

The Southern Lakes Circuit

Argentina - Chile

The region gathers several National Parks of incredible beauty. Vast extensions of virgin forests surrounding countless lakes, with the remarkable backdrop of the Southern Andean-Patagonian Range, where nature offers each season a different scenery. During the trip along the Seven Lake route, we will visit Villa Traful, a picturesque village situated by the Espejo lake, and Villa La Angostura, a lovely village set in a wonderful spot between the Correntoso and Nahuel Huapi lakes. Then, we will cross the border to Chile for a glimpse at the astonishing Valdivian forest to come back later into Argentina by crossing the lakes by ferryboat and bus.

DAY 01 BARILOCHE

Reception at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Accommodation at the Edelweiss Hotel. Rest of the Day at leisure.

DAY 02 BARILOCHE / VILLA LA ANGOSTURA

Breakfast. Departure from Bariloche, along the Nahuel Huapi lake shore to Villa La Angostura, passing by Puerto Manzano, set in a lovely spot surrounded by beaches, and Peninsula Huemul with its impressive coihue and cypress woods. Visit to Villa La Angostura. Accommodation at a charming inn by the lake.

DAY 03 VILLA LA ANGOSTURA

Breakfast. Day at leisure to enjoy some of the following optional excursions:

- a) Navigation from the pier to the Arrayanes Wood (Myrtle Wood). Thirty minutes sailing until Quetihue pier, in the southern part of the peninsula. Disembark to admire the marvelous myrtle woods, with trees averaging 18 meters (59 feet) high, and are protected by the National Park bureau. If you wish, you can return to Villa La Angostura walking some 12 km (7.5 miles) among cypress, coihues, radales and palo santo woods.
- b) Bayo Mount excursion: the chairlift, will take you to the top of the mount. Upon arrival, you will be furnished with mountain bikes equipped to ride down the mountain, stopping to take beautiful pictures from the panoramic points. For those who prefer to stay at the hill-foot, a visit to Río Bonito cascade (36 m

high / 118 feet) in the middle of the woods, is strongly suggested. Return to the hotel.

DAY 04 LAGO ESPEJO

Breakfast. Departure on a half DAY 04 tour to Villa Traful. Along the Seven Lakes Road, bordering the Espejo Lake and going by Portezuelo, you will finally reach the lake and Villa Traful, where there are many typical and picturesque mountain, roof-tiled wooden houses, with large gardens separated by natural fences. There you will taste a typical tea and cakes in a local tea house. Return to hotel.

DAY 05 VILLA LA ANGOSTURA / PUERTO VARAS

Breakfast. Departure by regular bus towards the Chilean border to Puyehue Pass, to cross the frontier by land, climbing the imposing Andes Range up to 1,308 meters (4,291 feet). On the Chilean side you will find the Puyehue Hot Springs and the same name hotel, and further on, the city of Osorno. Accommodation.

DAY 06 PUERTO VARAS

Breakfast. Departure on a tour to Frutillar, a charming German style village located by the Llanquihue Lake and with a spectacular view of the Osorno volcano. There is a well assorted museum, which exhibits samples and relics from the German pioneers. Return to the hotel.

DAY 07 PUERTO VARAS / LAKES CROSSING / BARILOCHE

Continental breakfast at hotel. In the morning you will go along the southern shore of the lake to Ensenada. Even the most experienced adventurers will stop to take a few photos when approaching the Osorno Volcano. The first real stop, however, will be at Petrohue Falls (entrance fee not included). These rapids and waterfalls were formed a long time ago by the cooled lava from the volcano towering behind them. They form an impressive sculpture of extruded volcanic rock shaped by thousands of years of thundering water flow. Later, we will board the catamaran and get ready to cross Todos Los Santos lake (All Saints lake), surrounded by high mountains whose lower slopes are thickly forested. As you get away from the source of Petrohue River, your eyes will be captured by the impressive size and proximity of the ice-capped Osorno Volcano behind. The rest of the morning will be spent sailing. Southward, high above the forested shore, you will see the peculiar shape of Puntigudo volcano and some waterfalls. Upon arrival in Peulla, at the eastern end of the lake, you will have time for lunch (optional). This is the heart of Vicente Pérez Rosales National Park. Here you may enjoy a lovely hike to the Cascada de la Novia (Bride's Cascade) a native growth Valdivian Rainforest, quite amazing vegetation for these southern latitudes. In the afternoon we will continue by motor coach through Pérez Rosales pass, into Argentina. On the Argentine

side, we will board a ferryboat across Frías Lake, followed by a short bus ride up to Puerto Blest from where the final sailing across Nahuel Huapi Lake will finally take you to Bariloche. Upon arrival at Puerto Pañuelo, transfer to the hotel in Bariloche. Accommodation.

DAY 08 BARILOCHE

Continental breakfast. Transfer to the local airport.



8 DAYS

THE SOUTHERN LAKES CIRCUIT

PATAGONIA

NOT INCLUDED

DAILY (EXCEPT MONDAYS FROM SEPTEMBER TO APRIL)

BREAKFAST

SPANISH AND BILINGUAL (English German Italian French)