



Patagonia National Park Explorations

Our explorations provide travelers with an in depth experience of this austral territory, for which we have outlined six different exploration zones, each with its own set of unique geographic, cultural and biosphere characteristics.

Each exploration has been designed to gradually reveal the essence of the territory to be discovered, whether on foot, on horseback, by bicycle, overland, mountain, among others.

Zones

Our explorations in the Patagonia National Park are carried out in the zones of: Water and forest, Pioneers, Andean and Patagonian Steppe, Fossils, Baker River and Patagonian Andean Ice.

WATER AND FOREST

Hikes

- Los carpinteros
- Lago Chico
- Los gatos
- Las águilas
- Rivera Río Cochrane
- Barbas de viejo
- Los caminantes
- Lagunas altas
- Ruta del huemul

Bike / E-bike rides

- La tejuela

Combinations

- Las correntadas
- Blugrin

High Mountain

- Tamanguito
- El encuentro
- Tamango
- Oportus

PIONEERS

Hikes

- Laguna Cisnes
- La Vega
- Los pumas
- Cañadon de Chacabuco

Overland

- Aves del valle

Self Guided

- Museo

FOSSILS

Hikes

- Los Antiguos

Bike / E-bike rides

- El furioso

Overland

- Chelenco sur

ANDEAN AND PATAGONIAN STEPPE

Hikes

- Áviles

Overland

- La Valchac

High Mountain

- La leona

BAKER RIVER

Bike / E-bike rides

- Los Ríos
- Viejo Cochrane

Overland

- Confluencia Chabak

PATAGONIAN ANDEAN ICE

Overland

- Viaje glaciar

Water and forest zone

Extensive forests that connect with lakes and rivers cover this area, dominated by monumental views and infinite open spaces that make it the ideal refuge for the fragile biodiversity of the Patagonian ecosystem.

HIKES

Los carpinteros

Duration: 2:30 hrs
Distance: 4,8 km / 3 mi

We will hike along the southern slope of the Patagonia National Park. We will cross areas with diverse vegetation: low shrubs, forest regrowth and dense coigüe forests. Different species of Patagonian bird life and fauna will accompany us. We will have broad views of the mountains and hills in the sector and the crystalline Lake Cochrane, which is a great binational lake shared by Chile and Argentina.

Full day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

Las Águilas

Duration: 5 hrs
Distance: 9,5 km / 5,9 mi

We will hike along the southern slope of the Patagonia National Park with its diverse vegetation: a mix of sectors with low shrubs, forest regrowth and dense coigüe forests. We will have broad views of the mountains in the sector and the crystalline river and Lake Cochrane, which is a great binational lake covering 325km² that is shared by Chile and Argentina.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

Los Caminantes

Duration: 8 hrs
Distance: 19,8 km / 12,3 mi

We will hike through the river valley to Lake Cochrane, which has one of the most crystalline waters in the world. We will contemplate the southern slopes of the Patagonia National Park, one of the main huemul habitats. We will visit the Huemul Post, the base for protecting and monitoring the huemuls that transition through these areas. We will move through a forest full of birdsong and marked wildlife.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

Lago Chico

Duration: 5 hrs
Distance: 11,8 km / 7,3 mi

We will hike around the edge of Lago Chico, where forests, lagoons and ravines intertwine. We will have great views of Lake Cochrane and Cerro Oportus. Along the way different birds, part of the Patagonian fauna, can be seen.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

Rivera Río Cochrane

Duration: 4 hrs
Distance: 8,9 km / 5,5 mi

We will head to the southern area of the Patagonia National Park. We will hike along the banks of the Cochrane River amid woods and moist slopes that allow a denser forest to grow. This area is a habitat for huemuls and varied bird life.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

Lagunas Altas

Duration: 8:30 hrs
Distance: 21,5 km / 13,4 mi

We will leave the lodge on foot and walk upward to view the valley from another perspective. The height reveals the mountains and plateaus that are interspersed with lagoons and forests. This is a very good option for birdwatching in the region as condors, eagles and other species can be seen.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

Los Gatos

Duration: 5 hrs
Distance: 11,1 km / 6,9 mi

We will begin by entering in a dense Patagonian forest to get to know the variety of flora and its development. We will hike through the natural habitat sector known as "Los Gatos" and then head down to Lake Cochrane, known for having some of the most transparent waters in the world and where we can get our feet wet.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

Barbas De Viejo

Duration: 5:30 hrs
Distance: 12 km / 7,5 mi

We will leave by along the river valley to Lake Cochrane, which has one of the most crystalline waters in the world. We will contemplate the southern slopes of the Patagonia National Park, one of the main huemul habitats. We will visit the Huemul Post, the base for protecting and monitoring the huemuls that transition through these areas. We will move through a forest full of birdsong and marked wildlife.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

Ruta del huemul

Duration: 8:30 hrs
Distance: 21,8 km / 13,5 mi

We will begin by exploring the southern area of the Patagonia National Park, very close to the town of Cochrane. We head upwards through the forests taking natural huemul trails that connect the Chacabuco Valley. We approach the habitat of this beautiful animal, classified as in danger of extinction and which remains in the red list of threatened species. This place has been declared a natural monument.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

BIKE / E-BIKE RIDES

La Tejuela

Duration: 6:30 hrs
Distance: 41,8 km / 26 mi

We will visit a rancher's post to learn about part of the Chacabuco Valley's history. We will view its remains and get to know more about the lifestyle of its residents. We take a sloping path among ancient lenga forests, passing lagoons and diverse views. We will pass through transit areas used by huemuls and other species in the Patagonia National Park.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

COMBINATIONS: KAYAK AND HIKE

Las Correntadas

Duration: 4:30 hrs
Distance: 4,2 km / 2,6 mi

We will go to the Cochrane River rapids in kayak. We will walk to the Lake Cochrane viewpoint and return via the Los Carpinteros trail in the Tamango area. We will cross coigüe forests in the first half of the the exploration and then flank the riverbank with landscapes of pampa and Patagonian steppe. The difficulty level of this alternative is easy.

*Subject to availability.

Full day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

Blugrin

Duration: 8 hrs
Distance: 12 km / 7,5 mi

We will go to the Cochrane River rapids in kayak. We will walk to the Lake Cochrane viewpoint and return via the Los Carpinteros trail in the Tamango area. We will cross coigüe forests in the first half of the the exploration and then flank the riverbank with landscapes of pampa and Patagonian steppe. This alternative has a more advanced difficulty level.

*Subject to availability.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

HIGH MOUNTAIN

Tamanguito

Duration: 8 hrs
Distance: 19,2 km / 11,9 mi

We will leave the lodge on foot. We will hike up a trail that shows us the encounter between the Steppe and the Forest. As we go up we can appreciate the captivating Chacabuco Valley's slopes, amid hills and high-plateau lagoons. From Cerro Tamanguito we will have broad views of the Chacabuco Valley basin and Lake Cochrane.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

El Encuentro

Duration: 9:30 hrs
Distance: 25,7 km / 16 mi

We will leave the lodge on foot. We will hike up a trail that shows us the encounter between the Steppe and the Forest. As we go up we can appreciate the captivating Chacabuco Valley's slopes, amid hills and high-plateau lagoons. From Cerro Tamanguito we will have broad views of the Chacabuco Valley basin and Lake Cochrane.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

Tamango

Duration: 10:30 hrs
Distance: 28,5 km / 17,7 mi

This exploration will take us across the steppe to one of the summits of the Patagonia National Park. As we go up we can appreciate the captivating Chacabuco Valley's slopes. The lagoons can be seen amid the depressions in the plateau. We are surrounded by broad and varied views of a significant portion of Patagonian geography.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

Oportus

Duration: 10 hrs
Distance: 13,9 km / 8,6 mi

We will cross a thick forest of ñirres and lengas. We will hike along a ridge with a view of the Chacabuco Valley and the Lake Cochrane basin. The marked summit offers a broad view as far as the northern ice field. It is named after Carlos Oportus, who in 1928 studied the situation and the possibilities for residents of the area. This hill reveals a spectacular part of the amazing Patagonia National Park from the heights.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

Pioneers zone

This sector has areas where different worlds converge, creating unique characteristics due to their interaction, allowing one to gain an in-depth perspective on the local fauna and its historical meaning.

HIKES

La Vega

Duration: 2:30 hrs
Distance: 5,2 km / 3,2 mi

We leave the lodge on foot and take an introductory hike in Patagonia National Park on this exploration. We will begin in sectors where there are streams and low forests with significant presence of chacaya (riparian shrub). As we enter the Park, we will begin to hear the songs of a variety of birds, such as churrin and bandurria tapaculo and black-faced ibis). Guanacos can be spotted grazing in this area.

Half day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

Laguna Cisnes

Duration: 3 hrs
Distance: 6,9 km / 4,3 mi

We will hike through the steppe before arriving at a lagoon with one of the greatest variety of birds. There we can get to know the Patagonian fauna and observe the multitude of species that inhabit the area.

Half day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

Los Pumas

Duration: 4:30 hrs
Distance: 10,9 km / 6,8 mi

We will leave the lodge on foot and hike through a vast steppe region bordering the Chacabuco River. This is one of the areas most populated by pumas and guanacos. Here we will learn more about these species and how to protect them.

Half day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

Cañadón de Chacabuco

Duration: 6 hrs
Distance: 16,5 km / 10,3 mi

We will leave the lodge on foot on a hike through large expanses of steppe, connecting with nature and wildlife. We will share amid the sound of birds and perhaps we will be able to glimpse the interaction between a puma and guanacos, part of this Patagonian territory.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

SELF GUIDED

Museo

Duration: 1:30 hrs

We invite travelers to get to know the Patagonia National Park museum. It presents the landscape and the cultural history of the Chacabuco Valley in an interactive way, incorporating an emotional and inspirational narrative on the importance of National Parks and ecological loss and recovery. We hope to foster a culture of conservation with this museum, inviting visitors to be inspired by the beauty of the park and to get closer to Patagonia's great natural and cultural heritage.

Half day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

OVERLAND

Aves del Valle

Duration: 1:30 hrs
Distance: 3,8 km / 2,4 mi

The Patagonia National Park is a paradise for bird watching. On this exploration we cross a part of the Chacabuco Valley with great potential for observing diverse types of lagoon and river birds.

Half day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

Andean and patagonian steppe zone

The plains of the steppe generate a dramatic contrast with the mountains that surround it, housing a great part of the wildlife in the Patagonia Park.

HIKES

Áviles

Duration: 7 hrs
Distance: 16,5 km / 10,3 mi

We will cross the Chacabuco Valley's natural corridors and as we move up we will see the different perspectives of contrasting landscapes around us. We can drink pure water from natural streams and get our feet wet crossing one of them. The silence of the landscape stands out in autumn and winter, contrasting with the birdsong that can be heard as background music for the rest of the year.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

OVERLAND

La Valchac

Duration: 8 hrs
Distance: 144 km / 89,5 mi

In this exploration we will focus on the Chacabuco River's valleys and route as a natural corridor traveled by nomadic peoples and diverse wildlife since ancestral times. We will discuss the anthropological and paleontological mysteries its rock formations hold, with caves and fossils that are vestiges of a past that it is still possible to bear witness to. These areas are characterized by their lack of snow in the summer and their low vegetation, devoid of trees. This allows you to observe a flat and open landscape where you can feel and live the icy southern wind. It is an experience among the vestiges of pre-Hispanic history and how they relate to the present and conservation.

Full day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

HIGH MOUNTAIN

La Leona

Duration: 10 hrs
Distance: 18,3 km / 11,4 mi

We cross the natural corridors of the Valleys with its contrasts their contrasts and sensations. Birds make their presence felt, as do the condors gliding in the heights. We will cross different environments until we come to an area with broad views of the valleys, some of them historic natural corridors in the area.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

Fossils zone

In this area we can travel to the deepest part of history, coming across some of the most important paleontological discoveries in Chile and Latin America.

HIKES

Los Antiguos

Duration: 5:30 hrs
Distance: 7,2 km / 4,4 mi

We will hike through the San Luis Valley. We will cross lenga forests before reaching cornices with fossils. In the climb we will see that the lengas have developed old man's beard lichen and the nearby bushes are full of Chinese lanterns (abutilon). The stand out for their intense yellow color, especially during the winter months. The green of the nothofagus leaves dominates in the spring and summer. We will have a sweeping view of valley toward Guadal and Lake Chelenko when we reach the cornices.

Full day | Moderate ● ● ○ ○

OVERLAND

Chelenko Sur

Duration: 8 hrs
Distance: 164 km / 101,9 mi

We leave the lodge and head northward, crossing areas with a strong tradition in livestock husbandry. We also flank the famous Baker River, known for its turquoise waters and heavy flows. We will hike to the Baker-Neff confluence, the point where the two rivers meet. The Neff is a river that comes from a glacier tongue that comes down from the northern ice fields. Its gray tones are due to the concentration of sediment that this glacier carries. After this visit we walk to the San Martin Fossils sector. Attended by the owner, we will take a small tour to observe and analyze samples of fossilized rocks with different species of molluscs that inhabited the territory more than 175 million years ago.

Full day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

BIKE / E-BIKE RIDES

El Furioso

Duration: 6:30 hrs
Distance: 43,9 km / 27,3 mi

We ascend through a region with varied ecosystems, where valleys, forests and plateaus contrast. The desert of the heights presents us with a scenery characteristic of the Patagonian mountains. The intense wind and the changing climate gave this exploration its name.

Full day | Advanced ● ● ● ○

Baker river zone

An area marked by heterogeneity, uniqueness, environmental quality, and the social and territorial importance of the water systems that constitute the Baker River.

OVERLAND

Confluencia Chabak

Duration: 3:30 hrs
Distance 20 km / 12,4 mi

We will review the scenographic diversity of the Chacabuco Valley and its corners. We hike to the confluence between the Baker and Neff Rivers, the lead actor in this story of exploration. We will visit various lagoons (Laguna Edita, Laguna Cisnes, Laguna Los Flamencos, Laguna Seca) and forests, observing Patagonian fauna and wildlife in different habitats. The colors and views will change as we visit different areas.

Half day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

BIKE / E-BIKE RIDES

Los Ríos

Duration: 2 hrs
Distance: 13,8 km / 8,6 mi

We will leave by van and take our bikes with us. We reach the outskirts of the town of Cochrane, our starting point, after a 40-minute ride. The bike ride will begin in a sector of fields with crops and livestock, the main economic activities in the area. We will approach from the North, flanking the Cochrane River to appreciate its transparent waters and the trees introduced in the days of the pioneers. As we continue our way, we will come across rolling hills that we will tour with calm so we can take advantage of the views the landscape offers. We end at the bridge over the El Salto River, whose waters come from the very ice of Calluqueo.

Half day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

Viejo Cochrane

Duration: 3 hrs
Distance: 23,3 km / 14,5 mi

We will pedal through the scenographic diversity of Chacabuco Valley and its history. We hike to the meeting point between the Baker and Chacabuco Rivers, the lead actor in this story of exploration. The birds will accompany us and we will have the chance to spot other species of Patagonian fauna.

Half day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○

Patagonian andean ice zone

In this area you can see a large expanse of glaciers in the Patagonian Andes, in addition to the largest freshwater reserves in the world.

OVERLAND

Viaje Glaciar

Duration: 7 hrs
Distance: 154 km / 97,5 mi

We depart from Explora in the Patagonia National Park and travel along the Carretera Austral until taking back roads amid forests, rivers and lagoons until reaching the Calluqueo Glacier. This impressive tongue of ice hangs from the western slope of the solemn Mount San Lorenzo. It then flows into a murky glacial lagoon surrounded by walls of ice thousands of years old that impose themselves on the geography of the place. It is a natural environment that was formed over the course of centuries and millennia, where the scale of time is blurred. The wind causes the clouds surrounding Mount San Lorenzo to put on a shifting and dynamic show. We will be able to sit down and contemplate, walk around, or go down to get our wet feet in the lagoon.

Full day | Easy ● ○ ○ ○