



## ExChile Greatest Playground on Earth!

### 2011-2012-2013 Season

Last Update: 07 December 2011

<http://www.exchile.com/ChileRaftingFutaleufuExtreme.html>

## Trip Name: Futaleufu Extreme Fast Track

<b>Last Name:</b>
<b>First Name:</b>
<b>Email:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>
<b># in group:</b>
<b>Comments:</b>

**Overview:** The Futaleufu River is known in whitewater circles as one of the most exciting and challenging rivers in the world. It is an exhilarating whitewater power storm, with a life force of turquoise champagne like water. Riding the spine of this river as it flows through the isolated portion of the rugged and glaciated Andes in Chile is an experience that is unparalleled. You will feel the direct connection with the incredible power of nature in Patagonia. The river's name is derived from a local Mapuche Indian word meaning "big big river" and it lives up to its namesake in every respect. It has earned its reputation as The Greatest Whitewater on Earth!!!

Your first day of rafting is mild (class 3/4), an introduction to big water. Your guide will teach you how to maneuver the raft as a paddle team. The guide is in the back of the raft on stern mounted oars for supplemental control. You will float to our riverside eco camp "Campo Tres Monjas" greeted by 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 of exotic looking Patagonian Trees. Each cabin is accessed by a private sand trail. After dinner you can enjoy a camp fire on the beach as you watch the moon rise between the impressive spires of Tres Monjas peak standing guard over head. There is a Sauna, flush toilets, a drying room for your river clothes, dining lodge, a selection of hot showers, including an outdoor shower masterly hidden within huge natural boulders. All this is designed with great thought blending in with nature.

In addition to rafting the Futaleufu you will have one day of multisport activity in this spectacular river valley. From Campo Tres Monjas, there are four trail heads that allow you to venture out on horseback, mountain bikes, and on foot to explore this magical paradise.

You can also sea kayak on nearby lakes, sit on top kayak, or learn to whitewater kayak on the easier Rio Espolon. If you are an experienced kayaker you can kayak along with our raft trips or in distinct groups that match your experience level. Rafting in Patagonia has never been more comfortable or more customizable with the spectacular and strategic location of Expediciones Chile's Campo Tres Monjas.

### [Overview Slide Shows and Video Gallery](#)

## Day by Day:

**Day 1 Friday:** Depart your home town: Fly to Miami and connect on an over night flight to Buenos Aires Argentina. Welcome to the warmth of the southern Hemisphere in summer.

### **Day 2 Saturday: Travel to Trevelin, Patagonia Argentina**

Early morning arrival in Buenos Aires. Change airports with a taxi or shuttle bus and catch another flight to Esquel Argentina. Trevelin Argentina is a charming mountain village gateway just 45 minutes from the Esquel airport and 45 minutes from the Futaleufu River in Chile. 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 nights sleep before the start of your trip the next morning.

### **Day 3 Sunday: Your trip starts. Raft from the near the Border to Campo Tres Monjas**

After a relaxing night's sleep at a hotel in the quaint Welch town of Trevelin deep in Patagonia Argentina, we begin this exciting trip with a quick shuttle across the Chilean/Argentinean border and into the Futaleufu Valley. After clearing customs we go direct to the Futaleufu put in where we will meet your guides and rafts. After changing into our river gear, your luggage will be whisked away and magically show up at your tent or cabin at our river eco-camp before you arrive. After the introduction of whitewater and paddling skills we encounter a section of mild class II water flowing through the Las Escalas valley. A couple of hours later the river shows its wild side and we encounter "[Zeta](#)" and "[Throne Room](#)", two of the most challenging (Class V+) rapids on the Futaleufu. We study and will portage both. After the portages, we get into our first action, the section called "The Wild Mile" which contains [Tres Islas](#) (III), [Roller Coaster](#) (III), [Honorable Mention](#) (IV minus), [Wild Mile](#) (IV minus) and the climatic Thing. The excitement doesn't stop until we get to the confluence of the Futaleufu and Azul rivers as we take out on the unspoiled beach at our Camp Tres Monjas with the stunning peak of the same name standing guard. At our secluded camp you find your luggage in your RiverNest cabin. You will be given a tour following trails to the sauna, showers, drying shed, bathrooms, and dining hall. This idyllic spot will serve as the take out and put in for your activities for the rest of the week's adventures. This setting is arguably one of the most stunning on the river. Relax in the sauna and ready yourself for a sit down meal.

### **Day 4 Monday: Triple Crown of Rafting: Terminator Section, the Heart of the Futaleufu, and Casa de Piedra Section**

This has to be the most fun and action packed day of rafting, anywhere on earth. We take off from our sand beach at camp and head downstream to a couple of warm up rapids before the river takes on an extremely powerful nature, with the longest rapid on the Futa, the "[Terminator](#)" (Class V). After a careful scout and plan we will run this rapid. Just below, we'll have to negotiate the hole filled "[Khyber Pass](#)" (Class IV+) and the [Himalayas](#) (Class IV), with perhaps the biggest standing waves in the hemisphere with a huge pool below. After Lunch we run another complete section called the the Heart of the Futaleufu. 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. Though drop pool the pools are short and the action non stop. As we begin our final section of river today we will thread through the well named Maso Manos rapid getting ready for the magical and daunting rapid Casa de Piedra.

Casa, as commonly called by our expert guides, is a long class V rapid appropriately named for the house size rock that must be navigated before flying past the helicopter eddy and down through a maze of truck size holes and waves. The take out is at a spectacular cliff wall with towering glaciers in the distance. After the trip we return to our Camp and take advantage of our sauna and massage and work out any sore muscles you might have after a big day of paddling.

#### **Day 5 Tuesday: Sea kayaking Loncanao/Mountain Bike back to the Campo**

Today is a multi sport day with pre-arranged options available. A sea kayak trip on the pristine and calm Lago Lonconoa is planned. A short drive takes us to the put-in. Here you will select a single or two person sea kayak and listen to a short introduction to safely navigating these stable craft. After lunch on the lake we will have the option of riding Mountain bikes back to the camp (mostly downhill) on back roads along the Rio Azul. Soft pastures juxtaposed with towering glaciers will, surely, remind you of scenes from the Sound of Music or Heidi. We will cross the turquoise Rio Azul on a swinging bridge on our way to a meadow with an overlook on the river and to the glaciers towering above. Luckily, we will continue biking down the Azul Valley back to camp ensuring you've had all your eyes can handle of this amazing, idyllic natural beauty.

#### **Day 6 Wednesday: Rafting Infierno and return to Trevelin.**

This is the most demanding, committing, and hazardous section of the Futaleufu, the highlight of our Patagonia rafting program! It is also optional. If you feel that you have had enough with the previous sections a multisport activity can be scheduled. To raft this section safely, the river levels must be correct, you must have rafted the "Heart" section with us and met all of our safety requirements. We put in at the Río Espolon bridge and raft to the the confluence with the Futaleufu River. At the "[Gates of Infierno](#)", we enter the "Infierno Canyon" with several consequential and continuous Class V drops. After an exciting morning of rafting in the Inferno canyon our vehicles will be waiting at the take out as we make our way toward the border on our way to Trevelin after changing into dry clothes. 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 rafting before heading home the following morning.

#### **Day 7 Thursday: Return to Capital City**

Depending on your connections you are now in Argentina ready for an early departure in a cab from you hotel to the airport in Esquel and for your flight back to Buenos Aires.

#### **Day 8 Friday: Return home**

#### **Accommodations:**

[Riverside Campo Tres Monjas](#)

[CondorNest Private Ranch](#)

**Price per Person: \$2095 USD**

**Special Flexibilities:** Exchile will be flexible to make your trip a total success. The actual program for your custom trip may vary according to the desires and skill level of your group, weather, or other factors. Patagonia has constantly changing weather patterns that might affect what day is best for a certain activity. If a certain part of your trip is not possible due to danger risks and weather extremes, our experienced guide staff will work with you to figure out the best possible option to substitute for the weather complications. If you have any concerns, please feel free to ask us more about the situations and what is guaranteed on the trip.

**Included:** Your described trip, guiding, instruction, activity equipment, local transportation, shuttles, all meals, wine with dinner, accommodations at our eco-camps, cabins, ranches or lodges, from your trip pick up point to your trip drop off point.  
See the packing list of your activity, for the specific clothing that is required.

**Not Included:** En-route transportation, lodging, and food from your home town to the border with Chile and Argentina or other trip pick-up point. Laundry services, massage, additional alcohol are available but not included. You can reserve on our web page a pre-trip and post-trip hotel in Trevelin that includes the shared transfer to and from the border.

You can also ask our travel agent to prepay private ground transports between airport and from the airport to Trevelin, for an additional charge. Expediciones Chile is not financially responsible for your travel complications getting to your trip pick up point and from the drop off point, HOWEVER, we will be relentless allies in offering our services to help solve any issues that you may encounter.

## Trip Summary:

Season: December 6 to April 6  
Experience Needed: None - Active person  
Physical Challenge: Moderate High  
Cultural Experience: Moderate High  
Nature Experience: Very High  
Comfort Rating: High  
Max Trip Size: 16  
Min Trip Size: 4  
Cities: Buenos Aires and Esquel  
Regions visited: Remote Patagonia Chile and Argentina  
Lakes, rivers and sites: Futaleufu river, Rio Azul, Campo Tres Monjas, Futaleufu Chile, Trevelin Argentina.

## Recommended Travel Route:

### We highly recommend:

Fly in: Buenos Aires - Esquel Argentina.

Fly out of: Esquel - Buenos Argentina

[Your Travel Route details](#)

## Lets GO!

[Hold your spot Now!](#)

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*Thank you,*

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