



Minnesota Zoo Patagonia Adult EdVenture

November 3-14, 2026

12 Days & 11 Nights

Tentative Itinerary

DAY 1: Flight to Buenos Aires: Arrive in Argentina

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires in the morning, you will be welcomed and transferred to the hotel. The rest of the day will be leisurely for you to explore the city's lively streets and elegant neighborhoods. In the evening, the group will gather for an orientation and a festive welcome dinner.

- Dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Principado (or similar)
- Driving time: 45min (30 Km)

DAY 2: Flight to El Calafate, drive to El Chalten: Arrive in Patagonia

A morning flight will take you south to El Calafate. After lunch on your own, you will travel across the sweeping Patagonian step toward the mountain village of El Chaltén, gateway to Los Glaciares National Park.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Lunch on your own
- Dinner and overnight will be at the charming Hostería Senderos (or similar)
- Driving time: 2hr 30min (200 Km)

DAY 3: EL CHALTEN: Hiking in El Chalten

Today you will explore Los Huemules Private Reserve. After visiting the Interpretation Center, enjoy a scenic hike to Laguna Azul. A boxed lunch will be provided. In the late afternoon, return to the hosteria for dinner and overnight.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Box lunch provided
- Dinner and overnight at the hotel Hosteria Senderos (or similar)
- Driving time: 2hr 30min (200 Km)

DAY 4: EL CHALTEN: Hiking in Los Glaciares National Park

Your day will be devoted to a memorable trek through Los Glaciares National Park. The trail leads through lenga forests and along a glacial river, opening to breathtaking views of Mount Fitz Roy from Laguna Capri. For those seeking a greater challenge, there is the option to continue up to Laguna de los Tres, at the very base of the massif.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Dinner and overnight will be at Hostería Senderos.
- Lunch box and dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Hosteria Senderos (or similar)

DAY 5: EL CHALTEN- EL CALAFATE: Nibepo Estancia

After breakfast, you will return to El Calafate, with the possibility of visiting the fascinating Glaciarium Ice Museum along the way. Following lunch on your own, the journey continues to Estancia Nibepo Aike, where you will witness sheep shearing and an equestrian demonstration. A guided tour of the ranch will reveal the traditions of

Patagonian life, with an optional horseback ride down to the lake. In the evening, enjoy a traditional Argentine asado before returning to El Calafate for the night.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Lunch on your own
- Dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Michel Angelo (or similar)
- Driving time: 2hr 30min (200 Km)

DAY 6: EL CALAFATE: Perito Moreno Glaciar

Today is dedicated to one of Patagonia's natural wonders: the Perito Moreno Glacier. Stroll along the boardwalks for panoramic views of its massive ice walls and then embark on a boat cruise to watch icebergs calve dramatically into the lake. A picnic lunch will be served in the park. In the evening, enjoy dinner in a local restaurant in El Calafate.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Picnic lunch and dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Michel Angelo (or similar)
- Driving time: 2hr (200 Km)

DAY 7: EL CALAFATE- TRELEW- PUERTO MADRYN: Arrival in Puerto Madryn

Early this morning, you will explore the Laguna Nimez Nature Reserve, a haven for Patagonian flora and birdlife. After lunch in a local restaurant, you will board a flight to Trelew and continue by road to Puerto Madryn, where you will dine and overnight at the Dazzler Hotel.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Lunch and dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Dazzler (or similar)
- Driving time: 1hr (80 Km)

DAY 8: PUERTO MADRYN: Punta Tombo

A full-day excursion will take you to Punta Tombo Nature Reserve, home to the largest colony of Magellanic penguins in South America. Walking along the trails, you may also encounter gulls, cormorants, guanacos, maras, and perhaps armadillos. A boxed lunch will be included. In the evening, return to Puerto Madryn and enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Box lunch and dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Dazzler (or similar)

DAY 9: PUERTO MADRYN- PUERTO PIRAMIDES: Valdés Península

This morning you will set out for the Valdés Peninsula, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the Carlos Ameghino Interpretation Center, followed by a walk to the Isla de los Pájaros viewpoint. After lunch at Estancia Elvira, continue north to Punta Norte and Caleta Valdés in search of sea lions, elephant seals, and—if lucky—killer whales. You will arrive in Puerto Pirámides in the late afternoon for dinner and overnight at the hotel in Puerto Piramides.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Lunch and dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Rayentray Oceano Patagonia (or similar)

DAY 10: PUERTO PIRAMIDES: Whale Watching in Puerto Pirámides

Begin the day with a guided coastal walk along the cliffs and beaches to learn about the local flora and fauna. From the shoreline, it is often possible to spot southern right whales during the season. After lunch, aboard a boat for an unforgettable whale-watching cruise in the bay. Dinner will be on your own in Puerto Pirámides. In the evening, there may be an opportunity to attend a conservation talk with Romina Bottazzi, President of Protogenos Patagonia NGO (to be confirmed).

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Lunch included
- Dinner on your own
- Overnight at the hotel Rayentray Oceano Patagonia (or similar)

DAY 11: PUERTO PIRAMIDES- PUERTO MADRYN: Península

Travel east across the peninsula to Punta Delgada and Caleta Valdés, where short coastal walks will offer more opportunities to spot orcas and other wildlife, as well as the region's striking salt flats. Lunch will be served at Punta Cantor before returning to Puerto Madryn in the late afternoon. The journey will close with a farewell dinner at the hotel.

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Lunch and dinner included
- Overnight at the hotel Dazzler (or similar)

DAY 12: PUERTO MADRYN-TRELEW-BUENOS AIRES: Departure

After breakfast, transfer to Trelew Airport for your flight back to Buenos Aires. From there, you will connect with your international flight to Minnesota or continue to other destinations in Argentina.

- Breakfast at the hotel

MEALS:

- Breakfast – 11 included
- Lunch – 8 included
- Dinner – 10 included



Suggested Packing List

The weather in Patagonia is unpredictable. We can get extreme wind, snow, torrential rain, and brilliant sunshine—all in the same day. Clothes made of a wicking fabric are essential, as are good rain clothes and warm layers. It will be spring in Patagonia, but it can get cool anytime. Buenos Aires will be a little hot and humid. Be prepared!

In Your Carry-On Daypack

- ☐ PASSPORT
- ☐ Insurance card
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Personal medications
- ☐ Glasses/contact lenses
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Sunscreen SPF 30 or higher
- ☐ Insect repellent with DEET
- ☐ Hat or cap (for sun protection)
- ☐ Rain jacket/poncho
- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Camera, charger or batteries
- ☐ Snacks for the long bus rides

In Roller Suitcase or Duffel Bag

- ☐ Suggested Shoes:
 - ☐ 1 pairs of close-toed shoes
 - ☐ 1 pair of broken-in, hiking boots
 - ☐ 1 pair of sandals/flip-flops
- ☐ Suggested Pants/Shorts:
 - ☐ Comfortable light weight hiking pants.
 - ☐ Jeans or casual pants
 - ☐ Rain pants
 - ☐ Shorts and swimsuit
- ☐ Variety of Short and Long-Sleeve Shirts
- ☐ Suggested for Cooler Weather:
 - ☐ Sweatshirts or fleeces
 - ☐ Warm Sweater or down jacket
- ☐ Hiking Poles are Highly Recommended
- ☐ Socks
- ☐ Underwear
- ☐ Pajamas
- ☐ Small Towel
- ☐ Watch/Alarm
- ☐ Spanish Dictionary or Phrase Book
- ☐ Flashlight & Extra Batteries

- ☐ Laundry Bag (could be a garbage bag)
- ☐ Personal First Aid Kit:
 - ☐ Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen
 - ☐ Pepto-Bismol/Tums
 - ☐ Band-aids
 - ☐ Neosporin
 - ☐ Dramamine (if you get motion sickness)
- ☐ Toiletries:
 - ☐ Toothbrush
 - ☐ Toothpaste
 - ☐ Soap
 - ☐ Shampoo
 - ☐ Deodorant
 - ☐ Kleenex
 - ☐ Hand sanitizer
 - ☐ Feminine products
 - ☐ Talcum powder (helpful when it's humid)
 - ☐ Vaseline for your feet (use it before and after hikes)
- ☐ Additional Thoughts on Packing:
 - ☐ Money for souvenirs, tips, alcohol, etc.
 - ☐ Prescription meds must be in original container w/prescription information
 - ☐ Packing in zip lock bags is good to keep stuff organized.
 - ☐ Bring extra solution and eye drops, if you wear contacts. Your brand may be hard to find, and bring glasses as a backup.
 - ☐ Pack lightly. You don't need as much as you think.
 - ☐ You don't need new, fancy, expensive, high-tech gear.