



THE PUMA'S ROUTE

3 DAYS



THE PUMA'S ROUTE

3 DAYS

Explore the fascinating natural scenery of Torres del Paine National Park with our guides and expert trackers on a wildlife photography excursion as we search for the ultimate predator of this wonderful place in the world on a three-day trip, from sunrise to sunset. We'll travel aboard our vehicle along the park's interior roads, which offer spectacular panoramic views and are known for being located in areas where pumas maintain their biological corridors and hunting grounds.

We'll encounter abundant local birdlife, such as guanacos, culpeo foxes, chilla foxes, armadillos, and many birds, including the black-backed eagle and the majestic condor, ruler of the Andean skies, among many others. While we focus on maximizing our chances of finding and observing the magnificent puma, the absolute king of the Patagonian Andes, and photographing it in its natural habitat... in its vast domain.

An essential adventure in Patagonia for nature and photography lovers.





ITINERARY

DAY 1

We will pick you up at your accommodation and depart from Puerto Natales for Torres del Paine National Park via Route 9. After approximately an hour and a half of travel, in the vicinity of the park, we will establish contact with our trackers, who will indicate the meeting point where we will join them, based on their patrols and search criteria. Analyzing the movements of the guanaco herds, the presence of carrion birds in the sky, and knowledge of the territories and biological corridors established and used by pumas are important data, which, combined with the experience of our team, are essential for establishing the route through the park's interior routes.

Our guide will give an induction briefing regarding the itinerary to follow, safety and behavior during possible sightings, before boarding the vehicle again to begin our excursion. Daily excursions last 6 to 8 hours, where we will visit attractive scenic viewpoints along our route and if we are certain of sighting a puma, we will stop for short walks looking for a good observation angle, always from according to the travel rules defined by the park authorities and assisted by our team.



While it's still very early, we'll take advantage of the hours when the puma is most active, exploring the southeastern sectors of the park between the Laguna Amarga Gate and Nordenskjöld Lake. Enjoy spectacular views of Sarmiento Lake and the Paine Massif. We'll capture wonderful scenic and wildlife photographs while patrolling the puma's usual hunting areas, with opportunities to make eye contact. During these walks, our guide will describe the landscape we observe, including geology, flora, fauna, and other interesting aspects.

We have scheduled a morning and afternoon puma-watching session for each day. The time between the sessions coincides with the lowest puma activity. We'll respect their rest period, and our guide will choose a good spot for lunch (a box lunch). After resting, we can explore the surrounding area and take excellent photographs of the most iconic views of the Paine Massif. Around 2:30 p.m., we'll board our vehicle to repeat the tracking routine, returning to where we closed our morning session or heading to another likely sighting site.

At approximately 5:30 p.m., we'll conclude the day's activities and begin our return trip to Puerto Natales, arriving around 7:00 p.m. Drop-off at your accommodation.





DAY 2

We'll pick you up and head to the park. Our guide will present the day's plan based on our prior contact with our tracker. We'll head to the designated meeting point and begin our exploration aboard our vehicle. The variables used to determine the starting point of our excursion will depend on the previous day's experience. We may repeat the search sites or try other ones to improve our chances. We must remember that pumas are very active at dusk, patrolling their territory in search of prey, and they often travel long distances at night. We'll be able to appreciate and photograph abundant birdlife while traveling overlooking magnificent landscapes.

After lunch (a box lunch) and a well-deserved rest, we'll continue our afternoon excursion, following our initial plan or modifying our itinerary as appropriate.


At approximately 5:30 PM, we will conclude our day's activities and return to Puerto Natales, arriving around 7:00 PM. Drop-off at your accommodation.





DAY 3

We will depart in our vehicle for the park, meeting with our trackers. They will determine the itinerary and activity for today, always capturing memorable images of the wildlife and surroundings while we use our cameras to hunt the best hunter in the area.

We will have lunch (a box lunch) and resume the itinerary of our last afternoon's excursion. At approximately 5:30 PM, we will conclude our day's activities and return to Puerto Natales, arriving around 7:00 PM. Drop-off at your accommodation and end of our services 

DEPARTURE / RETURN TIMES

PEAK SEASON

October / April

PICK UP

05:00 to 05:30 Hrs.

DROP OFF

19:30 Hrs. approximately

LOW SEASON

May / September

PICK UP

06:00 to 06:30 Hrs.

DROP OFF

18:30 Hrs. approximately

*Departure from Puerto Natales / Return to Puerto Natales



IMPORTANT

This activity is designed as a wildlife and landscape photography excursion, maximizing the chances of establishing visual contact with the puma. Any walks that may be undertaken are not intended as traditional treks, but will be done whenever necessary if a sighting occurs. They will be short, under the precise instructions of our guide and trackers so as not to disturb or disturb the animals as we approach and search for the best possible angle and focus for observation. Designed for people with a strong interest in wildlife and photography, this is not a typical excursion, but rather requires patience to achieve its main objective.

Our team, comprised of our driver, specialized guide, and local trackers, has the necessary experience and adequate equipment to ensure success on this excursion. However, this is not guaranteed, as various factors can hinder its success, including current weather conditions and, of course, the elusive nature of the puma.

Puma watching is an activity that takes place immersed in a unique, vibrant natural environment, which deserves all possible respect and care to maintain its unique balance and promote its preservation. As nature lovers, our focus is emphatically on developing environmentally friendly practices and complying with current regulations for this activity. In this regard, our team pays the utmost attention to respecting natural cycles, avoiding disturbances and altering the animals' behavior and the habitat they occupy.

WILDLIFE WATCHING PROTOCOL

Pumas and local fauna

- Wildlife viewing and observation in protected wildlife areas and/or wildlife concentration zones focuses on the responsible and respectful observation of animals in their natural habitat, prioritizing their well-being and avoiding disturbances that alter their behavior.
- The activity will be led by an expert guide and a team of trackers, who have the corresponding permits required by the current regulations of Torres del Paine National Park and the Municipality of Torres del Paine.
The guide and the trackers are the leaders of the excursion, and their instructions, such as the appropriate posture, stops, exiting the vehicle, walking, safe distances, and setting up photographic equipment, must be followed at all times.
- The group participating in the activity must not exceed twelve members, excluding the guide and trackers. Clothing must be appropriate for the weather conditions and preferably dark colors or similar to the surroundings.
- Wildlife viewing will take place during daylight hours, as long as photography is optimal. The use of flash is not permitted.
- In Torres del Paine National Park, recreational and personal use of drones is prohibited because they can disrupt wildlife and the natural environment.
- The activity will take place on vehicle routes within the national park and occasionally on pedestrian trails designated and authorized by CONAF (National Forestry Corporation) and the operating company.
Photography is permitted from the road, provided parking is provided. For safety reasons, the vehicle will not stop on inclines, descents, or in other areas of curves.
- If a sighting occurs, you may only get out of the vehicle if the guide, based on their experience, deems it appropriate, and they will designate the appropriate observation distance. Do not follow the animal, and avoid harassment so as not to disturb it in its activity.
- Upon exiting the vehicle, the group may move along authorized trails in a compact group, but may not deviate from the group for a distance of more than 10 meters, in order to obtain the best angle for photography. Loud noises and sudden movements and/or movements should be avoided as much as possible.
- Photography sessions will be conducted with the assurance that the animal is in a relaxed state, so as not to disturb its tranquility and avoid any risk. When the animal is feeding, photographs and videos may be taken for a prudent amount of time, not exceeding 30 minutes. If the animal leaves, the area must be abandoned so that smaller predators and scavengers can feed and thus avoid disrupting the natural cycle.
- During the calving season (November and December), photography sessions will be short and will be conducted at a distance determined by the excursion team.
- Feeding the animals or planting bait to attract them is strictly prohibited, as these practices are unethical and cause serious disruptions to the animals' natural balance and behavior.

Circuit Trekking in Patagonia



PUERTO NATALES | CHILE



AVAILABLE:
All year



DURATION:
3 days



DIFFICULTY:
Medium



PASSENGERS:
Minimum 2 PAX

SHARED EXCURSION

INCLUDES

Private round-trip transportation / Lunch (box lunch) and snack / Certified bilingual local guide / Local trackers / Safety briefing / Binoculars and scope / Trekking poles and crampons in winter.

NOT INCLUDED

Personal and medical expenses / Personal accident insurance / Additional days / Entrance to Torres del Paine National Park / Tips.

RESTRICTIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Trekking clothing, first, second and third layers (ideally in colors similar to the surroundings) / Waterproof trekking shoes / Sunglasses, sunscreen, gloves / Protective accessories for your photography equipment / If you have any illness, have your medications handy / Warn if you have any dietary restrictions.

Value / **CLP \$ 1.600.000** / Per Person

For inquiries and reservations,
write to us at

 wcircuitpatagonia@gmail.com  wcircuitpatagonia.com

To learn more about all of our
excursions, visit us at





PUERTO NATALES | CHILE

