacier and hike near the glacier. After this unforgettable experience, you will continue navigating through O'Brien and Ballenero Channels, Bahía Desolada, Paso Aguirre and Cockburn Channel. (B, L, D)



explora™ en Patagonia



**Day 17, Wed or Sat: Arrive in Punta Arenas and Transfer to Puerto Natales** Early in the morning you will disembark on Magdalena Island, home of a colony of over 120,000 penguins in different stages of breeding. You will then take a walk to San Isidro Lighthouse, which used to guide the explorer sailors crossing the Strait of Magellan. Afterwards sail into Punta Arenas, arriving at 11:00 AM. Now, one adventure ends and another begins. You will be picked up at the pier and transferred to downtown Punta Arenas to meet up with your van transfer to Puerto Natales for an overnight stay. The drive takes about four hours, crossing the Patagonian Plain on a smooth, paved road. (B)

**Day 18, Thu or Sun: Puerto Natales to Paine National Park** After breakfast you will depart for your trip to Paine National Park. The drive takes about four hours, and you will stop en route to visit Milodon Cave, where Charles Darwin found the pre-historic fossils of a giant sloth that later led him to the formulation of his theories on evolution. The drive from Milodon Cave to the entrance of Paine Park takes another 1-2 hours via a well-graded gravel road. Visits include Grey Lake and Glacier, Salto Grande (Large Waterfall) and the Park Museum. You will drive by Sarmiento Lake, Figueroa Lake and also Lake Pehoe. Enjoy views of herds of guanacos, nandues, swans, ducks and perhaps even foxes. Boxed lunch is included. You will spend two nights in the park at the Hosteria Las Torres or similar accommodations, based on availabilities.

**Note:** During high season, December through March, it is advisable to book and prepay these reservations as early as possible. (B, L)

**Day 19, Fri or Mon: In Paine National Park** Day at leisure for sightseeing on your own. You may obtain information and purchase tours at the hotel front desk. Tours vary in degree of strenuousness, ranging from full-day hiking excursions to half- or full-day tours via sightseeing van with guide. (B)

**Day 20, Sat or Tue: Paine National Park/Punta Arenas/Santiago**

Early morning transfer to Punta Arenas Airport for your flight to Santiago and your connecting flight home. (B)

**Day 21, Sun or Wed: Arrive Home City**

All airfares within South America are included in the rates and are subject to change without notice. Airfares from/to North America are **not** included.

Tour Rates Per Person	Itinerary #1			Itinerary #2		
	Dbl	Sgl	Tpl	Dbl	Sgl	Tpl
Tourist Class	\$3999	5915	3685*	\$4099	6115	3755
First Class	\$4495	6859	4175	\$4595	7059	4245
Deluxe Class	\$4935	7715	4845**	\$5035	7915	4915**
Deluxe Plus Class	\$5549	9340	n/a	\$5649	9540	n/a

\*\*Substitute Waldorf for Bisonte Palace in Buenos Aires

\*\*Substitute Kenton Palace in Lake View Room in Bariloche

**Note:** Cruises on board the *M/V Mare Australis* or *M/V Via Australis* from Ushuaia to Punta Arenas or v/v are NOT included in the quoted tour rates. The cruise rates are additional, based on the category and season. See page 36 for rates, deck plans and route map and our website for deck plans and ship specifications: [www.ecoadventures.com](http://www.ecoadventures.com))

Hotels City	Tourist Class	First Class	Deluxe Class	Deluxe Plus Class
Santiago	Eurotel Hotel	Torremayor	Sheraton or Radisson	Ritz Carlton
Puerto Varas	Colonos del Sur	Bellavista	Bellavista (Suite)	Cabanas del Lago (Sup Room)
Peulla	Hotel Peulla	La Natura	La Natura	La Natura
Bariloche	Aconcagua	Kenton Palace	Design Suites	Llao Llao
Buenos Aires	Bisonte Palace	Aspen Towers	Loi Suites	Softel
Lake Argentina	Mirador del Lago	El Quijote	Los Alamos	Los Notros
Pto. Natales	Charles Darwin	Altiplanico Sur	CostAustralis (Seaview)	
Paine Park		Hosteria Pehoe, Las Torres or best available		

\*Note: Sheraton Hotels may be substituted in Santiago and Buenos Aires



## Itinerary II - 20 Days

**Day 1, Sat or Tue: Depart Home City**

**Day 2, Sun or Wed: Arrive in Buenos Aires** Afternoon Buenos Aires City Tour (B)

**Day 3, Mon or Thu: Leisure Day in Buenos Aires** (B)

**Day 4, Tue or Fri: In Buenos Aires** Evening Tango Show (B, D)

**Day 5, Wed or Sat: Buenos Aires to Bariloche** (B)

**Day 6, Thu or Sun: In Bariloche** Bariloche Scenic Tour (B)

**Day 7 & 8, Fri & Sat or**

**Mon & Tue: Two-Days Lake Crossing to Puerto Montt** (B, L, D)

**Day 9, Sun or Wed: Puerto Montt/Punta Arenas/Puerto Natales** (B)

**Day 10, Mon or Thu: Puerto Natales to Paine Park** (B, L)

**Day 11, Tue or Fri: In Paine Park** (B)

**Day 12, Wed or Sat: Paine Park to Punta Arenas/Embark Australis Cruise** (B, D)

**Sailing on the M/V Via Australis** (Wed-Sun) or

**Sailing on the M/V Mare Australis** (Sat-Wed)

**Note:** Rates for cruises are not included in tour prices. See page 36 for rates, map and deck plans.

**Important Note:** You may substitute the cruise with an air sector from Punta Arenas to Ushuaia, which operates Monday-Friday from NOV-MAR. The approximate cost is \$160 per person including taxes. See page 24 for packages to extend your stay at Ushuaia on Tierra del Fuego.

**Day 13, Thu or Sun: Ainsworth Bay/Marinelli Glacier/Tucker Islet** With the first light of dawn, navigate Almirantazgo Fjord. Disembark in Ainsworth Bay near Marinelli Glacier for a walk to see the beaver dams, and the Magellan forests, as well as a close-up view of a colony of sea lions. In the afternoon, visit a small colony of Magellan penguins at Tucker Islet, where dolphins may likely join you. (B, L, D)

Bariloche, Argentina



**Day 14, Fri or Mon: Garibaldi and Pia Glaciers** Sightseeing of Garibaldi Glacier and the impressive snow-covered mountains of the Darwin Range. Disembark at the coast of the Garibaldi Inlet to take an adventurous excursion where you will appreciate the wild vegetation and forests on the slopes of the mountains. Disembark at the Pia Glacier and hike to an observation point. (B, L, D)

**Day 15, Sat or Tue: Cape Horn and Puerto Williams** Navigation through the Beagle and Murray Channels to disembark at the Cabo de Hornos (Cape Horn) National Park. Weather permitting, you will get a panoramic view of the famous and mythical Cape Horn, the place where the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans merge and the last promontory of South America. Disembark at Puerto Williams, the southernmost town in the world. (B, L, D)

**Day 16, Sun or Wed: Arrival Ushuaia/Fly to El Calafate**

Arrive Ushuaia and transfer to the airport for your flight to El Calafate. (B)

**Day 17, Mon or Thu: Full-day Perito Moreno Glacier Tour** (B, L)

**Day 18, Tue or Fri: Full-day Upsala and Onelli Glaciers Cruise** (B, L)

**Day 19, Wed or Sat: El Calafate/Buenos Aires/Connections Home** (B)

**Day 20, Thu or Sun: Arrive Home City**

## Iguassu Falls & Rio Extension

6 Days/5 Nights

**Day 1: El Calafate to Buenos Aires** Overnight at your selected hotel. (B)

**Day 2: Buenos Aires to Iguassu Falls** Fly to Iguazu Falls, Argentina for a tour of the mighty falls from the Argentine side, including the Devil's Throat. After the tour, transfer to Iguassu National Park in Brazil to stay at the **Tropical Hotel Das Cataratas** located right at the falls. (B)

**Day 3: Iguassu Falls** Visit the falls from the Brazilian vantage point. (B)

**Day 4: Iguassu Falls to Rio de Janeiro** Fly to Rio de Janeiro and transfer to your hotel of choice. (B)

**Day 5: In Rio** Take a full-day motorcoach tour to Corcovado and Tijuca rainforest, then lunch followed by Sugar Loaf Mountain. (B, L)

**Day 6: Depart Rio** (B)

**Day 7: Arrive Home City**

Tour Rates Per Person Hotel Category	Low Season			High Season		
	Dbl	Sgl	Tpl	Dbl	Sgl	Tpl
Tourist Class	\$1299	1950	n/a	\$1395	1999	n/a
First Class	\$1499	2350	1359	\$1550	2399	1369
Superior First Class	\$1585	2520	1389	\$1600	2569	1399
Deluxe Plus	\$1759	2869	n/a	\$1659	2899	n/a

**Note:** Low Season: MAY 01-JUN 30, AUG 01-SEP 30 & DEC 01-DEC 20. Rates are not valid during New Year's Eve, Easter Week or Carnival.

Hotels City	Tourist Class	First Class	Superior First Class	Deluxe Plus Class
Iguassu Falls	(Standard)	(Superior)	(Superior)	(Deluxe)
Rio de Janeiro	Oceano	Praia Ipanema	Praia Ipanema (Dlx OV)	Sofitel Rio Palace (Dlx OV)

Exploring the Pia Glacier on the Australis cruises

