



Patagonian Rail & Wilderness

Expedition

An Epic Journey Through Chile & Argentina

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2027 DEPARTURE

12 February – 1 March 2027

18 Days

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE WILD SOUTH



Patagonia reveals itself through immense landscapes — mountains, forests, glaciers and wide-open steppe. Our journey crosses Chile and Argentina, combining historic railways with some of the most spectacular scenery in South America.

We travel south from central Chile through the Lake District, continue along remote sections of the Carretera Austral, and cross the Andes into Argentina to ride the legendary La Trochita before continuing to Bariloche.

From Bariloche, we fly south to El Calafate to experience the great glaciers of southern Patagonia, before travelling overland across the Patagonian steppe to Torres del Paine in Chile.

For those wishing to continue farther south, optional extensions lead either aboard an Australis expedition cruise around Cape Horn to Ushuaia, or via Puerto Williams and the Beagle Channel to Ushuaia.

Comfortable, carefully organized and deliberately varied, this journey brings together railway heritage, remote landscapes and the great natural icons of Patagonia.

WHAT TO EXPECT ALONG THE WAY

HISTORIC RAILWAYS

Travel on distinctive railways ranging from local services to the legendary La Trochita, one of Patagonia's great narrow-gauge railway experiences.

REMOTE PATAGONIA

Journey through the Chilean Lake District, the Carretera Austral and wide-open Patagonian landscapes that lie well beyond the usual tourist routes.

GLACIERS & MOUNTAINS

Experience the great glaciers of El Calafate and the dramatic peaks and open landscapes of Torres del Paine National Park.

JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Eight remarkable experiences across Chile and Argentina — by rail, road, air and water.



Historic hillside transport in Valparaíso, one of the first stops on our journey south through Chile.

01

THE RAMAL TO CONSTITUCIÓN

Travel south through central Chile and ride the historic branch line from Talca to Constitución, one of the country's most characterful surviving railway journeys.

02

THE CHILEAN LAKE DISTRICT

Discover Puerto Varas and the landscapes of lakes, volcanoes and forests that mark the transition toward northern Patagonia.

03

THE CARRETERA AUSTRAL

Journey through one of South America's great wilderness routes, surrounded by mountains, rivers, forests and remote Patagonian settlements.

04

LA TROCHITA

Ride Patagonia's legendary narrow-gauge railway from Esquel, travelling behind a historic locomotive through the landscapes of Argentine Patagonia.

05

BARILOCHE & THE ANDES

Experience Bariloche and its spectacular setting of mountains, forests and lakes in the heart of Argentina's northern Patagonia.

06

EL CALAFATE & THE GLACIERS

Encounter the immense glaciers of southern Patagonia, including the extraordinary Perito Moreno Glacier and its vast wall of ice.

07

TORRES DEL PAINE

Travel overland into Chile and explore one of Patagonia's great national parks, renowned for granite peaks, turquoise lakes and sweeping open landscapes.

08

THE FAR SOUTH

Reach Punta Arenas on the Strait of Magellan, with optional extensions continuing to Ushuaia either via Cape Horn aboard Australis or via Puerto Williams and the Beagle Channel.

Your Journey at a Glance

An 18-day journey from Santiago to Punta Arenas — through Chile's central valleys, the Carretera Austral, Argentina's Lake District and the wild landscapes of southern Patagonia.



CENTRAL CHILE

Day 1 — Arrival in Santiago

Day 2 — Santiago

Day 3 — Valparaíso

Day 4 — Último Ramal to Constitución

NORTHERN PATAGONIA

Day 5 — Puerto Varas

Day 6 — Osorno Volcano

Day 7 — Carretera Austral to Chaitén

Day 8 — Chaitén → Esquel

Day 9 — La Trochita → Bariloche

Day 10 — Bariloche

SOUTHERN PATAGONIA

Day 11 — Flight to El Calafate

Day 12 — Perito Moreno Glacier

Day 13 — Torres del Paine

Day 14 — Torres del Paine

Day 15 — Puerto Natales

Day 16 — Estancia Penitente → Punta Arenas

Day 17 — Punta Arenas & Farewell

Day 18 — Departure



Chile's capital lies beneath the Andes, the starting point of our long journey south.



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1 • FRIDAY

ARRIVAL IN SANTIAGO

Welcome to Chile and the beginning of our journey south through Patagonia.

On arrival at Santiago International Airport, you will be met and transferred privately to our hotel in the city.

This evening, meet your Tour Leader and fellow travelers over a welcome glass of wine as we look ahead to the journey from Chile's central valleys to the far south.

Overnight: Santiago

Meals: None

DAY 2 • SATURDAY

SANTIAGO & CHILEAN FLAVORS

Our first full day introduces us to Chile's capital, dramatically set between the Andes and the Coastal Range.

We explore the historic center, including Plaza de Armas and La Moneda Palace, before taking the funicular up San Cristóbal Hill for sweeping views across Santiago and the surrounding mountains.

At midday, we gather for a welcome lunch featuring Chilean cuisine. The evening is free to enjoy the city at your own pace

Overnight: Santiago

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3 • SUNDAY

VALPARAÍSO BY TRAIN

Today we travel through the Chilean countryside to Limache, where we board the regional train for the final journey to the Pacific coast.

In Valparaíso, we explore the UNESCO-listed historic quarter, its colorful hills and famous wooden funiculars, with time for lunch overlooking the harbor.

Later in the afternoon, we return to Santiago.

Overnight: Santiago

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



Our southbound rail journey begins in Santiago aboard the train to Talca.

DAY 4 • MONDAY

THE ÚLTIMO RAMAL

Today our journey south begins by rail from Santiago's historic Alameda Station to Talca.

After arriving in the Maule Valley, we pause for lunch and a visit to a local winery before continuing aboard one of Chile's most distinctive railway journeys: the Último Ramal, the country's last surviving rural branch line.

The narrow-gauge route follows the Maule River westward through small communities and countryside to Constitución, where we spend the night near the Pacific coast.

Overnight: Constitución

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 • TUESDAY

SOUTH TO THE LAKE DISTRICT

We continue overland to Concepción, where we board a domestic flight south to Puerto Montt.

On arrival, a short transfer brings us to Puerto Varas, beautifully situated on the shores of Lake Llanquihue with the snow-capped Osorno Volcano rising beyond.

The remainder of the day is free to settle into our lakeside surroundings.

Overnight: Puerto Varas

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 6 • WEDNESDAY

OSORNO VOLCANO

Today we travel into the dramatic volcanic landscapes surrounding Osorno Volcano.

We ascend through forests and lava fields to the mountain station, where an open-air chairlift carries us higher onto the slopes. From here, weather permitting, there are sweeping views across Lake Llanquihue and the surrounding peaks of the Andes.

After time to enjoy the mountain scenery, we return to Puerto Varas.

Overnight: Puerto Varas

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch





The Carretera Austral carries us through fjords, forests and some of Chile's most remote landscapes.

DAY 7 • THURSDAY

CARRETERA AUSTRAL TO CHAITÉN

Today we leave the Lake District behind and enter the remote landscapes of the Carretera Austral.

Our journey south combines scenic roads with fjord crossings, passing through temperate rainforest, isolated settlements and some of Chile's least-developed territory.

By late afternoon, we reach Chaitén, a small frontier town between the Andes and the Pacific.

Overnight: Chaitén

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8 • FRIDAY

ACROSS THE ANDES TO ESQUEL

We leave Chile and travel east through a dramatic succession of mountain valleys toward the Argentine border.

As we cross the Andes, the landscape changes noticeably — from the lush forests of western Patagonia to the open steppe of Argentina.

Our destination is Esquel, a historic Patagonian town and the gateway to one of the continent's most celebrated heritage railways.

Overnight: Esquel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



DAY 9 • SATURDAY

LA TROCHITA

Today we board the legendary La Trochita, the Old Patagonian Express, for a memorable steam journey across the Patagonian landscape.

The narrow-gauge railway carries us through open valleys to Nahuel Pan, where we visit the local artisan market before returning to Esquel.

After lunch, we continue by road through increasingly dramatic scenery toward the lakes and mountains of Bariloche.

Overnight: Bariloche

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



From Cerro Campanario, the lakes and mountains of northern Patagonia unfold across the horizon.

DAY 10 • SUNDAY

BARILOCHE & CERRO CAMPANARIO

Today we explore Argentina's spectacular Lake District, surrounded by forests, mountains and the deep blue waters of Lake Nahuel Huapi.

We ride the chairlift to Cerro Campanario for sweeping views across the lakes and Andes before continuing along the scenic Circuito Chico, passing forested shores and the historic Llao Llao Hotel.

Overnight: Bariloche

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 11 • MONDAY

SOUTH TO EL CALAFATE

This morning we transfer to Bariloche Airport for our flight south to El Calafate, gateway to Argentina's great southern ice fields.

After arrival and transfer to our hotel, the remainder of the afternoon is free to relax or explore the town at your own pace.

Overnight: El Calafate

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 12 • TUESDAY

PERITO MORENO GLACIER

Today we enter Los Glaciares National Park to experience one of Patagonia's great natural wonders.

A network of walkways brings us close to the immense face of the Perito Moreno Glacier, offering constantly changing views of its towers and deep blue crevasses.

We also take to the water for a cruise along the glacier front, where enormous walls of ice rise above Lake Argentino.

Overnight: El Calafate

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



From the peaks of Torres del Paine to Estancia Penitente and prehistoric Milodon Cave, southern Patagonia reveals its landscapes, traditions and history.



DAY 13 • WEDNESDAY

OVERLAND TO TORRES DEL PAINE

We leave El Calafate and travel across the vast Patagonian steppe toward the Chilean border.

After crossing back into Chile, the open pampas gradually give way to the mountains of Torres del Paine National Park.

By late afternoon, we arrive at our lodge surrounded by one of Patagonia's great wilderness landscapes.

Overnight: Torres del Paine

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 14 • THURSDAY

TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK

A full day is devoted to exploring Chile's most celebrated national park.

We travel among turquoise lakes, open grasslands and sweeping viewpoints beneath the Cuernos del Paine, while keeping watch for guanacos, condors and other Patagonian wildlife.

Overnight: Torres del Paine

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 15 • FRIDAY

MILODON CAVE & PUERTO NATALES

Leaving Torres del Paine, we visit the historic Milodon Cave, where remains of the giant prehistoric ground sloth were discovered.

We then continue to Puerto Natales, overlooking the waters of Última Esperanza Sound. The afternoon is free to enjoy the waterfront and explore the town.

Overnight: Puerto Natales

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 16 • SATURDAY

ESTANCIA PENITENTE & PUNTA ARENAS

Our journey continues south across the windswept Patagonian pampas.

Along the way, we stop at Estancia Penitente for a traditional hosted lunch and an introduction to life on a remote Patagonian ranch.

Later, we continue across the steppe to Punta Arenas, the historic port on the Strait of Magellan.

Overnight: Punta Arenas

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 17 • SUNDAY

PUNTA ARENAS & FAREWELL

Today we explore Punta Arenas, Patagonia's historic maritime capital on the Strait of Magellan.

Our guided morning introduces us to Plaza Muñoz Gamero, the city's grand pioneer mansions and its remarkable cemetery, where the stories of explorers, settlers and early navigators reflect the region's frontier past.

At midday, we gather for a farewell lunch featuring regional flavors and Chilean wine, celebrating the remarkable journey we have shared from Santiago to the far south.

The remainder of the day is free to enjoy the waterfront or explore Punta Arenas at your own pace.

Overnight: Punta Arenas

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 18 • MONDAY

JOURNEY'S END

After breakfast, our main Patagonian journey comes to an end.

Guests concluding their tour receive a private transfer to Punta Arenas Airport, timed to connect with their onward flight.

Meals: Breakfast



On the shores of the Strait of Magellan, Punta Arenas marks the southern conclusion of our journey across Patagonia.



THE JOURNEY CONTINUES SOUTH

For travelers joining our Tierra del Fuego Extension, the adventure continues beyond the continental edge to Puerto Williams and Ushuaia.

Continue the Adventure

TWO EXTRAORDINARY WAYS TO SEE THE FAR SOUTH

For travelers joining one of our optional post-tour extensions, the adventure continues beyond Punta Arenas into Tierra del Fuego — either via Puerto Williams and the Beagle Channel or aboard the Australis Expedition Cruise.

Both routes lead onward to Ushuaia, offering two very different ways to experience the remote landscapes, waterways and wildlife of the far south.

*Different journeys.
The same extraordinary
southern world.*

OPTION 1

Puerto Williams & Ushuaia REMOTE FRONTIERS & THE END OF THE WORLD



Continue by air to remote Puerto Williams on Navarino Island, then cross the Beagle Channel to Ushuaia. This adventurous extension combines sub-Antarctic landscapes, unique wildlife experiences and the historic Train of the End of the World.

- Fly across the Darwin Range to Puerto Williams
- Cross the Beagle Channel to Ushuaia
- Wildlife experiences, including penguin colonies
- Ride the historic Train of the End of the World.

**PUERTO WILLIAMS • BEAGLE CHANNEL • USHUAIA
MARTILLO ISLAND • TREN DEL FIN DEL MUNDO**

OPTION 2

Australis Expedition Cruise GLACIERS, FJORDS & CAPE HORN



Sail through the remote waterways of Tierra del Fuego and Cape Horn aboard the renowned Australis expedition vessel. Explore some of the most isolated channels, islands and glaciers of the far south, with daily landings and excursions in a pristine wilderness.

- Expedition cruise through Tierra del Fuego
- Glaciers, fjords and remote islands
- Rich marine wildlife and sub-Antarctic landscapes
- Conclude the voyage in Ushuaia at the End of the World

**STRAIT OF MAGELLAN • TIERRA DEL FUEGO
CAPE HORN • BEAGLE CHANNEL • USHUAIA**

*Both post-tour extensions are optional and priced
separately from the 18-day main tour.*



From the remote shores of Navarino Island to penguin colonies, the Beagle Channel and the End of the World Train, this extension explores the wildest reaches of Tierra del Fuego.



OPTION 1 · DAYS 18–22 | PUERTO WILLIAMS–USHUAIA

DAY 18 · MONDAY

SOUTH TO PUERTO WILLIAMS

Our optional Tierra del Fuego extension begins with a scenic flight from Punta Arenas across the Darwin Range to Puerto Williams, on remote Navarino Island.

Weather permitting, the journey reveals mountains, glaciers and channels before we arrive in one of the world’s southernmost settlements.

The remainder of the day is free to settle into our remote surroundings.

Overnight: Puerto Williams
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 19 · TUESDAY

ACROSS THE BEAGLE CHANNEL

Today we cross the historic Beagle Channel from Puerto Williams to Ushuaia.

Subject to suitable maritime conditions, our vessel carries us through one of the great waterways of Tierra del Fuego, surrounded by rugged mountains and sub-Antarctic scenery.

On arrival in Ushuaia, we transfer to our hotel and settle in for the final chapter of this southern journey.

Overnight: Ushuaia
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 20 · WEDNESDAY

MARTILLO ISLAND PENGUINS

Today we return to the Beagle Channel for a wildlife excursion to Martillo Island.

Traveling by boat and Zodiac, we reach the island’s colonies of Magellanic and Gentoo penguins, with time ashore to observe them at close range in their natural habitat.

After the excursion, we return to Ushuaia.

Overnight: Ushuaia
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 21 · THURSDAY

USHUAIA & END OF THE WORLD TRAIN

Today we join travelers arriving from the Australis Expedition Cruise for our final day together in Ushuaia.

We ride the historic Train of the End of the World into Tierra del Fuego National Park, following the route once used by prisoners from Ushuaia’s former penal colony.

After the train, we return to Ushuaia for a farewell lunch together.

Overnight: Ushuaia
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 22 · FRIDAY

DEPARTURE

Private transfer from the hotel to Ushuaia Airport for your onward flight.

Meals: Breakfast



From remote fjords and glacier landings to Cape Horn and the Beagle Channel, Australis explores the wild waterways of Tierra del Fuego.



OPTION 2 · DAYS 17–22 | AUSTRALIS EXPEDITION CRUISE

DAY 17 · SUNDAY

EMBARK IN PUNTA ARENAS

After our final day together in Punta Arenas, cruise guests board the Australis expedition vessel for a four-night voyage through the remote waterways of Tierra del Fuego.

This evening, we sail into the Strait of Magellan.

Overnight: Australis

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 18 · MONDAY

AINSWORTH BAY & TUCKERS ISLETS

Our first expedition day takes us into Ainsworth Bay, beneath the Darwin Range, before continuing to the wildlife-rich Tuckers Islets.

Zodiac excursions bring us close to the remote landscapes and birdlife of the southern fjords.

Overnight: Australis

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 19 · TUESDAY

PÍA GLACIER & GLACIER ALLEY

We enter the spectacular Pía Fjord, where a Zodiac landing brings us close to the immense Pía Glacier.

Later, we sail through Glacier Alley, surrounded by glaciers descending from the Darwin Range toward the Beagle Channel.

Overnight: Australis

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 20 · WEDNESDAY

CAPE HORN & WULAIA BAY

Weather permitting, we land at legendary Cape Horn, where the Pacific and Atlantic oceans meet at the edge of South America.

Later, we explore historic Wulaia Bay, once visited by Charles Darwin during the voyage of HMS Beagle.

Overnight: Australis

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 21 · THURSDAY

USHUAIA & END OF THE WORLD TRAIN

After disembarking in Ushuaia, we join the travelers from our Puerto Williams extension for the final day together.

We ride the historic Train of the End of the World into Tierra del Fuego National Park before gathering for our farewell lunch in Ushuaia.

Overnight: Ushuaia

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 22 · FRIDAY

DEPARTURE

Private transfer from the hotel to Ushuaia Airport for your onward flight.

Meals: Breakfast

WHERE YOU'LL STAY

Comfort with Character

Where we stay is an important part of the experience. Throughout Chile and Argentina, we have selected hotels for their combination of location, comfort, character and suitability for our journey.



Hotel Cabaña del Lago – Puerto Varas



Hotel Posada Los Alamos – El Calafate



Pampa Lodge – Torres del Paine



Hotel Cabo de Hornos – Punta Arenas

SANTIAGO DE CHILE

Hotel Plaza El Bosque Ebro

CONSTITUCIÓN

Hotel Sweet Dreams

PUERTO VARAS

Hotel Cabaña del Lago

CHAITÉN

Hotel Mi Casa

ESQUEL

Hotel Las Bayas

BARILOCHE

Hampton Inn Bariloche

EL CALAFATE

Posada Los Alamos

TORRES DEL PAINE

Pampa Lodge

PUERTO NATALES

Hotel Costaustralis

PUNTA ARENAS

Hotel Cabo de Hornos

DATES & PRICING

February–March 2027 Departure



A small-group journey from Santiago to Punta Arenas, with two optional ways to continue through Tierra del Fuego to Ushuaia.

12 FEBRUARY – 1 MARCH 2027

18 Days • Santiago to Punta Arenas

LIMITED AVAILABILITY • 4 PLACES REMAINING

TOUR PRICE

USD 14,982

per person sharing a double room

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

USD 2,044

TOTAL FOR A SINGLE TRAVELER

USD 17,026

OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSIONS

OPTION 1 • PUERTO WILLIAMS & USHUAIA

USD 3,403 *per person sharing a double room*

Single Room Supplement: USD 385

OPTION 2 • AUSTRALIS EXPEDITION CRUISE

Priced according to cabin category and availability

RESERVING YOUR PLACE

Deposit: USD 1,000 per person

A place on the journey is secured once we have received your completed Booking Form and deposit. Final payment is due 60 days before departure. The group is deliberately limited in size to preserve the personal character of the journey and allow us to travel comfortably through remote Patagonia.

Prices are quoted in US dollars per person. The double-room price is based on two guests sharing one room. The single-room supplement applies to travelers occupying a room on their own.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Everything Arranged for a Seamless Patagonian Journey



From the moment the journey begins, the principal arrangements from Santiago to Punta Arenas are taken care of. Accommodation, transportation, rail journeys, guided visits and the special experiences described in the itinerary are organized in advance, allowing you to concentrate on the journey itself.

INCLUDED IN YOUR JOURNEY

- 17 nights' accommodation in the hotels and lodges described in the itinerary, or comparable alternatives
- Daily breakfast and all other meals specifically indicated in the itinerary
- Regional flights included within the published itinerary, including the applicable checked baggage allowance
- Rail journeys and heritage train experiences described in the program
- Private transportation and transfers throughout the tour as specified
- Airport transfers associated with the published itinerary
- Carretera Austral fjord crossings and other scheduled marine transportation
- Perito Moreno Glacier navigation and excursions described in the program
- National park entrance fees and sightseeing admissions for included visits
- Professional local guides in the destinations visited
- Rail South America Tour Leader accompanying the group throughout the 18-day main journey
- Local taxes and service charges relating to the included arrangements

Optional post-tour extensions include the services specifically described in their respective itineraries and are priced separately from the 18-day main tour.

NOT INCLUDED

International flights to Santiago and from Punta Arenas or Ushuaia; travel and medical insurance; passport or visa expenses where applicable; meals and beverages not specifically mentioned in the itinerary; gratuities; optional excursions or activities; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls and minibar purchases; and any services not specifically described as included.

The detailed day-by-day itinerary identifies the meals, excursions and services included on each day. Program arrangements may occasionally be adjusted where weather, transport schedules or other operational circumstances require.

YOUR JOURNEY AWAITS

Patagonian Rail & Wilderness Expedition



For travelers drawn to remote landscapes, historic railways and journeys that go well beyond the usual routes, this expedition reveals Patagonia from Santiago to the Strait of Magellan — through Chile's Lake District, the Carretera Austral, Argentina's great wilderness and the dramatic landscapes of the far south.

With a deliberately small group and carefully coordinated arrangements, the emphasis is on experiencing Patagonia at a thoughtful pace, with the logistics taken care of from beginning to end.

READY TO RESERVE?

12 FEBRUARY – 1 MARCH 2027

18-Day Main Tour · Santiago to Punta Arenas

LIMITED AVAILABILITY · 4 PLACES REMAINING

Looking ahead?

Additional departures are scheduled for **6–22 November 2027** and **26 February–13 March 2028**. Separate tour programs with updated itinerary and pricing information are available for these departures.

Deposit: USD 1,000 per person

Complete the Booking Form to request your place on the journey.



Scan to open the Booking Form

Rail South America

www.railsouthamerica.com

peter@railsouthamerica.com

Rail South America

Small-Group Rail Journeys Through Latin America