

Bike Patagonia

Wild Majesty

Magellan arrived in 1520

Darwin in 1832

Now – in 2020-21 – IT'S YOUR TURN !!!

And the astonishing thing is how little it has changed – the carved spires of Torres del Paine the blue glaciers and the stern magnificent isolation.



At world's end – the adventure begins -25 days from Santiago

Including:

Pucon with the impressive Villarrica Lake & Mt Villarrica

Spectacular Lakes District of Chile

Bike the Carrera Austral with plenty of forests, rivers, waterfalls, lakes, fjords, mountains and glaciers along the way.

Los Glaciares & Fitzroy National Parks in Argentina

Stay 4 nights in Torres del Paine National Park – It's stunning!

This is your opportunity to visit the end of the world!

Latin Link Adventure offers you a fabulous adventure to this remote and spectacular part of the world.

Departure Dates	Cost from Santiago	
19 Feb 2021	NZ\$15500	
12 Nov 2021	NZ\$15500	
<i>* Cost subject to airline increases and currency fluctuations</i>		

Inclusions:

All airfares economy class between Santiago & Temuco, Puerto Montt-Balmaceda, Puerto Natales-Santiago, accommodation: comfortable hotels & B&Bs, tours & sightseeing as per itinerary, services of experienced Tour Manager and local guides, all internal transport: taxis, buses, ferryboats etc,

Not included: Tips, bike hire, meals not specified, travel insurance, personal spending

To book: Send Completed Reservation form with deposit of \$1000 to secure your place

Latin Link Adventure

The South America Specialists

PO Box 352 Wanaka 9343 Tel: 03 4435036 Fax: 03 4431846

Email: info@latinlink.co.nz

Toll Free: 0800 528 465 www.latinlink.co.nz

Bonded Member of Travel Agents Assoc. of NZ

Information Sheet – Bike Patagonia 2021

Patagonia, where the scenery is astounding. Think of Queenstown and Central Otago then multiply it by 100 minus all the people. Spectacular!

We start the journey by flying Santiago to Temuco to visit Pucon with its spectacular setting on Lake Villarrica with stunning Mt Villarrica. Explore off road trails in the National Parks and protected areas, surrounded by Lakes, Volcanoes, Forests, Rivers and Hot springs.

After a relaxing stop, travel overland through the Lakes District, admire crystal clear lakes, imposing glaciers and magnificent national parks, combined with the snow-capped peaks of the Andes, as well as, condors, flamingoes and other abundant bird life.

Follow Chile's Carretera Austral route. Though most of the trip involves gravel, winding curves and unpredictable weather, the rewards are enormous. It's no exaggeration to say that each kilometre offers picture-perfect vistas. Hike or bike in the spectacular Fitzroy National Park amongst some of the most gorgeous mountain scenery in the world. Stay in the cute mountain town of el Chalten .

The glacier of Perito Moreno in Los Glaciares National Park is awesome, it's the size of Buenos Aires, with vibrant hues of blue and green and sculptured icebergs of all sizes. It's still advancing, one of the few in the world!

Next is the stunning Torres del Paine National Park where the granite pillars soar almost vertically above the Patagonian steppe with turquoise lakes, roaring rivers, creeping glaciers and dense forests. It's a bikers paradise . Enjoy 3 nights in the park at a private estancia, with some biking included.

The abundant wildlife: guanacos (from the cameloid family), foxes, condors, flamingoes, rheas, penguins, geese, ducks and many other birds, as well as, seals and beavers, all in their natural habitat, take people by surprise!

The trip is limited to 10 people only .The tour costs are based on a minimum of 6 people travelling .

Cost : NZ\$15500

Single room supplement \$1995

NB# These costs are based on you flying internationally to/from South America with LATAM Airlines. Should you travel on another airline a surcharge of NZ\$200 will apply.

There are no 'hidden surprises' during your travels. Here is our long list of inclusions:

- All economy flights on scheduled airlines as per itinerary
- All accommodation twin /double share with private bathroom
- All breakfasts, 18 lunches, 18 Dinners
- All transport costs, taxis, buses, trains etc
- All transfers to/from airport, bus stations
- All entrance fees and sightseeing as per itinerary
- All entrance fees into National Parks as per itinerary
- Services of local English speaking guides
- Services of professional Tour Manager
- Pre Departure Information Booklet plus complimentary phrase book & an adaptor.

And exclusions:

- International flights to and from Santiago
- Travel Insurance – mandatory for travel to South America
- Food – for lunches & dinners on days where not included, allow \$35 USD per day
- Visas – no visas required for NZ Passport holders for this spectacular journey
- Tips & gratuities to local guides allow US\$250
- Bike hire, available if required for additional NZ\$700, we suggest taking your own in a special bike carry bag. LATAM will charge US\$100 each way for the bike bag.

NOTE ON FLIGHTS

****International flights on LATAM Airlines Auckland –Santiago –Auckland are in addition to costs stated above . As there can be seasonal specials on airfares these can vary between NZ\$1100 and \$1900 economy class & \$4700-\$6500 business class depending on when they are purchased . We will quote you the best airfares at the time of booking and keep you informed on any seasonal specials between time of booking and departure. Flights from Christchurch & Wellington no additional cost, flights from Dunedin or Queenstown additional \$125 return**

All flights are with LATAM. Please note baggage allowance on LATAM is 2 pieces up to 23kg each on economy or 3 pieces business class for all flights (both international and domestic Chile flights)

All flights are booked by Latin Link Adventure and all LATAM flights are eligible for Qantas Frequent Flyer Points.

Day		Program	Overnight
1	Fri	<p><u>Auckland – Santiago - Temuco</u> 6pm Depart Auckland for Santiago with LATAM Airlines. Cross the dateline and gain a day, arriving 2.15pm. Afternoon departure on LATAM Airlines to Temuco. On arrival transfer to our comfortable hosteria in Pucon, a small city located right next to Lake Villarrica at the foot of the spectacular Mt Villarrica, in the vicinity of three parks and a large ski resort. Accommodation: Hosteria Geronimo www.geronimo.cl</p>	Pucon
2	Sat	<p><u>Pucon</u> We'll cycle from our hotel to Lake Caburgua and then towards Pucon's famous Hot Springs. The ride today is a combination of rolling hills with several short climbs at the second half of the road. Throughout today's ride our guide will help us identify several species of birds and trees as we cycle next to beautiful farms and enjoy views of the Villarrica volcano. With a little good luck, we will see smoke coming out of this active volcano. After cycling the rolling and sometimes hilly road to the hot springs, we will enjoy lunch and then a soothing soak in a hot mineral bath. Later we'll take a short ride in the vans back to our hotel in Pucón. <i>52km combination of rolling hills, short climbs</i> Accommodation: Hosteria Geronimo</p>	Pucon (B,L)
3	Sun	<p><u>Chile's 7 Lakes Route</u> Departing from Pucón, we drive 8 kms by minibus to Palguín Bajo, where we start biking. The road leads us by the Palguín Valley through the National Park Villarrica, with views of scenic waterfalls formed by basaltic rock. We pass several majestic snow-capped volcanoes such as Quetrupillan and Rucapillan. The vegetation changes from raulí (<i>Nothofagus alpina</i>) and hualle (<i>Nothofagus oblicua</i>) forests as we ascend to Chinay, the highest point of the day at 1250m above sea level. From Chinay we'll experience an exciting descent through the forest; jumping and dodging natural obstacles like roots and mud puddles. There is an option to visit the Geometricas Hot Springs on the way down. While riding downhill we have a wonderful view of Calafquén Lake, which is situated on the eastern border of Coñaripe, a town that was totally destroyed by the 1964 eruption of the Villarrica volcano (Rucapillan). The minibus will be waiting for us in Coñaripe to take us alongside Lakes Calafquén and Panguipulli to finally get to the National Reserve Mocho-Choshuenco. We'll stay at Huilo Huilo, a private ecological area located next to the reserve. <i>45km with some single track</i> Accommodation: Nothofagus Hotel & Spa http://huilohuilo.com/our-accommodation/nothofagus-hotel-standard-room</p>	Huilo Huilo (B,L,D)

4	Mon	<p><u>Huilo Huilo</u> The area of Huilo Huilo was shaped by an eruption of the volcano. Today we will ride on the foothills of this giant enjoying incredible views of the Andes, the Lanin volcano and the Lake Neltume. The tough climb ahead is followed by a scenic and thrilling downhill towards the Huilo Huilo waterfall. Return to Huilo Huilo <i>36km challenging climb with descent</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Nothofagus Hotel & Spa</p>	Huilo Huilo (B,L,D)
5	Tue	<p><u>Huilo Huilo - Puyehue</u> Today an amazing single track is waiting for us. Starting next to our hotel we climb for a couple of kilometres, to the 'shoulders' of the Casablanca Volcano where we can marvel at the immensity of the Andes, then pick a line on the pyroclastic sand before entering one of the greenest and fun trails of the tour. <i>35km single track variable terrain</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hosteria Entre Lagos www.hosteriaentrelagos.cl</p>	Puyehue(B,L,D)
6	Wed	<p><u>Puyehue - Puerto Varas</u> Alongside Lake Llanquihue, where a unique landscape is waiting for us, is the Osorno Volcano with its perfect cone. The side of the Volcano reaches the shore of the lake and we'll pass through the middle of this astounding landscape. Continue to Petrohue, riding the 50km on one of the most beautiful routes of the tour, passing through quaint little villages with a strong German heritage. After the ride we'll continue in the van to the charming German style city of Puerto Varas. <i>50km mainly flat</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Puelche www.hotelpuelche.cl</p>	Puerto Varas (B,L)
7	Thu	<p><u>Puerto Varas</u> Today is a free day, we can either bike around Puerto Varas and go to the markets in Puerto Montt or do an optional day trip across to the picturesque island of Chiloé.</p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Puelche</p>	Puerto Varas (B)
8	Fri	<p><u>Puerto Varas - Coihaique</u> Transfer to Puerto Montt airport for a LATAM flight to Balmaceda . <i>(Fee for your bike bag charged by LATAM US\$30)</i> Transfer to Coihaique Coihaique is the biggest city in the region and the commercial centre for this part of Patagonia. We will spend the night in the town and there will be an opportunity to explore and enjoy "city" life, the last opportunity for awhile.</p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel El Reloj www.elrelojhotel.cl</p>	Coihaique (B,D)

9	Sat	<p><u>Coihaique - Villa Cerro Castillo</u></p> <p>We will ride 40 km on paved road towards El Blanco. The town was an out post for travellers and was populated by farmers. There are only 500 people that live in the town today. In the afternoon we will continue to Villa Cerro Castillo. You will pass by the Reserva Villa Cerro Castillo and admire the interesting landscapes and peaks.</p> <p><i>64km- 40km of paved road, 24km gravel</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Villa Cerro Castillo Cabanas</p>	Villa Cerro Castillo (B,L,D)
10	Sun	<p><u>Villa Cerro Castillo - Puerto Tranquilo</u></p> <p>An early start today driving 50km and then starting the ride. The ride is on gravel and we will continue peddling past beautiful lakes, rivers, and through valleys until we finally reach Puerto Tranquilo</p> <p><i>50km gravel</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hostal el Puesto www.elpuesto.cl</p>	Puerto Murta (B,L,D)
11	Mon	<p><u>Puerto Murta - Puerto Bertrand</u></p> <p>Ride 23 km to Puerto Tranquilo a small port town which is home to Lake General Carrera, the largest lake in Chile.</p> <p>Next we head towards Puerto Bertrand, a place where the famous and amazing Baker River starts. Along the route we will pass three lakes, which during the summer rise and flood large areas of farmland. We ride a further 25-35km on gravel and arrive at the cozy Green Baker Lodge cabins in the evening.</p> <p><i>48-58km gravel</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Green Baker Lodge www.greenlodgebaker.com</p>	Puerto Bertrand (B,L,D)
12	Tue	<p><u>Puerto Bertrand - Cochrane</u></p> <p>We begin, cycling along the Baker River where we can admire the impressive rapids along the way. We ride on gravel road, then cycle a couple of demanding stretches as we head towards the next town. We will stop at Parque Patagonia (Valle Chacabuco) the wildlife paradise of the Carretera Austral. It's home to flamingos, foxes, armadillos, pumas, condors and herds of guanacos. The park is huge with different types of landscapes. Continue on to Cochrane. This is the last town with internet and telephone connection. After today we will enter some of the most remote areas of Patagonia. Outside Cochrane is San Lorenzo Mountain, one of the highest peaks in the region (3700m approx) and on a clear day you can see it in the distance. We will spend 2 nights in Cochrane before venturing further into Patagonia.</p> <p><i>45km variable terrain</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Ultimo Paraíso www.hotelultimoparaiso.cl</p>	Cochrane (B,L,D)

13	Wed	<p><u>Cochrane</u> Our destination today is Los Ñadis Valley. Here you'll find the Río Baker with its ferocious El Saltón rapids & the spectacular El Corte San Carlos trail, carved out of the rocks to bypass the rapids. Return to Cochrane. <i>63km variable terrain</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Ultimo Paraíso</p>	Cochrane (B,L,D)
14	Thu	<p><u>Cochrane - Villa O'Higgins</u> It's an early start today because the journey is 155km on gravel roads and includes a water crossing. We start with a transfer to Puerto Yungay where we will board a boat. This ferry will save us some peddling and will make the last leg of our adventure on the Carretera Austral more interesting! We will head towards Villa O'Higgins after the ferry crossing docks in Rio Bravo and have 92 km of gravel roads. Eventually we will arrive in Villa O'Higgins and prepare for the lake crossing the following day. <i>*Biking distance to be finalised as part of journey will be done by bus</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Robinson Crusoe www.robinsoncrusoe.com</p>	Villa O'Higgins (B,L,D)
15	Fri	<p><u>Villa O'Higgins</u> We start the day riding to the Mosco Glacier viewpoint. There are other options available in Villa O'Higgins and the surrounding area: trekking to the vantage point over Stag Lake (Lago Ciervo), exploring Christie Lake (Lago Christie) near the Mayer Pass (Paso Mayer) on the Argentine border, or a visit to the chapel built by missionary Father Antonio Ronchi in the woods. Other activities include visiting the Museum and the Civic Center, climbing up to the Valley and Mosco Glacier Viewpoint (Mirador del Valle), more cycle rides and maybe light fishing on nearby lakes.</p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Robinson Crusoe</p>	Villa O'Higgins (B,L,D)
16	Sat	<p><u>Villa O'Higgins - el Chalten</u> Today we begin our voyage across Lake O'Higgins and Lake San Martin. First we will have breakfast, then ride 15 minutes on a gravel road, board the ferry for a two and a half hour trip across Lake O'Higgins to Candelario Mansilla. Then on a gnarly trail for 22 km. It will be challenging, but will add a little spice to the ride! Finally we reach Lago Del Desierto and will board another boat to cross the lake. Then transfer by bus to el Chalten we will see the magnificent peaks that made this area famous <i>35 km gravel</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Las Piedras Hosteria www.laspiedraspatagonia.com.ar</p>	El Chalten (B,L,D)
17	Sun	<p><u>el Chalten</u> A day to explore. There are long or short walk options amidst the stunning scenery of Fitzroy National Park or you can relax in the peace and tranquillity of this lovely mountain town.</p>	el Chalten (B)

18	Mon	<p><u>el Chalten - Calafate</u> Drive to the other side of Lago Argentino to Calafate, where there is time to explore the town in the afternoon.</p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Kapenke www.kapenke.com.ar</p>	Calafate (B)
19	Tues	<p><u>Full day tour to Perito Moreno Glacier</u></p> <p>A Full day tour of one of the most astounding natural wonders of the world !!! IT'S AWESOME!! The Perito Moreno Glacier is one of the world's few advancing glaciers. This 60-80 metre high, 4km long river of ice periodically dams the Brazo Rico of Lago Argentino. Towers of ice fall and break into icebergs!</p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Kapenke</p>	Calafate (B)
20	Wed	<p><u>Calafate - Torres del Paine National Park</u> Today we cross by bus from Calafate Argentina and re-enter Chile. At the Chilean border you will take a short ride to the fork in the road where you start cycling to Hosteria Mirador Paine. The ride to the Hosteria is beautiful and protected by the wind with many rabbits, guanacos to see along the way. At the Hosteria there is time for a short break and then continue on a single track past Laguna Verde to Puente Weber (Weber bridge). The ride has spectacular views of the Paine Massif. You have heard about it, now see for yourself! There are superb views of the Andean Cordillera and lakes. At this time if you still have energy you can continue pedalling until you reach Pueblo Rio Serrano or you can choose to take the support vehicle. At Serrano you will take the transfer across the National Park to our hotel where you will stay 3 nights. <i>47km variable terrain, stunning scenery</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Las Torres www.lastorres.com</p>	Torres del Paine (B,L,D)
21	Thurs	<p><u>Torres del Paine National Park</u> Today you will start the ride along a fairly flat single track. As you wind along the Paine River, admire the still, deep blue waters of Laguna Azul and the picturesque view of the Valley Encantado, a valley surrounded by rock formations created by centuries of wind. When you reach Camp Serón, an old Baqueano's post, you can admire the vast flat and green landscape before you. There's a chance to rest here at the camp before continuing on a different trail towards Laguna Amarga. The trail is covered with trees, an area not frequented by many tourists. When you arrive at Laguna Amarga you can continue on the road back to Hotel Las Torres or you can hop into the support vehicle for a ride back to the Hotel. <i>37km flat single track</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Las Torres</p>	Torres del Paine (B,L,D)

22	Fri	<p><u>Torres del Paine National Park -Estancia</u></p> <p>Today we start out towards Laguna Amarga again and then to an Estancia just outside the national park. From Estancia Goic we will begin cycling back into Torres del Paine towards Laguna Azul. The ride starts on a gravel road. You will pass many guanacos and enjoy the Paine Waterfall as you cycle up and down gently rolling hills. Eventually you arrive at the start of a single track heading towards Laguna Azul, on the east side of Torres del Paine. This is the same trail that Lady Florence Dixie mentions in her book 'Across Patagonia'. Along the way we will cross numerous streams and creeks sometimes riding and at other times, carrying the bikes across. You will see the famous Torres from many vantage points. You will make a loop around Laguna Azul and finish at a camp site near the lake. From here you will take the vehicle to the Estancia Lazo , a historical estancia dating back to 1894</p> <p><i>47km gravel, up and down rolling hills</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Estancia Lazo www.miradordelpayne.cl</p>	Torres del Paine (B,L,D)
23	Sat	<p><u>Cycle through Patagonian Estancias</u></p> <p>From the estancia you will take a short trip back to Laguna Azul. From this area you will begin cycling on an old farm road away from Torres del Paine National Park. The ride should take about 3 hours. You will continue with views of the Paine Massif and Cierra Baguales, two large mountain ranges. You will also see Laguna Flamencos, a beautiful Lagoon that is frequently filled with flamingos. You will have to cross over a river called Rio Las Chinas. In November this river can be high and we may have to deviate a little from the regular route to get across. Finally you will arrive at the estancia</p> <p><i>53km old farm tracks</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Estancia Lazo www.miradordelpayne.cl</p>	Torres del Paine (B,L,D)

24	Sun	<p><u>Estancia - Puerto Natales</u></p> <p>In the morning you will leave the Estancia and begin cycling back towards Cerro Castillo (where you came into Chile). A support truck will follow you for as long as they can and you will ride down a local road that is part gravel and part farm road. The ride is mostly flat, and you will have views of the vast pampas with Sierra Baguales on one side of you and Torres del Paine behind you. After your ride through the pampas you will get into the van and cruise the rest of the way to Puerto Natales on a main road. You will have time to look around the city and enjoy a delicious dinner.</p> <p><i>44km part gravel, part farm road</i></p> <p>Accommodation: Hotel Indigo www.noihotels.com/hotel/noi-indigo-patagonia</p>	Puerto Natales (B,L,D)
25	Mon	<p><u>Puerto Natales – Santiago - Auckland</u></p> <p>Morning at leisure. This afternoon transfer to Puerto Natales airport for your LATAM Airline flight to Santiago. Connect on the Santiago-Auckland flight.</p>	(B)
26	Tue	In flight	
27	Wed	<p>Arrive Auckland early in the morning</p> <p><u>Note about the Itinerary</u></p> <p>This itinerary is subject to alteration due to any unpredictable conditions and circumstances which may arise in this delightfully chaotic continent. Please remember also that we are travelling in countries, where things do not always go as planned. The main thing is to be flexible and open to change. You will be kept up to date with changes.</p>	