



BASE CAMP

Study the effects of global warming while paddling through sea ice and hiking across a glacier. Discover the details of the local ecosystem while exploring an endemic forest, observing wildlife, and discussing current issues with local experts. We will get up close and personal with Patagonia by immersing ourselves into its wilderness, and into its culture, combining 'once in a life time' outdoor experiences, local knowledge, special access to unbelievable places, and the comfort of permanent camps on the most exciting learning adventure created.

Inside of this regions largest national park, our camp will be at a remote cabin tucked away inside of the forest at the end of a protected fjord where a tide water glacier falls from the Northern Ice Field into the ocean. To arrive, we will travel by boat one day and one night through amazing fjords. We will fill our days by venturing away to paddle through sea ice witnessing this immense glacier from our kayaks, hike along trails inside of the dense temperate rain forest, step onto the glacier for a day of exploration, and observe a rich mix of both land and marine wildlife. We will combine these experiences with a mix of formal and informal classes and demonstrations about the local environment, history, and culture, relating this information and the experiences to gain a better understanding of international topics such as global warming. During the nights, we will enjoy the comforts of a cabin and a great camp.

By extending this trip, we can add a mini expedition to cross a historical indigenous path and paddle a protected waterway to access a very little known beach where you will feel the incredible force of the open Pacific Ocean colliding with the Northern Ice Field and the Andes Mountain Range. This is an incredibly powerful place that will leave you in awe.

OUR COMMITMENT

What we aim to offer are unique experiences, which connect people to a profound sense of discovery, exploration, wilderness, and culture. We have been so deeply impacted by expedition and wilderness adventures that it has become our passion to share this style of travel and fun with as many people as possible. We create programs for a wide range of people including the local community, university students, companies, organizations, clubs, and individuals from all walks of life and we strongly believe in the positive benefit each person gains during such an experience. As an expedition we come together as an elevated group to share and learn from each other, in places where we find a pure connection to the simple rhythms of nature, push ourselves to new limits, expand our comfort zones, meet new challenges, build deep relations, experience a sense of achievement, and return with a wider perspective and understanding of ourselves and the world we live in.

We trust that each of you will find these trips to be truly unique, fun, and positively impacting. Our hope is that each of you returns with an active interest to keep exploring and carry the skills gained here on to creating and sharing your own wilderness experiences.

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WHAT TO EXPECT

This is an active learning and travel experience based at a very remote national park ranger station where we will be surrounded by an incredible mix of sea, forest, mountains, and glaciers. Each person will be an active participant and integral member of the group as we day trip into the backcountry by foot and kayak to get to know up close and personal these diverse environments. With each excursion, you will begin learning the basics and as the trip progresses, your comfort and skill level in this environment will increase and an incredible outdoor experience will begin to unfold which we will match with a series of informative classes and demonstrations about the same environment we are traveling through.

The elements of Patagonia and of the expedition itself, such as weather, terrain, and group dynamics, can demand hard work, commitment, a positive attitude, and flexibility, and our activities will be determined to some extent by the elements. A day could consist of being inside of a kayak for several hours, hiking on and off trail with a small backpack, walking on top of a glacier, enjoying the views, observing marine life, taking photos, or studying a map of the region. A more dynamic day could require focus, patience, and teamwork as we brave the patagonia winds and rains. We could also spend entire days in camp, waiting for calm conditions, exploring the forest, cooking delicious meals, watching a sunset, or enjoying a fun conversation that could take us anywhere. We will also have the opportunity to meet the people of this region, from park guards, to local guides and instructors, to small town visits surrounding our stay, providing a unique and personal cultural interaction. Together, we will create each day, building a completely unique travel experience.

You will meet Patagonia on this trip. Expect an impacting experience where you will learn outdoor travel skills, develop deep relationships, and intimately connect to an incredible and diverse environment.

ITINERARY

Itineraries will be developed specifically for each group and we will be able to work together to create them. We will include as many details as possible in these itineraries and during the expedition, follow them as closely as the unpredictable elements of Patagonia and the expedition itself allows. We must remain flexible and open to change as well as to problem solving. These are exciting aspects of any true expedition into remote wilderness and part of what makes each experience unique. Contact us if you would like to see a sample day to day itinerary for a trip.

OUTDOOR LIVING

The excursions on this trip will be through rugged backcountry and we will carry everything we need as we will be away from facilities. Our gear will be carefully selected for a wide range of conditions and situations. At our camp, we will sleep in either the cabin or in tents. The cabin will be mainly used for cooking and formal presentations, but will offer a great shelter for anytime it is needed. We will live safely and comfortably in all conditions and throughout the trip we will follow the highest environmental standard, practicing techniques to minimize our impact.

INSTRUCTION

We are professional expedition leaders, outdoor educators, and fun, dynamic teachers who love to share our passions. We look forward to sharing with you all we know of this place we love and to teach you high quality wilderness travel skills that you can use for a lifetime. We are also excited to know and learn from each expedition member as well as gain an immense amount of valuable lessons from nature itself.

Experience will be your educational tool as you discover hands-on the details of Patagonia and wilderness travel. In the beginning, you will receive enough formal instruction for us to get started as an expedition. As the trip progresses, more of the instruction will come informally when just the right moment presents itself and daily through experience, practice, demonstrations, and interactions. We want to create an exciting, fun, and relaxed atmosphere where you feel comfortable seeking any amount of instruction, coaching, or knowledge that you desire. We also embrace those moments of an expedition when we can each find our own space and enjoy completely individual experiences.

We keep our group sizes small and our instructor ratio high to maximize our travel and educational experience. We want you to leave this trip not only with new insights on yourself, this place, and its culture, but also to have the tools and confidence to continue venturing into the wilderness, seeking out and sharing more of your own outdoor adventures.

These are some of the topics you will learn about on this trip:

- Local and International environmental issues
- Flora and Fauna of the region
- Local land management
- Patagonia culture, traditions and history
- Glacier dynamics
- Wilderness travel skills
- Glacier hike and kayak skills
- Minimum impact practices

WEATHER AND CHALLENGES

Patagonia is known for its dynamic conditions, which can change from one extreme to the next at any moment. We operate during all seasons of the year but can on any given day experience blazing sun, pounding rain, strong winds, and snow. Any of these conditions could last for a few minutes or the duration of the trip. We could find silent, calm conditions allowing us to paddle through glacial ice, or we could find windy rainy storm conditions that could keep us sharing stories or exploring the rain forest. Although an incredible experience will culminate under any conditions, weather is always a factor in Patagonia and will constantly be observed and evaluated to make the decisions that will ensure our safety.

We will be in the open expanse of the Patagonia wilderness and some of you may experience the greatest sense of space ever imagined, but we will be traveling and living in a tight group which can present its own set of challenges to any expedition.

There will be plenty of moments to find you own space but we will spend most of the time together as a cohesive group. We must remain open and positive while sharing this experience.

Parts of the trip can be hard physically, paddling and hiking in rough terrain, or being out for hours in rough weather. Other parts of the trip can be hard mentally and emotionally as well; Being out of contact with the rest of the world for the duration of the trip, away from facilities, and confronting new situations and challenges with a group of people you may have just met. All of these challenges are natural elements of true wilderness expeditions and together we will meet them, creating solutions in the moment which will reward us with an incredible sense of achievement and a confidence to tackle challenges in unknown and powerful environments, providing tools for all of life's endeavors.

IS IT FOR ME?

There is no experience necessary for these expeditions. Our minimum age requirement is 18 and all participants should be willing to meet the physical and mental demands as described above. We believe that anybody with a commitment to the expedition, a positive and open attitude, and the energy to be part of an incredible outdoor travel experience can become an integral member of this trip. If you have read and understood the above information and are excited about joining us, we look forward to meeting you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be glad to help you in any way possible.

GEAR

We will provide high quality and carefully selected equipment specific to this expedition. This will include kayak, hike, navigation, and safety related gear (kayaks, paddles, pfd, charts, etc.) and camping related gear (tents, tarps, stoves, etc.) Each participant must arrive with all the personal gear according to a detailed list that we will provide. This will include items such as a sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and clothes for a variety of conditions such as warm layers and a rain layer.

PRICE AND DATES

We run expeditions all year long. The summer months are December through February with winter lasting June through August. Together we can coordinate the specific dates that work best for your trip. We recommend planning early to assure availability and we book trips up to one year in advance.

The prices you see on our web site are approximations and are posted to give you an idea of the possible cost per person. With each expedition being custom and each group size being distinct, we will design your trip before giving you a final price quote. This price will cover all necessary cost within the dates of the expedition, including instructors, food, transportation, accommodations, trip planning, and expedition gear. Each participant must arrange and purchase his/her own travel and accommodations that are not within the dates of the expedition, as well as arrive with the necessary personal gear according to the provided gear list.

TRAVEL

All expeditions unless otherwise stated will begin and end in the town of Coyhaique, located in the XI region of Chile. International flights into Chile arrive at the capital city, Santiago, from where you can fly to Balmaceda, in the XI region. A short bus ride from Balmaceda will take you to Coyhaique. Participants are responsible for arranging their own travel to arrive at least one day before and depart at least one day after the expedition dates. Each participant will need a valid passport and appropriate visa for the duration of the trip.

BOOKING AND CONTACT

If you are interested in one of our expeditions, you can begin by contacting us through our contact page found on the web site, by email, or by phone. We are excited to hear from you and will be happy to discuss our programs, answer all questions you may have, or simply chat about Patagonia.

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TERMS & CONDITIONS

1) PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION

Your reservation becomes secure once we receive a non - refundable deposit of 30% of the total trip price. The balance due must be paid before the trip start date.

In the case of non-payment of the balance by the due date, we will treat the booking as cancelled by the Client. In the case of calling off the reservation, you should notify The Patagonia Expedition Co. by email or phone as soon as possible.

No refunds will be made if you voluntarily leave a trip for any reason after the trip has begun. The same applies if you leave a trip or cannot fully participate in a trip due to injury or illness. Refunds will be at the discretion of The Patagonia Expedition Co. if you are involuntarily forced to leave a trip for any reason. No refunds will be made for any services not utilized.

The Patagonia Expedition Co. reserves the right to cancel any trip if events arise that could change the integrity of the trip. In such a case, The Patagonia Expedition Co. will refund the full amount paid of the trip price, including all deposits paid.

2) INSURANCE

Travel insurance is recommended for all participants. This travel insurance should cover adequate personal accident, medical, evacuation, cancellation, and all other expenses that might arise as a result of loss, damage, injury, delay or inconvenience occurring to the client. Clients are responsible for arranging their own insurance.

3) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK/ WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Assumption of Risk: I am aware that travel in wilderness and remote areas, and the participation of any activities offered by The Patagonia Expedition Co. involve risk and that medical attention in such areas may be slow or impossible to obtain as quickly as the situation may demand. I freely accept and fully assume all risks, dangers and hazards associated with participating in a trip with The Patagonia Expedition Co.

I understand that the trip could be modified at any stage due to weather, and any other conditions or sudden incidents that could affect the security of the group. The trip leader retains the right to make ultimate decisions in such moments and if the trip cannot continue or has to finish early, it does not mean any refund.

Waiver and release of liability: For the purpose of this trip and its related activities, I agree to waive any and all claims that I have or may in the future have against The Patagonia Expedition Co. and agree to their release from any and all liability for any loss, damage, expense or injury that I may suffer as a result of an The Patagonia Expedition Co. trip due to any cause whatsoever.

By agreeing to these terms and conditions you accept and fully assume the risks outlined in the above paragraphs. You agree to release The Patagonia Expedition Co. from any liabilities connected to these risks.

By reserving a trip with The Patagonia Expedition Co., I affirm that I have read, understand, and agree to the complete terms and conditions stated here, including payment and cancellation policies, the acknowledgment of risk, and waiver and release of liability.