THE BEAUTY OF PATAGONIA
Fitz Roy, Perito Moreno Glacier, Torres del Paine
October 22nd – Nov 1st, 2027

Few places in the world have captivated the imagination of explorers and travelers like Patagonia. Almost 500 years ago, the first Europeans sailed through on four ships captained by Ferdinand Magellan. But this vast region was one of the last on the planet to be settled and remains pristine and sparsely populated, protected by the harsh, cold climate. Sailors from around the world continue to test their luck and courage in these harrowing straits. Mountaineers stage elaborate excursions through rugged territories, only to be beaten back, like their predecessors, by unrelenting storms. What seduces so many people to Patagonia is the idea of the "remote" -- indeed, the very notion of traveling to the “End of the World”. It is a seduction, but also an illusion. After all, on a globe, everywhere is both the center and the end of the earth at the same time. And people do live there -- very few people, but those who do are hardy survivors.

A harsh, wind-whipped climate and Patagonia's geological curiosities have produced some of the most beautiful natural attractions in the world: the granite towers of Torres del Paine and Mount Fitz Roy; the Northern and Southern Patagonian Ice Fields with their colossal glaciers (the greatest masses of ice and sweet water reserves outside the polar caps); the flat steppe broken by multicolored sedimentary bluffs; and the emerald fjords and lakes that glow an impossible sea-foam blue. In the end, this is what compels most travelers to plan a trip to Patagonia. Beyond landscapes, the region's cowboys (called gauchos in Argentina and baqueanos in Chile) lend a certain air of romanticism. Top the natural allure with an excellent array of new lodges and guiding services, and it's more appealing, and easier than ever, to journey to the "End of the World."

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival - Buenos Aires

You will be met at the airport and transfer to our Hotel on Palermo neighborhood.

Day 2: Buenos Aires Walking Tour- San Telmo market / Experience the Milonga

Imagine a city that has, the architecture, the café culture, the theaters, the steakhouses, the wines, the nightlife, and the friendly spirit. That’s a seemingly mythical place your mind has conjured. It’s real, and it’s called Buenos Aires.

Walking through the city offers the incomparable pleasure of opening ourselves to spontaneity and allows us to explore the whole universe in its streets. A private guide will lead us through the interesting streets of the city, discovering buildings, cafes, stories, and the people — the porteños. Walking at your own

pace, you become part of this incredible metropolis, living an authentic experience as a local.

Walking is a truly enriching experience. We can discover time and space from another perspective, and you observe things differently.

The San Telmo Feria and la Boca with the most vibrant energy of Buenos Aires

Lunch will be in a local restaurant and free time in the afternoon.

In the evening we will have dinner in a local restaurant and visit a milonga.
A milonga is a social event or location for tango dancing (tango dance parties). So just before our visit to the milonga, we will have the opportunity to learn some basic steps of the tango. The Milonga is a musical genre that originated in the Río de la Plata areas of Argentina and Uruguay. It was very popular in the 1870s. It was derived from an earlier style of singing known as the payada de contrapunto. The songs were set to a lively 2/4 tempo, as are most milongas.

Day 3, October 26th: Buenos Aires

In the morning we will visit some of the most important and interesting sites in the city that we didn't see the previous day - the Jewish neighborhood, and the neighborhood with all the international embassies.
Lunch in a local restaurant and free afternoon to explore Buenos Aires on your own.

Buenos Aires:

Buenos Aires is the capital and most populous city of Argentina. The city is located on the western shore of the estuary of the Río de la Plata, on the South American continent's southeastern coast. "Buenos Aires" can be translated as "fair winds" or "good airs". The Greater Buenos Aires urban area, which also includes several Buenos Aires Province districts, constitutes the fourth most populous metropolitan area in the Americas, with a population of around 17 million. It is known for its preserved Spanish/European-style architecture and rich cultural life. Buenos Aires is a multicultural city, home to multiple ethnic and religious groups. Several languages are spoken in the city, in addition to Spanish, contributing to its cultural diversity. In the last 150 years the city, and the country in general, have been a major recipient of millions of immigrants from all over the world, making it a melting pot where ethnic groups live together making it one of the most culturally rich countries in South America.

Day 4: Buenos Aires to El Calafate and to Estancia el Galpon del Glaciar

We will transfer to the Buenos Aires airport for the flight to El Calafate. We will visit this picturesque Patagonian city and have lunch in a local restaurant.

After lunch we will ride for 35 minutes to our home for the next 3 days, Estancia El Galpon del Glaciar, located on the coast of the Argentinian lake. It use to be part of the very old Estancia Alice. Amazing views of the Andes mountain range and the Patagonian steppe.
After the check in we will gather in the shearing shed built in 1912, to start a hike in the Estancia to learn about the history of the place. We will enjoy magnificent views close to the Argentinian lake, possibly take part in a sheep heard-

ing and watch a shearing demonstration by the gaucos and their trained dogs. Dinner - Patagonian amb in an beautiful landscape.

El Calafate:

El Calafate is a town near the edge of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field. It's mainly known as the gateway to Los Glaciares National Park, home to the massive Perito Moreno Glacier, whose ever-shifting icy landscape is popular for hiking and sightseeing. The name of the city is derived from a little bush with yellow flowers and dark blue berries that is very common in Patagonia. The history of El Calafate began in the first decades of the twentieth century. The town was officially founded in 1927 by the government of Argentina to promote settlement, but it was the creation of nearby Perito Moreno National Park in 1937 that sparked growth and the building of better road access. El Calafate experiences a cold semi-arid climate with cool to warm, very dry summers and cool to cold, slightly wetter winters. The city's extremes of cold and heat are moderated by the influence of the very large lake - Lago Argentino. The waterfront of the city is located on a large shallow bay that is often frozen in the winter, allowing residents to ice skate. In the spring and summer it receives may migratory birds including the Chilean flamingos. The highest temperature recorded was 87.F, while the lowest recorded temperature was 1.4F on July 27, 2016. ***In October the average temperature is 57 F****.*

Day 5: Lake Argentino/ Los Glaciares National Park, Uppsala, Spegazzini and Perito Moreno Glaciers.

After breakfast we will travel 40 minutes to Puerto Bandera dock. We will sail on a cruise ship around the channels that connect us with the Patagonian continental ice fields. The vessel accesses the ice-floes barrier lying close to the main wall of the Uppsala Glacier and the Spegazzini Glacier. Sailing northwest on Lago Argentino, we will sail through Punta Bandera, Punta Avellaneda, Devil's mouth and Uppsala Glacier. Then we sail southward towards Canal Spegazzini and Spegazzini Glacier rising 440 feet above sea level, and Uppsala Glacier covering an entire valley, with an approximate extension of 8,234 sq. feet and a length of 33 miles.
We will have a light lunch aboard the ship.

After lunch we will dock at Puesto de las Vacas (*Cows Point*) for a guided short and easy hike. Then we will keep navigating for a while to disembark, and follow the path very close to the glacier Perito Moreno, to see impressive views, and hear the constant ice breaking thunder around us. The Glacier is a natural wonder that rises 190 feet above sea level and has 3.1 miles of waterfront that freezes the atmosphere, it was declared a Humankind Natural Heritage Site by UNESCO, and is considered the 8th Natural Wonder. It is one of the most imposing glaciers on earth. It is surrounded by forest and mountains in Los Glaciares National Park, in the Patagonia region of Argentina which also has 356 other glaciers. Perito Moreno Glacier is impressive due to its extension and height, its easy access, continuous advance, loud loosening of huge icebergs, and the spectacular rupture of the wall of ice (calving).

Our private van will take us back to the Estancia.

Los Glaciares National Park

The Patagonian Ice Field is, after Antarctica, the largest concentration of ice on the planet. Its glaciers descend from 4,900 - 650 feet above sea level enabling unique access and viewing of the glaciers. The Glacier's National Park offers a magnificent combination of forest, lakes, mountains, ice and steppes with over 356 glaciers. The most renowned being, Perito Moreno and Spegazzini glaciers,

Los Glaciares National Park covers the region known as Andes Australes of the Argentine territory, in the Southwest of Santa Cruz province on the shared border with Chile. It was created in 1937 to preserve this vast region dominated by glaciers, with native sub Antarctic forest and a large number of endemic species of plants and animals. This unique natural wonder has been declared a "World Heritage Site of Humanity" by UNESCO in 1981. The National Park includes a scenario of mountains, lakes and forests, a large portion of the Andes Mountains covered with ice and snow to the west and the arid Patagonian steppe to the east.

Los Glaciares owes its name to the presence of numerous glaciers that are fed by the massive South Patagonian Ice Field - the largest ice field in the Southern Hemisphere after Antarctica - which covers almost half of the Park. Also known as Southern Patagonian Icecap, it feeds 47 large glaciers, of which 13 descend towards the Atlantic Ocean. In addition there are more than a hundred smaller glaciers independent of the main ice field.

While the large masses of ice are usually found on our planet at more than 2,500 meters above sea level (8200ft), the glaciers of Santa Cruz province have their origin at only 1,500 meters. (4900ft.) and descend to 200 meters (656ft.), allowing an easy and close access like in no other region in the world. The melting of this immense water system feeds the two great lakes, the Argentino Lake and the Viedma Lake, which flow down to the Atlantic Ocean crossing the whole province through the Santa Cruz River.

Day 6: Estancia, El Calafate, Horseback riding

We will have a free morning to enjoy the Estancia, resting or hiking in the self guided trails, or going to El Calafate town to visit art galleries, local stores, and have lunch in town.

Back to La Estancia where we will offer horseback riding to the Centinela River where we can observe local fauna, such as black eagles, condors, car acaras, loic hares. Dinner a la carte

Day 7: El Calafate to Torres del Paine in Chile

We will drive for 5:30 hours approximately with possible extra time depending on crossing the border with all the customs, security and passport checks. The trip will take us through a very uninhabited and wild area of the Patagonian Steppe. After crossing the border the landscape will change as we will be closer to the Andes Mountains. We will see glacier lakes and beautiful snowcapped

peaks. We will arrive to Rio Serrano Hotel, very close to the Torres del Paine National Park entrance.
Lunch and free time to hike in the surroundings of the hotel, to enjoy the facilities and the amazing views from our hotel - horseback riding optional.

Torres del Paine National Park

Torres del Paine National Park is located in the southernmost part of Chile serving as one of the 11 areas protecting the Patagonia region, Magallanes, and Chilean part of Antarctica. Four of the protected areas are national parks with Torres del Paine encompassing an area of 700.43 square miles (1,814.1 sq. km) by itself. The Paine mountain range is the heart of the park which has a series of three spectacular granite summits alining together in a row creating the picturesque Torres Del Paine. The three summits are known individually as Torres d'Agostini, Torres Central, and Torres Monzino reaching heights of over 8,200ft. (2,500 m).

The surrounding valley landscape is amplified with lakes and glaciers. Grey, Pehoe, Nordenskjold, and Sarmiento are the most prominent lakes with Grey, Pingo, and Tyndall serving as the most significant glaciers. The Paine River is the primary river traversing through the national park.
Torres Del Paine features four distinct ecological zones which include Andean Desert, Magellanic subpolar forest, Pre-Andean shrub land, and Patagonian steppe. The area is home to cougars, foxes, guanacos, and Chilean huemul (deer). The national park also is a bird lover's paradise featuring 15 different birds of prey. The Andean condor is the pinnacle of the well-known species. The Chilean flamingo, Magellanic woodpecker, coscoroba swan, and Magellan goose are some of the other popular bird species.

Day 8: Torres Del Paine:

We will go to the east side of the park to reach the Basin of Paine River. Then we will go to El Salto Grande viewpoint where the waters of the Nordenskjold Lake flow into Pehoe Lake, with imposing views of the Cuernos (*horns*) of Del Paine Mountain. Continuing on, we will have amazing views of Sarmiento Lake and the Patagonian Steppe, a place inhabited with guanacos the smaller relative to the llamas, foxes and endemic birds. At the end, we will have a magnificent landscape view of Torres Del Paine. We will have lunch in a refuge of the Park, then in the afternoon we will continue to the west arriving to the Grey Ranger Station. If the weather conditions are favorable we will do a short hike in one of the trails of the park. We will hike back to the van which will take us to our hotel. Free time, rest, dinner at the hotel.

Day 9: Torres Del Paine - Puerto Natales - Santiago

After breakfast, we will drive for 1:30 hours to Puerto Natales, the southernmost city in Chilean Patagonia and the gateway to cruise in Antarctica. From here we will fly for 3:50 hours to Santiago, the capital of Chile, arriving around 5:15 pm.

Transfer to the Hotel Cumbres Lastarria to rest after a long travel day. The hotel is very comfortable and is located in a very nice bohemian neighborhood, with many restaurants, bars, shops.

Day 10: Santiago City Tour

We will explore the historic and modern sides of Santiago on this comprehensive 4 hour tour. We will visit impressive monuments and colonial buildings like the Plaza de Armas, the Mapuche Monument, Post Office, City Hall, and Cathedral. Learn about Chile's military coup as you visit La Moneda, the government palace. Further highlights include the commercial city center, the fish market, and the bohemian Bellavista neighborhood. For lunch we will explore the local gastronomy in the iconic Central Market.
In the afternoon we will visit Cousiño Macul, a winery with 150+ years of wine-making tradition, and tour the vines, the cellars and the museum before finishing with an incredible wine tasting.

Farewell dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 11: Transfer to the Santiago Airport for international connections.

Price: $4,680 per person (double occupancy)
Single supplement: $2,100

Initial deposit of $2000 will confirm your space. Second payment of $1000 is due July 22nd 2027. Balance of $1680 is due to August 22nd 2027.

Reservations: All reservations are subject to availability. For information about how to reserve your space and make your deposit for the journey, please contact Linda Leyerle at **lleyerle@aol.com.** In Argentina, it is not possible to reserve rooms or park entrance fees without the traveler's passport information. Linda will give you details about how to get that to us. Time is of the essence so please respond as soon as possible if you are interested in this journey.

Cost includes: Private tour bus or van for travel during the journey, all the breakfasts, one lunch in Mercado Central in Santiago, one lunch (on the Glaciers Cruise); three a la carte dinners in estancia El Galpon del Glaciar. Hotels, transportation from airport/hotel/airport, in Buenos Aires, Calafate, Torres Del Paine, Santiago, park entrance fees, local guide to share history and cultural information. Airfare for the flights - Buenos Aires-Calafate in Argentina and Puerto Natales to Santiago in Chile. Daniel Koupermann as a Tour Leader.

Cost does NOT include: Roundtrip international airfare to Buenos Aires, meals not noted above, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages, tips for the local guides and private bus driver, personal items, souvenirs. **To clarify: Only the meals mentioned in the previous paragraph are INCLUDED in the cost of this journey. The other meals are to be paid by each traveler.**

This journey is for individuals ready to have an educational/experiential experience. Persons with physical or psychiatric challenges may find this journey too

difficult or uncomfortable. **We recommend a visit with your doctor at least 6 weeks in advance of departure. No immunizations are required unless you will be entering Chile or Argentina from a country with Yellow Fever – in which case you will need a Yellow Fever immunization and be prepared to show proof. You will be from sea level to 3,000 feet elevation the most.**

No visas are required for most people entering Argentina (US, Canadian, EU, Australia and New Zealand citizens). If you have questions about this, please let Linda know. **Your passport must be valid at least 6 months after the date of your return (May 2nd 2028).**

Once you have reserved your space, we will send you more information – packing lists, info about the country, etc. You will be fully prepared for the journey. Also, Linda is always available by email for any questions or concerns – whatever they may be.

Cancellations & Refunds: Due to availability of space on our journey and the time required to process trip reservations, **funds will not be refundable after-July 22nd 2027. We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance in order to protect yourself in case extenuating circumstances force you to cancel your trip. There are many options to choose from on-line.**

Responsibilities: ANDEAN PATHS reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a participant at any time, and to make changes in the itinerary whenever deemed necessary for the comfort, convenience, and safety of our participants, and to cancel a journey at any time. In the event a journey is cancelled, ANDEAN PATHS shall have no responsibility beyond the refund of monies paid to it by program participants as listed. By registering, the participant agrees that neither ANDEAN PATHS nor their affiliates shall be liable for any damages, loss or expense occasioned by any act or omission by any supplier providing services to any program participant. Reasons that Andean Paths might cancel a program include, but are not limited to, issues around safety due to impassable roads, protests in Argentina, or similar unforeseen events.

By Andean Paths ©