



# THUNDER PASS

## TREKKING CIRCUIT MOUNTAINS FJORD

Explore the remote Alacalufes National Reserve while trekking off trail through Resi and Mountains fjords.

During this 4 days expedition our expert local guide will take you to the most amazing viewpoints of the impressive Sarmiento mountain range with its glaciers Bernal, Hermann, Kiara, Alsina and Paredes. At the same time learn about the formation of the landscape and the ancestral history behind this beautiful scenery.

Visit Bernal glacier and enjoy of a drink with its millenary ice.

Disconnect yourself from the world and reconnect yourself with Earth! Get lost in nature and feel the energy of the fjords climate.

Every day after a great day of excursion take a deserved rest in our different camps Resi & Kiara and on board the exclusive floating refuge Explorador, in the heart of this breath taking fjord!

Be part of a sustainable project and contribute with the remote community of Puerto Eden.

## DAY 1 *Puerto Natales - Resi fjord*

We pick up the participants of the expedition from the Hotel at 10:00 am, then we take a boat to navigate 5 minutes from Puerto Natales to Antonio Varas peninsula across the Señoret channel. We continue by vehicle for 1 hour through a gravel road to Estancia Mercedes, where we take our fast boat Explorador IV and navigate for one more hour until the end of the Resi fjord. Here we have our first campsite with expedition tents to sleep and a Dome as shelter, kitchen and dining room for us while we are in the camp.

During the navigation it is possible to watch seals, dolphins, penguins, cormorants, condors, and other species.

We have lunch when we arrive to the camp.

Later we'll go trekking off trail for about 2 hours in the surrounding to watch and appreciate the beauty of entire area from a high viewpoint. We finish the day in our Camp Resi with a tasty dinner in our dome.

*Camp Resi - Double Tents*

*45 km - 1 hr Road / 19 nm - 1hr Navigation / 4 km - 2 hrs Trekking*

## DAY 2 *Thunder pass - Mountains fjord*

After breakfast we begin our trekking circuit. We go 8 kilometers bush walking through a beautiful valley characterized by evergreen forests, waterfalls, peatland, erratic rocks and moraines colonized by colorful lichens and mosses, trekking for about 4 hours by imposing mountains with whimsical shapes until we arrive to the Thunder lagoon, which is surrounded by huge rock walls that looks like an amphitheater. The powerful action of a gone glacier has transformed one of these rock walls into a natural pass that makes it possible to go up through terraces over the Thunder pass till the Mountains fjord.

From the pass it's possible to see some of the summits cover by ice that belong to the Sarmiento mountain range.

We will enjoy our lunch some where with a nice view.

We continue through moraines and erratic blocks as we pass by two beautiful lagoons until we finally have a clear view of the entire fjord that seems tiny surrounded by huge mountains and glaciers in the horizon. From here, the terrain is more rocky and solid than the first section, making it easier to trek down towards our campsite Kiara, where we also have expedition tents to sleep and a Dome with an exclusive panoramic view to enjoy of another rich dinner.



It's located at sea level. Across the fjord is Kiara glacier which is very active, so it's possible to hear and watch ice avalanches breaking off.

*Camp Kiara / Double Tents*

*16 km - 8 hrs Trekking*

## **DAY 3** *Paredes, Alsina, Kiara, Hermann & Bernal glaciers*

We begin the day with a good breakfast. Then we start trekking from the camp heading to the north of the fjord for 5 kilometers off trail by rock blocks, evergreen forest, peatland and some streams we'll have to cross. It will take us about 2 hours to arrive to a beautiful beach with a glacier in the background, a live postcard. Here we go uphill until we gain about 300 meters of elevation, where we'll get an incredible panoramic view of the glaciers Alsina and Paredes, both flowing down from the icy summits of the Sarmiento mountain range till the fjord itself.

Here we'll have our lunch with such a view.

We come back down the same track we did up. In the beach our boat West Patagonia awaits for us to take us navigating 30 minutes towards South in the Mountains fjord to Bernal glacier. During the boat ride we'll pass close by the Alsina glacier, getting a better perspective of this beautiful glacier with huge seracs.

We disembark in the coast of the Bernal glacier and hike through a particular trail with colorful moraines that cross the pro-glacier lake, allowing us to get close and safe enough to touch its ice. This permits us to watch and understand its movements and changes that it makes in the landscape through the years while you enjoy of a drink with its millenary ice.

The contrast of colors between the vegetation, the ice, the mountains and the fjord in the background, makes any picture postcard worthy.

After visiting this glacier, we navigate again in our boat West Patagonia 10 more minutes to the remote Huiros bay where we will find our exclusive floating refuge Explorador. Here we can enjoy the facilities, a hot shower and a delicious parting dinner.

*Floating Refuge Explorador / Double Rooms*

*9 km - 7 hrs Trekking / 12 nm - 40 min Navigation*

## DAY 4 *Alcalufes path - Return to Puerto Natales*

After a nice breakfast, we'll go out for a hike around the Huiros bay, to Buena Vista lookout, an awesome hike for a last amazing view of the fjord, the mountains, the glaciers, the bay with the floating refuge and the route we must take to go back to Puerto Natales.

We begin the return to Puerto Natales trekking by an Indian Pass known as the Alcalufes path, named as the canoeist ancestors **Kaweshqar** who inhabited all the fjord lands in the last 5,000 years and used this pass to connect the Mountains fjord with Resi fjord. We have to go for 1 kilometer to reach the Acantilados lagoon, which is incased between huge rock walls and the only way to go across it is by boat, so we have to navigate 5 minutes to get to the other side of it to continue hiking 20 more minutes to reach Resi fjord.

Here we are back to the beginning point, so we meet again our fast boat Explorador IV and navigate one hour until Estancia Mercedes in Antonio Varas peninsula as the first day.

We eat our lunch somewhere on the way and continue until Puerto Natales, finishing this expedition around 15:00 pm, weather conditions permitting.

*Back to Puerto Natales*

*1,5 km - 1 hr Trekking / 20 nm - 1 hr Navigation / 45 km - 1 hr Road*

## EXTRA DAY

**Would you like to explore deeper the Mountains fjord?**

Add days after an expedition and stay longer in this amazing spot!

Enjoy the exclusivity of our floating refuge and its services. Explore other areas of this remote destination with half day or full day guided excursions of navigation and/or trekking off trail in the surroundings.

Or just enjoy of an airplane mode day in the fjords!

Give yourself an offline moment and take a rest in the peaceful Huiros bay while you're floating on the sea. A special atmosphere to read or reflect.

## TO CONSIDER

**The activities described may be delayed, changed or cancelled due to rough conditions.**

- The expedition is subject to the weather conditions.
- Our groups are very exclusive, from 2 to 8 participants per expedition and only one expedition at a time.
- Your participations in our expeditions contributes to the remote community of Puerto Eden.
- The participants must be experienced trekkers.
- The level of the expedition is **challenging**.
- There is no phone connection in the entire zone, so you'll be offline during the expedition.

## INCLUDED

- Entrance fee to Alacalufes National Reserve.
- All the land and maritime transportation specified in this program.
- Accommodation in our campsites (*double tents - mat - sleeping bag*) and in our exclusive floating refuge (*shared rooms - sleeping bag*).
- Meals during the expedition (*breakfast, lunch and dinner*).
- Local guide service during the entire expedition.
- Porter service up to 5 kilos (**20 liters**) between Resi and the floating refuge.
- We provide each participant with a dry bag (**20 liters**) for the porter service, another dry bag (**40 liters**) to protects your own belongings, gaiters, sheet liner for the sleeping bags, towel and sunblock.
- A lifetime experience!

## NOT INCLUDED

- Any other service **Not** specified in this program.
- Gratuities.
- Personal travel insurance.

## WHAT TO BRING

- A daypack (*60 liters backpack*).
- Headlamp, fleece hat, sunglasses and gloves.
- Quick drying T-shirts, polar fleece jacket, down jacket, waterproof parka with GoreTex technology or similar.
- Quick drying long underwear, trekking pants, waterproof pants with GoreTex technology or similar.
- Waterproof boots with GoreTex technology or similar, sandals or crocs for river crossing and relaxing moments after the treks.

\*\*\* The brand **Arc'teryx** has proved to be very efficient in the cold and rainy weather of the fjords. Our guides use it and recommend it.

[www.patagonianfjords.com](http://www.patagonianfjords.com)