



<http://www.exchile.com/KayakChileClassIII-IV.html>

**ExChile Greatest Playground on Earth!**

**2011-2012-2013 season**

*Last Update: 7/12/11*

### **Trip Name: Futaleufu Valley Class 3/4**

**Last Name:**

**First Name:**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

**# in group:**

**Comments:**

#### **Overview:**

This trip will introduce you to all the highlights of the Futaleufu river and its tributaries. A great way to experience the Futaleufu without the Class V adrenaline rush.

Our whitewater kayaking season begins in October in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina - sometimes referred to as the "Switzerland of South America" for its spectacular skiing, scenery and vibrant night life. In December we start our Futaleufu kayaking season on one of the greatest "big water" rivers in the world from our private Tres Monjas Eco-Camp at the Rio Azul and Futaleufu confluence. There you will find the latest play and river running boats, sit-down gourmet dining, native wood sauna, on-staff masseuse, white sand beaches and deluxe platform tent camping. Our season continues on the Futaleufu River through the month of April.

#### **[Overview Slide Shows and Video Gallery](#)**

### **Day by Day:**

#### **Day 1 Friday: Depart your home town:**

Fly to Miami and connect on an over night flight to Buenos Aires Argentina. Welcome to the warmth of the southern Hemisphere in summer.

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

Early morning arrival in Buenos Aires. Change airports and catch another flight to Bariloche, or Esquel Argentina. From Bariloche, a luxury bus will take you on a beautiful drive along the Patagonian lakes and mountains to Esquel. IF you fly direct to Esquel you can arrive in Trevelin with some time to enjoy the area. Trevelin, Argentina is a charming mountain village gateway just 45 minutes from Futaleufu River in Chile. Trevelin is serviced by ground transport (Bus or private taxi) from the Jet ports in Bariloche (4 hrs) or Esquel (40 min). Check into a hotel in this charming village and walk to one of several superb restaurants. Unwind, relax, and get a good nights sleep before the start of you trip 9:00 am the next morning.

#### **Day 3 Sunday: Rio Espolon**

You wake up to the brilliance of life along the Futaleufu River with the jagged Tres Monjas peaks standing sentinel over the river and camp. After a delightful breakfast we take a short drive to the Rio Espolon. After warming up on the crystal clear water, review your techniques, practice rolls on both sides, surf the dynamic Espolon surf wave, and prepare for the big water of the Futaleufu.

**Day 4 Monday: Futaleufu, the El Macal Section**

Today we put-in on the Futaleufu River, below the impressive Class V "Casa de Piedra" rapid. Vertical cliff walls surround this gorgeous Class III "El Macal" section, along with glacier crowned peaks. We will practice all of our big water skills as we work our way down this introductory stretch of the Futaleufu River. Rip it up on "Every Man's (and Woman's) Surf Wave"; feel the power of the rapids, and enjoy some of the best scenery on the river.

**Day 5 Tuesday: Kayak the Río Azul**

Today, if water levels permit, we will take a break from the big water of the Futaleufu. We will drive to the footbridge put-in on the Río Azul, a tight, glacial-fed creek that runs through a lush micro canyon. Here you get a chance to relax and paddle the technical drops, surf and cartwheel at some excellent play spots, and enjoy the scenery. We take-out at camp where the Río Azul meets the Río Futaleufu.

**Day 6 Wednesday: Futaleufu, Terminator Section**

After breakfast, we put-in at our camp beach and head down river into the "Terminator" section. We will warm up on numerous Class III and IV rapids, and then we will walk around the huge and powerful Class V "Terminator Rapid". Some of the more intrepid paddlers in the group will have the opportunity to sneak (Class IV+) the "Terminator" on the left side. From the "Terminator" we will carefully pick our route through the hole-filled Class IV "Kyber Pass", and on to some giant wave action in the Class IV "Himalayas". Here you will surf some of the biggest standing waves in the hemisphere! We return to the Kayak Chile eco-camp to relax on one of our white sand beaches or take a soothing hot sauna.

**Day 7 Thursday: Kayak the Río Palena (or Río Tigre)**

We will take a scenic drive to the Río Palena on the border with Argentina, where we have an ox-cart waiting to help us to the put-in on this Class III/III+ paddle. It's a gorgeous drive through a valley with a slightly different ecosystem than the Futaleufu River Valley. Water levels permitting, we may run a section of the spectacular Río Tigre, a nearby tributary of the Palena. Tonight, we are pulling out all the stops with a huge asado or open spit grill. We'll enjoy a fantastic last night at the camp with drinks, Patagonian lamb and outstanding company.

**Day 8 Friday: Upper Futaleufu; below the Infierno Canyon/on to Trevelin, Argentina**

For an exciting finale, we head to the remote and spectacular upper section of the Futaleufu and the Las Escalas Valley. An exciting shuttle ride through an old growth forest brings us to the river just below the Infierno Canyon. This visually spectacular section of river includes the Class V rapids "Zeta" and "Throne Room". We will take the well worn footpaths around the two rapids, and head into the "Wild Mile Section", four miles of continuous whitewater action which takes us right back to our camp. After a full day on the river, our vehicles will be waiting at the end of today's run. We will grab our luggage and make our way toward the border on our way to Trevelin. 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 kayaking before heading back the following morning.

**Day 9 Saturday: Return to Capital City**

Depending on your connections you are now in Argentina ready for an early departure in a cab from your hotel to the bus station in Esquel for the trip to Bariloche and your flight back to Buenos Aires. A private transfer can be arranged direct from your hotel to the airport in Bariloche. If you have a flight from Esquel you have the morning to enjoy and buy gifts in Trevelin before your 2 pm flight to Buenos Aires and the connection back to your home country.

**Day 10 Sunday: Return home.****Accommodations:**

[Eco Camp Campo Tres Monjas](#)

**Price per Person: \$2195.00 USD**

**Special Flexibilities:** Exchile will be flexible to make your trip a total success. The actual program for your custom trip may 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 a certain activity. 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 ask us more about the situations and what is guaranteed on the trip.

**Included:** Your described trip, guiding, instruction, activity equipment, local transportation, shuttles, all meals, wine with dinner, accommodations at our eco-camps, cabins, ranches or lodges, from your trip pick up point to your trip drop off point.

See the packing list of your activity, for the specific clothing that is required.

**Not Included:** En-route transportation, lodging, and food from your home town to the border with Chile and Argentina or other trip pick-up point. Laundry services, massage, additional alcohol are available but not included. You can reserve on our web page a pre-trip and post-trip hotel in Trevelin that includes the shared transfer to and from the border.

You can also ask our travel agent to prepay private ground transports between airport and from the airport to Trevelin, for an additional charge. Expediciones Chile is not financially responsible for your travel complications getting to your trip pick up point and from the drop off point, HOWEVER, we will be relentless allies in offering our services to help solve any issues that you may encounter.

## Trip Summary:

**Season:**

**Experience Needed:**

**Physical Challenge:**

**Cultural Experience:**

**Nature Experience:**

**Comfort Rating:**

**Max Trip Size:**

**Min Trip Size:**

**Regions visited: Remote Patagonia Chile and Argentina**

**Lakes, rivers and sites: Futaleufu river, Rio Azul, Rio Espolon, Lago Lonconao, Lago Esplon, Secret Lagoon, Campo Tres Monjas, Futaleufu Chile, Trevelin Argentina.**

## Recommended Travel Route:

**We recommend:**

**Fly in: Buenos Aires - Esquel Argentina.**

**Fly out of: Esquel - Buenos Argentina**

[Your Travel Route details](#)

## Lets GO!

[Hold your spot Now!](#)

*Thank you,*

*Trip Designer: Adam Odoski & Chris Spelius*

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