



THE HIDDEN VALLEY (6D/5N) (THVNAT)
 Camping & Estancia
 Natales – Natales

DEPARTURE DATES:
EVERY SUNDAY FROM SEPTEMBER 28, 2008 – APRIL 26, 2009

For a slightly different view of the Park, we invite you to experience this unique adventure! We hike the three valleys part of the famous W trek, visiting glaciers, passing through southern beech forests and enjoying impressive views of the famous Torres. Then our final hike takes us through a less visited part of the Park, where we will walk through a hidden valley that leads us to our final destination, an authentic estancia, waiting for us with a Patagonian style lamb barbecue.

Day 1, Sun

Starting from Puerto Natales at 12 PM or from Cerro Castillo at 1PM, we drive all the way to Torres del Paine National Park. We will drive 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, (rare South American ostrich). 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. Today's hike is on a gentle trail following the border of the park and offers opportunities to see guanacos (Llama family) and the Andean Condor. We camp at the shore of the Serrano River with great views of the "Cuernos".

(2 hours by private transfer, 2 hours soft hike) (D) (Night at

Camping Serrano)

Day 2, Mon



After a good breakfast we leave the camp and we begin to drive toward Lago Grey one of the highlights of the park. The road passes through a landscape of towering mountains, glaciers, wetlands, steppes and forests. We start a walk into the Pingo Valley all the way to the "Cascada los Salmones" where we'll stop to take in the view before returning back along the same trail, with a chance to find the elusive Huemul (Andean Deer). We enjoy a picnic lunch at the shore of the Pingo River and in the afternoon we start a short, flat walk, through a mature beech forest with possible sightings of Chilean flickers, austral parakeets or torrent ducks. We will cross a stony beach to arrive at a view point on a peninsula from where we can see deep blue icebergs surrounded by forests. Later on we come back to our camp.

(30 minutes by private transfer each way, 3 hours hike in the morning, 2 hours hike in the afternoon) (Optional boat ride to the Glacier Grey, USD \$ 100, 3 hours) (B-BL-D) (Night at Camping Serrano)

Day 3, Tue

We will start our first day trekking to the base of the Towers, following the Ascencio River to enter the Ascencio Valley. Our walk will be uphill for one hour before stopping to observe the first glimpses of the valley surrounded by unbelievable beech forests (Nothofagus family), glaciers and waterfalls. We'll continue through the valley for another hour and a half before ascending a huge terminal moraine to a lookout (900 M), excellent for picture taking. At this point we will be surrounded by three giant granite towers (2850 M) and a lagoon with slurry waters due to erosion produced by glaciers. This amazing view will be accompanied by lunch to add to the enjoyment. After being awed by the towers we'll start our descent, following the same path back to the transfer and drive back to the camp.



(1 hour by private transfer each way, 7-8 hours round-trip, 18 KM) (B-BL-D) (Night at Camping Serrano)

Day 4, Wed

We will take a catamaran across Lake Pehoe to commence our out and back trek to the French valley. We will start going around the southwest side of Paine Grande, the highest summit in the Park, through native forests of fire bush and evergreen beech (*Nothofagus Bethuloides*), up to the hanging bridge over the French River to observe the first glimpses of the hanging glacier. Then we will ascend (300m) for one hour amidst a surreal Japanese garden landscape, crossing beech forests, to reach a viewpoint, gifting us with magnificent panoramic views, where we enjoy a good lunch. Our way back will be the same, taking the catamaran and then the private transfer back



to our camp.

(30 minutes by private transfer each way, 6 hours walk, 35 minutes by catamaran each way, 17KM) (B-BL-D) (Night at Camping Serrano)

Day 5, Thu

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 6, Fri

We will take a private transfer around 8 AM to Cerro Castillo or Puerto Natales
(2 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 passengers</i>	<i>4- 5 passengers</i>	<i>6 – 8 passengers</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
<i>Per person</i>	USD \$ 2.195	USD \$ 1.795	USD \$ 1.595	USD \$ 1.495	USD \$ 100*

**forced singles do not apply*

INCLUDED	NOT INCLUDED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -All the private transportation indicated in the schedule -Entrance fee to Torres del Paine National Park -Four nights camping (North Face VE 25) -Dinning tent (Space Station Mountain Hardwear), kitchen tent and a cook (over 4 guests) -Catamaran to cross Pehoe Lake (Round Trip) -One night lodging at Estancia-Hosteria Mirador del Payne (Twin standard room) (Single supplement applies) -All meals indicated in the schedule (B: breakfast, BL: picnic lunch, D: dinner, BBQ: barbecue) -Table wine at Camping -Guide (English-Spanish languages) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Any additional nights -Medical expenses -Insurance of any kind -Personal expenses -Lunch on day 1 & 6 -Sleeping bags -Any alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks at the Estancia. -Gratuities for guide & driver