

ADVENTURE NEXT PATAGONIA CHILE

September 6th - 11th, 2022

Start Location: Puerto Natales, Chile

Destination: Torres del Paine National park

Region: Magallanes

Activity: Hiking, Ice Hiking, Kayaking

**Level: Medium-High**

Operator: Chile Nativo Travel

W TREK TORRES DEL PAINE



The W Trek is undoubtedly the most famous trail in Patagonia & Torres del Paine National Park. This non-technical tour connects a best-of-the-best selection of Patagonia's highlights: the Towers Base lookout, French Valley, and Grey Glacier. Hike through pristine landscapes, past rivers, lakes, and rocky peaks – plus have the opportunity to experience an ice hike & kayak in Grey Lake!

Adventure Highlights:

- Sunrise Hike of the Three Towers Lookout
- See Los Cuernos & Other Jaw Dropping Peaks
- Hike in Pristine Landscapes Inhabited by Wild Patagonian Fauna
- Trek in the French Valley
- Contemplate Hanging Glaciers and Possible Avalanches
- Boat Navigation on Grey Lake
- Ice Hike on Glacier Grey & Kayak in Grey Lake
- Participate in the Fjords Splash *Chapuzón*



### **Day 1, September 6th: Arrival to Puerto Natales, Transfer to Hotel Lago Grey**

Welcome to Patagonia! Once you've touched down in Patagonia, your guides and private transfer will be waiting at the airport with a tasty box lunch. We'll drive for about 2 hours on a gravel road all the way to Torres del Paine National park to our accommodation in Hotel Lago Grey. For those who have an arriving flight to Punta Arenas, your transfer will be waiting for you and will take you 5 hours to Hotel Lago Grey.

### **2 Hour Private Transfer, Night in Hotel Lago Grey.**



### **Day 2, September 7th: Grey III Navigation, Kayak Excursion Grey Lake**

We start our day off with a delicious breakfast before heading out of the hotel as we walk along the Grey Beach to our Grey Glacier Navigation, a 45 minute navigation around blue-hued icebergs with views of the Grey Glacier. The boat will pass by Camp Grey where we will disembark, check-in, and enjoy a delicious box lunch. In the afternoon, we will hike down to the beach where we will enjoy a 2.5-hour kayak excursion paddling alongside floating icebergs. You'll be equipped with a neoprene suit, waterproof jacket and boots, pogies (kayak gloves), skirt, and lifejacket prior to the kayak excursion and during a safety briefing, you will get to know your kayak, paddle, route and conditions.

Once on Grey Lake, your kayak expedition will involve paddling around the large floating icebergs, aiming towards the east side of the glacier and getting close to the giant ice wall. While you are resting and enjoying this incredible place, your guide will offer you a snack and a hot drink. Once we finish our kayak excursion, we'll hike back to our camp at Grey. We will enjoy a freshly prepared dinner and a good night's rest in a single tent camping.

**30 Minute Hike - 45 Minute Navigation - 2.5 Hour Kayak, Night at Camping Grey (Single Tent)** [Kayak Excursion Map](#)





### **Day 3, September 8th: Morning Ice Hike Excursion, Hike to Paine Grande.**

Today we head out after an early breakfast down the shores of the Grey Lake, where we group together for our third day's activity. Today we will be ice hiking on the Grey Glacier, part of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field. We will be on the ice for about 2.5 hours total and will take a small zodiac to an entry point where we are able to access the ice safely. This is a once in a lifetime experience walking on millennial ice admiring its impressive blue tones, textures, and history. After our ice hike is finished, the zodiac takes us back to the base where we will hike back to camp to enjoy lunch, collect our packs, and enjoy an easy - moderate 4-hour hike to Paine Grande where we will rest for our third night.

**5 Hour Ice Hike Excursion - 4 Hour/11km Hike, Night in Camping Paine Grande (Single Tent) [Trail Map Ice Hike](#) [Trail Map Hike to Paine Grande](#)**



#### **Day 4, September 9th: Hike in the French Valley.**

Today's destination, the French Valley, is a spectacular natural basin surrounded by peaks and hanging glaciers. At the entrance to the French Valley - a glacial moraine - we'll scramble over huge boulders and catch the first sight of the hanging glacier atop the valley. From this point, we ascend for an hour through a dreamlike Japanese garden landscape before arriving at the Frenchman Valley viewpoint (the "Plateau"). Our reward is a heart-stirring bird's eye view of granite peaks and hanging glaciers. To one side, the French Glacier and Paine Grande (3050 m); while to the other, La Espada, La Hoja, La Máscara and the main and north "horns" of Los Cuernos arch upwards. In the upper section of the Valley, Cerro Catedral and Cerro Fortaleza loom like turrets above the landscape.

We'll take time to have our specially prepared organic box lunch at the viewpoint, surrounded by these imposing peaks and open skies. Depending on weather conditions and hiking time, we will continue to the Britanico Lookout which offers impressive 360-degree views.

Our return hike is along the same path and to the Frances Camp where we will have a delicious dinner and hot showers waiting for us before resting in our single tents.

**8-9 hours hiking/18 KM/11.2MI, Night in Camping Frances (Single Tent) [Trail Map](#)**





#### **Day 5, September 10th: Hike to Hotel Las Torres**

Starting off the morning with a freshly prepared breakfast, today we'll make our way from Frances to Hotel Las Torres, a moderate hike boarding the impressive Los Cuernos to our left, and the beautiful Lago Nordenskjöld to our right. This quiet trail leads us through a scenic sector of the park with abundant birdlife, waterfalls, and endless views of the park's splendors. Once we arrive at Hotel Las Torres in the Las Torres sector of the park, we will check-in to our private, single rooms and will be greeted with an exquisite welcome dinner. We will get an early night's rest in order to prepare for our sunrise hike of the towers the next morning.

#### **6-7 Hour Hike /15.5 KM/9.6MI, Night in Hotel Las Torres (Single Accommodation)**

[Trail Map](#)

#### **Day 6, September 11th: Sunrise Hike to Las Torres Base, Private Transfer to Natales, Fjords Splash *Chapuzón***

Waking up early, around 3:30AM, we'll begin our trek to the iconic Base Las Torres. Our initial trek begins with an ascent, following the Ascencio River into the Ascencio Valley. After about an hour, we'll stop to observe how the valley's beauty unfolds with rich beech forests, glaciers and waterfalls. Past this lookout point, we continue uphill and through lush beech forests before ascending a gigantic terminal moraine (the ridge formed at a glacier's end point) where we'll be rewarded by the arresting sight of the three Towers themselves as the sun begins to touch their granite peaks.

At this lookout point 900 m above sea level, we'll rest, take photos and have a snack. Our descent is along the same path, taking us back to Hotel Las Torres where our private transfer awaits to bring us back to Puerto Natales.

Commemorating the start of the 2022/2023 season, the [Chapuzón](#) (Fjords Splash) comes to remind us that Puerto Natales is a tourist town which needs to reactivate to make the destination of Puerto Natales & Torres del Paine shine. What better way to do it than with the 2nd version of the Splash in the Fjords on the Puerto Natales waterfront, in front of the Costa Australis Hotel.

## **8-10 Hour Round-Trip Hike/ 22 KM/13.6MI - 2 Hour Private Transfer [TRAIL MAP](#)**

### **INCLUDED**

- All Private Transportation Indicated in the Schedule
- All Meals Indicated in the Schedule (B: Breakfast, BL: Box Lunch, D: Dinner)
- Entrance Fee to Torres del Paine National Park
- Lodging as Indicated in the Schedule
- 4 Season Tent (single tent)
- Sleeping Bag and Mattress
- One Way Grey Navigation
- Helmet, crampons, harness, ice ax for ice hike
- Kayak, neoprene suit, waterproof jacket and boots, poogies (kayak gloves), skirt, and life-jacket
- Guide (English-Spanish languages), Guided Ratio 1:6 Guests
- Travel Insurance

### **NOT INCLUDED**

- Any Additional Nights
- Medical Expenses
- Personal Expenses
- Porters to Carry Personal Belongings
- Alcoholic & Non-Alcoholic Drinks Except the Ones Included in the Menus
- Gratuities for Guide & Porters

## **AdventureNEXT Patagonia Pack List**

### *PT1 - W Trek in Torres del Paine*

*The weather is famous in Patagonia. You might experience 4-seasons in one day, including high winds to extreme sun down to chilling cold. The secret in Patagonia is to dress in layers; obtain the maximum comfort with minimum weight. It is important to use wind resistant clothing made from materials which also dry fast which is why we recommend **not** using cotton since it does not dry as quickly as synthetic materials made for active outdoor adventures. If you are thinking of buying new shoes, make sure to wear them beforehand.*

### **Documentation & Required Items**

- KN95 Mask or Trifold Disposable Masks
- Mobility Pass showing proof of COVID-19 vaccination
- Passport with Entry Documents: Affidavit for Travelers
- Copy of Health and Travel Insurance

### **For Active Days**

- 35 - 40 Liter Backpack (to transport personal belongings)
- Hiking Boots (waterproof & broken-in)
- Hiking Pants or Zip-Off Convertible Pants (preferably synthetic materials)
- Waterproof Jacket & Pants (ex: Gore-Tex®)
- Thermal, Synthetic Quick Drying Undershirts (ex.: Capilene)
- Fleece Jacket or similar
- Fleece or Wool Buff or Scarf
- Fleece or Wool Hat with Ear-Cover
- Wool Blend Hiking Socks (ex: Smartwool®)
- Small Flashlight or Headlamp (and extra batteries if using a headlamp which requires batteries)
- Waterproof / Fleece / Woolen Gloves & Trekking Gaiters
- Sunglasses with Neck Strap
- UV Sun Protection Including for Face & Lips (minimum 30 SPF)
- Hat for blocking the sun
- Refillable Water Bottle or Hydration System **\*Water is refilled from reliable sources within the national park such as streams/taps. Water in Torres del Paine does**

***not need to be filtered as there is no presence of Girardi. However, you may bring your own filter or purification tablets.***

### **For Post-Excursion & Evenings at Camps**

- One change of clothes for post-hike around camp
- Sandals or other water shoes for river crossings and for Chapuzón (ex: Crocs®, Chacos®)
- Sleepwear
- Change of socks/underwear
- Toiletries
- Alcohol Gel
- Personal Medical Kit (prescription medications, cold medicine, blister treatment such as moleskin or second skin)
- Shower Towel (quick drying recommended)
- Swimming suit (for Chapuzón in Natales!)

### **Optional**

- Trekking Poles
- Mosquito Repellent
- Reading Materials
- Binoculars
- Camera, chargers, & extra batteries (Chile uses 220V and plugs with 2 pins)
- Alarm Clock