



Excursions

HALF DAY WALKS

EXCURSION	DURATION	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
1. Backyard * Tierra Patagonia Exclusive	2 hours walking	Easy	This walk is perfect for stretching your legs on arrival at Tierra Patagonia. Head towards the lake shore and the boundary of the Torres del Paine National Park; pass through areas of low bush, with panoramic views of Lake Sarmiento. From the surrounds of the hotel, the architecture can be seen to melt into the surrounding pampa whilst the dramatic skyline of the Sierra Baguales behind can be seen, separating Chile from Argentina. The element that most stands out during this walk are the thrombolites, geographic formations which are several million years old. They were created by some of the oldest living organisms on the face of the earth. The lake shore is full of them and the caves hide the most important predator in the park, the puma. This is the hotel's garden and it is common to see wildlife such as eagles, condors, guanaco, sheep, foxes and ñandú (a type of ostrich) as well as the amazing view of the Torres del Paine mountain range.
2. Mirador Cuernos *Area affected by the 2011 fire.	2 to 2,5 hours/ 4 km	Easy	This is one of the classic hikes in the heart of the park. After a scenic drive, passing by the Sarmiento and Nordenskjöld viewpoints, we arrive at the starting point. The terrain is fairly flat with only one steeper part, and we can always see the "cuernos" or horns of Paine in front of us. We visit the "Salto Grande" or "Big Waterfall" and continue along the shores of Lake Nordenskjöld. On arrival at the viewpoint, you can appreciate from close up the geology that formed the massif. We return along the same path, with the "horns" at our back. There are frequent strong winds in this area.
3. Hunters Trail	2 to 3 hours/ 7 km	Medium	After a 30 minute drive to the Portería Lago Sarmiento this trek starts gradually, winding its way northwards, with the Paine Massif as a constant companion. Half way through we will visit a rocky area where there are cave paintings from the Aonikenk, hunter-gatherer native Indians that occupied this area some 6,000 years ago. It is also one of the best areas to see wildlife such as guanacos, foxes and condors. The hike ends a few meters away from Portería Laguna Amarga where the van is waiting to drive us back to the hotel.
4. Cornices (Condoreras) * Tierra Patagonia Exclusive	2,5 to 3 hours/ 6 km	Medium	Leaving the Hotel we will drive 30 minutes towards the area of the estancias. This hike climbs progressively along a prominent rock buttress where we will be rewarded with stunning views of the Torres del Paine, Sierra Contreras, Sierra del Toro and also the Hotel, from a 360° view point. Strong winds are frequent in this area. The descent is down a hill where there is no defined trail, so hikers must find their own way down. This hike is ideal for those who want to see different places outside the park boundaries and away from the crowds. At certain times of the year and depending on weather conditions this may also be a good place to spot condors.
5. Origins of Life.	2 hours hiking	Medium	Departing from the hotel, we drive towards the Sarmiento entrance to the Park and after 40 minutes approximately, we leave the vehicle to start the walk. The first section is mostly flat then we arrive at a steeper incline leading down to the shores of Lake Sarmiento. Here we can view the incredible rocky formations of the thrombolites, which take us back to an earlier geological era. With a different perspective of the Paine Massif, we walk by the edges of small lagoons in the glacial moraine spotting wildlife on the way. In springtime the area is full of flowers.



Excursions

FULL DAY WALKS

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6. Paso de la Guitarra * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	5 to 6 hours / 12 km	Medium	This hike is located in a private area at the southern edge of the park. It borders the Lago Maravilla and Lago Porteño, ending at the Puesto Las Dudas at the shore of Lago del Toro. The trail is off the beaten path and very likely you will be the only ones walking in the area. After a drive of almost an hour, heading south east, we start walking through beautiful forests, passing by some open areas where you can feel the strength of the wind and marvel at the turquoise waters of Lago del Toro, the biggest lake in the region. The vegetation here is varied, with species like Lenga (<i>Nothofagus pumilio</i>), Ñirre (<i>Nothofagus antarctica</i>), Coigüe (<i>Nothofagus dombeyi</i>), Canelo (<i>Drymis winteri</i>) and Siete camisas (<i>Escallonia rubra</i>). Weather permitting, we will have lunch in one of the beaches of Lago del Toro. Most of the trail is undulating with two sections that are very steep but also short (about 20 minutes each). The trail ends at the western side of the bay where the vans are waiting to return to the hotel.
7. Pingo Valley and Grey Peninsula	3,5 hours/ 10 kms	Medium	Departing from the hotel by van, we pass through the most beautiful viewpoints of the National Park until we reach the Grey Entrance. From here we walk in the Pingo valley on a gently sloping path which follows the bed of the Pingo River. This is one of the greenest areas of the park where it is also possible to see interesting geographical formations. We pass by an old "puesto" of the gauchos and reach the "Chorillo del Salmón" a small waterfall hidden in a <i>Nothofagus</i> wood. We return via the same path. Following lunch, we visit picturesque Grey Lake where ice floes are usually nearby, having calved from the Grey Glacier, which can be seen in the distance.
8. Paso de Agostini	5 hours / 12 km	Medium-High	This hike starts from the Estancia Lazo and we enter the National Park walking through the Laguna Verde entrance and entering a charming wood of lenga trees. During the hike we can see the Paine Massif and a wide variety of smaller lakes which give wonderful photo opportunities. We share a box lunch surrounded by nature where a variety of different animals can be spotted, depending on the time of the year. A short climb of about 10 minutes takes us to a viewpoint with vistas of Lago del Toro, the largest in the area as well as the Paine River. The descent from here takes 35 minutes to the Weber Bridge where a vehicle is waiting to take us back to the hotel.
9. Glaciar Grey *Area affected by the 2011 fire. Additional cost for the navigation.	2 hours sailing, 4 hours/12 km to arrive at the navigation departure point.	Medium-High	This excursion starts at the Catamaran departure point on Lake Pehoe. After a 30 minute journey on the water we hike towards the western part of the National Park on a trail which follows a beautiful valley (Cañadon del Viento) before gaining height. Once we reach the highest part of the trail we can see the majestic scenery of Grey Lake and Grey Glacier. Cerro Paine Grande and Cordón Olguin are on our right throughout this part of the hike. We then descend towards the lake shore where we lunch with great views of the Glacier. Just after midday we embark on the "Grey II" where the boat takes us to the Grey Hotel area where our vehicle is waiting to take us back to Tierra Patagonia.



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10. Mirador Ferrier and Grey Peninsula	5 hours / 10 km	High	This is a great option to see most of the national park combined in two hikes. First we will hike the challenging trail to the Ferrier Viewpoint. The terrain is very steep and we gain altitude very quickly (700 meters ascent). We will pass through a beautiful Lenga forest before reaching the windy lookout. At this point we will have spectacular views of Grey Glacier, Paine Massif, Paine river, Lago del Toro, among others. The descent is the same way, very steep!. After lunch we will visit the picturesque Lago Grey, where you can see ice floes near the shore and the Grey Glacier can be seen in the distance.
11. French Valley <i>*Area affected by the 2011 fire.</i> <i>Available from November 16th through March 15th, except on December 25th and January 1st.</i>	8 hours / 17 km	High	This excursion starts with a 30 minute boat ride across Pehoé Lake. We walk along a winding trail that passes the slopes of Paine Grande and the shores of Lago Skottsberg. There are great views of the Cuernos del Paine on the way. Upon reaching the Italian Camp, we will cross a bridge over the French river and head up the French valley to the view point that sits below the world famous French Glacier. We will return along the same trail and take the boat for the last 30 minutes to the point where the van will take us back to the hotel.
12. Cerro Guido <i>* Tierra Patagonia exclusive</i>	6 to 7 hours / 14 km	High	The hike starts at Estancia Cerro Guido. The first section climbs steadily as we proceed, passing first through forests and then opening up to meadows where it is possible to spot herds of guanacos. Little by little as we gain altitude the landscape turns rocky and dry, as it is exposed to the wind, until we reach the summit. From here we will have panoramic views of Paine Massif and Cordillera Baguales. We will be able to enter the ancient world of the Aonikenk, as the rugged Cerro Guido summit is crowned by a native Indian burial mound. Ideal for those who already did other long hikes in the park or for those interested in archeology. We recommend you let us know if you are interested in this hike so as to organize it in advance.
13. Base of the "Towers"	7 to 8 hours / 18 km	High	This world famous hike demands stamina, but the rewards are the impressive views of the three granite towers. This hike ascends strongly for one hour bordering the Rio Ascensio until reaching the Paso de los Vientos. From here it takes 30 minutes to reach Campamento Chileno where we can have a little rest. The walk continues to ascend through the forest for 1,5 hours, gaining altitude very quickly and with amazing views of the geological formations in the area such as folds, fractures and granite intrusions. The last hour is the most challenging and difficult, where the trail winds up thorough a moraine section of loose rock, there is exposure to the wind and where the weather is unpredictable. Arriving at the lookout we will have the classic view of the Torres del Paine and weather permitting, we can lunch with this fantastic landscape in front of us. We will descend along the same trail and it takes about four hours to reach the starting point, so it definitely requires good knees and you need to be in good shape. Make sure you dress properly, rain pants and waterproof jacket, hat, gloves, fleece or any warm jacket, synthetic and breathable top, light hiking pants, hiking boots. Avoid wearing cotton, jeans and new boots. This excursion is hard and strenuous if you are not used to long distance hikes.



Excursions

RIDING

Horseback riding is one of the unique and unforgettable experiences in Patagonia, as much so for beginners as for experienced riders. Most of our rides take place from Cerro Guido. The private land of this estancia or Patagonian Ranch extends more than 100,000 hectares and the local gauchos (cowboys) accompany us on this adventure at "the uttermost ends of the earth." The horses of the ranch were born and raised in this wild terrain and have been specially trained so anyone may ride here, even if they have no previous experience. Riding here means you can experience this special part of Patagonia like the locals do, on horseback with them at your side.

EXCURSION	DURATION	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
14. Mirador del Bosquecito en Cerro Guido (Half Day) * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	2 hours riding	Easy	After riding in the van to the Cerro Guido Estancia we saddle up and set off from the stables to head for the old ox pen on the sides of Sierra Contreras, towards the Torres del Paine. The gaucho who leads us will take us on a track going up the hill, past ancient fallen trunks and through a small wood of lenga and ñirre trees. After about an hours ride, we arrive at a plain which is about 600 m (1800 feet) above sea level where we can view the valley of Cerro Guido, Lago del Toro, Lake Sarmiento, the Paine massif and Cerro Cazador. If it is a clear day, we will be able to see as far as the Great Southern Ice field.
15. Segunda Barranca from Cerro Guido (Half Day) * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	2 hours riding for experts, galloping, 4 hours riding less experienced riders.	Medium-High	From the stables at Cerro Guido head west with the Torres del Paine always in sight. Segunda Barranca is a part of the estancia which has a house, a "puesto" or stand for the gaucho, and a shearing shed where depending on the time of year there may be sheep shearing or marking. Experienced riders can gallop on a gently sloping plane which is on the way or head to the "bosquecito" viewpoint on the way to or from Segunda Barranca.
16. El Bosque at Cerro Guido (Half Day) * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	2 hours riding	Difficult	Heading out from the Cerro Guido stables climb towards the east into valleys filled with bushes such as mata negra, mata barrosa and calafate to reach a fence. Crossing this continue up the hill until we reach a plain on the skirts of Cerro Guido itself where there is a wood of lenga trees. Leaving the wood we ride towards the Paine Massif. The ride returns to the estancia following a small stream which takes us directly to the estancia.
17. Ciudadela at Cerro Guido (Half Day) * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	4 hours riding	Difficult	After a drive of about an hour we arrive at the northern area of Estancia Cerro Guido and the cattle outpost of Las Chinas. The path heads upwards and there is a lot of seasonal vegetation in this area. At an altitude of 1000m asl aprox (3300 feet) we arrive at the "La Ciudadela" or "fort", strange rock formations sculpted by nature. The view of the Paine Massif, Sierra Contreras and Sierra del Toro, the valleys and lakes is wonderful. We offer this ride when the weather conditions allow.



Excursions



RIDING

EXCURSION	DURATION	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
18. Estancia Lazo (Half Day)	2 hours riding	Easy	From the hotel we drive southwards to the Estancia Lazo. It is a scenic drive, with great views of Lake Sarmiento. The ride starts from the Lazo Hosteria and passes through an ancient forest of lenga trees. After an hour or so, we arrive at a lookout point with panoramic views of the Paine Massif. We return through the forest back to the farm, with our gaucho constantly at our side.
19. Riding Estancia Cerro Guido / Las Chinas (Full day) * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	6 hours riding	Difficult	From the Cerro Guido stables we ride towards Sierra Contreras seeing small woods of lenga trees and wildlife such as Patagonian ostrich, guanacos, hares, condors, foxes and a great variety of birds. We can also see the Paine Massif throughout the ride. From the top of the hill we have a different view of Cerro Guido, the hill itself, and the gullies and escarpments there. We skirt round the mountain to arrive at the Las Chinas valley where we ride on open land until we reach the Las Chinas "puesto" and house. We return to the hotel from here by van.
20. Las Flores (Full day) * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	6 hours riding	Difficult (expert riders only)	From the Cerro Guido Stables we head east through the settlement and pass through the Paso de la Guitarra and the La Leona "puesto" towards "Las Flores", accompanied by the Baguales river for much of the way. The trail is an easy one, so experienced riders can gallop here. In Las Flores it is possible to view the Sierra Baguales and condor and eagles nests, as well as visit the old adobe house, the only one in the Magallanes Region. The route back to Cerro Guido crosses the "Vega Nash" towards the settlement, via the lovely Marcou puesto.



Excursions

SCENIC VOYAGES

The perfect balance between an excursion by van and shorter easy walks. Ideal for those who enjoy photography and bird watching.

EXCURSION	DURATION	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
21. Laguna Azul (Half Day)	30 minutes walking	Easy	From the hotel we head north to the Laguna Azul area and enjoy spectacular views of the North, Central and South towers, weather permitting. Enjoy a short walk along the north shore of the lake and in springtime and summer see many birds in the lenga woods. We drive on to see the Paine Waterfall and Laguna Amarga, with beautiful views of the local areas.
22. Salto Grande (Half Day)	20 minutes walking	Easy	This journey offers a visit to some of the most classic areas of Torres Del Paine National Park. The Sarmiento viewpoint for magnificent views of the Parks largest lake, then on to Laguna Amarga who's water is four times more salty than the sea. Continue to Nordenskjöld Lookout which is directly opposite the Paine Massif and finish with a short 10 minute walk to the Salto Grande. Return to the hotel by the same route.
23. Guided tour of Estancia Cerro Guido (Half Day) * Tierra Patagonia exclusive	60 minutes walking	Easy	At the end of the XIX century, Cerro Guido estancia became part of the Sociedad Explotadora Tierra del Fuego, the largest and most important cattle ranch and company in Patagonian history. Given the geographic and climatic conditions, the estancias had to develop a totally independent lifestyle which has had an effect on the Patagonia culture. Settlers and workers were given the opportunity to live with their families and work at the same time in a small community. Tierra Patagonia today offers guests a special opportunity to discover this lifestyle at close quarters. The small settlement, as well as housing the accommodation of the workers and their families, still has the old communal kitchen and dining room, a blacksmiths, carpenters, Fire Station, sheep shearing sheds, stables and dog kennels, amongst others. For the benefit of the community, there is also a kindergarten, a school, police station and a small health center. From Cerro Guido there is a wonderful view of the Torres del Paine and it is possible to walk through the estancia, get to meet the residents and witness the different activities depending on the time of the year.
24. Paine Massif (Full Day)	30 minutes walking	Easy	This is a scenic trip which concentrates on the west side of the Torres del Paine National Park. It is the best option to see a large part of the park in just one day, with stops at various places for taking great photographs. The journey finishes in the area of Lake Grey, where there are glaciers, ice floes and feathery nothofagus woods. If we are lucky, we could see a huemul, native deer in danger of extinction. We will walk for around 30 minutes on the shore of Grey Lake where ice floes from the glacier have become "beached". The return journey to the hotel is on the south side of Lago del Toro.



Excursions



SCENIC VOYAGES

EXCURSION	DURATION	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
25. Paine Massif and sailing on Grey Lake to Grey Glacier. (Full Day) <i>Additional cost For sailing.</i>	30 minutes walk and 3 hour sailing	Easy	This is a scenic trip which concentrates on the west side of the Torres del Paine National Park. It is the best option to see a large part of the park in just one day, with stops at various places for taking great photographs. The road ends at Lake Grey, where we embark on the Grey II, sailing towards the Grey glacier. We will see glaciers, ice floes and feathery nothofagus woods. If we are lucky, we could see a huemul, native deer in danger of extinction. The return journey to the hotel is on the road to the south of Lago del Toro.
26. Milodon Cave + City tour of Puerto Natales (Full Day)	60 minutes walk	Easy	The Milodon Cave was declared a Natural Monument in 1968 and is made up of 3 caverns. It is considered one of the most important paleontology sites in Patagonia. Scientific interest was aroused when the remains of a Milodon "Mylodon Darwin" including bones and skin were found here in 1896. We learn about the finds during our walk through the caverns before climbing above the top of the largest cave to view the surrounding countryside where the milodon lived. We then continue to the town of Puerto Natales, a living monument to mans capacity to live in an apparently adverse environment. We walk along the shores of the Señoret Canal and visit the main attractions of the town, learning about the people who settled the area. We can also get to know the local community, visit craftspeople and view their handiwork.



Excursions

SPECIAL INTEREST

EXCURSION	DURATION	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
27. Sailing on the Serrano River (Full Day) Additional cost.	5 hour trip in zodiac & 1 hour walk	Easy	<p>The trip starts in the Serrano area on the western side of the Park, where we board zodiac boats to start the descent down the Serrano River. We will head into one of the least discovered parts of the area, near the Bernardo O'Higgins National Park, view the Tyndall and Geike glaciers and part of the Great Southern Ice Field. On arrival at the Puerto Toro section, we will walk for approximately 20 minutes to the base of the Serrano Glacier, viewing coigue, canelo, lenga nirre, chilco murtillo, chaura and calafate bushes as well as other local flora.</p> <p>We return to the zodiacs to return via the same route and share a Patagonian Lamb Barbecue on the banks of the river.</p>
28. Birdwatching (Half Day)	2 hours walking	Easy	<p>With ever-changing landscapes dominated by the Patagonian wind, the Torres del is a meeting point for wildlife.</p> <p>With several different ecosystems, it is possible to encounter more than 120 bird species, including flamingos, caiquenes, ducks, ñandú (a type of ostrich), magallanic woodpeckers, caranchos, eagles and of course the majestic condor.</p> <p>We depart at dawn when the birdlife is more active and the light favors photography. We travel between lakes, woods and pampa searching for bird life in an experience which is enriching for both beginners and experts. We discover more about the lifecycles of different birds, while we view the impressive magellanic scenery.</p> <p>The best time for bird watching is from December to February and the principal areas to be visited are Laguna de los Juncos, Laguna de los Cisnes and Estancia Cerro Paine, amongst others.</p>
29. Kayak on Grey Lake (Full day) Additional cost.	3 hours kayaking	Medium	<p>Following in the footsteps of the indigenous waterborne nomads, kayaking amongst the ice floes, we offer excursions on lake Grey. The ice here can reach up to 15 meters in height and floats with forms and shapes which fire the imagination. Specialist guides accompany guests on the journey as they paddle amidst the floes, from a different viewpoint of the local biodiversity.</p> <p>* Minimum 3 guests.</p>
30. Walk on the glacier (Full Day) Additional cost.	3 hours walking on the ice	Medium	<p>This blue adventure allows guests to discover the heart of the glacier and its unique landscape between ice blocks, frozen caverns and bottomless crevasses. We sail on zodiac boats to reach the moraine left by the glacier, where we walk for 20 minutes to the edge of the ice. There is a safety talk, instruction on how to use the equipment and how to walk on the ice. Expert guides accompany guests as they start to move, learning about the movement of the glacier and the effects of global warming. Return via the same path, with a lunchbox included</p> <p>* Minimum 2 guests.</p>

Excursions

INTERESES ESPECIALES

EXCURSION	DURATION	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
31. Fishing (Full Day) Additional cost.	7 hours	NB; Requires previous experience, this is not a fishing class.	<p>This experience combines fishing the unpredictable waters of Patagonia, trekking to reach unexplored areas, the passion for fly fishing and a world class destination. Accompanied by a local, specialist guide, you will discover pristine local rivers as well as local fishing culture. The adventure puts fishing skills to the test as you fight to dominate the Patagonian wind amidst beautiful scenery. Many rivers in the area are near to the sea, so there are several different species to fish. Some of the places where fishing is available include Rio Baguales, Las Chinas, Serrano, Lago del Toro and Lago Maravilla, amongst others. It is possible to find salmon-trout, brown trout, Chinook, pacific salmon, Patagonian tooth fish, and rainbow trout, some of which reach up to 12 kgs. During the full day experience, the guide will move according to his "reading" of the river and evaluate the fishing depending on what's available in the different pools. A Patagonian style lunch on the banks of the river is included.</p> <p>Note: Fishing permits must be obtained for each person fishing in compliance with the official fishing ruling.</p> <p>The authorized fishing season runs from 16th October 2013 to 14th April 2014.</p>

"Why then and this is not only my particular case – does this barren land possess my mind? I find it hard to explain.... but it might partly be because it enhances the horizons of imagination." Charles Darwin.

Our excursions are led by qualified and experienced guides; with them you can do many different activities, such as hikes, horse rides, scenic visits or bicycle rides to discover the places of interest in the Torres del Paine National Park, as well as other less explored areas outside the borders of the park.

We divide our activities into 3 different levels of difficulty:

- Easy: apt for all ages and capabilities.
- Medium: requires a reasonable level of physical ability and/or experience
- High: These activities require excellent physical condition, experience and ability.

Every day you can choose two half day excursions or one full day excursion.

- Half Day: morning and/or afternoon, lunch is taken in the hotel.
- Full Day: start in the morning and a lunch box is provided, with return to the hotel in the afternoon, usually after 18.00 hrs.

If you would like to have a massage or spa treatment, we recommend you check the times of return of excursions and make a reservation with spa staff beforehand in order to ensure the treatment of your choice.

*** Adhering our sustainability program, Tierra Patagonia offers the following excursions through local providers: Glacier Grey cruise, kayaking, ice hiking and fly-fishing. Considering this, these excursions are based on availability, climatic conditions and confirmation from our local suppliers. Tierra Patagonia reserves the right to cancel any of these activities at any point during the excursion planning or "outdoor" phase due to existent and/or perceived risks for the guests or guiding teams. These excursions can be requested at the moment of reservation, but will be confirmed on site at Tierra Patagonia with our expert personnel, who will evaluate and determine the excursion's execution.**



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THE SPIRIT OF THE FAR SOUTH