



de Fitz Roy Expeditions S.A | E. VyT N° Leg. 13040 | Exp . 1151/06

P A T A G O N I A



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FITZ ROY EXPEDICIONES
EXPLORANDO
LA PATAGONIA
DESDE 1985



PRIVATE PROGRAMS

EXPEDITIONS

This is one in a life time experience full of adventure. We have pioneered organizing them and many happy clients have had the experience of a life time..

SOUTHERN PATAGONIA ICE CAP EXPEDITION

(El Chaltén - Paso Marconi - Paso Huemul - El Chaltén)

The Southern Patagonian Ice Field is clearly one of the world's last Terra Incognita, a universe of ice and snow, and a place where few people have set foot on.

DETAILS OF THE PROGRAM

- Glacier National park - El Chaltén
- Octubre a Marzo
- 10 days (6 trekking, 1 rest day y 1 weather day). Day of arrival we will check gear
- 02 a 12 passengers
- Hotel - Camp

DIFFICULTY GRADE

RECOMMENDED PERSONAL GEAR



MUY DIFÍCIL



EXPEDICION HPS

ITINERARY

Day 1 | Arrival to El Chaltén – Expedition briefing and equipment check

Arrival to El Chalten. Small town located at the foot of Fitz Roy and Cerro Torre. Meeting with rest of the group and Expedition Leader. General briefing about Southern Patagonian Ice Field, instructions on how to use camping and technical gear provided by Fitz Roy Expeditions.

Personal equipment check.

D... Lodge... Mountain guide

Day 2 | Río Electric Valley

The day begins with a private transfer to the bridge over Eléctrico River, 15 Km northwest of El Chaltén, and the start point of our trek towards the base of Marconi Glacier. We will walk the first two hours on a well-marked path, through a forest of Lengas and Ñires, alongside Electric River. At the end of the vegetation, we stop few minutes in Piedra Del Fraile campsite, last encounter with civilization before our return to El Chaltén, at the end of the expedition. We will then enter into a great glacier valley surrounded by South Marconi, and North Peaks. From Piedra Del Fraile, we will follow the southern shore of Lake Eléctrico, crossing moraines and rocky formations left by the glaciers less than 70 years ago. Along the way, we will cross Pollone River walking, from where we will be able to observe the North-west face of Fitz Roy. One more hour of trekking will bring us to the western shore of Lake Eléctrico. We will set-up our camp there, only 20 minutes away from Marconi Glacier. After a well-earned rest, we might have some extra energy to explore the area. Full board. Walking distance: 12 Km. (6 hours).

Elevation gain: 50 mts.

B, BL, D... Camp La Playita... Mountain guide

Day 3 | Glaciér Marconi - Marconi Pass

We will wake up at dawn, to start our daily routine of the expedition: breakfast. After only 30 minutes of walking will bring us in front of the Marconi Glacier. A gigantic scree moraine is our first obstacle; the terrain here is unstable and moves constantly, impeding the formation of a marked path. After this short but difficult stretch, we will climb on the glacier itself entering slowly in a kingdom of snow and ice. This day might be the toughest of the expedition. We will climb 2400 ft (800 m) on ice and snow, using crampons, and round crevasses with the assistance of the guide and his team – with the aid of ropes if necessary. Marconi Glacier forms a pass that creates a bottle effect with the winds coming from the Southern Patagonian Ice Field and the Pacific Ocean. Hence, participants will need to be not only physically, but also mentally prepared to trek in a rain or snowstorm. At the end of the day, we will arrive at our second campsite, in the shadow of Marconi South Mt and only an hour away from the Southern Patagonian Ice Field itself. Our almost aerial campsite offers fantastic sunsets and sunrises over the Fitz Roy Range, Cerro Pier Giorgio, and Gorra Blanca. Full board.

Walking distance: 10 Km. (7/9 hours)

Elevation gain: 800 mts.

B, BL, D... Paso Marconi camp... Mountain Guide

Day 4 | HPS: Paso Marconi - Circo de los Altares

In the morning, we will cross the Marconi Pass. Only an hour of trekking with snowshoes will bring us into a land of rock and ice. The Patagonian Ice Field will open itself up giving away fantastic views (if weather permits) of Lautaro Volcano (still active), Mariano Moreno Range (almost higher and much larger than Fitz Roy Range), the De Los Cuatro Glaciares Pass and Chico Glacier, further south. A day of southbound trekking on the ice field to the "Circo De Los Altares", at the foot of the mythic Cerro Torre's West face, take us to the place where we will set up our camp on the ice. Full board.

Walking distance: 12 Km. (6/7hs. Hours)

Elevation gain: 50 mts. - 100 mts. descent

B, BL, D... Circo de Los Altares camp... Mountain Guide

Day 5 | HPS: Circo de los Altares – Refuge Paso del Viento

during the mornign we will head to La Laguna de los Esquíes, on the lateral moraine of Viedma Glacier – where we will exit the ice itself. If the weather and the physical condition of the participants allow us, we will continue up to Paso Del Viento Hut. Camp. Full board.

Walking distance: 14 Km. (8 hours)

Elevation gain: 250 mts descent and 250 mts ascent at the end of the day.

B, BL, D... Paso del Viento Hut Campsite... Mountain Guide

Day 6 | Paso del Viento shelter

Rest day in the campsite near the hut. Full board.

B, BL, D... Refugio Paso del Viento Camp site... Mountain Guide

Day 7 | Huemul Pass

For the past couple of years and after many expeditions, we have decided to continue the trip following Viedma Glacier towards Lake Viedma, instead of climbing to Windy Pass and return to El Chaltén. This new circuit offered by Fitz Roy Expediciones, makes the trek more interesting and attrac-

tive, keeping in sight of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field and Viedma Glacier for two more days. This part of the expedition contours Cerro Huemul Andean steppe, lakes, and marvelous viewpoints accompany us towards Paso Huemul, where we will set up camp. Full board views of the Glacier entering into Lake Viedma will reward us. Full board.

Walking time: 6/7 hours.

Distance: 8 Km/Altitude drop: +600 ft, -300 ft (+200 m, -100 m).Walking distance: 8 km. (6/7 hours.)

Elevation gain: 200 mts ascent and 100 mts descent

B, BL, D... Huemul Pass Camp... Mountain Guide

Day 8 | Lake Viedma

Trek down the steep descent to Lake Viedma and Cabo de Hornos Bay, for our rendez-vous with the boat (for our return to Bahía Túnel, 30 minutes away by minibus from El Chaltén.

Walking distance: 5 Km. (2/3 hs. hours)

Elevation drop: 600 mts steep descent

B, BL, D... Eco camp .. Mountain Guide

Day 9 | (Weather Day)

Only to be used in case of adverse or bad weather and if in difficulty of moving forward in the expedition. If it is not used during the expedition it will be used to spend it in Circo de los Altares but passengers will not return to El Chaltén.

B, BL, D... Camping...Mountain guide.

Day 10 |

End of services

B...

Included:

- Mountain guides and assistant
- Radio communication with our office in El Chaltén, and G.P.S. (global positioning system).
- Double tents, cooking equipment and utensils.
- Mountain equipment (ropes, harnesses, karabiners, maps, compass, etc.)
- Crampons and technical equipment for the participants.
- Transfer to the bridge over Eléctrico River and back to El Chaltén.
- Boat transfer to Bahía Túnel, and minibus to El Chaltén.
- Accommodation: see itinerary
- Meals: see itinerary
 - B: breakfast
 - BL: box lunch
 - D: dinner

Not included

- Personal Equipment.
- Transfers in/out El Chaltén.
- Services not mentioned in this program.
- Drinks in restaurants, and extra drinks.
- Tips.

Note / Observations

Participants do not need technical experience in the use of crampons or snowshoes. However, we ask for previous experience in camping and multi-day treks. The equipment and food are prepared in function of the expedition. Participants will be self-sufficient in their cooking and need to help set-up of camp with the supervision and help of our staff before and during the expedition.

The itinerary starts and ends in El Chaltén.

Weather days will be used in case of very harsh weather.

The itinerary can be modified and has to be seen as a guide. Weather conditions or external situations could change daily plans. The guide will decide any change. Passengers carry their personal gear and will help with the general as well.



