

Booking Agent: North South Travel

Booking Contact: 1-800-665-1882

E-Mail: info@natureviewstours.com



Falkland Islands & Patagonia Tour January 17th - February 3rd, 2008

Join us for a luxury tour to Patagonia & The Falkland Islands. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for aspiring nature photographers and adventurous travelers alike. See some of the world's most stunning wildlife and scenery, accompanied by expert guides. Highlights of the tour include visiting penguin colonies, climbing glaciers and savouring fine Chilean wines.

The tour will be led by professional guides Andrew Wenzel, Rob Stimpson, and Maria Silvia Boutellier. With decades of experience in the region and with its wildlife, the guides will ensure that you have the tour of a lifetime.

- Once-in-a-lifetime wildlife viewing opportunities
- 3 Professional Guides - 2 of whom are professional wildlife photographers
- Small group size (maximum of 10)
- Luxury accommodations

ITINERARY

Day 00. Flight to Santiago. Flights to Santiago are generally overnight flights.

Day 01. We will pick you up at the airport in the morning and whisk you to our Four Star, Santiago Hotel the Hotel Galerías. You will have time to freshen up. Perhaps have a short nap and then the fun begins. What better way to start your vacation after a long flight than a relaxing photo tour of the beautiful Santa Rita Vineyard? We'll see grapes on the vine, oak wine casks in the wine cellar and beautiful old architecture. Even more importantly we'll get to sample the wine and cheese!! This is a terrific way to unwind after a long flight, to get to know one another, and to shake out the cobwebs.

Upon returning to Santiago you will have time to shower or relax at the hotel before we celebrate the beginning of our adventure with a wonderful dinner accompanied by great Chilean Folk Music!

PATAGONIA

Day 02. After an early breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight to Punta Arenas in Patagonia. We will then have a scenic drive to Estancia Rio de Los Ciervos. On the way we will have a short city tour of Punta Arenas.

Plenty of time to rest up at the Estancia and get ready for a sumptuous Asado (bbq with lamb, beef, poultry, salmon). Free time to explore around the Estancia.

Day 03. Breakfast at the estancia. Drive to the ferry that takes us to the Magellanic penguin colony on Isla Magdalena on the Magellan Strait. Fresh seafood lunch at a local restaurant after the tour. Return to the estancia. Dinner at the estancia.

Day 04. Breakfast at the estancia. Transfer to Puerto Natales. See the Magellanic penguins at Seno Otway. Lunch at Llanuras de Diana Hotel. Accommodation at hotel Costa Australis in Puerto Natales. Dinner at the hotel. This is a beautiful drive of 250km through the amazing landscapes of Patagonia. Along the way it is likely we will see Guanacos, and very possible to see Rheas (aka nandu or South American ostrich) and giant condors. We'll be staying at the beautiful Costa Australis Hotel with splendid views of the sound.

Day 05. Breakfast at the Costa Australis Hotel. Early embarkment to sail through Last Hope Fjord up to Serrano and Balmaceda glaciers. We will see Cormorant and Sea Lion colonies along the way. Lunch in front of Serrano glacier. Afternoon we voyage upstream on the Serrano River to Torres Del Paine National Park. By water all the way to our Hotel Rio Serrano! Imagine that!

Day 06. Early breakfast at the hotel. Full day trekking to the base of the towers. Box lunch. Torres Del Paine National Park is an extraordinarily beautiful park. We will have lots of opportunities to explore one of the most beautiful landscapes in all of Patagonia. We should see Guanacos roaming around and there is always the possibility of seeing Andean Condors!

Day 07. Walking on ice! Today we'll set out in boats on Lago Grey and make our way to the base of Glaciar Grey. We'll meet our ice guides and be introduced to crampons, ice-picks and basic ice trekking techniques. Soon you'll be speaking ice speak and talking knowledgeable about seracs, moraines and moulins. Ice photography!!! A lovely box lunch will be provided. Dinner at Rio Serrano hotel. Sunset photography of the mountains from the hotel.

Day 08. For early risers, dawn photography from the Hotel property. Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Punta Arenas. Another great drive through rugged and beautiful Patagonian landscapes. Enroute to Hotel Carpo Manzano we will stop for some amazing landscape views. Farewell dinner. This is where we will bid a fond farewell to Maria Silvia and begin thinking about the next leg of our adventure: The Falkland Islands!!!

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Day 09. A leisurely morning to prepare for the Falkland Islands. Breakfast at the hotel. We will leave behind our extra luggage and transfer to the airport for the flight to Mount Pleasant Airport in Port Stanley. From here we will transfer to two smaller Britten Norman Islander aircraft for a short flight to Pebble Island where we will be met by Alan White and Jacqui Jennings. After lunch we have loads of options. Pebble Beach, Green Rincon Beach, historic locations from the 1982 conflict, Magellanic, Gentoo and Rockhopper Penguins. And that's only the West End of the Island!! Yes it's going to be exciting!

Day 10. A full day with the amazing wildlife on Pebble Island including the beautiful King Cormorant colony!

Day 11. We'll have time for a hearty breakfast and a last visit to the nearby penguin colonies before we greet our pilots and aircraft on the longest beach in the Falkland Islands. We say goodbye to our two terrific hosts, Alan and Jacqui. Next stop: Sea Lion Island; just a short thirty- minute flight away! We'll meet our hosts and be given a tour of the scenic and wildlife highlights of Sea Lion, all within easy walking distance of the very comfortable lodge.

Day 12. A full day with the wildlife of Sea Lion Island!

Day 13. Another full day with the wildlife of Sea Lion!!!

Day 14. Once again we greet our pilots and two Britten Norman Islander aircraft on the beach and bid a fond farewell to Sea Lion. Next stop: Mt. Pleasant Airport, Port Stanley and The Malvinas House Hotel. Time to rest, shop, photograph, explore and even visit the infamous pub, The Globe!

Day 15. Day tour to Volunteer Point King Penguin Colony. This is yet another tour highlight! There are 600 pairs of King Penguins at volunteer Point with the most beautiful pink sand beach imaginable.

Day 16. Our last day in The Falkland Islands. Early morning excursion to Kidney Cove to a Rock Hopper penguin colony. In the afternoon transfer to the airport for our flight back to Punta Arenas. Transfer to Hotel Carpo Manzano. Farewell celebration dinner!!!

Day 17. Free morning for optional tours. Lunch in Punta Arenas. Afternoon transfer to the airport for flight to Santiago and connection with international flight.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Torres del Paine National Park: Amazing landscapes, leisurely trek to "the towers".

Hotel Rio Serrano has absolutely incredible views of the mountains of Torres del Paine! Glacier Grey ice trek: See the amazing icescapes of Glacier Grey. Seracs, moulins, ice caves. Seno Otway and Magdalena Island Magellanic penguin colonies. Estancia Rio De Los Ciervos: Elegant former working estancia in a rural landscape. Asado (traditional South American BBQ). Santa Rita Vineyard: Tour of vineyard, wine tasting, visit vineyards and wine cellar. Dinner with Chilean folk music. Wildlife possibilities include: Guanacos, Rheas, Flamigos, Andean Condors, Grey Fox.



Pebble Island: Accommodations in Pebble Island Lodge with hosts Alan White and Jacqui Jennings. One of the highest concentrations of Magellanic penguins in the Falklands. Pristine sand beaches. 4-mile long Elephant Beach, the longest sand beach in the Falklands. Flightless Steamer ducks, Oystercatchers, Kelp geese and gulls forage in the inter-tidal zone. A large colony of Rockhoppers. Commersons dolphins can sometimes be seen offshore. One of the most important wetland regions in the Falklands. Black-necked swans, grebes, rare ducks and geese inhabit this area. We will also visit a large colony of King cormorants.



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Sea Lion Island: Sea Lion Lodge is the premier place to stay in the Falkalnd Islands. Sea Lion Island abounds with wildlife. Beautiful regions of tussac grass cover much of the island and provide a perfect habitat for elephant seals and sea lions. They are also alive with thrushes, finches, tussac birds and Magallenic penguins. Elephant seals and sea lions can also be found on many of the island's spectacular beaches. Rockhopper, gentoo and Magellanic penguins come to Sea Lion Island to breed. Macaroni and King penguins as well as Striated and Crested Caracaras are also common sights on the island. The wetlands on the island support populations of Chiloë wigeon, speckled and silver teal and Patagonian crested duck, as well as wading birds such as the rufous-crested dotterel, two-banded plover and the white-rumped sandpiper, a non-breeding visitor from Arctic Canada. Peale's dolphins are often seen from the beaches.



Port Stanley is a wonderful town with plenty to see including a whale bone arch, Christ Church Cathedral and of course, local architecture. If you're thirsty for a pint at an English pub, The Globe is a must stop. Our **Kidney Cove Excursion** is an exciting half day trip from Port Stanley. This is the trip that offers an opportunity to see the marvelous macaroni penguin.

The Volunteer Point King Penguin Colony is among the great visual treats we offer during the trip. Experience a perfect pink sand beach with long curling waves that roll in to meet the King penguins.



TOUR GUIDES



Andrew Wenzel: His varied naturalist, guiding and photography experience includes; nine years with the ORES Centre for Coastal Field Studies conducting whale research and photographing whales, underwater stills photographer on the T.V. shows *The Last Frontier* and *Danger in the Sea*, tour leader in Ecuador and the Galapagos, eight seasons on small ships in Antarctica and the Arctic as a lecturer, assistant expedition leader and expedition leader. Four seasons as a naturalist for Holland America in Alaska. Naturalist at the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre. He has been to the Falkland Islands a dozen times. His photographs are sold almost daily all over the world. www.andywenzel.com



Rob Stimpson's popular photography seminars and workshops are constantly sold out. He is a professional photographer, a wilderness guide, an amazing teacher and a very friendly and amiable guy! He has a world of experience in the wilds of Canada, Antarctica, the Arctic and Africa. www.robstimpson.com



Maria Silvia Boutellier: Her resume in Tourism is quite remarkable. She operates her own successful tourism company (*Turismo de Campo*) in Ushuaia Argentina and is one of the kindest, most gracious people we know. She also happens to be fluent in English, Spanish and French. We are lucky to have her with us!

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Accommodations

The hotels in Chile are either 4 star or best available. The accommodations in the Falkland Islands are the best available. The tour price is based on double occupancy. Single occupancy may not be available at some locations.

Inclusions

All flights and transportation in Chile and The Falkland Islands. All listed excursions. All guides. All accommodations. Most meals.

Exclusions

International Flights to and from Santiago Chile. 3 dinners, 3 lunches, 1 breakfast, gratuities, items of a personal nature. Trip cancellation and medical insurance. An embarkation tax of GBP 20.00 per person on departure from the Falkland Islands.

Payment Terms and Conditions

A non-refundable deposit of \$1000 USD and a completed Personal Information / Registration / Release Form will reserve a place for you. Deposits and trip payments may be made by international bank draft or bank transfer in US dollars. For trip deposits only, we accept Visa or MasterCard. Full payment of the trip fee is due by July 17, 2007. We must receive written notice of your cancellation, at which time the following fees apply: Cancellations before July 17th - loss of deposit. Cancellations after July 17 and before September 17 - loss of 50% of trip fee. Cancellations after Sept. 17 - loss of 100% of trip fee.

Citizens of many countries must pay a "reciprocity fee" of varying amounts (for example, USD 100 for American citizens, USD 132 for Canadian citizens, USD 56 for Australian citizens, and USD 15 for Mexican citizens). This fee is equivalent to the amount that country requires for entry visas from Chilean citizens. The fee is only for tourists entering by plane, and the one-time charge is good for the life of your passport. This fee may change by the time of our visit.

No partial refunds are made for unused portions or services of a trip for any reason whatsoever. Trips are sold as a package only. This policy also applies to tour extensions and independent travel arrangements. Cancellation fees are not transferable.

Nature Views cancellation: Full refund.

Insurance

Proof of medical insurance is required and must be provided before departure. Failure to do so will result in the cancellation of your trip. Your medical insurance must include provision for medical evacuation. It is highly recommended that you have travel insurance.

CONTACT US

BOOKINGS:

Bookings are made through North South Travel.

1-800-665-1882

INFORMATION:

For more information, contact Andrew Wenzel at NatureViews Tours.

info@natureviewstours.com