



LUXURYADVENTURES

PATAGONIA ITINERARY

Day 1

Buenos Aires / El Calafate

Transfer from your hotel to the national airport for your flight to Calafate. Upon arrival to Calafate, you will be met by our representative for a 1 hour and 20 minute drive to your hotel.

Accommodation, Los Nostros Hosteria

Address: Av Perito Moreno Glaciar, Patagonia, Argentina
Check in time: upon arrival and check out at 10:00 AM
Telephone: 54 11 48 14 3934 Fax: 54 11 4815 7645
www.losnotros.com

The visit to the glaciers in southern Patagonia must surely rank alongside that to the Iguazú Falls in terms of the sheer scale and size of nature's forms of expression.

The Patagonian Continental Ice is 17,000 Km², a gigantic mass of ice that in some places becomes glaciers. The Southern Patagonian Ice corresponds to Argentina and Chile and the glaciers which are easiest to access are the Perito Moreno and the Upsala.

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Day 2

Calafate

Perito Moreno Glacier

Full-day tour to the Perito Moreno Glacier through the National Park, a beautiful drive of some two and a half hours with stops to enjoy the view, including the Corner of Sighs, where you get your first full view of the Glacier. During the drive, you might catch a glimpse of red and grey foxes fleeing across the heathery landscape, while the air bears a faint but distinctive waft of skunk spray; in the distance cinnamon-coloured guanaco deer balance on rocky crags and below, large Patagonian hares leap from bushes across streams. Along the roadside crawl little armadillos, whose meat is highly prized by the local inhabitants, and if you are lucky you might just see the tawny back of a puma, a mountain lion. Rosy flamingos gather at the water's edge while hawks and kites hover over the hillside, eyeing scurrying voles and other rodents. And, just possibly, way way up above, you might spy the magnificent silhouette of the condor, apparently motionless, floating on the thermal wind currents that curl between the mountain peaks.

The Perito Moreno glacier is thirty kms long, this imposing wall of ice towers some 70 metres above the walkways that offer you a selection of different views from the promontory of Península de Magallanes that juts out into the Lago Argentino. As you stand below gazing up at the massive rugged face, you become aware that the glacier is very much a living, evolving thing, as creaks and cracks like rifle shots preface the "desprendimientos", huge chunks the size of houses which break off and fall in slow motion through the air into the black waters. They hit the surface with an almighty crash, submerging and rising up again to bob away as icebergs into the centre of the lake. The biggest and most spectacular "desprendimientos" occur when the glacier has grown to form a bridge across to the promontory, cutting off the water flow between Brazo Rico and the Canal de los Témpanos. Increasing pressure builds up as water and ice accumulate on the Brazo Rico side and the water soaks into the ground at the point at which the ice touches the land, slowly creating a tunnel. The tunnel becomes wider and wider until the pressure of the glacier moving forward means that the bridge fractures most dramatically at a given point. Although local legend has it that this takes place every four years, in fact the last time this event occurred was in 2004, when it brought photographers, film crews and glacier enthusiasts from all over the world to wait for weeks on end for that special moment.



- Trekking

For many people, the views of the glacier from the Península de Magallanes are not enough: there are opportunities to see it from motor boats which move in as close as possible to the grey rugged wall, giving you an even greater sense of perspective as well as the chance to stride out on the ice itself. With crampons fixed firmly to your boots and a team of expert guides, you can climb up on the glacier from the banks on the other side of the Brazo Rico and enjoy the extraordinary experience of walking up and down steep icy rises which are millions of years old, peering into the deep cracks and holes whose depths glow blue and green

Los Nostros, B.L.D

Day 3

Calafate

Full day Estancia Cristina (Upsala Glacier)

A chance to appreciate the impressive stretch of the Upsala Glacier by boat, gliding across the Lago Argentino between smooth wind-sculpted icebergs glittering in the sunlight, before continuing along the Brazo Cristina channel to Estancia Cristina, the estancia which offers the best land access to the glacier and the Continental Ice Cap. Depending on the weather and your preferences, you can walk or ride through the estancia's land and the National Glacier Park, through forests and along the lake shores to appreciate the views of unspoiled nature in all its glory. Lunch is a typical asado, tender Patagonian lamb roasted on a stake and served with salads while the wine flows and the guides recount some of the fascinating stories of the region and the estancia itself.

Estancia Cristina was founded in 1914 by Joseph Percival Percy Masters, an English fortune-hunter who emigrated to Patagonia with his wife in 1900. Seduced by the amazing stories of the lands in the south of Argentina, he decided to make for Rio Gallegos, where he and his wife found work in the upkeep and running of the Estancia El Cóndor. However, Percy Masters itched to travel west to Lago Argentino where he had heard that the pasture land was good and as yet unclaimed. They saved for many years, bought horses and some cattle and finally set out from Río Gallegos to the shores of Lago Argentino. Masters found a small boat and began the painstaking process of shipping his animals and possessions to the spit of land across the lake where Estancia Cristina now stands. He named his new home Cristina in honour of his daughter. The first few years were unremittingly hard; it took them a year to build their first house using stones from the lakeshore and mud instead of cement. But other members of the Masters family came out and the dwelling space grew in size and comfort, while the herds of sheep and cattle multiplied. The estancia became known for its luxurious hospitality and beautiful landscape, although it fell into decline when Cristina's brother died in 1984. His widow offered the National Parks administration the opportunity to use the estancia for tourism, and, although she died in 1997, today her family's history is still kept alive by the local community and their respect for the stoic perseverance of the Masters' pioneering efforts.

Leave Puerto Banderas at 8:00 am, sailing along Lago Argentino's North branch and then into the Upsala Channel, in order to reach the Upsala Glacier West wall. Guests will enjoy an incredible sailing experience through ice bergs and the majestic landscape, arriving at Estancia Cristina at around 11:30 am.

Upon arrival they will be greeted by the guides that will escort them on the activity they have chosen: ride in a 4 x 4 adventure and get to Upsala's Glacier balcony, from where they will enjoy a magnificent view of the Glacier.

At this point passengers can choose a trekking tour down through the Fossil's Canyon or a horseback riding tour (selected during their boat trip to Estancia Cristina).

Back at the Estancia Cristina, they will be received with a delicious country meal.



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Boat departs at 17:30 pm back to Puerto Banderas after a 1:30 hours sail, and then from there back to Calafate by bus.

Los Nostros, B.L.D

Day 4

Calafate / Buenos Aires

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. Upon arrival to Buenos Aires you will be met by our representative who will transfer you to your hotel for registration. Or, you will be met by our representative who will transfer you to the International airport, one hour drive, for your international flight back home. **B**

END OF LUXURY ADVENTURES SERVICES BON VOYAGE!

IMPORTANT NOTE: Itineraries and programs are subject to change without previous notice due mainly to readjustment of policies and regulations, weather conditions, seasonal changes or safety reasons.

B. BREAKFAST, L. LUNCH, D. DINNER

SUGGESTED FLIGHT SCHEDULE:

	FROM / TO	FLIGHT	Departure/Arrival
Day 1	Buenos Aires / Calafate	AR 2888	02:05 PM – 05:18 PM
Day 4	Calafate / Buenos Aires	AR 2899	08:33 PM – 11:29 PM

FLIGHT SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE

PACKAGE NET PRICE PER PERSON IN USD:

BASED ON 2 PASSENGERS

LOS NOSTROS PROGRAM – SHARING DOUBLE ACCOMMODATION **\$ 4,169.00**

FLIGHTS CALAFATE (BUE/FTE/BUE)

GLACIARES NATIONAL PARK ENTRANCE FEE

RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE

BASED ON 4 PASSENGERS

LOS NOSTROS PROGRAM – SHARING DOUBLE ACCOMMODATION **\$ 4,058.00**

FLIGHTS CALAFATE (BUE/FTE/BUE)

GLACIARES NATIONAL PARK ENTRANCE FEE

RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE

BASED ON 6 – 10 PASSENGERS

LOS NOSTROS PROGRAM – SHARING DOUBLE ACCOMMODATION **\$ 4,025.00**

FLIGHTS CALAFATE (BUE/FTE/BUE)

GLACIARES NATIONAL PARK ENTRANCE FEE

RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS QUOTE IS BASED ON RATES VALID UNTIL FEBRUARY 2007 THAT ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL 2008 RATES ARE PUBLISHED.



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PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE:

- 3 nights at the Los Nostros, Premium Room
- All meals as stated in the itinerary
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as indicated
- Group guide and land transportation as stated in the itinerary
- Glaciares National Park Entrance Fee (rate subject to change)
- Round trip flight Buenos Aires-Calafate (rate subject to change)

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Travel/baggage/accident/cancellation Insurance - recommended.
- International Flights.
- All internal airfare not specified on Net Price Per Person
- Gratuities to local guides, drivers, crew & escort guide
- Items of a personal nature, such as laundry, alcoholic beverages, excess baggage charges, phone and e-mail
- Excess mileage carried out at the request of the participants
- Passport or visa expenses
- Meals not stated in the itinerary
- Soft drinks & bottled water with meals
- Anything not specifically mentioned in "Program Rates Include".
- Argentine Departure Taxes (US\$ 18 p/p rate subject to change)

Booking and Cancellation policy Luxury Adventures, Argentina

(FIT) FOR INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS

FIT Bookings and Payments

1. Deposits may be required at time of booking. We will advise deposit conditions at time of booking/confirmation.
2. Full prepayment is required 60 days prior to arrival of guests.
3. On confirmation of services we will send you a confirmation advice, a pro-forma invoice, and our cancellation policies.

Form of Payment

1. **Bank Transfer – Wire Transfer**
The sender is responsible for all bank transfer charges.