

# Chile Extension

## *Torres del Paine*

October 19 to 25, 2025



Paine Massif Horns  
© Luis Andrade

## SAFARI OVERVIEW

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Explore the famous Torres del Paine on this four-day extension. Discover the Paine Massif's many faces from different vantage points throughout the park. Take a boat excursion to Grey Glacier in hopes of seeing it calve while taking in the beautiful colors of its face. Search for guanacos, foxes, Andean condors, Magellanic woodpeckers, and many other bird species all amid the Austral springtime display of the plants in this beautiful park.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the scenery and wildlife Torres del Paine is famous for: the Paine Massif, Andean condors, guanacos, and much more.
- Explore this park during spring when plants are beginning to bloom.
- Three-hour boat excursion to the face of Grey Glacier.

**TRIP OPTION:** This is a pre-trip extension to our South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula trip from October 23 to November 14, 2025 (<https://cheesemans.com/trips/south-georgia-antarctic-peninsula-oct2025>).

**LEADER:** Matias Ballarini.

**DAYS:** Adds 4 days to the main trip to total 27 days, including estimated travel time.

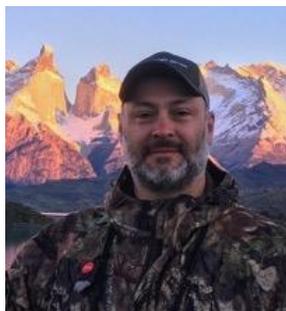
**GROUP SIZE:** 8.

**COST:** \$4,050 per person, double occupancy, not including airfare, singles extra. See the *Costs* section on page 4.

Date	Description	Accommodation	Meals
Oct 19	Travel to Punta Arenas, Chile.		
Oct 20	Arrive in Punta Arenas, Chile.	Hotel Cabo de Hornos, Punta Arenas	—
Oct 21	Drive to Torres del Paine stopping along the way for wildlife and photography opportunities.	Hotel Las Torres Patagonia, Torres del Paine	B, L, D
Oct 22	Dawn viewing of the Horns, boat trip to Grey Glacier, and sunset viewing and photographing the clouds and mountains.		B, L, D
Oct 23	Explore plant and bird life at alkaline ponds and reed-fringed lagoons.		B, L, D
Oct 24	Dawn viewing of the Towers or the Horns, and then drive back to Punta Arenas, stopping for wildlife, for your overnight included in the main trip.		B, L
Oct 25	Continue on our South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula trip.		

## LEADER

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### Matias Ballarini

Originally from Santiago, Matias moved to Patagonia in 2004 and now lives in Punta Arenas so he can spend more time enjoying nature and the outdoors. He has guided trips to King George Island, Buenos Aires, Brazil, the Chilean Lake District, and Patagonia. He works with nonprofit organizations that help conserve the local environment and ecosystems. Because he loves to expand his knowledge of biodiversity, photography, environmental interpretation, and conservation, you may find him in a course offered by the local universities.

## DETAILED ITINERARY

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### Oct 19 ~ Travel to Punta Arenas, Chile

### Oct 20 ~ Arrive in Punta Arenas

Our local agent will transfer you from the airport to the hotel when you arrive. If you would like to arrive earlier, we can arrange extra hotel nights and an earlier airport transfer.

### Oct 21 ~ Drive to Torres del Paine National Park

During your journey to the park, you will observe how the strong westerly winds have sculpted the vegetation of the Patagonian steppes. En route you may find guanaco, a southern relative to camels, southern grey fox, and Patagonian skunk while enjoying your first contact with southern beech (*Nothofagus*) forests. You will stop several times for photography and wildlife observation along the way. You may find colorful groups of Chilean flamingos on the alkaline pools and black-necked and coscoroba swans on the shores of Ultima Esperanza Fjord in Puerto Natales. Driving towards the park, enjoy splendid vistas of the hilly terrain and if it's clear, of the Paine Massif in the distance. While visiting the valleys you will learn about the origins of the dramatic backdrop of Torres del Paine, one of the finest natural spectacles in Patagonia. In the evening you may do a nature walk or a sunset photo session.



Guanacos  
© Debbie Thompson

### Oct 22 ~ Western Torres del Paine and Grey Glacier

You will start early to view and photograph the Paine Massif at dawn. Today you will explore the southern and western regions of this vast national park, which comprises 600,000 acres. The omnipresent Paine Massif, a magnificent set of rugged peaks formed out of granite and sedimentary rock, dominates the landscape. You will have the opportunity to explore the southern beech forests and its diversity of plants and animals; you may find Magellanic woodpecker, austral parakeet and, if you are lucky, the shy Andean deer (huemul). Take in the contrasting mosaic of towering mountains, glaciers, wetlands, steppes, and forests. Lake Grey is one of the highlights of the day where colossal icebergs are stranded on the southern shore of the lake after a long, slow transit from the glacier front.



Grey Glacier  
© Debbie Thompson

From the southern shore you will board our boat for a 3-hour excursion through the icy waters of the lake towards the impressive and actively calving front of the Grey Glacier. Grey is one of the nearly 50 outlet glaciers originating from the massive Southern Patagonian Ice Field, the world's third largest ice cap after Antarctica and Greenland. The front is full of crevasses and the solid glacial ice colors vary from whitish to deep indigo. The glacier is flanked towards the east by impressive granite walls that are part of the Paine Massif, and towards the west by the eroded and low summits of the older Andes. You will be treated with a glass of Pisco

sour or Scotch with millenary (glacier) ice. In the evening you may do a photo outing for sunset and the dramatic cloud formations.

**Oct 23 ~ Eastern Torres del Paine**

You will keep exploring the alkaline ponds and reed-fringed lagoons located in the eastern part of the park. Approximately 120 bird species are found in the park and you will see a considerable number of them with the help of binoculars and the spotting scope. The flora is also very beautiful; the park holds around 500 plant species, and since it's springtime, you may see the myriad of flowers that bloom in these magnificent landscapes. In the evening you may do an outing to view and photograph the mountains and clouds at sunset.

**Oct 24 ~ Eastern Torres del Paine and back to Punta Arenas**

You will start early to photograph and view the Towers or the Horns with the first light. With the right lighting, the mountain base turns orange and the scene becomes very dramatic with peculiar lenticular clouds moving fast over the peaks. At the eastern corner of Sarmiento Lake, you will reach a location that commands the most incredible views of the towering peaks of Las Torres, the pinnacles from which the park takes its name. As you move around the park, you might observe herds of guanaco, the curious-looking lesser rhea, and impressive Andean condors soaring along the road. During the morning you will visit the eastern side of the park to enjoy the views of one of the impressive waterfalls of Paine River and if it's clear, of the fabulous granite columns of the Paine massif from Laguna Amarga. If you'd prefer to hike to the base of the Towers, you can opt to do this today; your hotel can provide a guide (costs extra). After your picnic lunch, you will head back to Punta Arenas.



Andean Condor  
© Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris

**Oct 25 ~ Join our South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula trip**

Continue on our South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula trip. See the trip itinerary for today's details (<https://cheesemans.com/trips/south-georgia-antarctic-peninsula-oct2025>).

**COSTS (ALL COSTS ARE IN US DOLLARS)**

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**Cost**

Type	Cost per Person
Trip Cost, double occupancy	\$4,050
Single Supplement	\$855

Costs are per person, double occupancy, not including airfare, singles extra. See *Included* and *Not Included* sections for more details.

## Payment Schedule

Payment is due with your main trip's final payment; see its trip itinerary for details at <https://cheesemans.com/trips/south-georgia-antarctic-peninsula-oct2025>.

## Cancellations

Cancellations are non-transferrable. No refunds are given after the Final Payment due date.

## Included

- Carbon offsets for the duration of this trip.
- All leaders, transport, park entry fees, and permits for all activities unless described as optional.
- Meals from breakfast on October 21 through lunch on October 24.
- Mineral water to refill your reusable water bottle
- Transfers from Punta Arenas Airport to Hotel Cabo de Hornos, regardless of arrival day.
- Trip Planning Materials – information about entry requirements, flights, packing, gratuities, etc.

## Not Included

- Carbon offsets for your flights to/from this trip.
- All airfare, airport and departure taxes, and excess baggage fees.
- Passport and visa fees.
- We can arrange extra hotel nights for an extra cost.
- Gratuities – tipping is always discretionary. However, we will add a gratuity of \$120 per participant (\$30 per participant per day for October 21 to 24 for Matias, the local guides, drivers, and additional services) to your final payment.
- [Emergency evacuation insurance and trip cancellation insurance](#).
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, medical costs or hospitalization, room service, alcoholic and other beverages, items not on the regular menu, etc. If you have special dietary needs, please indicate them on your Traveler Reservation Form.

## SIGN UP

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Please contact us first to check availability, reserve your space, and obtain a Traveler Reservation Form. To confirm your reservation, we require a deposit and signed form from each participant.

[Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris](#)

Email: [info@cheesemans.com](mailto:info@cheesemans.com)

WhatsApp: (408) 741-5330 | Skype: CheesemansEcologySafaris

Phone: (800) 527-5330 or (408) 741-5330

## OTHER DETAILS

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### Climate

Torres del Paine is notorious for its unpredictable weather conditions, so be prepared for wind, warm sun, and sudden cold. The average temperatures in Torres del Paine in October range from about 35°F (2°C) at night to about 55°F (13°C) during the day, and rain is infrequent.

### Fitness Level

You will drive to locations of interest and do some short hikes for birdlife around the fringed lagoons and other areas. The longest hike is on Lake Grey's Beach which is 2 miles round trip. The rest of the hikes are not long or strenuous and although the terrain is uneven, the routes are not steep. Please contact us if you have any health concerns that may make this trip challenging.

### Flights

Detailed logistical information is included in the Trip Planning Materials we will send you.

Flights you book

- Arrive in Punta Arenas (PUQ) by 11:59pm on October 20.
- Depart from Ushuaia, Argentina (USH) after 12:00pm on November 13.

### Terms and Conditions

Read our current [Terms and Conditions](#).

### Conservation

Our company ethos has always regarded conservation as inseparable from responsible tourism. We struggle with the dilemma that traveling worldwide expends climate-changing carbon. However, we wholeheartedly believe that traveling with us will cultivate your passion for conserving our beautiful world while stimulating each destination's local economy. We encourage you to explore the various ways in which Cheesemans' operates within this context:

- **Cheesemans' Trips are Carbon Neutral.**
- **Offsetting your Travel to/from our Trip:** We ask you to pledge to offset the carbon emissions for your travel to and from our trips. You can purchase offsets with most airlines (Delta includes them automatically), use our handy [carbon calculator](#) and donate to Sustainable Travel International, or contribute to your favorite offsetting organization.