

## **Traveling to Torres del Paine/Fitzroy via Calafate**

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### **Your en-route guidance**

#### **Traveling to Patagonia thru Argentina.**

### **Arrival Buenos Aires Argentina**

In flight, fill out all necessary customs forms. Upon arrival, go through customs in the airport and fill out the visa form. Argentina will charge you a reciprocal visa fee at their international airport. Visa Fees as of Nov 1 2010. USA: \$131 USD, Canada: \$70 USD, Australia: \$100 USD. Chile has never charged another visa fee to enter Chile when you enter at a remote border crossing. Every indication is that this policy will continue.

There is a money exchange booth in the baggage terminal called Global Exchange. Do not exchange money here. For the best possible rate, go to the Banco de la Nacion booth that is located just outside the customs area and to the left. We recommend only taking out the cash you expect to use on taxi's, and snacks on your way to and from Futaleufu. The bank in Futaleufu will not exchange Argentine pesos to Chilean pesos, they will however change \$20's in US dollars. We feel in this part of Patagonia, US dollars is the most flexible currency. Traveler's checks are difficult to exchange for their full value. Exchile can always change your US dollars to Chilean Pesos. However torn or marked dollars can not be exchanged in Chile or Argentina. It is worth getting new bills from your bank before you depart the US.

Remember you are in a big city of another country and you may stand out as a foreigner. Argentineans are helpful, but be cautious with your baggage, or ploys to distract you from it. Always settle on your cab fare before you start your trip.

Transfer to Domestic Airport AEP: From the international airport in Buenos Aires (EZE - Ezeiza,), you will transfer by bus (~\$20, 1 hr 15 minutes); or taxi ( ~ \$50 USD 1 hr), to the national airport (AEP - Aeroparque). Your flight schedule should allow three hours between the arrival of the international and departure of the national flight. Before purchasing a bus transfer ticket between airports, check which of the three bus companies will depart the earliest. The bus usually will stop at an intermediate terminal before heading on to the national airport. Be sure to ask before you get off, if you are indeed at the national airport. If you arrive late or are feeling a little hesitant about the bus option, we strongly suggest taking a taxi. They are usually 15 minutes faster and involve little hassle.

Airline Check In: When checking your baggage in for a domestic flight in Argentina remember the international baggage allowance is greater than the national baggage allowance within Argentina. They may try to ask for baggage fees. Tell them you have just arrived on an international flight and if your baggage is within the international limits they should not charge you additional fees. Show them your International ticket and baggage checks. From the national airport, you will fly to your next destination, either Esquel or in some cases Bariloche, Argentina.

### **Traveling to Torres de Paine National Park/Fitzroy via Calafate Argentina**

#### **Arrival Calafate Argentina**

There are direct flights from Buenos Aires to Calafate. If you are traveling to Calafate from Buenos Aires the arrival instructions are above in this document.

For those traveling to Calafate and Torres after your first week in Futaleufu you can connect on Saturdays to a direct flight to the Patagonian city of Calafate. You can grab a taxi and check into your hotel, ditch your luggage and

take advantage of the local culinary scene. It is important to arrive a day early in Calafate to accommodate any unexpected travel complication while not jeopardizing your adventure. You will have all Sunday to enjoy the area.

**Trip Pick up in Calafate:**

On Monday morning grab the pre-paid 5:30 am guided shuttle-van that will meet you at your hotel in city center Calafate. You will travel to the border, a short rest and your cross into Chile and change vehicles. You will then travel to the park entrance, once more you will change vehicles as you are taken to the Eco Camp. You will arrive earlier than the rest of the group coming from Punta Arneas. You will have time to eat lunch and enjoy the park before the rest of the group arrives before dinner.

**Unexpected Travel Complications en route to Calafate**

**Arriving late/Cancelled or Missed Flight**

Since you will have two nights in Calafate this has never been a problem. Just take the next flight.

**Lost Luggage**

If at any point during your travel is it is discovered that your luggage has been lost, immediately report the issue to the airline. GET A RECEIPT TO SHOW THAT YOU HAVE REPORTED THE LOST Luggage. It is their duty to make sure luggage arrives at your final destination Calafate. You should call the emergency number for the Torres del Paine trips and they will make arrangement for your luggage to be picked up at the airport and brought into Chile to catch up with your trip.

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**Tear this section off and give to the responsible Airline.**

This Passenger\_\_\_\_\_ has delayed baggage and it is the responsibility of your airline to get this luggage to the hotel that they will stay in at Calafate Argentina\_\_\_\_\_. This luggage is essential for their Adventure trip, which starts in Calafate and continues into Torres del Paine Chile. Every effort needs to be taken to get the luggage on the first flight available to Calafate.

Expediciones Chile

Casacada Expeditions-Torres Eco camp

Barros Arana 166 - Puerto Natales, Chile

Lost luggage emergency +56.2.232.9878. They will arrange to have your luggage picked up and brought to the eco-camp.

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**Baggage Tags for Calafate**

<p><b>NAME:</b> <b>TRIP: Torres del Paine W Trekking</b> Casacada Expeditions-Torres Eco camp Barros Arana 166 - Puerto Natales, Chile Emergency # Torres trips: +56.2.232.9878</p>	<p><b>NAME:</b> <b>TRIP: Torres del Paine W Trekking</b> Casacada Expeditions-Torres Eco camp Barros Arana 166 - Puerto Natales, Chile Emergency # Torres trips: +56.2.232.9878</p>
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Exchile office: +54.11.59.83.95.81

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Trekking**

Casacada Expeditions-Torres Eco  
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Exchile office: +54.11.59.83.95.81

**Emergency phone numbers for your wallet**

**Enroute emergency contact:**

**exchile.com** - Saturdays 7am to  
12 pm

**Argentine #** +54

(11).59.83.95.81

**Chile #** +56.65.562.639

**USA #** +1.208.629.5032

**web:** [http://www.exchile.com/  
email.htm](http://www.exchile.com/email.htm)

**Gilda G&G Travel** - Saturdays 24  
hours

**USA #** +1.305.321.0474

**web:** [http://www.exchile.com/  
email.htm](http://www.exchile.com/email.htm)

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