



## ExChile Greatest Playground on Earth!

2010-2011-2012 season

### *Trip Name: Palena Valley Circuit*

<b>Group Contact:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>
<b>Email:</b>
<b>Guests:</b>
<b>Comments:</b>

#### **Overview:**

Experience the real Patagonia on this mountain biking vacation. We will ride from the town of Futaleufu in Argentina and circle back into Chile. We will visit the remote towns of Corcovado and Palena spending nights in local hosterias and inns.

**National Geographic International Adventurist:** [Seven days to the Futaleufu - Trailer](#)

**Slide shows:** [Slide Shows](#)

### **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 9:00 am the next morning.

#### **Day 3: Sunday: Ride to Devils Throat - (10 miles rt)**

You will orient yourselves to our front suspension Specialized bikes. Afterwards we ride up the Rio Espolon we cross small bridges, view turquoise water, sand beaches, fishing and swimming holes. You will cross the Rio Espolon on a

wood swinging bridge. Here the climb gets steeper, but shortly you arrive at a tremendous Class 6 waterfall exploding in a white froth out of the upper lake into the valley below. This is a sight to behold as we eat lunch overlooking what is called the Devils throat. Crossing another bridge we get an overlook of the Espolon lake. The return ride has one steep pitch downhill and a slight downhill to the lodge.

**Day 4: Monday: Ride to the National Reserve of Huemul – (12 miles rt)**

Cross the mighty Futaleufú and ride up the river near the Argentinean border into the Patagonia Steppe and explore the pristine Río Chico Valley, a national reserve of the Huemul. This ride takes us upstream to a charming valley that contains the endangered Huemul a small deer like animal that resembles the fictitious jackelope of the American intermountain west. Only this is real. This is a National Reserve for the Animal yet it is completely undeveloped except the sign announcing your entry into the protected area.

**Day 5: Tuesday: Back in time to the "Las Escalas" Valley (13 miles rt)**

This world class ride takes us along the Inferno gorge, a black rock canyon of the Futaleufu River. Five hundred feet below we view the agitated turquoise water. You will naturally not want to ride too close to the edge. The trail enters the open Las Escalas valley for a trip back in time. We cross the Futaleufu River on a swinging bridge and ride up through an old growth forest of Coyhue trees out of the valley and around a small lake back to the village of Futaleufu.

**Day 6 Wednesday: Corcovado, Argentina (40 miles)**

Ride along the Patagonia Steppe to the remote Argentinean mountain town of Corcovado. This town is so remote it is off the national grid and has their own small diesel generator. Here the Rio Corcovado flows through town.

**Day 7 Thursday: Palena, Argentina (18 miles rt)**

We cross at a remote border crossing into **Palena Chile**. This small cowboy town is the real deal. High snow capped peaks surround the area. Small ranches, horses, and ox carts add to the flavor. No international tourists here. This is off the beaten track. We stay at a small bed and breakfast.

**Day 8 Friday: Palena to Futaleufu, Argentina (52 miles)**

We ride deep into the heart of the Andes fortunately downhill. When we reach the Futaleufu River we turn back towards the town of Futaleufu. Our final night fiesta awaits us.

**Day 9 Saturday: Return to Capital City**

Depending on your connections you are now in Argentina ready 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. If you have a flight from Esquel you have the morning to enjoy and buy gifts in Trevelin before your 2 pm flight to Buenos Aires and the connection back to your home country.

**Day 10 Sunday: Return home**

**Accommodations:**

[Remote Ranches](#)

[Eco Camp Campo Tres Monjas](#)

[Wilderness Camping](#)

**Price per Person: \$1795.00 USD**

**Special Flexibilities:** Exchile will be flexible to make your trip a total success. The actual program for your custom trip will 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, while on your trip. We offer a free pick up on Sunday mornings at 9 am in Trevelin at your hotel, and drop off to your hotel in Trevelin, Argentina on Fridays at 9 pm. See the packing list of your activity, for the specific clothing that is required.

**Not Included:** Transportation to and from your home town, and your accommodations and meals in Trevelin, Argentina or alternate trip pick up point. You can reserve and prepay on the web for your transport from your final air destination, to and from your pick up/drop off point before and after your trip, or you can direct us to charge your visa card and do it for you. We highly recommended having Exchile make hotel reserves in Trevelin. (room capacity in this small village is limited). 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: November 15th to May 1st

Experience Needed: Intermediate biking

Physical Challenge: Medium

Cultural Experience: High

Nature Experience: Maximum

Comfort Rating: High

Max Trip Size: 14

Min Trip Size: 2

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.

### Travel Summary:

Days away from home:

**In:**

Final Flight Destination airport: Bariloche Argentina

Trip pick up point: Trevelin Hotel Argentina

Trip pick up date and time: Sunday 9:00 am

**Out:**

Trip drop off point: Trevelin Hotel Argentina

Trip drop off date and time: Friday 9:00 pm

Return Flight Departure airport: Esquel Argentina

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Map: [Interactive Travel Map](#)

Travel Route Alternatives: [Traveling through Chile and, or Argentina](#)

Air Fare: [Online quote](#) +1.866.498.0530

Luxury Bus Tickets Chile & Argentina: [Information and reserves](#)

**Lets GO!**

Reserve your trip: [Credit Card deposit](#)  
Travel Insurance: [Quote and or online purchase](#)  
Sign up process: [Sign up NOW!](#)  
Packing Lists: [Select your list to print.](#)  
Enroute guidance: [Print this and take it with you.](#)  
Type of Clothes ready for your trip pick up:

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Thank you,

Trip Designer: Nick Fechter, Dave Carrs & Chris Spelius

Direct line to my Desk +1.208.629.5032

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