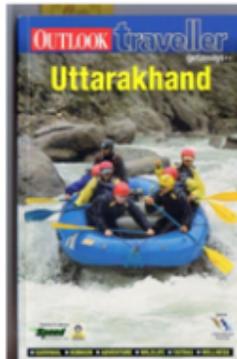
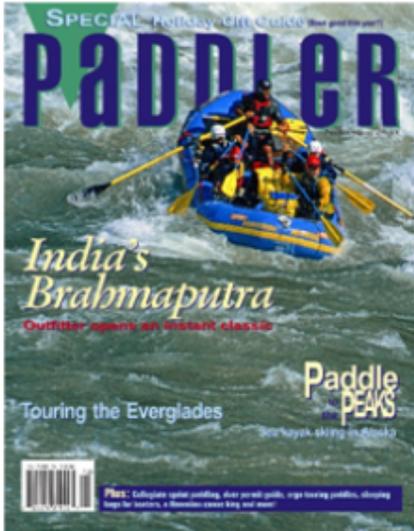


AQUATERRA

A D V E N T U R E S

FUTALEUFU ADVENTURE



FUTALEUFU ADVENTURE: INTRODUCTION

Why Futaleufu?

We want you to get a real sense of the land, people and remoteness of wild Patagonia and feel this is the way to do it! The Futaleufu River flows to the Pacific through an extremely remote valley in Chile. The journey to the Futaleufu is definitely an integral part of your Patagonian adventure. We have chosen the Argentine ski resort town of San Carlos de Bariloche as your gateway into the expansive region known as “Patagonia”. When you arrive and see the jagged peaks of the Andean Cordillera to the west, you know that this can only be the famed Patagonia!



FACT SHEET

DURATION OF TRIP: 09 Days

REPORTING POINT: Santiago Airport, Chile

ITINERARY SNAPSHOT

Briefly, here's what you can expect on our Futaleufú Experience

Day 1	Arrive in Santiago, Chile. After completing customs, board a domestic flight to Puerto Montt. Transfer to the scenic town of Puerto Varas on Lago Llanquihue. Overnight in Cabanas Del Lago Hotel. (D)
Day 2	Take a short, scenic flight to Chaiten. We then drive through the temperate rainforest, passing countless waterfalls and hanging glaciers surrounded by jagged mountain peaks! We will pause for a short hike and a picnic lunch in Pumalin National Park. Arrive early afternoon at camp: camp orientation, swim, hot tub, and welcome happy hour. (B+L+D)
Day 3	Start the day with a Yoga class, or catch up on some sleep after a long international travel. After a Breakfast of Champions, get ready to raft the Futaleufu river! Today's introduction and "warm up" is complete with safety briefing and paddle training on the famous Bridge to Bridge section. In the afternoon you may choose from mountain biking, hiking, fly-fishing class and our popular intro to hard shell, river kayaking clinic, or lounging around camp and the hot tub! (B+L+D)
Day 4	Step-up the rafting today! Raft from camp to below the Casa de Piedra rapid – class V (option to take a short walk around the intense rapids and continue). The afternoon is a scenic float to take in the magnificence of Patagonia. Then, return to camp. (B+L+D)
Day 5	Introduction and training for inflatable kayaks on the Rio Azul. This is your chance to guide your own craft and navigate the stunning Azul Valley. Class II,III. (B+L+D)
Day 6	Horseback ride deep into the pristine wilderness of the Rio Azul. Option to enjoy a quick nature hike to one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Patagonia region. Gallop, or trot, back to base camp. (B+L+D)
Day 7	Drive to the Pueblo of Futaleufú and raft the Inferno Canyon from the Rio Espolón to Rio Azul. A five-mile canyon of class V whitewater, walk around the Dynamite, Zeta and Throne Room rapids, four-mile class II float, then five miles of class IV. For those not interested in adrenaline Class V, there is the option to only raft the rapids below Inferno Canyon, which are Class II & III Rapids. Return to camp from the Azul and enjoy the comforts of camp while you celebrate the accomplishments of your day. (B+L+D)
Day 8	Raft from the Rio Azul through the Terminator, Kyburz, and Himalayas rapids. Lunch at camp. Raft from camp again to below Casa De Piedra. One of the biggest days of whitewater being run anywhere in the world! Last night in camp: lamb roast/Chilean "asado feast" and party. (B+L+D)
Day 9	Early morning drive back to Chaiten and 45 min. flight back to Puerto Montt. Take connecting flights home or to the next destination! Depart PMC at 2PM or later. (B)
Optional Extension	Extend your trip by visiting the world-renowned Torres Del Paine National Park. Enjoy breath-taking vistas while trekking the numerous trails that have made this a top outdoor destination. (Details below.) (Legend: B = Breakfast included, L = Lunch included, D = Dinner)

FUTALEUFU ADVENTURE: DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY ONE

Arrive in Santiago, Chile. Collect your luggage, pass through Customs and then re-check in for your domestic flight to Puerto Montt: gateway to Patagonia! Transfer you 30 minutes to the beautiful town of Puerto Varas, Located on the shores of Lago Llanquihue, which is Chile's second-largest lake! You may experience stunning views of Volcano Osorno, weather permitting. Enjoy strolling the streets, famous for its wooden homes built by German immigrants. Depending on your arrival time, rafting, fishing, or a tour to Lago Todos los Santos and Saltos de Petrohue can be arranged. (Not included in trip price) We will meet at 7:00 pm in the hotel lobby bar for introductions and a welcome briefing to be followed by a group welcome dinner at one of our favorite restaurants where you can indulge in a steak off the parilla or try Chile's famous seafood! Overnight in the lovely Cabanas del Lago Hotel right on the lake.

DAY TWO

After breakfast we will board our private vehicle for a 20-minute drive to the La Paloma Airport, where we will board one of the most scenic flights imaginable. In only 30 minutes we will arrive Chaiten, a small fishing village and a gateway to Patagonia. Here you will get an immediate sense of wild and scenic Patagonia! Depending on time, we will take a short hike in Pumalín National Park; one of the largest and most diverse conservation efforts in South America. The 715,000-acre Pumalín Park is located in the Palena Province of Chile, and stretches from the heart of the Andes to the fjords of the Pacific Coast. Protecting a pristine Valdivian temperate rainforest, this is one of Doug Tompkins Conservation Initiatives. Along our 2-hour drive to Bio Bio basecamp, we pass beautiful Lago Yelcho, multiple hanging glaciers, jagged glaciated peaks, and temperate rainforests. Soon we'll arrive at the Bio Bio Base Camp, where your private tent bungalows sitting upon raised platforms, complete with river views and comfortable beds, will be waiting for you. Our enthusiastic guides will lead you to your sweet new "home away from home" on the river! After a short hike or a swim, you may want to soak in the riverside hot tub or enjoy a hot shower. Then, we gather in the sunset bar for our first welcome happy hour. After happy hour, a hearty dinner will be served. It does tend to cool down quite a bit when the sun sets below the peaks so we dress warmly in the evenings.



DAY THREE

Awaken on the banks of the Fu and enjoy your first morning in camp! We rise with the warmth of the sun and have breakfast at around 9 am. A pre-breakfast yoga class is available on our customized yoga platform with river views! Mornings tend to be crisp and dewy so prepare to dress warmly - a fleece is perfect. Today is a river day. We will launch our rafts from base camp after a thorough safety briefing. In a safe 'eddy', a short distance downstream, we'll do a set of practice rescue drills. This allows the crew in each raft to hone their skills and prepare to raft as a team.

We use a cataraft combined with ace safety-kayakers as part of our "safety net." Each raft is captained by a highly trained and intuitive river guide, who guides the boat from a stern-mounted oar frame. Guiding with oars does not detract from the paddling experience. The advantage to the oar frame is greater control in pointing the bow straight through bus size holes and 15-foot high "haystack" wave trains. High siding is also an actively used "paddle" command. This style is consistent with any high volume, strong current river where rapids graded 4 to 5-plus rage on. This is the Futaleufú!

The first section that we raft, from camp down to Puente Futaleufú (the Futaleufú Bridge), is only 10 km, but offers more rapids per 1000 meters than anywhere else on the river. It is the perfect warm-up run and it is non-stop fun! The rapids of note are "El Cojín", the Cushion, and "Mundaca", a local family name.

At take-out, we meet our vehicles for a 20-minute ride back to camp. Those who would prefer a "lower body" workout to complement their paddling are welcome to run back or ride one of our mountain bikes from take-out to camp. When we get to camp, you can choose to go fly-fishing, try out a kayak, practice yoga, nap in a hammock, enjoy the sauna, have a massage, go for a hike, or soak in the hot tub. Taking a hot shower, either indoors or under the big sky, feels very luxurious while camping in the remote wilderness of northern Patagonia! Of course, for the hardy, the river provides a cold bath and refreshing swim.

As the sun sinks behind the mountains, enjoy a game of chess or cards at the sunset bar. Every late afternoon is "Happy Hour" with an open bar stocked with beer, wine, soda, and fresh juice. Then, we gather together in the open-air kitchen/dining area, the "Galpon", for a candlelight sit-down dinner featuring fresh locally grown produce and fresh-baked breads. After dinner, enjoy the campfire and the stars before retiring to your cozy tent on your private platform. The sound of the river will lull you to sleep and send you off dreaming of the next day of adventure in Chile.



DAY FOUR

Officially day two of our rafting extravaganza. Our aim is to settle into a river rhythm that will be utilized in order to successfully raft the next few sections the Fu. After breakfast, we will launch our rafts from camp and have lunch on the river. After we pass the Puente Futaleufú (yesterday's take-out), we immediately round the corner to meet a big stomping continuous cascade of waves known as "Mas o Menos", translated, "More or Less". This is a good stepping-stone towards our first true blue class V technical rapid, "Casa de Piedra" (House of Rock) which is right around the next corner. We will get out of our rafts to scout this massive boulder choked rapid from the banks of the Fu. It is formed like a series of water wheels that channel all of their fury into a final churning pit with a dragon's back highway through it; that is, if you hit it online.

After this rapid, we will run the remaining class 3 and 4 rapids as our hearts resume beating at their normal rates. We will drift into a nice long calm section that offers perfect fishing from the rafts as well as a great place to get into some hard shell kayaks. The next three miles we will have a floating happy hour and reach our take out spot just above Lago Yelcho. Upon return to camp, we will continue to celebrate the day, enjoy the spa and get ready for another fabulous dinner prepared by our jovial crew and talented chef.



DAY FIVE

Today we become experts at navigating our very own river crafts, known inflatable kayaks or IK's. We venture up canyon to the source of the Rio Espolon as it cascades out of the Lago Espolón to find gin clear water and gentle class 2 and 3 rapids that offer a perfect learning opportunity to become a great captain of your own boat.

If there is interest, before we paddle we will have a chance to stroll around the quaint little town of Futaleufú. There is something deeply satisfying paddling your own boat down river, knowing that your destiny is in your own hands. Of course our highly trained guides will be there to coach you, watch over you and provide safety should you need to be rescued. The Rio Espolon is one of the major tributaries to the Futaleufu river and flows into the Fu right above the Inferno canyon which is where we take-out in the early afternoon. For those ready to try out a hard shell kayak, this is the perfect class 2-3 river to do it on!



DAY SIX

Surf and Turf up and down the Rio Azul valley! After breakfast we take a short drive to the stables where we will find our trusty steeds saddled up and ready for adventurous riding. After a safety briefing, we ride alongside some local expert equestrians and our own river guides who will gladly join the posse up a glorious, pristine side valley where the Rio Azul flows unhindered from its glacial headwaters. After a 3-hour ride, we stop for a picnic lunch and then trade in our saddles for paddles to test our talents on the challenging and fun Class 3 and 4 Rio Azul, a significant step up in difficulty from the Rio Espolon. This is a full biathlon day and you will be glad to return to camp, enjoy the soothing hot tub, a cold beer or a glass of wine as you wait your turn to get a well-deserved massage!



DAY SEVEN

We will have an early breakfast in camp then travel 25 kilometers up the road to Rio Espolon to launch our rafts for the Inferno Canyon day! On the Rio Espolon we have a chance to warm up on this low volume river before it joins and helps form the mighty Futaleufu as it gets squeezed into the narrow Inferno canyon. This upper canyon requires aggressive class V paddling and is potentially the most intense section of white

water on the river. Many other options exist for those who choose not to participate in Inferno Canyon.

Five distinct rapids form a narrow sinuous river passage creating a wet surge and a “full on” adrenaline rush. The fourth rapid was until recently the smallest of the 5, but due to road building debris landing in the river, has now become nearly impassable at most water levels and requires a walk around and “lining” the rafts through it. As we come out of “Exit”, the last rapid, we enter into a long calm. The current remains swift and we cruise many miles downstream arriving at the mandatory portage around the fierce “Zeta” rapid. We have lunch on the rocks as the crew “ghost” boats the rafts through this treacherous rapid.

After lunch, our first obstacle is “Throne Room,” a class V+ rapid for kayaks, a ghost boat rapid for rafts. By walking around this rapid, we get a great bird’s eye view of an almost ‘river wide’ hole that could destroy a raft. Back on board our rafts, we are dealt a Royal Flush; a continuous class IV corridor of rapids does not let up until we get to our take-out spot at the Rio Azul footbridge. The rafts are left for the night, tethered on shore.

Early evening is spent in camp getting ready for the evening festivities. Blanca and her partner Umberto, locals from a nearby farm, prepare a very special treat for us. They merrily prepare a delicious dinner called “Curanto” that is typical of the south of Chile and the island of Chiloe. We spend the evening by a bonfire on the beach singing and dancing the night away.

DAY EIGHT

Today, we must be mentally and physically well prepared for the river. We call it the “summit day” as we aim to top our already great paddling days with one of the best days of white water in the world. After a nutritious breakfast, we head up river to the footbridge where we left the rafts yesterday. As our day on the river begins, the blue glacial run-off from the Rio Azul River merges into the Fu from the right. The views of the snow capped mountain peaks and jagged ridges of the mountain “Las Tres Monjas” (translated, “the three Nuns”) are absolutely breathtaking. A six-kilometer stretch of warm-up rapids leads us to the longest and toughest rapid that we will raft, “The Terminator.” We scout and study our line, then we take the plunge and drop in. “Left turn, right turn, dig it in — hard forward!” are a few of the commands that might be heard. The next three miles are non-stop rapids. After an aerobic workout, we pump through the enormous haystack wave train known as the “Himalayas”. Just when we need it, a calm returns, we float gently into lunch, served at our base camp.

After lunch, we return to the river to complete the last task for the day, tackling as much white water as possible. We raft the whole section of river from camp to below Casa de Piedra. At take-out, cold beers and tea are waiting. We make a triumphant return to camp to celebrate our days spent exploring Futaleufú valley and river.

For the evening’s festivities, Rolando and Nelli will prepare a typical Chilean Asado — lamb roasted over a bed of coals, ensalada, potatoes and farm fresh bread. We toast the river and give thanks for our safe passage. Under a bright starry sky, we will spend our last night together as a group on the banks of the mighty Fu with the guides and crew.

DAY NINE

We start early today as we have to travel back down to the coast to catch the puddle jumper flight from Chaiten back to Puerto Montt for connecting flights either home or to your next destination. You will want to leave a comfortable “window” to make it back in time, so book connecting flights from 14:00 hrs onwards. You may also choose to spend another night in Puerto Varas on your own.

(See below if you are interested in the Torres Del Paine Extension.)

We hope that when you board the airplane you will look back upon your time in Patagonia and think of the friends you have made and the beauty of the Futaleufú River and Patagonian wilderness. Ciao amigos. Ciao Ciao Chile.

NOTE: For those who do not wish to raft big water:

1. Usually they can still raft but put in below the big rapids - The largest day is Inferno Canyon - it's possible to drive below the class 5 canyon and still have a fantastic day of easy rafting.
2. We can horseback ride, mountain bike, hike, inflatable kayak, learn to hardshell, stay in the camp hammock!

TORRES DEL PAINE EXTENSION

The trails in between the Torres del Paine famous craggy mountains are among the world's classic trekking routes. The 18 hours of sunlight during the summer (Dec-Mar), giving explorers plenty of time for the walking journey. Breath-taking views together with glaciers, rivers, lakes, forests and abundant wildlife provide a constantly changing backdrop to an unforgettable experience.

Level	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
easy	am	Drive & Walk Western Lakes, Navigation Glacier Grey	Easy walk Laguna Azul and Fauna Trail	Easy walk to Mirador Condor	Drive & Walk Western Lakes, Navigation Glacier Grey	Easy walk Laguna Azul and Fauna Trail	Easy walk to Mirador Condor	Easy Walk Laguna Inge
	pm							Botanical Safari
active	am	Drive & Walk Western Lakes, Hike Pingo Trail	Trek Towers Base	Navigation on Lake Pehoe and Hike along French Valley	Drive & Walk Western Lakes, Hike Pingo Trail	Trek Towers Base	Navigation on Lake Pehoe and Hike along French Valley	Hike along Los Cuernos Pass or Puesto Seron
	pm							

5 Days / 4 Nights – Ask for pricing!

Day 1: Early flight to Calafate and drive 6 hrs to ECO Camp

Transfer by van to Torres del Paine National Park. This journey is through ranch country crossing the pampa Patagonia. We cross Lake Pehoe by catamaran to begin our trek to the French Valley. The most beautiful in the park and one of the most unique in the world, this valley is surrounded by hanging glaciers (where you can see & hear the ice calving off at various intervals) and an amphitheater of granite walls and spires. There are amazing views throughout this trek and the further you trek into the valley the better they become! On the return journey you will notice the extraordinary turquoise color of Lake Pehoe (“Hidden Lake” in the Tehuelche Indian language). The trekking is 6-8 hrs depending on how far into the valley you go with a total maximum of 24km possible. Lodging and dinner at Lodge Paine Grande where you can enjoy a pisco sour while overlooking Paine Grande & Los Cuernos in the beautiful evening light. (B+L+D)

Day 2: Trek along enchanting Lake Grey (3-4 hours, 11km) with magnificent views of Glacier Grey and floating icebergs. Visit the glacier lookout point and the lakeshore for up-close views of vibrant blue icebergs. (Paine is a Tehuelche Indian word for "blue".) After breakfast, navigate this magical lake in the Grey II boat (2 hours). Stand on deck sipping your pisco sour served with glacial ice while surrounded by icebergs! Transfer from Hosteria Grey to Refugio las Torres for dinner and to spend the night. (B+L+D)

Day 3: Today we begin our trek to the Ascencio Valley. From above you can see the Ascencio River running wildly past Refugio Chileno, where we will be spending our last night. After a quick stop here we will continue through a forest of the native Lenga (Beech) trees until reaching the glacial moraine. From here it's a 1-hour trek to the top where the famous towers appear out of nowhere! Finally, you view the 3 pink granite towers with a glacial lake below that made the park famous. (7 hours round trip - 16km). Upon return, our transfer will be waiting to take us to Refugio Laguna Amarga, which has rooms with private bathrooms and offers views of the whole Paine Massif – a great way to end the trip! (B+L+D)

Day 4: With one last look at Torres del Paine we set off in our private transfer to Puerto Natales. Here we will stop for a coffee break and carry on to Punta Arenas for your afternoon flight. (B+L)

PRICE ON REQUEST

FUTALEUFU ADVENTURE: COST BREAKDOWN

COST INCLUDES

AIRPORT TRANSFERS AS MENTIONED IN THE ITINERARY

ALL MEALS AS MENTIONED IN ITINERARY & SAFE DRINKING WATER

ACCOMMODATION ON TWIN SHARING BASIS IN TENTS / HOTEL

ALL TRIP ARRANGEMENTS WITH INDIA'S MOST EXPERIENCED GUIDING TEAM, CAMP STAFF AND COOKS

COST EXCLUDES

ANY AIRFARE

ITEMS OF PERSONAL CLOTHING

EXPENSES OF ANY PERSONAL NATURE (LAUNDRY / PHONE CALLS / ALCOHOL / CIGARETTES / INSURANCE / CAMERA FEE / ETC.)

ANY EXPENSE INCURRED DUE TO FORCE OF NATURE SUCH AS LANDSLIDES, BAD WEATHER OR REASONS BEYOND OUR CONTROL

TIPS & GRATUITIES (WE RECOMMEND 5-10% OF YOUR TRIP COST- TO BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE TEAM) - PERSONAL CHOICE

TRAVEL & CANCELLATION INSURANCE

FUTALEUFU ADVENTURE: THE NEXT STEPS

Have any questions? [Email us](#)

Ready to go?

Book your place by filling in this [form](#).

Make your payment [here](#).

Once you fill in your form, we'll get in touch with you with all the necessary details.

PLEASE NOTE:

Filling in the booking form does not guarantee a spot on any trek. You will receive a separate confirmation email once the booking form is submitted.

We look forward to hosting you on your next Adventure!

