



Visit breathtaking fjords, impossible glaciers and beautiful forest trails along the Carretera Austral, with luxury accommodation along the way.

## Day 1: Punta Arenas to Puyuhuapi Lodge

Upon arrival in Punta Arenas, meet your local guide at the pier for a short drive and local flight to Balmaceda. When you arrive your journey continues on a panoramic drive to the regional capital of Coyhaique – known as the gateway to remote Patagonia. Enjoy luncheon at this adventurer's staging post before heading northbound on the Carretera Austral to Puyuhuapi. Known by some as 'the road after the end of the road', the Carretera Austral runs for 1240km from Puerto Montt in the north to Villa O'Higgins in the south. During your drive you will see mountains and rivers, such as the Portezuelo Queulat (Queulat Pass), the Rio Cisnes Valley and numerous waterfalls; several photo stops will be made along the way. Reaching the beautiful Puyuhuapi Fjord a catamaran awaits to take you to the idyllically situated Puyuhuapi Lodge, a modern hotel and spa complex. You will have time to check-in, relax and explore before dinner is provided at the hotel's restaurant with wonderful views over the fjord.

## Day 2: Queulat National Park

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before you set off to Queulat National Park, a brief drive away. The park's biggest attraction is the spectacular Ventisquero Colgante, or 'Hanging Glacier'. Hanging above a ravine of bare rock, the brilliant blue glacier dominates a valley formed by mountains covered in Valdivian temperate rainforest, and feeds a river at the bottom of the valley as it melts. The water melting from the glacier creates two towering waterfalls as it drops 600 metres on top of a huge slab of angled bedrock, and then flows underneath what appears to be a permanent avalanche cone. Upon arrival at the park, leave your vehicle for a gentle guided walk along the river to the Laguna Témpanos, with a beautiful view of the lake fed by the hanging glacier in the distance. Afterwards, return to Puyuhuapi Lodge for luncheon and have the rest of the day at your leisure to relax and enjoy the hotel's many facilities or take any other optional activity that the hotel offers. Dinner is included before you retire for the evening.

## Day 3: Puyuhuapi to Yelcho Lake

After breakfast, it's time to continue your adventure along the Carretera Austral, heading northbound passing by Puyuhuapi town, an important part of German colonisation of Patagonia Aysén. Keep your cameras handy as you continue past the town of Santa Lucía, and the Palena River. Arriving at the breathtaking Yelcho Lake, check in to the picturesque alpine-style Lago Yelcho Lodge. Luncheon and dinner is included and you have the rest of the day at leisure to enjoy a relaxing walk or take an optional activity offered by the lodge.

## Day 4: Yelcho Lake to Pumalín Park

After breakfast, bid farewell to Lago Yelcho Lodge and return to the Carretera Austral for the 100km journey to Caleta Gonzalo. Here you'll visit Pumalín Park. The Pumalín project aimed to protect 17.000 hectares of endangered forest, and on 18 March 2017 was gifted to the Chilean state and amalgamated with another 4,000,000 hectares to form South America's largest natural park. Protecting pristine Valdivian temperate rainforest, Pumalín Park contains trails, campgrounds, and public facilities that allow thousands of visitors a year to experience this majestic landscape. Take the Alerces Trail, an easy and level loop-trail suitable for all ages and fitness levels. It is approximately 1km long and passes under an ancient alerzal – a tree of the pine family. Signs along the way provide information on the ecology and history of the region, which will help you to appreciate these ancient and admired trees. Luncheon, dinner and accommodation at Cabañas Caleta Gonzalo within the park is included.

## Day 5: Pumalín Park to Puerto Montt

On your final day you'll have breakfast at the Cabañas Caleta Gonzalo before taking a short transfer to the airdrome of Nuevo Chaiten, for a 40 minute flight to Puerto Montt. Upon arrival, your driver will meet you for the return journey to Queen Victoria.

**Note:** The booking deadline for this overland tour is 2nd December. Any bookings after this time will be on a request basis only. There is a strict minimum and maximum participation. Please ensure you book the correct tour code for the accommodation you require (Double = PUQ803 Single = PUQ804). Prices shown on your record of shore excursions are per person, not per room. Once your booking is confirmed, any cancellation made after bookings close will incur a 100% cancellation fee. This tour will depart from Punta Arenas on the 15th February and return on the 19th February in Puerto Montt. Please check your embarkation/disembarkation dates carefully before booking this overland. Flight times and further details will be advised on board and the hotels listed are subject to change. Be prepared for early morning starts, lengthy days, climatic changes and delays at airports. This is an inclusive excursion programme. No refunds will be given for any unused portion.

**The fare includes:** transport by coach, economy class air travel, sightseeing and entrances as described, meals as stated and hotel accommodation. One glass of house wine will be included with luncheon and evening meals. Those wishing to order alternative beverages will be charged separately.

**The Fare does not include:** items of a personal nature such as refreshments, telephone calls, laundry, gratuities, room service, fees for doctor's visits and medication and travel insurance. Additional activities offered are not inclusive on this excursion. **As this overland tour involves leaving the ship and re-joining in another port or country, your visa requirements may vary dependent on your nationality and the duration of your stay. It is your responsibility to ensure you are in receipt of the correct documentation, we recommend you check on the applicable government website for visa and entry requirements.** Some nationals may be required to pay a reciprocity fee on arrival at the Airport, please check in advance and carry cash for the fee if necessary.

**What to pack:** please remember your passport (in your hand luggage) and any medication you require. Luggage limit is one case per person with a maximum weight of 15kg. Comfortable walking/hiking shoes. Weather is unpredictable in this area, layered waterproof clothing and insect repellent are recommended.