



Natural Selections

BIRDING, WILDLIFE, AND PHOTO TOURS



Pumas of Patagonia

6 Nights/7 Days

Torres del Paine National Park, in Patagonia, Chile is one of the world's most beautiful national parks, with its stunning composition of towering granite mountains, glacial fields, crystal lakes and the best of Patagonian wildlife. Puma concolor, the world's fourth largest feline species and the one with the largest distribution of any terrestrial mammal in the western hemisphere is the top predator here. This tour will take you for a walk on the wildside, and show you what it is like to stalk wild Pumas across the foothills of snowcapped mountains, along the shores of azure lakes, and past scattering herds of Guanaco.

When not on the trail of pumas there is plenty of other Patagonian wildlife to enjoy, including the majestic Andean Condor that makes its home on the rocky cliff faces, soaring above the landscape in search of its next meal. Below roam herds of Guanaco, Patagonian Foxes, Patagonian hog-nosed Skunks, Armadillos, and the endangered Huemul Deer. Along lakeshores we may find flocks of brilliantly colored Chilean Flamingos, Swans, Geese, and Ducks. Another highlight is checking rivers for the incredible Torrent Duck.

Tour Overview

Day 1: Arrival Punta Arenas Airport (PUQ) and transfer to Hotel Estancia El Ovejero

Day 2, 3, 4, 5, 6: Torres del Paine National Park and private ranch, Hotel Estancia El Ovejero

Day 7: Departure Punta Arenas Airport (PUQ)

6 Night/7 Day Itinerary:

Day 1:

Your guide will meet you in Punta Arenas at your hotel, or at the airport this morning. The journey north takes about 5 hours, stopping briefly in Puerto Natales for fuel, snacks, and to observe wildlife along the shores.

Arriving at our destination in early afternoon allows time to settle into our accommodations and explore the area for Patagonian wildlife.

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Lodging at Hotel Estancia El Ovejero

Day 2-6:

We set out early to arrive at locations chosen by our guide and tracker to search for Pumas each day, and are ready for first light. Dawn is ideal for capturing stunning light displays on the snow-capped mountains, and to find Pumas traveling between their

hunting grounds and where they spend the day sleeping.

When not on the trail of these wild felines, our guides will be on the lookout for other Patagonian wildlife, or showing us local attractions such as waterfalls, and pristine lakes. Late afternoon we return to our focus point and the Pumas who will be waking up and on the lookout for their next meal. As dusk sets in, and light becomes too dim for photography, we will return to our lodge for the night.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Lodging at Hotel Estancia El Ovejero

Day 7:

A final morning in the area means we can do some spectacular landscape photography before heading back to Punta Arenas. If time allows stopping, we can pause in Puerto Natales along the way to see the town, or do some souvenir shopping.

Your guide will drop you off at your overnight hotel, or at the airport in Punta Arenas, depending on flight times.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch





Chilean Flamingos

Included in this itinerary:

In-country accommodations, ground transportation, tours, meals, snacks while in the field, guide and entrance fees.

Not Included:

Personal items such as alcoholic beverages, gift shop, laundry, etc. are not included. Drinks other than water are not included with meals in Patagonia.

Terrain:

Expect walking in hilly terrain with your day pack and/or equipment, but we will use 4x4 vehicles to minimize travel by foot.

Travel insurance:

Travel insurance:
We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance. In the event that you need to cancel your trip due to medical or other reasons, this insurance will protect you.



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