

## Circling Lake Chelenko

Ingewtaik gego-gunu-munee.

**Route: Coyhaique – Chile Chico – Los Antiguos (Argentina).**

**6 Days, 5 Nights**

We invite you to travel around South Carretera Austral in Chilean Patagonia, home of Glaciers, millenary Ice fields and the land of the Tehuelches. Wild life and biosphere of the world.

This wonderful route will lead you to unknown and relevant locations such as Saint Raphael's Glacier; Exploradores Glacier; the Marble Chapel Natural Monument; Baker river, the largest river in Chile; and to discover prehistoric vestiges of Ammonites and ancestral Dinosaurs found in the area. You will also navigate the Chelenko Lake (*Ingewtaik gego-gunu- munee* in Tehuelche language) to visit the town of Puerto Ibáñez with its traditional craftsmanship, liquors and leather tannery. Enjoy the pleasures of the local Mate and Gaucho way of life... we invite you to live new traditions, experiences and landscapes.

“Come and live Aysén Patagonia”



# Itinerary

## Day 1: Coyhaique – Rio Tranquilo Port

### **07:30 am Coyhaique – Villa Cerro Castillo:**

Breakfast at a local restaurant, short visit to the local Museum and a 10-minute walk to “Alero de las manos Tehuelches”.

Photo stops in several lookout spots like Bosque Muerto, El Ibáñez 1, Rio Murta Valley and Chelenko Lake lookout.

### **13:30 pm Puerto Tranquilo Marble cavern.**

(Boat) 1 hour and 30-minute ride to visit the inside of the Cavern’s tunnels, chapels and Marble Cathedral.

Lunch in a local restaurant upon return, consisting in native food and products and Patagonian dishes (vegan and vegetarian alternatives also available).

El Abuelo pathway scheduled after lunch. In this magical pathway you will discover diverse autochthonous species, meditation spots, river and valley lookouts tangled in the area of Chelenko Lake plus a visit to the oldest Coigüe in Aysén Patagonia.

After this beautiful experience we go back to Rio Tranquilo port for dinner at a local restaurant and rest.

### **22:00 pm Lodging**

## **Day 2: Puerto Tranquilo – Exploradores Glacier hike**

(\*option 2)

**07:00 am Breakfast**

**08:30 am Departure from Puerto Tranquilo towards Exploradores Bay (Aprox. 1 hour 30 mins.)**

Arrival at CONAF station for registration, equipment and safety talk from our guides and CONAF personnel.

The hike is scheduled to last 6 hours and 30 minutes approximately starting at the CONAF station. To begin we go through scrubby woods before a pathway on the glacier moraine, afterwards we have lunch and immediately get equipped with helmets, leggings and crampons to venture over the millenary ice of Exploradores Glacier.

Departure towards Rio Tranquilo port 17:00 pm aprox.

Rest, dinner and lodging in Rio Tranquilo Port.

**22:00 pm Lodging**



Parque Nacional Laguna San Rafael, Glaciar Exploradores, Campo de hielo Norte

## Day 3: Puerto Tranquilo – San Rafael Lagoon, from Exploradores Bay

(\*option 3)

**06:30 am Breakfast**

**07:30 am Departure towards Exploradores Bay**

2 hours and 30 minutes ride to arrive at Teresa Port and crossing Exploradores River, where from that point Exploradores Bay is only 45 minutes away.

At the bay we then board our boat to ride along the fjords leading towards San Rafael Lagoon. Includes lunch, snacks and whisky on millennial rocks.

Return from the sail starts approximately at 20:30 towards Rio Tranquilo Port. Dinner and lodging upon arrival.



\*Laguna San Rafael National Park, wandering ice, Campo de hielo Norte

## **Day 4: Puerto Tranquilo – Lake Chelenko outlet – 3 Lakes gazer – Puerto Bertrand – Baker and Neff's junction – Puerto Guadal**

### **08:00 am Breakfast**

**09:00 am Departure from Puerto Tranquilo southward to visit the sites of Lake Chelenko's outlet in Lake Bertrand, 3 lakes gazer wherefrom you appreciate Lakes Chelenko, Negro and Bertrand.**

Visit the picturesque town of Bertrand port and its dock where you can board a raft or a fly-fishing boat.

We carry on our trip to discover the birth place of the largest river in Chile where you can marvel the most crystal-clear waters in the region along with its beautiful natural flow.

During our tour of the Baker river we stop to view an 8-meter waterfall formed by the merging of rivers Neff and Baker, thus giving the mass of water an incredible amount of force and volume.

Afterwards we will arrive at the second-most important junction, with river Chacabuco coming from the new Patagonia Park, where you can catch a glimpse of indigenous wildlife such as guanacos, foxes and armadillos. This park was a donation from the Tompkins foundation to the government of Chile.

Lunch will be in Port Bertrand at a local restaurant where you can try some delicious Patagonian craft beer.

We return towards the Northeastern side to enter the highway leading to Chile Chico and travel around de town of Guadal port and the Perla del Lago beach to end the day and head towards our lodging location for dinner and rest.

### **22:00 pm Lodging**



\*Rivers Baker and Neff junction point

## Day 5: Puerto Guadal – Fossils – Chile Chico

**08:30 am Breakfast**

**09:30 am Departure from Guadal Port with destination San Martín River's fossils**

This hike only takes 20 minutes, where you will find old vestiges of Fossils all along the pathway only to arrive at an ammonite abundant river bed. Inside this canyon filled with Paleontological uncertainty you will find an astonishing panorama with little waterfalls and pristine water tracks transforming the area for ages into a natural sanctuary where we will spend around 4 hours.

During our stay we will enjoy a snack and lunch together with the site guide who will then exhibit a collection of Dinosaur fossils found in the area. We will then proceed to head towards Chile Chico stopping in memorable places to take pictures like Garganta del Diablo, Laguna Verde and Paso de las Llaves.

Arrival at Chile Chico is scheduled right around dinner time to enjoy some more traditional Patagonian dishes cooked exclusively with local products, followed by a quick tour of the town, viewpoints and Oceanside walkway.

**22:00 pm Lodging**

\*Ammonite Fossils from San Martín River.



## **Day 6: Chile Chico – Argentina – Tehuelche Ferry – Ibáñez Port – Coyhaique.**

**08:00 am Breakfast**

**09:00 am Departure towards Chile-Argentina border crossing**

Across the border we will encounter a town called Los Antiguos, famous cherry growers that lighten up the town's squares.

Pottery shopping and lunch is also in plan, with our recommendation being the Bife de chorizo, a typical Argentinian dish original from the Argentinian pampas and prairies.

**13:00 pm Ride back to Chile**

We will then board the ferry La Tehuelche for 2 and half hours through the glacial waters of Lake Chelanko, to finally arrive at Puerto Ibáñez.

**16:00 pm La Tehuelche ferry boarding**

**17:30 pm Port Ibáñez ferry docking**

**18:35 pm Artisan, craftsmanship and traditional liquor and marmalade production visit**

**19:30 pm Ibáñez river waterfall**

**21:00 pm Arrival at Coyhaique City, local restaurant dinner and farewell**

**End of the trip**



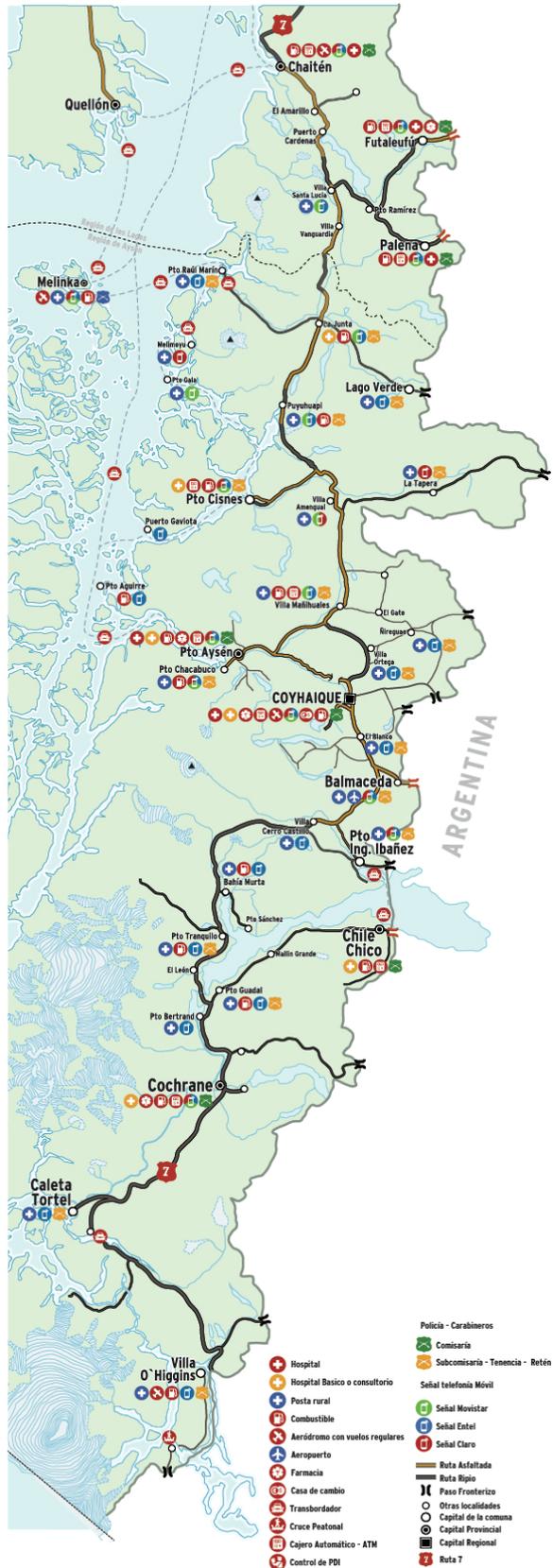
\*Las Llaves crossing



\*La Tehuelche ferry



\*Ibáñez river  
waterfall





**\* OPTIONS, are excursions in case the original itinerary fails due to the action of nature, for example, glaciers glacier collapsing on the road making it impossible to cross into final destination.**

**\*Option 2:**

- Departure from Puerto Tranquilo towards Puerto Sanchez in order to visit the abandoned Puerto Cristal mine. We will pass through natural thermal hot water springs which lead all the way to the General Carrera Lake (Chelenko). Passenger can enjoy these waters just by hopping off the speed boat.

- Includes: speed boat transportation, lunch, and the visit to the old mining facilities.

**\*Option 3:**

- Departure from Puerto Tranquilo towards Leones Glaciar. From here we will sail the Leones Lake towards the glacier face (which holds the same name as the lake).

- Includes: minivan transportation, guided walk, food, boat ride, ice walk on the glacier.