
GEEO ITINERARY

Hiking the W Trek

Day 1: Puerto Natales Arrive at any time.

Arrive in Puerto Natales at any time. Check into our hotel and enjoy the town. The day is free to spend at your leisure exploring the city until our welcome meeting this evening. Check the notice boards or ask at reception for the exact time and location of the group meeting, typically 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. After the meeting, you might want to head out for a meal in a nearby local restaurant to further get to know your tour leader and traveling companions. Please make every effort to arrive on time for this welcome meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your tour leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up. This beautiful wind-swept town is the gateway to Torres del Paine National Park. With terrific restaurants and well-stocked gear shops for renting or buying equipment, it is a great place to prepare for the trek. Tonight you will be loaned a dry bag (a bag that is watertight) to store your gear that you want taken to each campsite for you. Read more about this in the details section below. Your tour leader will also help you rent gear that you will need for the trek, such as rain pants and hiking poles. The airport in Puerto Natales is small with limited flight connections. Most onward flight connections will be through Punta Arenas in Chile or El Calafate in Argentina which would involve taking a public bus or transfer. GEEO recommends coming in a day early so you have time to check out Puerto Natales, or even spend a bit of time in Punta Arenas or El Calafate too. Just call us if you are having trouble with booking flights. You may also want to go to Santiago before or after the trek. We can give you tips for what to do in Santiago on your own.

Day 2: Puerto Natales/Laguna Azul Camp (B, L, D) Embark on a 4-day excursion within Torres del Paine NP, hiking the famous W Trek. Start the 62 km (38.5 mi) route by trekking to the base of Las Torres to see the dramatic three towers and turquoise lagoon below.

Embark on a 4-day excursion within Torres del Paine National Park, hiking the famous W Trek. Start the 62km (38.5 mi) route by trekking to the base of Las Torres to see the dramatic three towers and turquoise lagoon below. Today we trek 16 km (10 mi), 4-5 hours mostly uphill to the Towers then another 4-5 hours back, mostly downhill. Throughout the trek, you will be carrying a only day pack with your lunch, snacks, a 1-1.5 liter water bottle (which can be refilled throughout the hike from pristine glacial streams), and layers of clothes to deal with the ever-changing weather conditions. Then, take a 45 min private vehicle transfer to the Laguna Azul campsite where you can have a shower and a delicious meal. You will be reunited with your backpack filled with up to 5 kg (11 pounds) of clothes, snack refills, a pillow, and other personal items. Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by private vehicle to start of trek, 45 mins by private vehicle to the campsite, 8-10 hours of hiking

Day 3: Laguna Azul Camp/Cuernos Camp (B, L, D) Wake up surrounded by breathtaking landscapes, and then continue hiking along Lake Nordenskjöld.

Wake up to the amazing views of the Cuernos del Paine (the Horns of Paine). After breakfast, continue hiking along the W route, crossing Paine River and passing through grassy fields. Stop at Lake Nordenskjöld and snap a photo of the mountains reflecting in the lake before reaching the refuge. Take in some amazing scenery on this stretch – light blue lakes contrast beautifully against the deep green forest. Test your endurance on a couple of uphill sections, but mainly enjoy a straightforward hiking day. Head to the spectacular campsite for the night near Cuernos Camp. Approximate travel time: 5-6 hours of hiking

Day 4: Cuernos Camp/Paine Grande Camp (B, L, D) Hike to the French Valley lookout and take in the awe-inspiring views of the mountain range spreading across the national park. Marvel at the dramatic, contrasting greens and greys of the landscape.

Today will trek 12 miles over the course of 8 to 9 hours. We first hike first to the Italian camp, then set out to the French Valley Mirador to see the mountain range spread across the National Park. Take in the dramatic, contrasting greens and grays on the landscape. Get a great view of the fresh glacier, where it's possible to see avalanches. End the day's hike at the Paine Grande Campsite. You will have a cafeteria-style meal at 7:00 PM. It can be a bit loud at night, and it doesn't get dark until 11:15 p.m., so we recommend bringing earplugs and an eyeshade mask. Approximate travel time: 8-9 hours of hiking

Day 5: Paine Grande Camp/Puerto Natales (B, L) Enjoy the final day of the W Trek.

The final day of the W Trek leads to Grey Lake and the lookout point for Grey Glacier. Admire the scale of this immense glacier. Continue trekking to Lake Pehoé and finish by taking a picturesque ferry ride across the lake, enjoying the sense of accomplishment, before arriving back at Puerto Natales for the night. Approximate travel time: 4-5 hours of hiking, 45-minute ferry ride, 1.5 hours by private vehicle

Day 6: Puerto Natales Depart at any time.

Depart at any time. The airport in Puerto Natales is small with limited flight connections. Most onward flight connections will be through Punta Arenas in Chile or El Calafate in Argentina which would involve taking a public bus or transfer. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEE0 trips in the same year and receive a discount! GEE0 will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs).