

## ATAC Patagonia Hikes and Hot Springs Itinerary

Tour from Pucon, Chile to Bariloche, Argentina - Patagonia. Daily activities include hiking, biking, rafting and fly-fishing. Visit hot springs in some of the afternoons and evenings. All stays are in hotels and cabins. There is a masseuse available some of the evenings – in Pucon, San Martin and Bariloche.

Total Hot Spring Visits:

Posones  
Rio Blanco  
Panqui  
Geometrico

### **Day 1: Arrival:**

Fly into Temuco or Pucon via Santiago, Chile. Meet your ATAC trip leader at the airport and take a private transfer 2 hours to the town of Pucon, set between Lago Villarrica and the Villarrica Volcano. On the way, drive along Lake Villarrica through the small town of Villarrica. Arrive at Pucon, Chile and dine at Ecole.

### **Day 2: Climb Villarrica Volcano:**

Villarrica towers 8600.ft above the town of Pucon. Take a chairlift to the top of the ski hill or begin hiking at the bottom of the hill. Climb through snow and rock bands to the top of the volcano to get views of neighboring volcanoes. If the weather permits, peer down into the smoking crater and catch a glimpse of smoldering lava.

Eat at the La Maga steakhouse in the evening and stay another night in Pucon.

(Depending on snow conditions on the volcano ascent, there is a possible hot springs soak at the Termas Geometricas in the evening for the whole group.)

### **Day 3: Bike Riding:**

Ride bikes on backroads to Lago Caburgua. Stop for lunch at the Ojos de Caburgua. Experience Los Posones hot springs in the evening before driving the final leg of the journey to a cabin set on the border of Parque Nacional Huerquehue and near Lake Tinquilco. Experience a healthy and hearty vegetarian meal at the Tinquilco Lodge.

### **Day 4: Hiking at Parque Nacional Huerquehue:**

#### **Option 1:**

On a six to eight hour journey, hike through Huerquehue. Stop at Lake Verde for lunch and enjoy the majestic views at the water's edge. In Huerquehue, get to know the plants and trees of the region, including the ancient Araucaria, a species that can grow to be 2000 years old. After lunch, split up from the rest of the group and hike over passes and across the park to the Termas del Rio Blanco. After a soak in the hot springs and a lamb dinner, stay the evening in a cabin at the pools.

#### **Option 2:**

Hike with the group from Option 1 to Lago Verde. After splitting up after lunch, hike a loop around the three lakes and back down to the van. Drive the rest of the way on a scenic journey to the Termas de Rio Blanco.

Meet up and stay at the hot springs in cabins. Feast on locally raised lamb for dinner.

ATAC Patagonia

USA: P.O. Box 5498 Incline Village NV 89450 Phone: +1.877.282.2728 Fax: +1.866.822.9207

Argentina: Belgrano 325 (8400) S.C de Bariloche Phone: +54.9.2944516990

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## Hikes and Hot Springs Itinerary

### **Day 5: Hiking: Cross into Argentina, Patagonia:**

Day hike to Lake Escondido at the base of the dormant volcano Sollipulli. Lunch at the lake, perched at the top of a butte. In the afternoon, drive over the border to Argentina. Stop along the route to see waterfalls. Stay at a cabin on the Argentina side of Northern Patagonia.

### **Day 6: Horseback Riding and Hiking:**

Have a leisurely morning to yourself. In the afternoon, hike to El Parador del Condor to see if there are any condors. Later, ride horses through Araucarias to a lake for lunch and a maté. In the evening return to the cabins for a lamb asado.

### **Day 7: Scenic Drive:**

Leaving in the morning, drive over a pass to Villa La Pehueña for a trout lunch. In the afternoon, drive along the Rio Alumine toward San Martin. Stay the night in the town of San Martin. Dine at Ku for regional food.

### **Day 8: Hiking and Fly-fishing:**

Leaving early in the morning, drive along Lago Lacar to paso Huahum for an afternoon of fly-fishing and hiking. Have an asado on the beach of a small lake before returning in the evening to San Martin de Los Andes.

### **Day 9: Hiking Villa La Angostura:**

Leaving early in the morning, drive the famous Seven Lakes Route to Villa La Angostura. After lunch, depart on a 3-hour hike to the Arrayanes National Park at the end of the peninsula on Lake Nahuel Huapi. Have a snack and then board the ferry to Bariloche. Arrive in the evening to Bariloche for a final dinner at Alberto's steak house. Stay the night at the ATAC Patagonia apartment.

### **Day 10: Fly home via Buenos Aires, Argentina or Santiago, Chile.**

#### **Optional Trip Extensions:**

Arrive two days early to Santiago and explore the coastal town of Valparaiso (2 hours from Santiago) as well as the famous wine country of Chile's Central Valley (2 hours from Santiago).

Note: This itinerary changes depending on the weather and group dynamic. Sometimes 2 nights are arranged in Bariloche instead of one. Sometimes more time is spent in Pucon or a different pass is taken across the border to Argentina. A lot of this depends on the group.

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