



**Eastern Mountain Sports
Adventures, Treks & Trails**

PO Box 446
Bartlett, New Hampshire 03812
1-888-755-TREK

“Patagonia Three Volcanoes Ascent”

***Non-technical ascent of Copahue 9,728' / Villarrica 9,338' / Osorno 8,728'
(14 DAYS)***

Bathed by the clear waters of Lake Nahuel Huapi, Bariloche is located on the West of the Province of Río Negro, 1,640 km from Buenos Aires City.

Founded in 1902, San Carlos de Bariloche owes its name to Carlos Wiederhold, who set up the first grocery in the area, and to the deformation of the term Vuriloche ("different people from behind or from the other side"), used to name the natives from the valleys located to the west of the Andes mountain range, before the arrival of the mapuche people.

Since then, Bariloche has turned into one of the main tourist destinations in Argentina. The facilities designed by man, as well as the beauty offered by the natural environment, mingle in perfect harmony to satisfy the visitor.

The Lake District, located on the Northern Patagonia Andes is not only home to some beautiful resorts and scenery but has many different types of volcanoes, some of them dead for millions of years, others still active, like Villarrica.

This EMS itinerary is set for exploration and adventure, taking us through many different landscapes like; the Andean Range, desserts, mountain forests and the Valdivian Rain Forest. We'll pass through a different environment each day during this trip along with climbing three different volcanoes. Between climbing the volcanoes you'll also get the opportunity to do some whitewater rafting, explore the local culture, day hike, or just relax and read a book, it's up to you.

None of the volcanoes on this trip require previous mountaineering experience. We do take on day to teach you some mountaineering skills to use while climbing Osorno. All climbing equipment is provided. This trip is designed so that you have some memorable climbs and a lot of fun in between.

COPAHUE

Copahue volcano is a stratovolcano with a composite cone situated on the central Argentine - Chilean border. The 8-km-wide caldera formed 0.6 million years ago near the NW margin of the Pliocene. The eastern summit crater contains a briny crater lake and displays intense fumarolic activity. About 1,800 volcanoes are located on the Argentine-Chilean border. Copahue volcano is near Caviahue city, in the province of Neuquén. The word Copahue, which in mapuche language means, "place for celebration, or reunion". Caviahue possesses a rustic landscape sprinkled with streams, falls and woods.

VILLARRICA

Dominating the landscape, the Villarrica volcano is its major attraction, just outside the city of Pucon. At an altitude of 2,847 m (9,338 ft) above sea level, and with the reputation of being the most active volcano in South America, this volcano is the center of tourist activity in the area. The volcano boasts a ski center and volcanic caves worth exploring. You can also climb up to the crater of the volcano to admire not only the boiling lava in the interior but also the view from above of the surrounding lakes, lagoons, and other nearby volcanoes.

OSORNO

Osorno's perfectly conical, snowcapped summit ideally synthesizes what a volcano is. Its unique colors, as well as its slopes and a summit that remains covered with white snow almost 365 days a year.

Standing almost 60 kilometers to the Northwest of Puerto Varas, Osorno reaches a height of 8,728' above sea level. Its great height makes it visible from every point in the district of Osorno, even in some places on Chiloé Island. Therefore, it represents an impressive and typical postcard of the region. With its classical blackish dark green color and ornamented with arms of eternal snow, its presence attracts the thousands of tourists who visit it every year.



DO YOU FIT THE CLIENT PROFILE FOR THIS TRIP?

This trip is designed to offer some challenging climbs, along with time to visit cities and to enjoy the surrounding areas. You should prepare for this trip, making sure you're in good physical condition, able to walk up slopes and hike 7 hours in one day, while carrying your day pack. The climbing isn't considered technical, but you will spend one day learning some mountaineering skills for Osorno the most difficult climb of all three volcanos.

Patagonia Three-Volcano Ascent, Itinerary

DAY 1: Arrive San Carlos de Bariloche. Transfer to hotel. Group will meet and go over your gear and details for the next day's departure to Caviahue.

DAY 2: After breakfast we head to Caviahue, heart of the Andes Mountain Range, Northwest of the Province of Neuquén and on the Argentinian-Chilean border. During the drive the area will remind you of Nevada, dry and mountainous, but as we enter the Caviahue area things change and the landscape is dotted with pines, water falls and high peaks. In mapuche language Caviahue means "place for celebration or reunion" which gives you insight of how special the area is. Caviahue sits on the shores of lake Lago Agrio and is a very comfortable city to spend a couple of days in acclimatizing for your first climb, Volcan Copahue. (B/D)

DAY 3: Today we spend our time visiting the local sites around Caviahue. There are local hikes and sightseeing. (B/D)

DAY 4: Today we take the short drive to Copahue. During our drive you'll be looking right at Volcano Copahue (9,728') and its snowy white slopes. This is a stratovolcano, with an 8-km wide caldera formed 0.6 million years ago. The hike is not technical and will take us 8 hours to complete, a long but rewarding day. We'll be returning to our hotel in Caviahue for the night. (B/D)

DAY 5: After our first climb we'll head to Pucon, considered a year round destination for hiking, climbing, skiing and water sports. This small town sits right at the foot of Volcan Villarrica (9,339'), a cauldron of bubbling lava, with the last eruption in 1971. This is considered Chile's most active volcano. Lodging tonight will be cabins, or hosteria. (B/D)

DAY 6: Today is considered a "free day", but we'll have some fun options for you to explore. One would be whitewater rafting, another might be kayaking on the lake. If you'd like to just hang out and walk about town that's OK to. (B/D)

DAY 7: Climb of Volcano Villarrica.

We'll get an early start for the summit of Villarrica. This climb will take all day. Once reaching the top we stay up wind from the gaseous crater, allowing us enough time to take photos eat something and then head down. The downhill part of this climb is a controlled slide down a human toboggan chute. After the climb we'll head back to Pucon and stay in a hotel. (B/L/D)



DAY 8: Transfer by car to Ensenada Village on the shores of Llanquihue Lake. The view of Volcano Osorno is amazing from anywhere in the area. We'll be staying at a hotel tonight. (B)

DAY 9: After breakfast we head up the mountain for a few nights at Refugio Teski mountain huts. The afternoon will be spent fitting the crampons to your boots and practicing some rope safety and mountaineering skills. This is not a highly technical climb, but you will be climbing around crevasses and caves. The afternoon is free time to prepare for an early start the next morning. (B/L/D)

DAY 10: Hike to the "La Burbuja" crater on Osorno, back down to Teski Huts. 6 hours (B/L/D)

DAY 11: Summit climb of Volcano Osorno (8,728') Early 5am start and finish back at the Teski Huts. 8 hours (B/L/D)

DAY 12: Lake Crossing back to Argentina – We descend back to Ensenada and visit the Petohue water falls, before taking the lake crossing tour to Bariloche, Argentina. Hotel in Bariloche. (B)

DAY 13: Free day for shopping and self guided sightseeing in San Carlos de Bariloche. (Anyone wishing to can have an early departure arranged for this day) (B)

DAY 14: Departure for Home. Transfer to airport for flight home. (B)

PRICE: \$2,190 USD per person (based on double occupancy), s/s available.

2008 DATES: January 20 - February 2 / February 17 - March 1 / March 16 - 29

GROUP: This trip needs a minimum of 3 - 9 persons for it to run.

DEPOSIT INFO: The deposit amount for this trip is \$500. per person.

HOW DO I BOOK THIS TRIP?

Just give us a call at 1-888-755-TREK, or write us at becky@emstrek.com.

- 1) Application forms will be sent to you.
- 2) Once we have your forms, with a \$500 deposit we'll send you a confirmation letter.
- 3) You'll also be sent a detailed packing list, suited especially for the trip.
- 4) You will need to secure flights to/from for San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina.



WE PROVIDE:

- 2 local certified mountain guides (national mountain guide association and Argentine National Park certification) for a group of 7 to 9 people, one extra guide to ascent Osorno volcano).
- All mountaineering equipment
- 3 nights at 2* Hotel in San Carlos de Bariloche (double room occupancy, with private bathroom and breakfast)
- 3 nights at Hostería in Caviahue, (double room occupancy, with private bathroom and breakfast)
- 3 nights Hostería in Pucón (double room occupancy, with private bathroom and breakfast)
- 1 night in cabins at Ensenada (with breakfast only).
- 3 nights at mountain hut Refugio Teski, Volcano Osorno.
- 10 dinners at towns and cities.
- Transfer Airport / Hotel / Airport (San Carlos de Bariloche).
- Transfer Bariloche / Caviahue
- Transfer Caviahue / Pucón/ Refugio Teski.
- Transfer Refugio Teski / Bariloche to lake crossing tour.
- Rafting or Trekking in Villarrica National Park.
- Excursion in Caviahue nearby area.
- All breakfasts on mountains, along with 3 lunches and 3 dinners on Osorno. (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner).

NOT INCLUDED: International & domestic flights to San Carlos de Bariloche, Tourist permit when crossing from Argentina into Chile (\$100), personal belongings, sleeping bag, airport taxes, personal expenses, and tips. Day rooms in San Carlos de Argentina on final day are not included but can also be organized if required. Lunches and dinners unless stated on the itinerary. Tipping of driver and guiding staff.

PLEASE NOTE: The “Patagonia Three Volcano Accent” involves climbing that will require good physical fitness, and if you’re unable to summit we will escort you off the volcano. Thus, whilst our guides endeavour to minimise the chances of anything-unexpected happening, it has to be noted that no itinerary can, or should be rigidly adhered to. This is the very nature of adventure travel and we expect our clients to be prepared for delays and slight alterations in our programmed events.

A pre-departure meeting will be held on arrival. It is highly recommended you attend. All clients will be asked to sign an additional release and waiver form once in San Carlos de Bariloche and must provide a photocopy of your travel insurance, or other insurance.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

You should also be aware that adventure travel, in particular trekking, climbing and travelling in remote areas, does carry with it certain inherent risks that you, the client, will have to assume. We highly recommend that you purchase adequate travel insurance to cover these risks and any costs incurred due to sickness, delayed flights and other factors out of our control. If you’ve never purchased travel insurance before we suggest you purchase coverage for, evacuation, trip cancellation and emergency medical insurance. For provider options go to www.insuremytrip.com.



PATAGONIA INFORMATION

Patagonia is located in the south of the American continent stretching from the Atlantic to Pacific ocean through the Andes covering both Chile and Argentina.

San Carlos de Bariloche is located at the North East of the Patagonia region, at the foot of the Andes. It is 1680 km (100 miles) away from Buenos Aires city, to the southeast. Andean Patagonia is well known by the cordillera with its highest mountain (Mount Tronador) topping at 3.554 m, also has abundant rain and snowfall so there are many different rivers and lakes surrounded by thick forest of nothofagus and pine trees. The area of the Nahuel Huapi National Park has 750.000 ha.

Climate and Ecosystems:

The climate goes from mild to cold and the rain fall from West to East decreases from 4.000 to 1.000 mm in a 50 km distance. This great difference in rainfall in such a small area is due to the cordillera effect and determines three different vegetation zones: hydrofoil forests, mesofoil vegetation and shrub steppe.

The forest in the mountain area has also to different types: the low mountain forest with different sorts of nothofagus and cypress (coihue, Patagonia cypress and radial) and high mountain forest with lenga and low shrub vegetation. In this amazing natural surrounding you can enjoy different activities involved in adventure tourism and ecotourism all year round.

A little history- the native ancient cultures

Man's existence in America and Patagonia is contemporary compared to other places on Earth. The most ancient indicators of primitive cultures have been found in the Magellan region, Tierra del Fuego and the extreme south of the continent, which date back to over 10000 years BC. Given the nomadic nature of the Patagonian cultures, no remains of dwelling places or of writings have been found, however paintings and engravings abound. Both the Tehuelches in the South and the Puelches of central Patagonia survived by hunting guanaco and ñandú and by collecting wild fruit. They sheltered in simple windshields and later in huts made from guanaco hides. Only upon white man's introduction of the horse in the XVII century, did they begin to use this animal for transport and as a supplement to their diet.

In northern Patagonia there dwelled another ethnic group known as the Pehuenches. Toward the end of the XVII century a clear advance of the Araucano or Mapuche Indian from Chile toward the east began and along with this, a profound peaceful ethnic transformation began to take shape in Eastern Patagonia. The Mapuches belonged to a more evolved, stronger and overbearing culture and upheld a very courageous attitude in light of the Spanish invaders. They produced weavings and ceramics of an excellent quality, as well as a rich array of silverware. Their language was very complete, characteristic of a people of orators. In 1879, indigenous rule was brought to an end with the Desert Campaign, with which the massive advance of the white man to northern Patagonia began.



Local Currency:

The local currency in Argentina is the Peso Argentino. It is convenient to change currency in Buenos Aires, Bariloche or Santiago, in order to get better value for the Dollar or the Euro. However, credit cards are also widely accepted, except in smaller and more isolated towns and villages. In Argentina the Value Added Tax (VAT) is 21%. It is not advisable to carry travelers' checks as it is costly to use them. At the major cities in Patagonia you have several ATM available, which is a good option. A debit card used at an ATM avoids the interest payments of a credit card used at an ATM and you get a good exchange rate. Here is a currency converter where you can check the exchange rate into your local currency

Requirements to enter Argentina:

Most countries are granted a 90 days permit to stay with no visa. Only a valid passport. Neighboring countries: passport not required. Only identity document.

You are not allowed to enter : plants, vegetables, fruit and other perishables (jams, fresh food etc..) If you bring a car or rent one you need an international drivers license. .

Communications:

In Argentina has an efficient telecommunication infrastructure and international phone calls are at an acceptable price. Public telephones use coins or phone cards. I.D.D. can be found even in small towns. International phone calls from hotels are not recommended they tend to charge an extra fee. Most of the commercial centres have call centres known in Argentina as "locutorios" where you can obtain information, make call back calls and also buy prepaid phone cards.

In Argentina there is a good Web system and Internet is well known. Some hotels offer these services. Cybercafés are found in most of cities and towns with an Internet connection via ADSL or phone.

How to get there?

Argentina has a good road system with modern buses for long distance transport. The railway system is slow and in many cases services are no longer provided. There are different buses or "colectivos" with normal seats and others with leaning seats that become beds (coche supercama, servicio ejecutivo). Depending on the route there are different services and prices.

Patagonian cities in Argentina such as: San Carlos de Bariloche, El Calafate, Rio Gallegos and Ushuaia have modern international airports with daily flights from Buenos Aires and also connect with other airports although flights are not so frequent. The airlines flying these routes are: (*Aerolíneas Argentinas, Austral, American Falcon, SW y Línea Federal*) For international flights in Argentina a U\$18 airport tax is charged which is not included in the airfare. (It can be paid cash or by credit card)

From Chile the national airline *Lanchile* offers flights from Santiago de Chile to Bariloche and from Bariloche to Puerto Montt.