



**ExChile Greatest Playground on Earth!
2010-2011-2012 season**

Trip Name: Swiftwater Rescue Training

Last Name:
First Name:
Email:
Phone:
in group:
Comments:

Overview:

Join our Whitewater Guide School to train for the Rescue 3 International Swiftwater Rescue Technician (WRT) - Level 1 on the Rio Futaleufu in Patagonia, Chile.

Rescue 3 International Swiftwater Rescue Technician (WRT) - Level 1

Earn an international certification in Swiftwater Rescue on one of the most prestigious and challenging rivers commercially run, the crown jewel of big water rivers, the Rio Futaleufu in Patagonia, Chile.

Our Rescue 3 International Swiftwater Rescue Technician course is designed to help rescuers aid others and at the same time help themselves. This course is not a clinic or workshops but a comprehensive, competency based program. The course is essential for recreational boaters, commercial guides, police, firefighters, lifesaving and search & rescue teams, or anyone who lives or works near moving water.

Our week-long swiftwater rescue course covers 30 hours of rescue training that includes: foot and body pins, boat pins and wraps, shallow river crossing, throw bag rescues, technical ropes, anchors and tension systems.

Another 30 hours include raft guide training on the Futaleufu and outfitter management training. For those in law enforcement or firefighting who don't want to participate in raft guide training, we can substitute other activities from our extensive [Adventure Vacation Program](#).

Participating in the class does not guarantee certification. You must pass all the requirements. This is an intense and physically demanding course. The hours for this six day period are from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.


Achieving certification on the Futaleufu River with Expediciones Chile and Jim Coffey, one of the top instructors in the industry, will be something that you can be extremely proud of. Gaining river guide training and a river manager's insight, which you can use with any company in the industry, is an additional bonus.

Our accommodations are at the one of a kind Tres Monjas Eco-Camp at the confluence of the Azul and Futaleufu Rivers. This eco-camp is a virtual island with a river on each side. The Futaleufu River running this time of year is between 15,000 to 18,000 cfs and the Rio Azul, on the other side of the camp, typically ranges between 500 and 2000 cfs. This gives us the settings for all of the rescue scenarios that we need to exercise.

Each student will get a chance on the safety-cat oars, the oars on the passenger raft, and as safety kayakers if they are kayakers with bomb-proof rolls running the Futaleufu and Azul. The training camp starts with a morning jog or hike at 7:00 am.

Our founder Chris Spelius says of Jim Coffey, our Rescue class instructor and director of River Safety: "Jim loves and lives the river business. He has taken an already impressive body of knowledge involving river safety and river management, and evolved it to a new level".

Send your river manager, head guide, or business owner and revitalize your company. You will be inspired and challenged by joining this course.



Jim Coffey,

Director of River Safety Expediciones Chile and Esprit Rafting (Canada)

Some swift water training topics that we will cover are:

- Preplanning rescue scenarios
- River and rescue communications
- Equipment needed for these types of environments
- Risk management
- Incident command system applied in a river context
- Working together: coordination of rafts, kayaks and land-based teams
- How to read large volume whitewater
- How to choose the safest lines
- Lining boats through rapids
- How to determine the best place to perform a rescue
- Ghost ride a raft (at Zeta, a usual portage)
- Rigging rafts and kayaks for rescue and/or flip and recovery
- Foot and body entrapment extrications
- Body searches
- The "V" -lower: a high-angle rescue technique
- High line Tyrolean and Telfer systems for rescue
- Rappelling and ascending a fixed line

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

Slideshows: [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 can take you on a beautiful drive along the Patagonian lakes and mountains to Esquel. It is 20 minutes taxi ride from the bus station to your hotel in Trevelin. If you fly direct to Esquel you can arrive in Trevelin (35 minute taxi ride from the airport) with some time to enjoy the area. Trevelin, Argentina is a Welsh mountain village just 45 minutes from the Futaleufu River in Chile. Trevelin is also serviced by a private transfer service direct from Bariloche airport (4 hrs) to your hotel in Trevelin. After you check into a hotel in this charming village you are walking distance to 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: Swiftwater Rescue Training

After a good breakfast we start with our three-day Swiftwater Rescue Technician class at Campo Tres Monjas. This swiftwater training course is approximately 30 hours total with 8 hours in the classroom and approximately 22 hours in the field. The close proximity of the river makes for more time spent working on drills and skills than getting there. The morning starts off in the classroom with a lecture. In the afternoon we are on the Rio Azul with rescue scenarios.

Day 4 Monday: Swiftwater Rescue Training

We will work the field rescue scenarios on the Rio Azul and the mini gorge upstream of the camp. Late in the afternoon (conditions permitting) we start guide training on the introduction section of the Rio Futaleufu. Participants of the class will be in paddle rafts with one of our oarsman in the rear mount for the class's first run down the Bridge to Bridge stretch of the Futaleufu. This evening we review the strategies of the run and decide who will start on the oars of the catarafts and rafts the following day.

Day 5 Tuesday: Swiftwater Rescue Training

The final day of Swiftwater Rescue Training will be held near the confluence of the Rio Azul and the Rio Futaleufu. After lunch we take our exam for certification. Later in the afternoon we descend the Bridge to Bridge section of the Futaleufu. We will take turns on the oars on some of the rapids as each participant has a chance of guiding the team through the Class III/IV rapids. Our guides will be on the oars as they guide us through for the first run of the Class V "Mas o Manos" and "Casa de Piedra."

Day 6 Wednesday: Raft Guide Training - Bridge to Bridge*

Two entire training runs on the Heart of the Futaleufu. Rescue class participants will alternate between the oars on the catarafts and the stern mount oars on the paddle rafts with other participants as their crew.

Day 7 Thursday: Raft Guide Training - Terminator*

We start at Campo Tres Monjas as we head down for a complete descent of the lower Futaleufu; 21 kilometers of challenging whitewater. We group scout the "Terminator" as our team threads the needle. After this Class V rapid, we continue to rotate our team through the oars increasing your time guiding oars. This day is a full day of rafting, taking out after the "El Macal" section, passing the technical Class V "Casa de Piedra" and "Mas o Menos" rapids. During dinner we will have the opportunity for video review of our runs, critique and diagrams of strategies and memorization of the danger spots to avoid. We will discuss the action plan for the following day of rapids and how to get the team around the two rapids we will portage.

Day 8 Friday: Raft Guide Training - Infierno Canyon (Class V)* /on to Trevelin, Argentina

We take our entire class for an early morning descent of the world class "Infierno Canyon" (dependent on water levels). This descent will require the best efforts and attention of the entire team. We will ghost raft the Class V "Zeta" and the "Throne Room" rapids. We will take out at Camp, deflate rafts, and carry gear back to our vehicles, learning every part of being a guide. Our vehicles will be waiting to take us across the border and into Trevelin after the Graduation ceremonies. Check into your hotel, take a shower and change clothes before enjoying your last night in Patagonia. There are several outstanding and reasonably priced restaurants in Trevelin that we can recommend. Relax, recover and look back on the exciting week of kayaking before heading back the following morning.

Day 9 Saturday: Return to Capital City

Depending on your connections you are now are 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:

[Eco Camp Campo Tres Monjas](#)

Price per Person: \$1995.00 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 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: December 6th to March 15th

Spring and Fall Colors Season: October 15th to December 6th & March 15th April 15th

Experience Needed: Familiarity with whitewater

Physical Challenge: Moderate

Cultural Experience: Medium

Nature Experience: High

Comfort Rating: Moderate

Max Trip Size: 8

Min Trip Size: 2

Regions visited: Futaleufu Valley

Lakes, rivers and sites: Espolon, Azul, Futaleufu, Palena, Corcovado

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

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:

Thank you,

Trip Designer: Nick Fechter, Dave Carrs & Chris Spelius

Direct line to my Desk +1.208.629.5032