



Lotus Expeditions

Specialists in Custom Adventure Travel

Sea Kayaking in Patagonia, Chile Explore the Andean Fjords of Pumalín Park 12 Days

Puerto Montt, “the gateway to Patagonia”, and the southern end of the Chilean Lakes District, is the starting point for this spectacular sea kayaking adventure. After a short stay in Puerto Varas on the shores of Lake Llanquihue, where the perfectly-conical, snow-capped Volcan Osorno dominates the skyline, we will drive several hours south on the Pan American Highway to the village of Hornopiren.

Our adventure begins in this small, sea-side port where we will become acquainted with our kayaks and proper paddling techniques. The next five days will be filled with spectacular paddling through some of the most stunning scenery on the planet. We will camp near beaches, soak in natural hot springs, hike through temperate rainforests and enjoy good food and wine which are hallmarks of Chilean hospitality.

Our expert guides will read the tides and our daily schedule will be synchronized with the natural environment. Flora and Fauna abound in this water wilderness, where dolphins, cormorants and sea lions make their homes.

Trip Summary:

- Turquoise lakes, volcanoes, waterfalls
- Andean fjords, temperate rainforests, stunning peaks
- World class sea kayaking, natural hot springs, day hikes
- 1 day sightseeing, 4 days sea kayaking, 1 day motor boat
- 4 nights hotels, 4 nights camping, 1 night rustic hut

ITINERARY

Days One- Depart Home

Depart your home country and fly to Santiago, Chile (*Note: most international flights from the U.S. to Santiago travel overnight. You will connect with your domestic flight to Puerto Montt on Day Two. Please allow sufficient time to clear immigration*).

Day Two, Arrive in Puerto Montt, Chile

Early morning connection with your flight to Puerto Montt. You will be met at the airport in Puerto Montt by a Lotus representative and transferred to your hotel in Puerto Varas. There will be a trip orientation in the afternoon and the evening is free. *O/N, Hotel in Puerto Varas*

Day Three, Sightseeing near Puerto Varas

After breakfast, we depart by private vehicle for an all-day tour. We will visit the base of the Osorno Volcano, the waterfalls at the Saltos De Petrohue and the stunning aqua waters of Lago Petrohue in the Vicente Perez Rosales National Park. Lunch at Yankee Way Lodge is a highlight. *B; O/N, Hotel in Puerto Varas*

Day Four, Begin Sea Kayaking

We depart early in the morning from your hotel; we will travel four to five hours by private vehicle south on the Pan American Highway to our destination in the village of Hornopirén. We will get familiarized with our kayaks and support boat which will be waiting for us, to accompany and provide support and comfort throughout our journey.

This is the northern entrance of the Pumalin Project. After lunch we take to our kayaks and begin paddling to a beautiful island called LLancahué (about three hours paddling). We will spend the night in a rustic, but heart-warming, hospedaje or lodge managed by locals, where we can enjoy hot springs on the shores of the Pacific and watch the sunset on the horizon. *B,L,D; O/N, rustic lodge*

Day Five, Paddle to Quintupeu Fjord

This morning you may enjoy the hot springs one last time before breakfast. From LLancahué we will motor a short distance before we paddle back across the Comau fjord. Traveling along the shoreline, we will pass numerous salmon farms and steep, lush mountainsides. Once we enter the Quintupeu Fjord, dozens of waterfalls cascade in thin lines of white from the highest peaks. After four or five hours of spectacular paddling, we will establish our camp with breath-taking views of glaciers in one direction and four miles of fjord in the other. The afternoon is free to explore the beautiful surroundings, or just kick back and relax. *B,L,D; O/N, camping*

Day Six, Paddle to Cahuelmo Fjord

We will leave Quintupeu Fjord by motor boat until we reach the main Comau Fjord where we will, again, take to our kayaks. This will be our longest paddling day. We will cover about twenty miles until we reach the waters of the Cahuelmo fjord where a sizable sea lion colony begs to be explored. Our reward for the day? More soothing hot springs await!

Locals carved rustic tubs in rock at the water's edge years ago. Each one is a different size and all have very hot water, easily regulated by simple and natural methods to attain the temperature desired for an extremely pleasant bath. These baths are part of the Pumalin Project and thus have an established camping area in lush rainforest and a pit toilet. We will prepare our campsite and enjoy the rest of the afternoon in this incredible place, with a beautiful sunset, and a relaxing night at the hot springs. *B,L,D; O/N, camping*

Day Seven, Rest Day

Today is a well-deserved rest day. You may sleep-in, enjoy an early morning soak, explore the surrounding rainforest or try your luck at fishing in the river. We will end the day with a traditional Chilean Asado or BBQ. *B,L,D; O/N, camping*

Day Eight, Paddle to Huinay and Motor to Porcelana

Today is our final day of paddling! You may enjoy one last soak as we wait for high tide before we motor back out to the Comau Fjord. We will paddle for approximately four hours to the village of Huinay, and if we are lucky, may be accompanied by dolphins, cormorants, or sea lions. After lunch we will motor to our destination, Porcelana, where a hot spring-fed creek emerges from the lush temperate rain forest. We will set up camp and enjoy an evening soak and dinner on the boat. *B,L,D; O/N, camping*

Day Nine, Motor Back to Hornopirén, Return to Puerto Varas

After an early breakfast, we'll return to the support boat and navigate back along the Comau Fjord to our starting point in the village of Hornopirén. We will say goodbye to our boat staff and drive four to five hours back to Puerto Varas where hot showers and a celebration dinner await! *B; O/N, Hotel in Puerto Varas*

Day Ten, Free Day in Puerto Varas

Today you may sleep-in, rest, explore Puerto Varas or do some last minute shopping. *B; O/N, Hotel in Puerto Varas*

Day Eleven, Depart for Home

You will be transferred to the airport in Puerto Montt for your return flight to Santiago and home. *B*

Day Twelve, Arrive Home