



Specializing for 30 years in customized nature, cultural & adventure tours to Latin America

ARGENTINA

Custom Sample Itinerary

Buenos Aires, Ushuaia & Patagonia Fiords Cruise

11 days/10 nights

(can be adjusted longer or shorter according to preference)

[Map of South America](#) (interactive links)

[Argentina Destination Map](#)



Trip Rating: Easy to Moderate Walking, Cultural and Wildlife Adventure, Grade (II) - This active trip includes lodge and cruise based outdoor excursions and nature hikes according to interest at elevations below 2,000 ft elev. Scenic overland travel is sometimes on dirt roads. Ideal for travelers seeking superb mountain scenery, iconic landscapes, natural history, expert guides, friendly locals, great food and fine accommodations!




A personalized guided trip with your own private guide and vehicle/driver in Buenos Aires and Ushuaia. On the expedition cruise, you'll have an all-inclusive stay with daily excursions led by on-site expert guides in small groups with other guests.

Introduction: As a gateway and cultural hub of Argentina, **Buenos Aires** is a lively and cosmopolitan capital known for its cultural sites, art galleries, distinct neighborhoods with tree-lined streets to explore, tango shows, steak dinners and amazing wine.





Tierra del Fuego or Land of Fire is a region at the ends of the earth in southern Argentina. Discover tranquil surroundings with snow-capped mountains, dense forests and deep blue lakes - a virtual paradise for natural history enthusiasts! Enjoy nature walks and a driving visit to Tierra del Fuego National Park to look for condors plus a short cruise along the shores of the Beagle Channel to observe a variety of wildlife such as marine birds, sea lions and fur seals. On an island walk, you can find archeological remains of the Yamanas, the aborigines who followed a traditional way of life in Tierra del Fuego in the early 1,800's.

From a comfortable **Australis expedition cruise** ship, depart Ushuaia to retrace the route of Charles Darwin when he sailed these waters aboard the HMS Beagle in the 1,800's. The cruise includes secluded Wulaia Bay and Agostini Sound, immense glaciers as well as legendary Cape Horn and penguins on Magdalena Island. Experience the awe of this pristine corner of Patagonia home to ice fields and lush sub-polar forests untouched by civilization.

DATES TOURING / HOTELS / MEALS (indicated as B,L,D)

DAY 01	TO ARGENTINA Depart home on an overnight flight to Buenos Aires.	
DAY 02	BUENOS AIRES Arrive in Buenos Aires (EZE airport) this morning. Reception by your private Southwind guide providing a transfer to your hotel centrally located in the upscale Recoleta neighborhood near pedestrian shopping, galleries & city landmarks, the Latin American Art Museum (MALBA) and Puerto Madero redesigned port district. After a chance to rest, join your guide for a private afternoon tour of this cosmopolitan and lively capital. Visit the Casa Rosada (Presidential Palace), Plaza de Mayo (site of 1810 revolution that led to independence), Cathedral and the outside of the historic Colón Theater among the 5 best acoustic venues in world. Drive through the vibrant San Telmo neighborhood , the city's oldest neighborhood known for its quirky antique shopping and street tango. You'll also see the 9 de Julio Avenue (the widest avenue in the world). Return to the hotel with dinner at your leisure to relax and rest up at the hotel. If you are interested in dining out this evening, our dining guide is a helpful resource and the concierge can help with local reservations. Emperador Hotel Buenos Aires or Loi Suites boutique hotel in Recoleta	
DAY 03	BUENOS AIRES / EL TIGRE DELTA Join your guide for a private cultural excursion north of the capital to the Tigre Delta . Buenos Aires is located on the Rio de la Plata, the widest river in the world. Just an hour outside the city, the Paraná and Uruguay rivers join to form the Rio de la Plata. Here, small charming towns offer a pleasant atmosphere and slower paced way of life compared to the bustling BA. In San Isidro, visit the historic plaza with cobbled tree-lined streets where locals sip <i>mate</i> at cafes overlooking the river. During a short boat ride learn about the unique riverside lifestyle and see homes built on stilts along leafy riverways. The colorful Tigre port market offers fruit and handmade products from wicker, leather and ceramic. Lunch is at a top restaurant by the river featuring local cuisine. Return to the capital with a brief stop at the Parque de las Rosas and Floralis Generica , a giant metallic flower sculpture and city landmark. There is leisure time back at the hotel to walk or visit galleries in the pedestrian friendly neighborhood. Rest up for an evening dinner show at Gala, a top venue in the city. An optional beginner tango lesson can be arranged before dinner (in a group setting). The transfer to/from Gala is private with a driver, but this is a non-guided activity. Return to your hotel around 11:30pm. (B,L,D) Emperador Hotel Buenos Aires or Loi Suites boutique hotel in Recoleta	
DAY 04	BUENOS AIRES / USHUAIA Meet your guide for a private transfer to the airport for a flight south from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia (3 hr 35 min). Reception in Tierra del Fuego by your local Southwind guide providing a private transfer to your hotel located on the hillside overlooking the Beagle Channel . Arakur is a member of Leading Hotels of the World and located within Cerro Alarkén Natural Reserve , just minutes from downtown Ushuaia. From the hotel you have stunning panoramic views of the ocean, peaks, native forests and natural terraces. Dinner is on your own this evening to try the hotel's La Cravia restaurant and its typical flavors from Tierra del Fuego. (B) Arakur Resort & Spa	

<p>DAY 05</p>	<p>USHUAIA / HABERTON RANCH Leave your hotel at 8:30am on a private vehicle for the 2 hours scenic drive south to Harberton Ranch. A short zodiac navigation leads to nearby Martillo island to see Magellanic and Gentoo penguins, Albatross and marine birds. Return to the ranch by noon for lunch provided in the ranch restaurant. This afternoon tour the working estancia and the local Acatushún Museum of marine mammal strandings. You'll be following in the footsteps of Bruce Chatwin, author of <i>In Patagonia</i>, who wrote about life on the ranch. Touring at the ranch is with other guests, the drive is by private vehicle with your own guide. Return to your hotel by 5:30pm after scenic stops along the route. Dinner is on your own to relax this evening. Driving distance: 107 miles or about 4 hours. (B,L) Arakur Resort & Spa</p>	
<p>DAY 06</p>	<p>USHUAIA-TIERRA DEL FUEGO NATIONAL PARK / BOARD SHIP This morning meet your guide and private vehicle to drive 8 miles west to Tierra del Fuego National Park, a lovely region of clear blue lakes and snow-capped mountains overlooking the Beagle Channel. In the park, visit the Southern Railway Station and take a short hike through beautiful ñire and lenga forests. Continue along the Pipo River to reach Ensenada Zaratiegui Bay for a 30 min walk to view Redonda Island and the Chilean coast across the Beagle Channel.</p> <p>Drive to Lago Roca Lake for a nature walk to spot some of the 90 species of birds of the park, such as austral parakeets and kelp geese. Views here are of the Lapataia River and Cerro Condor on the Chilean border. At the Alakush Visitor center, learn about the natural history and region's original inhabitants.</p> <p>We continue past the lagunas Verde and Negra with peat bogs and beaver dams to reach our trailhead for the Mirador. A 20 min hike leads through scenic forest to Lapataia Bay on the western edge of the park. Avid hikers can continue to a small secluded beach a mile away. In the afternoon, we return to town to check-in at the port by 4:00pm to board the Australis expedition ship. Time permitting, you can walk Ushuaia's coastal avenue to see the historic Beban House from Ushuaia's pioneer days. At 6:00pm, set sail to begin your 5 day/4 night expedition cruise to Cape Horn through the Patagonia fiords. The captain and crew host a welcome cocktail reception to toast the journey through one of the most captivating wilderness regions in the world. Tonight, the ship traverses the Beagle Channel crossing into Chile while navigating the Murray Channel between Navarino and Hoste islands. (B,BL,D) Australis expedition ship (Stella or Ventus Australis)</p>	 
<p>DAY 07</p>	<p>PATAGONIA FIORDS CRUISE: CAPE HORN - WULAIYA BAY At day break we cross Nassau Bay and enter the remote archipelago that comprises Cape Horn National Park. Weather and sea conditions permitting, we disembark on the windswept and legendary cape (Cabo de Hornos). Early maritime explorers discovered the sheer rocky promontory overlooking the turbulent waters of the Drake Passage. Once the only navigation route between the Pacific and Atlantic, it was referred to as the "End of the Earth." The park is a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO and the Chilean navy maintains a lighthouse here as well as the tiny Stella Maris Chapel and modern Cape Horn Monument.</p> <p>Sailing back across Nassau Bay, we anchor at fabled Wulaia Bay, one of the few places in the archipelago where the human history is just as compelling as the natural one. Originally the site of one of the region's largest Yámana aboriginal settlements, the bay was described by Charles Darwin and sketched by Captain FitzRoy in the 1830s during their voyages on HMS Beagle. This area is also renowned for its mesmerizing beauty and dramatic geography. After a visit to the museum highlighting the Yámana people and European missionaries from the area, you get to choose from 3 hikes that ascend the heavily wooded mountain behind the bay through an enchanted Magellanic forest of lengas, coigües, canelos and ferns to reach panoramic viewpoints overlooking the bay. (B,L,D) Australis expedition ship (Stella or Ventus Australis)</p>	 

<p>DAY 08</p>	<p>PATAGONIA FIORDS CRUISE: PÍA GLACIER – GARIBALDI GLACIER Wake to the beauty of the Pia Fjord. After breakfast, board Zodiacs for a shore excursion to Pia Glacier. A short hike leads to a view of the glacier dropping from the mountains to the sea. Avid hikers can ascend a more challenging route up a lateral moraine of the old Pia Glacier.</p> <p>Afterwards, the ship continues further west along the Beagle Channel to enter another long fjord to anchor near Garibaldi Glacier. Garibaldi is one of only three glaciers in Patagonia gaining mass rather than staying the same or slowly shrinking. This time we hike through virgin Magellanic forest to a glacial waterfall, a towering wall of ferns and moss, and spectacular viewpoints looking down on the glacier and fjord. The walk is demanding -- very steep, negligible trail, rough footing -- and not for everyone. For those who choose to stay onboard, the captain will point the bow towards the sky blue Garibaldi Glacier to enjoy the panoramic view from the upper decks. (B,L,D) Australis expedition ship (Stella or Ventus Australis)</p>	
<p>DAY 09</p>	<p>PATAGONIA FIORDS CRUISE: AGOSTINI SOUND – ÁGUILA & CÓNDOR GLACIERS This morning's navigation brings us through the Cockburn Channel into Agostini Sound. View glaciers descending to the sound from the Darwin Mountain Range. We disembark for an easy walk around a lagoon formed by the melting of the Águila Glacier. Stunning views abound of the glacier's front. In the afternoon, we board zodiacs to approach the Condor Glacier and look for Andean Condors. From the comfort of the ship, enjoy the complimentary bar or perhaps a good book in the lounge with picture windows. To help disconnect for a few days, there is no wifi onboard. Evening educational lectures provide background on historic navigation routes, flora and fauna of the Magellanic region, glaciology, Indigenous peoples of Patagonia, the Beagle Channel, marine mammals, the Strait of Magellan and Magellanic penguins. Tonight's lively farewell dinner is a fitting finale to our exciting journey among new friends. (B,L,D) Australis expedition ship (Stella or Ventus Australis)</p>	
<p>DAY 10</p>	<p>FINISH CRUISE / PUNTA ARENAS / SANTIAGO - OVERNIGHT FLIGHT HOME On our final morning aboard, the ship cruises the Magdalena Channel into the Strait of Magellan. Here we find Magdalena Island, halfway between Tierra del Fuego and the Chilean mainland. The island was once an essential source of supplies for navigators and explorers. A distinctive lighthouse is perched at the top overlooking an immense colony of Magellanic penguins. As dawn breaks, we go ashore, weather permitting, and hike a path that leads through thousands of penguins to a small museum lodged inside the vintage 1902 lighthouse. Many other bird species are also found on the island. In September and April, when the penguins dwell elsewhere, this excursion is replaced by a zodiac ride to Marta Island to observe South American sea lions.</p> <p>Upon arrival to Punta Arenas, we disembark 11:30 AM and transfer 30 min to the airport for a flight north from Punta Arenas to Santiago (3 hr 10 min). Connect on your own in the Santiago airport to an overnight flight home this evening. There are restaurants and VIP lounges where you can relax prior to your flight. (B)</p> <p>Note: An optional 4 or 5 day extension can be arranged to visit Torres del Paine National Park, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve declared the 8th Wonder in the World. The park is reached with a 5.5 hour drive north from Punta Arenas.</p>	 
<p>DAY 11</p>	<p>ARRIVE HOME Arrive in your gateway city this morning and make onward connections home.</p>	

Meals: B=breakfast; L=lunch; BL=box lunch; D=dinner. If a meal is not indicated, you have flexibility to dine out at your leisure.

NEXT STEP: Please contact Tom Damon to setup a custom planning phone call. With your feedback on the destinations, activities and accommodations in this sample itinerary, Southwind will create a custom proposal tailored to your travel style, goals, dates and budget. Your proposal will provide Land Cost pricing and more details. Accommodations shown in this sample are in the 4-5 star category with superior or preferential rooms with views. Optional upgrades to exclusive top tier hotels can be provided during the planning. Note that space or room types cannot be guaranteed until a design fee or deposit is paid and Southwind receives confirmation. It will help to finalize plans at your soonest convenience for best selection. For high season or holiday dates, we are able to place a complimentary hold with a design fee to help secure space while we fine tune your itinerary.

We look forward to having you travel with us in Argentina!

For more information please contact your personal travel planner:
Tom Damon Direct: 720-414-5569 (calls or text) Email: Tom@southwindadventures.com



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