



ExChile - Welcome to the Greatest Playground on Earth!

2017-2018-2019 Season

Last Update: 9/21/2017 Chris

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

Trip Name: Lastname/Firstname/Custom activity/J2-J3

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

Overview:

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

[Campo Tres Monjas](#) (82 secs)

Description of the trip:

[Rafting the Futaleufu](#) (70 sec)

[Top Five Rapids](#) (5 min)

Futaleufu Kayaking:

[Kayak Lessons](#) (77 secs)

Maps:

[Futaleufu River Map](#)

[Espolon River Map](#)

[Rio Azul River Map](#)

During this week, we will explore the Class III/IV sections of Rio Futaleufu river system, and work on developing skills that will enable us to paddle big volume water. The Futaleufu River and its tributaries, the Espolon and the Azul Rivers, contain 45 miles of exciting, pristine whitewater, of which 50% of the rapids are class III - IV. The Espolon River has an exceptional surf wave and perfectly formed eddies for practicing the fundamentals of kayaking. The Azul River has class II-III+ rapids and a walkable class IV rapid. After your introduction into big water, we will set our sights on paddling the exciting Las Escalas and Wild Mile section. Next up is the "Terminator" section of the Futaleufu minus the Terminator. For Graduation we paddle the "Bridge to Bridge" section. This is the heart of the Futaleufu. Not only is this trip an adventure, but it is also an exceptional classroom for taking your kayaking to the next level. You will be a different paddler when you return to your home country.

[The Eco Campo Tres Monjas](#) is located on a white sand beach at the confluence of the Futaleufu river and the Rio Azul. The RiverNest Cabins are hidden between the river bank and the riparian forest, and each cabin is accessed by a private sand trail and surrounded by exotic Patagonian trees. After dinner, you can enjoy a campfire on the beach as you watch the moon rise between the impressive spires of Tres Monjas peak. At camp we have a sauna, flush toilets, a drying room for your river clothes, a dining lodge, and a selection of hot showers, which includes an exotic outdoor shower masterfully hidden between natural boulders. In this environment, you will have the opportunity to harmonize with nature. On this week-long trip, you will be able to play hard during the day in the Patagonian wild and return to the comforts of sit-down dining, a cozy stove, a sauna, and a warm bed. Kayaking in Chile does not get any more exciting, wild, and comfortable than this.

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: Kayak Warm up on the Lake and the Rio Espolon

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 outfit you with your kayak. We will then load up and go to a nearby lake where we review all your techniques. You can warm up your muscles and practice your roll. After lunch we review the video of your techniques on our waterproof ipad. We then put in on the crystal clear water of the Espolon. Here we practice at the S turn rapid, and paddle on a perfectly formed surf wave with eddy service. After a full afternoon of paddling, we take out and head back to your home away from home, Campo Tres Monjas.

Day 4 Monday: Paddling the Entire Rio Espolon

For our second day on the river, we will kayak the entire Rio Espolon from top to bottom, focusing on the skills we want to develop for the more technical water of the Rio Azul, namely: rolls on both sides, aggressive forward strokes, committed sweeps and stern draws, and of course, having fun! When we surf the dynamic Espolon surf wave, we are going over the strategies that we will use during our Introduction to Big Waters the following day. After the wave we paddle down to the confluence of the Espolon with the Futaleufu and ferry across its big waters for our takeout.

Day 5 Tuesday: Kayak the Río Azul and Intro to Big Water

Today, if water levels permit we will drive to the footbridge put-in on the Río Azul, a tight, glacial-fed small river that runs through a lush fern lined granite micro canyon. Here you get a chance to relax and paddle the technical drops, surf on some waves, and enjoy the staggering scenery. We arrive at our camp where the Río Azul meets the Río Futaleufú. On the Futaleufu there are some big water eddies and a jet for the introduction to big water and the unique strategies required. Afterwards we eddy out at our beach at Campo Tres Monjas where the Sauna awaits.

Day 6 Wednesday: Futaleufu, Big Water 101 and Asleep at the wheel

Today we will utilize all of the techniques that we have practiced thus far. First, we warm up on the Azul in front of the Campo. We then practice again on the Big Water 101 eddies. After lunch, we paddle the SchoolHouse rapid making some big ferries and penetrate across the big eddyline into the Sauna eddy. If you make this move you are ready for the Futaleufu. This is preparing you for control on the Futaleufu. We paddle downstream where we will eddy out above Asleep at the Wheel. We discuss the line and run the big route just right of the explosion hole. Using the exact strategies we learned in Big Water 101. We paddle through one of the most beautiful stretches of the river where we take out above the class V+ Terminator rapid.

Day 7 Thursday: Las Escalas and Wild Mile Upper Futaleufu

We head to the remote and spectacular upper section of the Futaleufu containing the Class II-III Las Escalas Valley and Class III-IV Wild Mile. An exciting shuttle ride through an old growth forest brings us to the overlook of the Class V "Inferno Canyon". We put in below. This visually spectacular section of river includes the Class V rapids "Zeta" and "Throne Room". After studying these awe inspiring rapids, we will take our often used footpaths around both of them. You may choose to seal launch back into the river after the Zeta. After Throne we head into the "Wild Mile Section", four miles of continuous whitewater action which takes us right back to the beach at our Campo Tres Monjas.

Day 8 Friday: "Graduation" Kayak Bridge to Bridge

The kayaking this day is filled with the big exploding waves for which the Futaleufu is world famous. We put-in at the Swinging Bridge at the "Heart of the Futaleufu" - also known as "The Bridge-to-Bridge Section". Here you will kayak Futaleufu whitewater continuously through Class IV big water action, including "[Entrada](#)", "[Pillow](#)", and "[Mundaca](#)". Then there are six more rapids that will take your entire attention. This is an accomplishment that you

will not forget.

After paddling you will take a small tour of Futaleufu. We make our way toward the border where your taxi awaits 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 kayaking before heading home the following morning.

Day 9 Saturday: Return to Capital City

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:

[Campo Tres Monjas](#) (82 secs)

[CondorNest Ranch](#)

Lodge Based (call our office)

Price and Departure Dates

Full Trip: 6 Active Days

Price per Person: Single Occupancy \$2,695 usd (if available)

Price per Person: Double Occupancy \$2,295 usd

Scheduled Departure Dates: [Activity Calendar](#)

Lite Trip: 4 Active days

Price per Person: Double Occupancy \$1,630 usd

Scheduled Departure Dates: [Activity Calendar](#)

Included

Your described itinerary, guiding, instruction, specialized equipment, and all transportation from your trip pick up point to your trip drop off point, all accommodation (RiverNest Cabins are double occupancy), all meals, and wine with dinner.

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

Not Included

All pre and post-trip enroute transportation, food, and hotel(s).

Once you are on an ExChile trip, you should incur no extra expenses unless you'd like laundry services, massages, gifts, or alcohol beyond what is included. If you would like to add multisport activities that are not listed as options on your itinerary, we are happy to cater to your wishes, though these activities may be subject to an additional charge. These are Fly Fishing / Horseback Riding / Canyoning

Contingencies

Weather and River Flow: ExChile will work to make your trip a total success, though your trip itinerary may vary based on unforeseen circumstances related to weather, river levels, or to other unpredictable variables. Given that the weather in Patagonia and the water level of the Rio Futaleufu can change, some runs may be dangerous at certain points in time. However, our experienced guide staff will work closely with you to determine the optimal substitute option, if relevant. 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: A roll that works in whitewater and Class III-IV experience elsewhere.

Physical Challenge: Moderate

Season: Dec, 7 to March 31, 2018

Cultural Experience: Moderately high

Nature Experience: Very high

Comfort Rating: Glamping at Campo Tres Monjas

Max Trip Size: 16

Min Trip Size: 4

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

Lakes, rivers, and sites: Rio Futaleufu, Rio Azul, Rio Espolón, Lago Lonconao, Lago Espolón, Secret Lagoon, Campo Tres Monjas

[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.

[Enroute Hotels](#)

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

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