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What to Expect with Patagonia Tours by Tracy Narvaez

Article published on January 21st 2012 | Destinations

Patagonia tours of southern Chile and Argentina can offer a wide variety of experience and adventure. When you travel to this region, you may go see dramatic mountain ranges, penguin colonies or interesting museums. Take the time to review and explore your tour options.

If you enjoy camping out, you may want to join a group to camp overnight at Torres del Paine National Park under the stars. The Patagonia region also is noted for its dramatic glacier displays that you can go explore during your visit. You can plan a trip to go see Grey Glacier or compare it with Perito Merino Glacier and get dramatic photographs to show your friends back home.

You can see a variety of one-of-a kind animals and natural wonders in the region. There are tours that take you by the region's icebergs and whales for breathtaking scenes you can see from aboard a ship. You also can venture to a penguin colony on Magdalena Island to witness them not at a zoo, but out in the wild in their own natural setting.

If you prefer intense water activity, you may want to move beyond the tour boats and into the sea or rivers. There are sea kayaking adventures and other tourist packages that include rafting whitewater rapids. Or, you can sign up for some scuba diving explorations or try windsurfing.

The towns and cities in the area can give you more exposure to the local culture. Punta Arenas, for example, can be your starting point for a journey to Torres del Paine National Park or to venture offshore to see the penguin colony. The city has a nautical museum that also may interest you with its Ferdinand Magellan exhibit.

No matter the season you are traveling, remember to take rain gear so that you are prepared for any torrential rains. Also, pack for a variety of weather extremes, meaning warm fleece and cool cotton shorts. The temperatures can vary dramatically even during one day. January may be the most moderate time to plan a visit to the area.

Spanish- and English-speaking tours typically are available to help you along with your journey and make the most of your trip. You may want to look for tourist packages offered through different cruise lines, plan a vacation on your own or with a travel agent's assistance. Hotels in the region also offer tour packages, and there are bus accommodations to help you visit remote sites.

Patagonia is rich in history, scenery and adventure for you to see and explore with a group or on your own with an expert guide. With the right vacation planning, your Patagonia tours of the region can be adventures to remember forever. You can go online and read more about the area and collect more information on sights to see and things to do. Your local travel agent also can help steer you into exotic journeys to the land of mountains and penguins.

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Article Keywords:
Patagonia tours

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