

Argentina Week of Rivers

From the Ski Resort
City of San Carlos de Bariloche



Argentina Week of Rivers Safari

This safari trip kicks off our kayaking season. We kayak out of San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina (the famous Latin American ski resort) and explore the surrounding rivers: Rio Manso, Rio Alumine, Rio Limay, Rio Traful, Rio Foyel & Rio Azul.

ITINERARY:

Day 1 Saturday: Arrival and Introductions

Arrive in Buenos Aires, Argentina in the morning and travel on to San Carlos de Bariloche. You will be received at the airport by our representative, and taken on a tour of this impressive Patagonian city and the Llao Llao circuit drive. You will have a fantastic view of the surrounding area after ascending the Cerro Campanario. Dine at a typical Bariloche restaurant and stay the night at our hotel near the city center.

Day 2 Sunday: San Martin de los Andes

After breakfast, we depart towards Rio Traful (Class II/III), where we have a three-hour paddle. Afterwards, we drive over a spectacular desert pass with desert rock formations similar to some of the American West. We drive through the resort town of San Martin de los Andes. We get a good view of the 3.766-meter high volcano Lanin and will have an opportunity to see the ancient Araucarias tree. We check into the eclectic Hotel Pehuena on the banks of the Rio Alumine.

Day 3 Monday: Rio Alumine

Today is your first day of kayaking in Argentina. After a hearty breakfast, we descend the Pueblo-Rahue (Class II/III) section of the Rio Alumine where the rapids are straight forward with big waves and few holes. The Rio Alumine get its name from a derivative of the word "luminous" because of the frothing, "luminous" whitewater that can be found on it. The Rio Alumine shares its headwaters with Chile's famous Bio Bio River. The two rivers start in the same place but are separated by the continental divide. Lunch will be by the side of the river with a briefing on the sections yet to come. Afterwards, we move on to the upper section of the Alumine starting from the bridge (Class II/III). The beginning section is Class II/III, later entering the continuous Class III+ sections, with the last section of the river ranging between Class II and III. This night we have dinner at the Hotel Pehuena, where we can retell the days' events and the excitement of the run can be remembered.



Day 4 Tuesday: Back to the Rio Alumine

Today is a repeat of yesterday's run, with a change in lines, going from conservative to radical. Full-on breakfast served at your hotel and off to the Alumine, starting your descent on the upper section of the river. After lunch, and some surfing, we pack up and return to Bariloche and your hotel. Tonight you are on your own to prowl the town of Bariloche and let yourself go in what has come to be known as "Sin City" – prime beef, fondue, and chocolate are its specialty.*

Day 5 Wednesday: Rio Manso

We depart Bariloche on a southerly route, past the pristine lakes Gutierrez and Mascardi. The continental divide can be easily seen by the towering mountains shadowing us in our drive to today's put-in. This day's section includes a Class III/IV portion of the river from Los Moscos to Lago Hess. For those looking for less intense runs, these two Class IV rapids can be portaged easily. The Manso holds one of Patagonia's best play spots, real Argentina kayaking, and you will have the opportunity to go all out on this standing wave. Afterwards, we take you on a tour of the Manso, where you get to see an enormous Class V+ waterfall, of which we have no intention of running. Tonight your lodging will be at the Hotel Mascardi in front of the Lake Mascardi, where you will find comfortable accommodations combined with awe-inspiring views.

Day 6 Thursday: Rio Manso –The Border Section

After a typical Argentinean breakfast, we head out to a true Patagonia Estancia (Ranch), owned by a Swiss family that has made their home by the Manso. Here we descend the premier river of the region, the Class III/IV Manso all the way to the Chilean border. This section holds some spectacular play spots, integrated with a true Patagonian landscape. Once off the river, we offer the option of going on a trek or horseback ride through the numerous trails that can be found in the area. Upon your return, a traditional Argentinean barbeque (asado) awaits you, and you will have the option of camping out under the stars or staying in one of our quaint Argentinean cabins.

Day 7 Friday: A la Carte Option Day

Today is your day to choose which sections of the river you would like to run, or a day to relax by the river. The river options are to repeat the Manso border stretch or the middle section, play at the surf spot or paddle the Rio El Ternero Class III–V, or choose the relaxing Lower Manso Class II+. After today's activities, we return to the lodge for our last night's going away dinner.

Day 8 Saturday: Departure

After an early breakfast and some shopping in the city. We transfer you to the airport for your flight back to Buenos Aires and your overnight flight back to your home country. As you catch a final view of the Lake Nahuel-Huapi, surrounded by Bariloche and snow capped mountains, take a moment to reflect upon all of the amazing sights and experiences of this past week. After all these years we are still stunned that views like these exist.



INCLUDED:

All meals (but one*), lodging, transportation, guides, and kayaks while paddling with us. See the packing list for specific details. The actual program for your individual trip will vary according to the desires and skill level of your group, the water levels, weather, or other factors.

*Dinner is not included in the total trip price on Day 4.

TRIP OVERVIEW:

Experience Needed: Class II/III, Class IV/V
Physical Challenge: Medium
Cultural Experience: High Immersion
Lodging: Inns, Hotels, Cabins, Camp
Comfort Rating: Medium-High
Days away from home: 10
Days with us: 8
Max Trip Size: 8
Price: \$1995.00 USD

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