



## ExChile - Welcome to the Greatest Playground on Earth!

**2017-2018-2019 Season**

Last Update: 10/7/2017 Chris

**URL Link:** <http://www.exchile.com/HorsebackRidingExpedition.html>

### Trip Name: Andes to the Ocean Horseback

<b>First Name:</b>
<b>Last Name:</b>
<b>Phone Number:</b>
<b>E-mail Address:</b>
<b>Number of People in the Group:</b>
<b>Comments:</b>

#### Overview:

[Experience Patagonia!](#) (82 secs)

[First part of the Andes to Ocean trail](#)

[Andes to the Ocean Slide Show](#)

[Trip Report of Andes to the Ocean](#)

[Map of the start of the Andes to the Ocean](#)

#### Description of the trip:

## Chile Patagonia Andes Horseback Riding: Expedition Ride

### Journey Across the Andes: Expedition Andes to the Ocean

#### Description of the trip:

Just one week out of every summer we offer our guests the chance to join our 7-day journey across the Andes. This trail was once the only link between the coastal port of Chaiten and Futaleufú; used by locals and police officials up until 1975, when the Carretera Austral finally opened. This ride is a very unique experience we want to share with those who love **long horseback trips** into remote wilderness with a unique cultural experiences.

This just might be one of the most challenging and spectacular horseback trips available. We offer those with a spirit for adventure, once each year, the chance to join our week-long equestrian journey across the Andes. On this trip we will camp out in the Patagonia wilderness and at isolated ranches. When we say you will experience sights and terrain rarely seen or traversed by humans, this is not marketing hype. We insist you read the trip reports from previous alumni to better understand what this experience may be like.

The trip crosses small rivers and streams without bridges. Inclement weather can really increase the challenge

(although unlikely during this time of the year). The ride takes us over a mountain pass towards the recently exploded Chaiten volcano. The farmers in this area had to evacuate for a season while the ash from the volcano was washed away by winter rains. We have only recently opened this route again, and it is a chance to experience the terrain and the raw power of nature at its best. This Patagonia horseback riding vacation is a very unique experience we want to share with those who love long horseback expeditions into remote wilderness with a unique cultural experience to boot. But note, it is not for everyone. This experience is a lifetime memory. Without question, an equestrian vacation like no other!

*"Riding across the Andes as a 11-year-old was the coolest thing I have done to this day".*

*Chiloe Spelius*

## Day by Day:

### **Day 1 Friday: Depart your hometown**

Overnight flight to Buenos Aires, Argentina

### **Day 2 Saturday: Travel to Trevelin, Argentina in Patagonia**

Welcome to the warmth of summer in the Southern Hemisphere with an early arrival in Buenos Aires. Change airports with a taxi or shuttle bus and catch another flight to Esquel, Argentina. Taxi 45 minutes to Trevelin, Argentina, a charming mountain village just 45 minutes from the border and from the Futaleufu River in Chile. If you prepay, ExChile can meet all of your transportation needs until we pick you up at the Argentine-Chilean border the following day. Check into the Casa de Piedra hotel and walk to one of several Argentine restaurants with the Chilean Andes in view. Unwind, relax, and get a good night's sleep before the start of your trip the next morning.

### **Day 3 Sunday: Pick up at the border and the start of the ride.**

After a relaxing night's sleep at a hotel in the quaint Welsh town of Trevelin, deep in Argentinian Patagonia, we begin this exciting trip with a taxi to the Chilean-Argentine border, where an ExChile representative meets you. We are now in the Futaleufu Valley. After you clear customs, your ExChile trip officially starts. We drive 15-minutes to the alpine village of Futaleufu, where we begin our ride from town. We set off on a beautiful trail nestled between two mountains, as we head towards two remote lakes. The first section of this ride is uphill, leading us to outrageously beautiful vistas, from which we'll have the opportunity to snap some pictures and fully enjoy our pristine surroundings. Upon reaching the lakes, we'll have a rare and fantastic view of Cerro Teta, one of the highest peaks in the Futaleufu Valley. Nearing the end of the day's ride, we will reach the little, isolated settlement of Espolon. This is going back in time. You can only get here by horse or boat. We will check into our accommodations and have a tour of the ranch. Your visit here will be like peeking into life from another era. Enjoy the Patagonian culture as few ever do. This is classic Chile horseback riding that few ever experience! From this point on we will be going to even more remote areas.

### **Day 4-7: Sunday to Thursday: Traversing the Andes on Horseback [Andes to the Ocean Slide Show](#)**

The next five days will be spent crossing the Andes Mountains from the Argentine border to the Pacific Coast. Participants will ride through temperate rain forests, remote river valleys, and high mountain passes. We will see overhanging glaciers, extinct volcanoes, and waterfalls, as we traverse across rugged mountains, rivers, and streams. In the higher elevations, the group will likely encounter cooler temperatures (one year we had a snowstorm), even though the trip is taking place in the height of Patagonia Summer. This horseback riding traverse will involve wilderness camping and staying near isolated ranches in very remote regions. All of the gear will be carried on pack-horses. There will be times where the trip is between two rivers without any bridges. A rainstorm can cause for a layover day while the river comes down.

### **Day 8: Friday:**

The group will arrive at the hot spring Termas Amarillo near Chaiten on Friday mid-day. We take a soak in the hot springs and reminisce about our trip. This is a horseback riding vacation you won't soon forget!

**Return A:** We drop you off at a hotel in Chaiten, where your trip with exchile officially ends. The next morning you will fly back to Puerto Montt (Saturday).

**Return B:** After a soak in the hot spring we meet a vehicle at the hot spring. We make our way toward the border where we can arrange a taxi to take you to your hotel in Trevelin. Your trip officially ends at the border. Check into your hotel, take a shower, and change clothes before enjoying your last night in Patagonia. There are a handful of

outstanding and reasonably priced restaurants in Trevelin that we can recommend. Relax, recover, and look back on the exciting week of horse back riding before heading home the following morning.

#### **Day 9 Saturday: Flight back to the Capital city.**

Fly back to either Buenos Aires, Argentina or Santiago, Chile

**Return A:** Depending on when your flight departs, you'll have time to explore the port city of Puerto Montt. Take a look around, do some shopping or just enjoy a nice lunch before departing to Santiago and on to home.

**Return B:** You wake up in Argentina, where you can eat breakfast and relax before you take a taxi from your hotel to the airport in Esquel. Return to Buenos Aires, change airports, and board your international flight home.

#### **Day 10 Sunday: Return home**

### **Accommodations:**

[Remote Ranches](#) [Wilderness Camping](#)

### **Price and Departure Dates**

**Length of Trip:** 6 Active Days

**Price per Person** based on 4 in group: \$2,995.00 usd

**Price per Person** based on 2 in group: \$3,495.00 usd

**Scheduled Departure Dates:** Feb 11 to Feb 17, 2018

Charter trips available Feb 17 to March 16 2018. Call our office

### **Included**

**Included:** Your described trip, guiding, instruction, horse and tack, local transportation, shuttles, all meals, and accommodations at our remote ranches while on our trip. A taxi can be arranged for you bring you to the border of Chile and Argentina for your trip pick up and for getting you back to Trevelin. See the packing list of your activity, for the specific clothing that is required.

To see the gear that we provide, please check the [packing list](#) of your activity.

### **Not Included**

Pre and post-trip en route transportation, food, and hotel(s).

Once you are on an ExChile trip, you should incur no extra expenses unless you'd like to buy wool gifts at the remote ranches.

### **Contingencies**

**Exchile will be flexible** to make your trip a total success. The actual program for your custom trip will vary according to the desires and skill level of your group, weather, or other factors. Patagonia has constantly changing weather patterns that might affect what day is best for crossing a stream on horseback. If a certain part of your trip is not possible due to danger risks and weather extremes, our experienced guide staff will work with you to figure out the best possible option to substitute for the weather complications. If you have any concerns, please feel free to reach out to ask us more about potential risks and options.

**Transportation:** Expediciones Chile and G & G Travel and Tours are not financially responsible for travel complications associated with arriving at your trip pick up point or returning home from the trip drop off point. However, we will be your relentless ally, 24/7, in offering our influence to help solve any issues that you may encounter en route. This is our part of the world and we are very well connected. Our clients provide significant business for the transportation services that we recommended and they know that we aggressively represent our guests in finding solutions while they are en route to ExChile trips. We also recommend purchasing travel insurance.

### **Trip Summary:**

**Experience Needed:** This is a tough ride. Some experience is helpful

**Physical Challenge:** High

**Season:** January 24th to January 30th. Custom group between Jan 15 and Feb 30th.

**Cultural Experience:** Extremely High

**Nature Experience:** Extremely High

**Comfort Rating:** Remote Ranches and Wilderness Camping. Tent and Sleeping bag required.

**Max Trip Size:** 8

**Min Trip Size:** 4

**Regions Visited:** Remote Patagonia - Chile (Futaleufu) and Argentina (Trevelin)

**Lakes, rivers, and sites:** Seven Lakes Trail, Andes to the Ocean trail. Rio Espolon, Rio Noreste, Lago Leal, Lago Las Rosas, Lago Espolon, Upper Rio Espolon, Chaiten, Espolon and Futaleufu Chile, Trevelin Argentina.

[How to get to and From Patagonia](#) (Interactive)

[Our Recommended Route](#) (Through Esquel, Argentina ; Taxi to Futaleufu)

[Executive Option](#) (Through Puerto Montt, Chile ; Charter direct to Futaleufu)

[Transit through Chile](#) (Through Puerto Montt and Chaiten, Chile ; Public bus to Futaleufu)

**How to organize your en route in one step:** We recommend contacting Gilda ([G & G Travel and Tours](#)) who can help arrange all en route transportation and pre- and post-trip hotels for your ExChile trip. Give her a call to compare prices, as she often beats internet fares.

**Let's GO!**

[Hold your spot now!](#)

---

*Thank you,*

*Trip Designer: Adam Odoski and Chris Spelius*

*Direct line to my desk: +1.208.629.5032*

All website photos, text, code and content are © copyrighted property of Expediciones Chile

