



**ExChile Greatest Playground on Earth!**

**2011-2012-2013 season**

Last Update: July 19, 2011

<http://www.exchile.com/trekkingchileFutaValley.html#lite>

**Trip Name: Futaleufu River Valley Trekking 4 Day**

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

**Overview:**

Follow the "Trail of the Neighbors " by trekking Chile's famous Futaleufu River Valley. Our expedition trip departs from near the little town of Futaleufu and takes you to our Eco Camp Tres Monjas located at the confluence of the Futaleufu and Azul rivers. This is a circumnavigation of the Teta peak along side the Espolon lake. You will experience deep immersion of the Patagonia culture at a few remote ranches where we stay.

**[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 and catch another flight to Bariloche, or Esquel Argentina. From Bariloche, a luxury bus will take you on a beautiful drive along the Patagonian lakes and mountains to Esquel. IF you fly direct to Esquel you can arrive in Trevelin with some time to enjoy the area. Trevelin, Argentina is a charming mountain village gateway just 45 minutes from Futaleufu River in Chile. Trevelin is serviced by ground transport (Bus or private taxi) from the Jet ports in Bariloche (4 hrs) or Esquel (40 min). Check into a hotel in this charming village and walk to one of several superb restaurants. Unwind, relax, and get a good nights sleep before the start of you trip 8:00 am the next morning.

**Day 3 Sunday: Trek to Benedicto's through Huemul.**

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. Within several miles you will enter a deep black rock gorge. Our road is cut into the side of the canyon, giving a bird's eye view of the restless, radiant turquoise Futaleufu River below. Several miles later the gorge opens into the remote Las Escalas Valley. Here our trek starts across this enchanting valley as we enter a climb up to the higher levels through a series of switch back until we reach the best vantage points for amazing views of the Futaleufu River, as well as a tremendous waterfall and other beautiful vistas. This trek is not for the faint of heart, we'll be covering a fair distance and some altitude to boot. At the higher levels we come to the pristine lengue forest and the reserve for the rare huemul. We encounter a dramatic ecosystem change as we lose altitude. We ford a stream before, arriving at a 136-acre working ranch set deep in the forest, overlooking the river valley below. Apart from the spectacular views, this self sustainable ranch, without electricity is a marvel in its own right. There, you will be greeted by our host at a rustic wood crafted ranch that functions completely off the grid. You will get the full tour around the ranch, before sitting down to a feast of traditional Chilean cuisine. After dinner you can watch the owner spin his own wool and browse through his hand made products, before settling into your comfortable sleeping quarters. Enjoy a warm night's sleep in comfortable, homemade beds as you look forward to a bountiful breakfast and your trek to camp the following morning.

#### **Day 4 Monday: Trekking - Throne Room & Rio Azul**

After a full breakfast, we can take a leisurely morning or climb up towards the Huemul Reserve just minutes from this remote ranch that continues to the Argentine border at the peaks of the ridge that we see from the ranch.

The Huemul is an endangered deer, one of the smallest on the planet. After lunch we say goodbye to your Chilean hosts as we ready for the second part of our Futaleufu Valley Trek. The Futaleufu Valley trekking trail continues downstream, rejoining the Futaleufu River. You will be able to trek to an overlook of the powerful Class V "Throne Room" rapid. This Class V + rapid is a whitewater power storm blasting through a narrowing in the canyon walls. After viewing this maelstrom from a cliff above, we will have lunch on a gravel beach on the side of a huge calm pool below with excellent fishing. The trail continues with beautiful green meadows and spectacular vistas of the rugged mountains. We arrive at perhaps the climax of beauty at the confluence of the Rio Azul and Rio Futaleufu. Here under the gaze of the Tres Monjas (Three Nuns) peak we will stay at our luxurious Patagonia Eco Camp. White sand beaches welcome us after we cross the Azul in tandem canoes. We will camp here in tents for the next two nights and enjoy the sauna, hot showers, masseuse and sit-down dining. Trekking in Chile doesn't get better than this!

#### **Day 5: Tuesday: Sea kayaking Lonconao/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 Lonconao 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: Hike up to the enchanted forest under Tres Monjas.**

Today we're off to trek toward the backside of Lago Lonconao and into the spectacular glacier ringed Rio Azul Valley. Our trek begins as we enter a cool dark forest and wind around the backside of the elegant and dazzling diamond blue Lake Lonconao. From here we will trek down along the Azul Valley until we reach the confluence of the Azul and Futaleufu rivers. We return grab our luggage and head to the border. Upon reaching the border, we will transport you to Trevelin, Argentina. Shower head out for a dinner at one of Trevelin's fine restaurants.

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

Depending on your connections, you are now in Argentina. If you have a flight from Esquel you have the morning to enjoy and buy gifts in Esquel before your 2 pm flight to Buenos Aires and the connection back to your home country. If you are flying from Bariloche you can go for an early departure in a cab from your hotel to the bus station

in Esquel for the trip to Bariloche and your flight back to Buenos Aires. A private transfer can be arranged direct from your hotel to the airport in Bariloche.

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

#### **Accommodations:**

[Eco Camp Campo Tres Monjas](#)

[Remote Ranches](#)

#### **Price per Person: \$1495.00 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:

Experience Needed:

Physical Challenge:

Cultural Experience:

Nature Experience:

Comfort Rating:

Max Trip Size:

Min Trip Size:

Regions visited: Remote Patagonia Chile and Argentina

Lakes, rivers and sites: Futaleufu river, Rio Azul, Rio Espolon, Lago Lonconao, Lago Esplon, Secret Lagoon, Campo Tres Monjas, Futaleufu Chile, Trevelin Argentina.

#### **Recommended Travel Route:**

We 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,*

*Trip Designer: Adam Odoski & Chris Spelius*

*Direct line to my Desk +1.208.629.5032*

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