



DISCOVERING TORRES DEL PAINE (5D/4N) (DTP) (2008-2009)

Hotels

Start/end Punta Arenas

You will have the chance to visit the main areas of interest in Torres Del Paine National Park with the added comfort of spending your nights in hotels and estancias of excellent quality. Some of the highlights include the freedom to enjoy the park through the lens of a camera or sitting by a mountain stream for a leisurely lunch and ending the day in a charming hotel that allows you to observe the deep blue icebergs while sipping a Pisco Sour.

Day 1

We recommend you take the early flight from Santiago to Punta Arenas (4 hours), flying over the Andes and observing incredible views of the Patagonian Ice Fields. Upon your arrival in Punta Arenas, the most southern city on the continent, a private transfer will be waiting to take you to Puerto Natales. (Chile Nativo will offer a pick-up from the airport at 3:20 PM, corresponding with LAN airline, Flight # LA0293, or at 3 PM from your hotel in town). *(Flight numbers and times subject to change)*

As we leave Punta Arenas we will be able to see the Strait of Magellan and the island Tierra del Fuego. Our 5-hour drive will take us through open pampas and huge ranches (estancias) and chances are we will be able to observe one of the most typical animals in this area, the ñandu, (similar to ostrich). We pass through Puerto Natales, located on the Sound of Last Hope, a typical fishing town surrounded by mountains. We continue driving along an unpaved road to the Torres Del Paine National Park. Upon entering the park we will have excellent photographic and birding opportunities as we drive alongside lagoons frequented by Chilean flamencos and black-necked swans. During the next two nights, you can take advantage of one of the services in the Spa Las Torres (the only full service spa in the park).



(5 hours by private transfer) (D) (Night at Hotel Las Torres)

Day 2

We begin our first full day trek, heading to the base of the Towers lookout point following the Ascencio River before entering the Ascencio Valley. Our walk will be uphill for one hour, stopping to observe the first glimpses of the valley and panoramic views of the Lake Nordenskjöld. During the following 2 hours, we'll walk through unbelievable forests of tall deciduous beech (Nothofagus Pumilio) and waterfalls, and then continue ascending through a huge terminal moraine up to a photographic view point (900m). From here we will be surrounded by three giant granite towers (2850m) and a lagoon with slurry waters resulting from glacial erosion. We will stop here for lunch, taking our time to enjoy this astonishing scenery, before our descent returning along the same path back to our hotel.



(7-8 hours back and forth, 18KM) (B-BL-D) (Night at Hotel Las Torres)

Day3

Today we drive to Lago Grey, inside Torres del Paine National Park. The road passes through a landscape of towering mountains, glaciers, wetlands, steppes and forests. This unique habitat harbors a number of species restricted to southern latitudes. We make a stop at the Salto Grande waterfall to do our first hike to a look out point of the Paine Grande (3050m) and the Nordenskjöld Lake. We will then arrive to the administration area to enjoy a lunch in front of the Toro Lake (the biggest in the region). In the afternoon we are going up the Grey Lake by boat. In order to get to the boat we will walk through a mature beech forest where we might observe woodpeckers. We will navigate about one hour through icebergs of different tones of blue up to the Grey glacier, where we will stay for a while in front of the glacier in the hope of seeing icebergs calve. Our return journey offers views of Paine Grande with its impressive ice mushrooms. Then we take a transfer to our hotel on the shore of the Serrano River with amazing views of the Paine Massif.



(1.5 hour by private transfer, 2 hours hike in the morning, 3 hours boat cruise in the afternoon) (B-BL-D) (Night at Hotel Rio Serrano)

Day 4

We will start a hike on a one-way path with panoramic glimpses of the park. According to the season we should be able to see specific flowers such as orchids, calceolarias, and neneos or maybe even experience the flight of the condor. Once we are at the highest point of the trail we connect to the rarely visited trail heading to Estancia Lazo and its Hosteria Mirador del Payne which are located outside the park. The Estancia Lazo, it is a huge cattle center dating from the last century, with magnificent views of the Paine Massive and Laguna Verde. The rooms are very comfortable; the main Estancia's house has been remodeled as a dining room-bar, keeping it cozy and country style. A typical Patagonian style lamb barbecue will be waiting for us at the Estancia-Hosteria where we will spend the night.



(20 minutes by private transfer, 5 hours hike) (B-BL-BBQ) (Night at Estancia-Hosteria Mirador Del Payne)

Day 5

We will take a private transfer to Punta Arenas. (Clients should take the flight at 05:00PM, from LAN airline, flight #LA996, arriving to Santiago at 8:20 PM) *(Flight numbers and times subject to change)*, if you decide to stay the night in Punta Arenas; we will drop you at your hotel.

(5 hours by private transfer) (B)

REGARDING THE SCHEDULE

The schedules indicated above are subject to change due to weather conditions or unexpected circumstances beyond our control, but we will try our best to keep them unaltered

<i>PRICE</i>	<i>2 passengers</i>	<i>3 – 5 passengers</i>	<i>6 - 8 passengers</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
<i>Per person</i>	USD \$ 2.495	USD \$ 2.095	USD \$ 1.995	USD \$ 695*

**forced singles do not apply*

INCLUDED	NOT INCLUDED
-All the private transportation indicated in the schedule	-Flight to Santiago, Chile
-Entrance fee to Torres del Paine National Park	-Internal Flight Santiago - Punta Arenas
-Two nights at Hotel Las Torres (Twin Canelo room)	-Any additional nights
-One night at Hotel Rio Serrano (Twin Superior room)	-Medical expenses
-Boat to Grey Glacier	-Insurance of any kind
-One night at Hosteria-Estancia Mirador del Payne (Twin standard room)	-Personal expenses
-All meals indicated in the schedule (B: breakfast, BL: picnic lunch, L: Lunch, D: dinner, BBQ: Barbecue)	-Alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks
-Guide (English-Spanish languages)	-Gratuities for Guide & Driver

DEPARTURE DATES

October 02 – 06, 2008
October 13 – 17, 2008
November 04 – 08, 2008 **
December 12 – 15, 2008
January 14 – 18, 2009
February 27 – March 03, 2009***
March 16 – 20, 2009

** Due to the availability in the lodging we start at Hotel Rio Serrano then we spend two nights at Las Torres and the last night in Mirador del Payne.

*** Due to the availability we finish at Lodge Cerro Guido instead of Mirador del Payne.