



## ExChile - Welcome to the Greatest Playground on Earth!

**2017-2018-2019 Season**

Last Update: 09/7/2017 (Lindsay)

**URL Link:** <http://www.exchile.com/futafantasy.html>

### Trip Name: Futaleufu Rafting Multisport (6 day)

First Name:

Last Name:

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Number of People in the Group:

Comments:

#### Overview:

[Experience Patagonia!](#) (82 secs)

[Top Five Rapids on the Futaleufu](#) (5 min)

#### Description of the trip:

[Rafting the Futaleufu](#) (70 sec)

[Staying at our River EcoCampo Tres Monjas](#) (82 secs)

#### Whitewater Rafting in Chile:

## Futaleufu Rafting: Futaleufu Rafting Multi-Sport Patagonia Chile (Class 3,4,5)

Description of the trip: [Rafting the Futaleufu](#) (70 sec)

The Futaleufu Multisport Chile Rafting trip descends the entire whitewater portion of the Futaleufu river. This 6 day schedule gives you the best possibility of running all of the sections in case of water level fluctuations. Over four full rafting days, we descend from 1056 feet above sea level near the Argentine border to 160 feet above sea level at our take-out near Lago Yelcho. In addition to rafting the entire Futaleufu, you will have the option of scheduling two full days of multisport activities in this spectacular section of the river valley. From Campo Tres Monjas, there are four trailheads that allow you to venture out on foot or on mountain bikes to explore this magical paradise. You can also sea kayak on nearby lakes, sit on top kayak, or learn to whitewater kayak on the easier Rio Espolon. If you are an experienced kayaker, you can kayak along with our raft trips or in groups that match your experience level.

[The Eco Campo Tres Monjas](#), or your accommodation during the trip, is located on a white sand beach at the confluence of the Rio Futaleufu and the Rio Azul. The RiverNest Cabins are hidden between the river bank and the riparian forest, and each cabin is accessed by a private sand trail and surrounded by exotic Patagonian trees. After dinner, you can enjoy a campfire on the beach as you watch the moon rise between the impressive spires of Tres Monjas peak. At camp we have a sauna, flush toilets, a drying room for your river clothes, a dining lodge, and a selection of hot showers -

including an exotic outdoor shower masterfully hidden between natural boulders. On this week-long trip, you will be able to play hard during the day in the Patagonian wild and return to the comforts of sit-down dining, a cozy stove, a sauna, and a warm bed. Rafting in Chile does not get any more exciting, wild, and comfortable than this.

Your first day of rafting, which is an introduction to big water (Class  $\frac{3}{4}$ ), starts just after we pick you up at the border. It is a stunning journey along a remote, seldom seen section of the Futaleufu. You will learn how to maneuver the raft as a paddle team and to test yourselves as the rapids increase from Class 3 to Class 4. You will be surrounded by unusual trees, spectacular scenery, a black granite gorge and pristine water. Your day ends on the white sand beach of Campo Tres Monjas, and your luggage will be waiting at our Eco Campo Tres Monjas. Snacks and pisco sours will be waiting in the dining room and the sauna will be hot. This will be your home in paradise for the week.

## Day by Day:

### **Day 1 Friday: Depart your hometown**

Overnight flight to Buenos Aires, Argentina

### **Day 2 Saturday: Travel to Trevelin, Argentina in Patagonia**

Welcome to the warmth of summer in the Southern Hemisphere, with an early arrival in Buenos Aires. Change airports with a taxi or shuttle bus and catch another flight to Esquel, Argentina. Taxi 45 minutes to Trevelin, Argentina, a charming mountain village just 45 minutes from the border and from the Futaleufu River in Chile. If you prepay, ExChile can meet all of your transportation needs until we pick you up at the Argentine-Chilean border the following day. Check into the Casa de Piedra hotel and walk to one of several Argentine restaurants with the Chilean Andes in view. Relax, unwind, and get a good night's sleep before the start of your trip the next morning.

### **Day 3 Sunday: Raft from near the border to Campo Tres Monjas**

After a relaxing night's sleep at a hotel in the quaint Welsh town of Trevelin, deep in Argentinian Patagonia, we begin this exciting trip with a taxi to the Chilean-Argentine border, where an ExChile representative meets you. We are now in the Futaleufu Valley. After clearing customs, you will meet your guides and change into our river gear. Your luggage will be whisked away and will magically show up at your RiverNest cabin at our river Eco-Camp. Our first day on the river will be on the introductory Las Escala section. After our guides introduce you to safety and paddling skills on the river, we will encounter a section of mild class II water flowing through the Las Escalas valley. A couple of hours later, the river shows its wild side and we encounter [Zeta](#) and [Throne Room](#), two of the most challenging (Class V+) rapids on the Futaleufu. We will study and portage both rapids. After the portages, the action starts with the section called "The Wild Mile," which contains [Tres Islas](#) (III), [Roller Coaster](#) (III), [Honorable Mention](#) (IV minus), [Wild Mile](#) (IV minus), and the climatic "Thing." The excitement continues until we get to the confluence of the Futaleufu and Azul Rivers. We take out on the unspoiled beach at our Campo Tres Monjas, where a stunning Patagonian peak stands guard. You will be given a tour of the trails leading to the sauna, showers, gear drying shed, bathrooms, and dining hall. This idyllic spot will serve as the take-out and put-in for your activities for the rest of the week's adventures. This setting is arguably one of the most stunning on the river. Relax in the sauna and prepare for a sit-down meal.

### **Day 4 Monday: Rafting: Terminator Section and the Heart of the Futaleufu**

Today has to be one of the most fun and action packed days of rafting anywhere on Earth. We take off from our sand beach at camp and head downstream to a couple of warm up rapids before the river takes on an extremely powerful nature with the longest rapid on the Futa, [Terminator](#) (Class V). Just below, we'll negotiate the hydraulic hole-filled [Khyber Pass](#) (Class IV+) and the [Himalayas](#) (Class IV), which has perhaps the biggest standing waves in the hemisphere. After lunch, we run another complete section - Bridge to Bridge - which is the heart of the Rio Futaleufu. This section, from the Zapata swinging bridge to the Puente Futaleufu, includes five miles of Class IV+ rafting action. Rapids such as [Entrada](#), [Pillow](#), [Tiburón](#), and [Mundaca](#) - which has a must-see explosion hole - will keep you on your toes. The action is non-stop and the calm between the rapids is short. This is world class rafting at its best! Even our most experienced river runners tell us that they have never seen such continuous non-stop action. After the trip we return to our Camp and take advantage of our sauna and massage room to work out sore muscles you might have after a big day of paddling.

### **Day 5 Tuesday: Lower Futaleufu Rafting: The Heart of the Futaleufu and Casa de Piedra**

We take off from the beginning of the Heart of the Futaleufu. This is the action-packed section from the day before that includes five miles of Class IV+ rafting action. As we begin our final section of river today, we will thread through the aptly named Mas o Menos rapid, preparing for the magical and daunting Casa de Piedra rapid. Casa - as the rapid is commonly referred to by our expert guides - is a long class V rapid appropriately named for the house size rock that must be navigated before we fly down through a maze of truck-sized holes and waves. The take-out is across the river from a spectacular cliff wall, and glaciers tower in the distance. We then return to the Campo and to the RiverNest cabins.

### **Day 6 Wednesday: Rafting Infierno to Campo**

Infierno Canyon is the most demanding, committing, and hazardous section of the Futaleufu, and it is the highlight of our Patagonia rafting program! (It is also optional.) If you feel that you have rafted enough, however, a multi-sport activity (i.e. sea kayaking, whitewater kayak lessons, mountain biking, or trekking) can also be scheduled. To raft this section safely, the river levels must be ideal. You must also have rafted the "Bridge to Bridge" section with us and have met all of our safety requirements. We put in at the Río Espolon bridge and raft to the the confluence with the Futaleufu River. At the [Gates of Infierno](#), we enter the "Infierno Canyon" with several consequential and continuous Class V drops. After an exciting morning of rafting in the Infierno canyon, the river widens with spectacular views of Las Escalas Valley. After a section of mild class II water, the river returns to its wild side and we encounter [Zeta](#) and [Throne Room](#). Hopefully you will be able to see and film one of the safety guides kayaking these incredible, world-class rapids. We will portage both. We repeat the action-packed section called "The Wild Mile". This time you will be relaxed enough to observe the incredible scenery from the river. We arrive at the [Río Azul](#) tonight and (weather permitting) we set up the dining tables on the beach. If you want, you can schedule a massage after these four active days of rafting.

**Day 7 Thursday: Trekking or Mountain Biking.** Today we can trek or mountain bike around or up the Tres Monjas. After breakfast, we set out on a trail for the planned trek around the Tres Monjas peak. One trek takes us around the backside of the Tres Monjas Peak, crossing over creeks and through Coihue forests (4 hours). The most challenging option is the all day climb (8 to 12 hours) up the the Monjas and through the enchanted forest of rare Lenga trees that have adapted to the thin soil high on the mountain. Their fight for survival coupled with their vulnerability contributes to a fascinating environment, which makes for an exciting hike! You can experience an incredible view of the area just beneath the dramatic spires. If you just want a day at camp to yourself to relax, swim, read on that beach, grab a massage, or just take in the natural beauty... feel free to take the day off. Just make sure that you return in time for wine and snacks before dinner!

**Day 8 Friday: Paddle the Espolon River** in an inflatable kayak, trek or learn to roll a kayak. Most Fridays, we have our company founder, a former Olympian, teach our guests the essential points of whitewater kayaking. After these activities, we will have time to change clothes and to take a small tour of Futaleufu. We will make our way toward the border, where your taxi awaits to take you to your hotel in Trevelin. Check into your hotel, take a shower, and change clothes before enjoying your last night in Patagonia. There are a handful of outstanding and reasonably-priced restaurants in Trevelin that we can recommend. Relax, recover, and look back on the exciting week of rafting before heading home the following morning.

**Day 9 Saturday: Return to Capital City**

You wake up in Argentina, where there is plenty of time for breakfast and relaxation before you take a taxi from your hotel to the airport in Esquel. Return to Buenos Aires, change airports, and connect to your international flight home.

**Day 10 Sunday: Continue your adventure in Argentina or return home from Buenos Aires**

**Accommodation:**

[Campo Tres Monjas](#) (82 secs)

[CondorNest Ranch](#)

Lodge Based (call our office)

**Price and Departure Dates**

**Active Days:** Six Full Days

**Price per Person:** Single Occupancy **3,795 USD** (if available)

**Price per Person:** Double Occupancy **3,395 USD**

**Scheduled Departure Dates:** [Activity Calendar](#)

**Included**

Your described itinerary, guiding, instruction, specialized equipment, and all transportation from your trip pick-up point to your trip drop-off point, all accommodation (RiverNest Cabins are double occupancy), all meals, and wine with dinner. (To see the gear that we provide, please check the [packing list](#) of your activity.)

**Multisport Choices:** If you have a scheduled multisport activity or if the river is too high to run, the group can decide to participate in the following activities: Beginning Kayaking / Inflatable Kayaking (Class II-III) / Trekking / Sea Kayaking / Mountain Biking

**Not Included**

All pre and post-trip enroute transportation, food, and hotel(s).

Once you are on an ExChile trip, you should incur no extra expenses unless you'd like laundry services, massages, gifts, or alcohol beyond what is included. If you would like to add multisport activities that are not listed as options on your itinerary, we are happy to cater to your wishes, though these activities may be subject to an additional charge. These additional activities include fly fishing, horseback riding, and canyoning.

## Contingencies

**Weather and River Flow:** ExChile will work to make your trip a total success, though your trip itinerary may vary based on unforeseen circumstances related to weather, river levels, or to other unpredictable variables. Given that the weather in Patagonia and the water level of the Rio Futaleufu can change, some runs may be dangerous at certain points in time. However, our experienced guide staff will work closely with you to determine the optimal substitute option, if relevant. If you have any concerns, please feel free to reach out to ask us more about potential risks and options.

**Transportation:** Expediciones Chile and G & G Travel and Tours are not financially responsible for travel complications associated with arriving at your trip pick-up point or returning home from the trip drop-off point. However, we will be your relentless ally 24/7 in offering our influence to help solve any issues that you may encounter en route. This is our part of the world and we are very well connected. Our clients provide significant business for the transportation services that we recommended, and they know that we aggressively represent our guests in finding solutions while they are en route to ExChile trips. We also recommend purchasing travel insurance.

## Trip Summary:

**Experience Needed:** None (Though it's always helpful)

**Physical Challenge:** Moderate

**Family Rating Rafting:** Class 1-3 for 8-14 years olds ; Class 4-5 for 14-15 olds (With family permission)

**Family Rating Multisport:** Family friendly

**Season:** Dec, 7 to March 31, 2018

**Cultural Experience:** Moderately high

**Nature Experience:** Very high

**Comfort Rating:** Glamping at Campo Tres Monjas

**Max Trip Size:** 16

**Min Trip Size:** 4

**Regions Visited:** Remote Patagonia - Chile (Futaleufu) and Argentina (Trevelin)

**Lakes, rivers, and sites:** Rio Futaleufu, Rio Azul, Rio Espolón, Lago Lonconao, Lago Espolón, Secret Lagoon, Campo Tres Monjas

## How to get to and from Patagonia (Interactive)

[Our Recommended Route](#) (Through Esquel, Argentina ; Taxi to Futaleufu)

[Executive Option](#) (Through Puerto Montt, Chile ; Charter directly to Futaleufu)

[Transit through Chile](#) (Through Puerto Montt and Chaiten, Chile ; Public bus to Futaleufu)

**How to organize your en route in one step:** We recommend contacting Gilda ([G & G Travel and Tours](#)) who can help arrange all en route transportation and pre- and post-trip hotels for your ExChile trip. Give her a call to compare prices, as she often beats internet fares.

## Let's GO!

[Hold your spot now!](#)

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Thank you,

Trip Designers: Adam Odoski and Chris Spelius

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