

ExChile Greatest Playground on Earth! 2010-2011-2012 season

Trip Name: Futaleufu Fly Fishing Lago Yelcho

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Overview

Lago Yelcho, one of Chile's deepest lakes, is a world-class destination for extraordinary Chile fly fishing vacations. This Patagonia lake is legendary for its wild and trophy-sized brown, rainbow and brook trout. It is fed by innumerable streams and the Futaleufú river itself, creating the perfect breeding conditions for very strong, hard fighting fish. The view with the glaciated peaks thrusting up out of the lake is nothing short of breathtaking. Our Patagonia fly fishing lodge is located on a private 250 acre island just where the Rio Futaleufu enters Lago Yelcho. This ensures exclusivity and privacy. The views of the surrounding mountains are majestic and serene. The lack of traffic and noise ensures abundant birdlife and, of course the Yelcho dragonflies are there from November to May.

National Geographic International Adventurist: Seven days to the Futaleufu - Trailer Slide shows: Slide Shows

Day by Day:

Day 1 Friday: Depart your home town

Fly to Miami and connect on an over night flight to Buenos Aires Argentina. Welcome to the warmth of the Southern Hemisphere in summer.

Day 2 Saturday: Travel to Trevelin, Patagonia Argentina

Early morning arrival in Buenos Aires, change airports and catch another flight to Bariloche, or Esquel, Argentina. From Bariloche, a luxury bus will take you on a beautiful drive along the Patagonian lakes and mountains to Esquel. If you fly direct to Esquel, you can arrive in Trevelin with some time to enjoy the area. Trevelin, Argentina is a charming mountain village gateway just 45 minutes from Futaleufu River in Chile. Trevelin is serviced by ground transport (Bus or private taxi) from the Jet ports in Bariloche (4 hrs) or Esquel (40 min). Check into a hotel in this charming village and walk to one of several superb restaurants. Unwind, relax, and get a good nights sleep before the start of you trip 9:00 am the next morning.

Day 3 Sunday: Futaleufu Delta

After the transfer to Lago Yelcho deep in Chilean Patagonia, it's only a short motorboat ride from the Isla Monita Lodge will take us to the delta of the Futaleufu River. We will fish among a group of islands populated by willow trees. Casting beneath the trees will test our fly fishing skills but the rewards will be well worth the effort because large brown and rainbow trout inhabit these waters. We will have lunch streamside and for the rest of the day we will fish with streamers and nymphs and look for opportunities to dry fly fish should we run into a late day hatch. After the evening's fly-fishing we go back to the Isla Monita Lodge for cocktails followed by a superb dinner with Chile's finest wines. Fly Fishing in Chile doesn't get better than this!

Day 4 Monday: Fly Fishing Chile's Lower Futaleufu

We motor up the lower Futaleufu against its mild current to the base of the thundering whitewater section. From there we will drift through a canyon of steep granite walls, the banks of which are covered with a dense bamboo forest. Numerous high waterfalls will accent this Yosemite like landscape. On this stretch we will be fly fishing with streamers and look for fish under the thick vegetation that populates the banks of the Lower Futaleufu. We'll have lunch streamside and continue fly fishing. Later in the day we will take advantage of the evening hatches with dry flies, then journey back to the Isla Monita Lodge for dinner.

Day 5 Tuesday: Fly Fishing Patagonia's Rio Palena

We drive over to the Rio Palena, a river which originates in Argentina, for a fly fishing float trip through a canyon with Class II riffles. The prime fishing is in between the moving water. Some of these spots are so remote that the browns and rainbows here have never seen an artificial fly. This all day float takes us past the confluence with the Rio Tigre, we will see spectacular waterfalls coming off the canyon walls. Our take out is at a ferry crossing. This is how the locals cross to the few farms on the far side of the river. After fly-fishing the entire day we will head back to Isla Monita for a hearty dinner.

Day 6 Wednesday: Lago Yelcho, Dragon Fly Cove

We will take a short boat ride from Isla Monita patagonia fly fishing lodge to one of the most secluded and productive coves on Lago Yelcho. Hovering dragonflies will be the stars of this fly fishing day. We will be fishing for large rainbows that jump in pursuit of the numerous dragonflies that dart across the water. We will have lunch lakeside and start out for another productive cove known for its heavy caddis fly hatches. After fishing, we head back to Isla Monita Lodge.

Day 7 Thursday: Lago Yelcho, Secret Lagoons

We have two secret lagoons where we have boats hidden. These two jewels never fail. They are both close to our Chile fly fishing lodge and offer protection if the wind is blowing. We'll fish one lagoon in the morning and the other until late afternoon. After the days end, we return to the Isla Monita Lodge for dinner.

Day 8 Friday: Rio Yelcho

We drive to the far end of the Lago Yelcho where we find the Rio Yelcho draining the lake as the water flows towards the ocean. Here we have a drift boat and a jet boat waiting. The water flows off the top of the lake and runs very clear. We have the necessary boats to customize your day of fishing in Chile to the conditions. If we use the drift boat, we will be taking out at the Rio Michimahuida. We return to the Isla Monita lodge for our farewell dinner.

Day 9 Saturday: Return to Capital City

After a late breakfast, relax for a couple of hours and take our shuttle back to Esquel, Argentina. As you catch a final view of the Río Futaleufu surrounded by hanging glaciers and snow capped mountains, take a moment to reflect upon all of the amazing sights and experiences of this past week. After all these years we are still stunned that views like these exist. For anglers looking for even more fishing we suggest adding a week of Argentina fly fishing at El Encuentro Lodge.

Day 10 Sunday: Return home

Accomodations:

Remote Ranches

Wilderness Camping

Town Bed and Breakfast

Price per Person: \$4345.00 USD

Special Flexibilities: Exchile will be flexible to make your trip a total success. The actual program for your custom trip will vary according to the desires and skill level of your group, weather, or other factors. Patagonia has constantly changing weather patterns that might affect what day is best for a certain activity. If a certain part of your trip is not possible due to danger risks and weather extremes, our experienced guide staff will work with you to figure out the best possible option to substitute for the weather complications. If you have any concerns, please feel free to ask us more about the situations and what is guaranteed on the trip.

Included: Your described trip, guiding, instruction, activity equipment, local transportation, shuttles, all meals, wine with dinner, accommodations at our eco-camps, cabins, ranches or lodges, while on your trip. We offer a free pick up on Sunday mornings at 9 am in Trevelin at your hotel, and drop off to your hotel in Trevelin, Argentina on Fridays at 9 pm. See the packing list of your activity, for the specific clothing that is required.

Not Included: Transportation to and from your home town, and your accommodations and meals in Trevelin, Argentina or alternate trip pick up point. You can reserve and prepay on the web for your transport from your final air destination, to and from your pick up/drop off point before and after your trip, or you can direct us to charge your visa card and do it for you. We highly recommended having Exchile make hotel reserves in Trevelin. (room capacity in this small village is limited). Expediciones Chile is not financially responsible for your travel complications getting to your trip pick up point and from the drop off point, HOWEVER, we will be relentless allies in offering our services to help solve any issues that you may encounter.

Trip Summary:

Season:December to April Experience Needed: None Physical Challenge: Low Cultural Experience: Moderate Nature Experience: High Comfort Rating: High Max Trip Size: 8 Min Trip Size: 2

Regions visited: Remote Patagonia Chile and Argentina

Lakes, rivers and sites: Futaleufu river, Rio Azul, Rio Espolon, Lago Lonconao, Lago Esplon, Secret Lagoon, Campo

Tres Monjas, Futaleufu Chile, Trevelin Argentina.

Travel Summary:

Days away from home: 10

In:

Final Flight Destination airport: Bariloche, Argentina Trip pick up point: **Hotel** Trevelin, Argentina Trip pick up date and time: Sunday 9:00 am

Out:

Trip drop off point: Esquel, Argentina

Trip drop off date and time: Saturday 12:00 pm Return Flight Departure airport: Esquel, Argentina

Map: Interactive Travel Map

Travel Route Alternatives: Traveling through Chile and, or Argentina

Air Fare: Online quote +1.866.498.0530

Luxury Bus Tickets Chile & Argentina: Information and reserves

Lets GO!

Reserve your trip: Credit Card deposit

Travel Insurance: Quote and or online purchase

Sign up process: <u>Sign up NOW!</u>
Packing Lists: <u>Select your list to print.</u>

En route guidance: <u>Print this and take it with you.</u> Type of Clothes ready for your trip pick up:

Thank you,

Trip Designer: Nick Fechter, Dave Carrs & Chris Spelius

Direct line to my Desk +1.208.629.5032

