

Learn To Kayak - Multisport Week
Beginner Kayak School Course
in Patagonia, Chile



Patagonia Kayak School: Learn To Kayak – Multisport Week

This itinerary is for beginner kayakers who want to add a multisport component to their kayak school vacation.

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Arrival & Introductions

Arrive at either of our entry points in Puerto Montt, Chile or Esquel, Argentina, the gateway to Patagonia. Connect with our representative and travel to the remote ocean-side town of Chaiten, surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and majestic mountains. You will find your accommodations at our comfortable inn and town cabins, settling in with an early snack. Before dinner we meet for introductions and a classroom session to become familiar with your kayaks, equipment, and river safety procedures. Unwind from your trip and your first day of instruction with a hearty welcome dinner at our Chaiten hosteria.

Day 2: Termas del Amarillo – Hot Springs

Early wake up call and breakfast. Introductions to getting in and out of your kayaks and rolling. We drive 30 minutes to the hot spring and spend the morning laying the foundations for your roll. An explanation of each roll, and which best suits you, will be the focus of the day. In the afternoon, we put in on the Rio Negro on a flat-water section to learn the basic stroke techniques. After a couple of hours of paddling, return to our hosteria to refresh, and a trip around Chaiten and its cultural museum.

Day 3: Back to the Hot Springs

Another early morning, and return to the hot springs for more roll practice and lunch in this idealistic setting. In the afternoon, return to the Rio Negro to continue your kayak instruction on down-river paddling skills. The adventurous and quick learners have the option to try out your rolling skills on moving water. After another couple of hours of paddling, we return to our hosteria and offer this evening an optional visit to the Santa Barbara beach just on the outskirts of Chaiten.

Day 4: Horseback Riding & Canyoning (A La Carte Multi Sport Day)

These two multisport activities are the highest rated in our ExChile program. Go back in time and horseback ride through the 'trails of neighbors'. It is a network of narrow roads that locals travel on foot, oxcart or horse that lead to the valleys and isolated villages. A full day out in the 'Last Frontier' in Patagonia. Or rappel, hike and swim your way through the unique micro-environments of the Patagonian Canyons that we offer. Few eyes have ever seen this paradise. We can also do a day of trekking, mountain biking or sea kayaking for those who request it.

Day 5: Rio Espolon and an Introduction to River Features

After a late morning wake up, we head off to our secret blue lagoon located on the edge of the pristine Rio Espolon. We practice our rolls in the comforts of the lagoon and once our confidence is built up, head off into the Class II/III moving water, our first real rapids that will test your skills for the next 3 days. We will practice the ferrying technique, crossing the Espolon several times, as well as strengthen our ability to identify river features such as tongues, waves, holes, and eddies. We will get our first chance to surf our first standing wave, on a completely safe part of the river.

Day 6: Rafting the Corazón of the Futaleufu

In the morning we will raft Chile's most action packed section of whitewater. This section, from the Zapata swinging bridge to the Puente Futaleufu, includes five miles of Class IV+ rafting action. Rapids such as "Entrada", "Pillow", "Tiburón", and "Mundaca", with its must-see explosion hole, will keep you on your toes. Spend the afternoon soaking up the Chilean Culture in this secluded alpine village or participate in another of the numerous multisport activities from our lodge.

Day 7: Graduation Day

Today is our graduation day for our Learn to Kayak – Multisport Course. We will let you loose, and go paddle the entire Rio Espolon, allowing for students to practice their skills in more radical environments, following their own lines, but having a professional safety-net to back them up. Each student will be monitored and advised on better techniques to be emphasized in the future. After today, you will have the skills necessary to kayak Class II/III sections, as well as have the experience of having rafted the Futaleufu. Not many can say that! A farewell dinner, and a ceremony welcoming you to the kayak community await you at the kayak school lodge.

Day 8: Departure

Wake up for an early breakfast and drive back to Chaiten, Chile and your flight to Puerto Montt, or relax for a couple of hours and take our shuttle to Esquel, Argentina. As you catch a final view of the Río Futaleufu; surrounded by hanging glaciers 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:

Includes: All meals, lodging, transportation, kayaks, guides and river gear while paddling with us. Round trip transportation between Futaleufu and Puerto Montt or Esquel. See the kayak school packing list for specific details. The actual Kayak instruction program for your individual trip will vary according to the desires and skill level of your group, weather, or other factors.

TRIP OVERVIEW:

Experience Needed: None
Physical Challenge: Low
Cultural Experience: Medium
Lodging: Lodge, Inn
Comfort Rating: High
Days away from home: 10
Days with us: 8
Max Trip Size: 12
Price: \$2195.00 USD

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