



PRE TRIP INFORMATION 26/27



TABLE OF CONTENT

TRIP OVERVIEW

GETTING TO THE LODGE

Via ground transfer, Road to Hell

Via charter flight

WELCOME TO JURASSIC LAKE

Fishing program

Accommodation

Weather

Communications, dietary and medical requirements, Fly shop

Gas heating, electrical outlets

Electrical supply, external converters, measurement system

What to bring - General recommendations

Selecting the right gear

General fly recommendations

WELCOME TO ARGENTINA

Passport and visa, reciprocity fee, tipping at the lodge

Health and medical requirements

Currency, Benefits of using U\$S

Tipping in Argentina

WELCOME TO BUENOS AIRES

Weather in Buenos Aires

What to do in Buenos Aires

The cuisine of Argentina

Where to eat in Buenos Aires

WELCOME TO EL CALAFATE - PATAGONIA

Weather in Patagonia, El Calafate

What to do in El Calafate

Where to eat in El Calafate

Where to stay in El Calafate

Call to action, emergencies, our social media

A person in outdoor gear is standing on a rocky outcrop, casting a fishing line into a clear blue lake. The background shows a rocky shoreline with sparse vegetation under a bright sky.

TRIP OVERVIEW

As an ancient proverb claims, "The longest journey begins with a single step." We thank you for taking that first step by booking with us, and here is an overview of the rest of the steps you need to take to get to our lodge.

While this guide is designed to assist those who prefer arranging their trips independently, it's important to note that our services extend beyond information. We offer comprehensive assistance in organizing flights, transfers, accommodations, restaurant reservations, and any other requirements for your trip. Whether you choose a self-planned adventure or opt for our tailored support, we're here to ensure your journey to Argentina is seamless and enjoyable.

As a centralized country, it is likely that your trip to Argentina will begin in Buenos Aires. Your point of entry is Ezeiza Airport (officially called Ministro Pistarini).

Once in Buenos Aires, your next destination is El Calafate. It's important that you book your flight to El Calafate to arrive at least one day before your scheduled lodge entry date and spend the night in El Calafate. The trip to the lodge, whether by ground or air, begins early in the morning.

The next morning, we will pick you up at your hotel (we will advise you of the pickup time the previous day) to head to the lodge. The ground transfer is a 6-hour drive. If available, you can book a charter flight at an extra cost, which will take about an hour. **If you're interested in this service, please refer to the Charter Flight chapter.** Once at the lodge, after a warm welcome, it's time to start fishing!

When you're done catching the biggest trout you'll ever see, we'll drive you back to El Calafate. Again, if available, you can opt for a flight service at an extra cost. Whether by air or ground, it's important to book your flight back to Buenos Aires for no earlier than 3 PM. Once you're in Buenos Aires, you can head back home, and we hope it won't be the last time you visit us.

This pre-trip guide provides you with all the information you need to make the most of your fishing experience. Just scroll down.

Welcome to Jurassic Lake!

GETTING TO THE LODGE

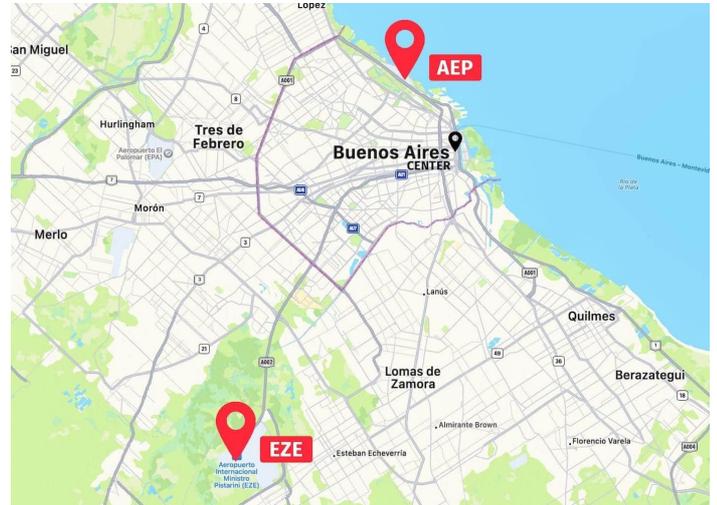
GETTING TO EL CALAFATE VIA BUENOS AIRES

When journeying to El Calafate from abroad, Buenos Aires Ministro Pistarini International Airport (EZE), serves as the primary gateway. Situated about 22 miles (35 kilometers) southwest of Buenos Aires, Argentina's capital city, this major international airport.

There are several daily flights from Buenos Aires to El Calafate departing from both BA's airports, EZE and the domestic airport AEP located in the city. If you don't plan to spend a night in Buenos Aires and flight directly to El Calafate, the recommended choice is to depart directly from the international Airport (EZE). In case your connection is in AEP, remember to leave enough hours to get there on time, we recommend at least 4 hours.

Even though El Calafate is a very popular tourist destination with around 15 flights a day, choosing between AEP or EZE as a departing airport may not always be an option. If you can make a choice, it will be slightly convenient to pick AEP, it's already inside the city and you'll travel a bit less. But it's not a big difference if you depart from EZE.

Once you arrive in El Calafate, you'll be taken to the accommodation of your choice where you'll spend the night and get ready for the real adventure to begin the next morning.

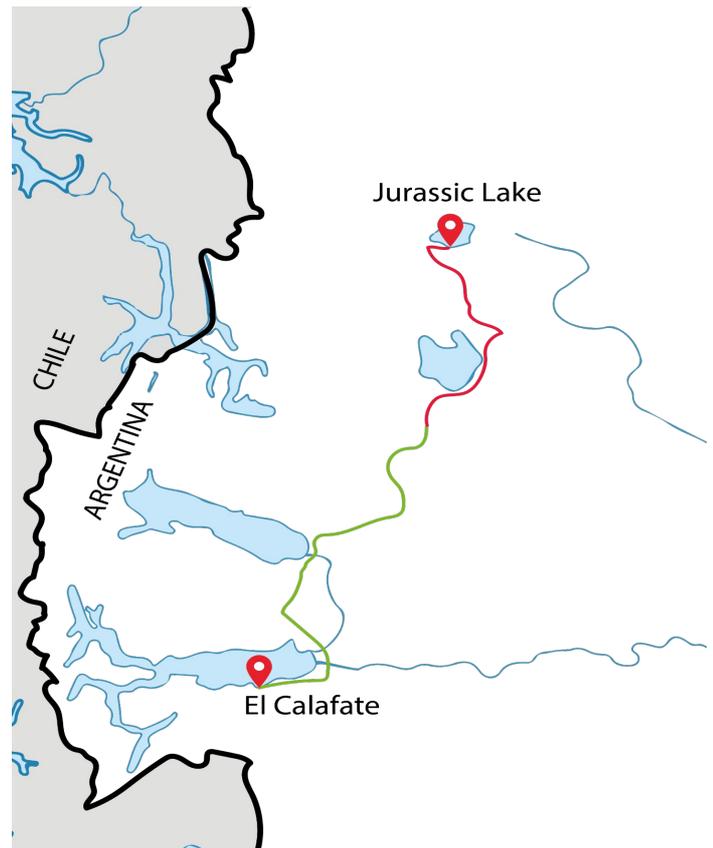


GETTING TO THE LODGE VIA GROUND TRANSFER

Included in all programs, we provide a convenient transfer service from your chosen hotel in El Calafate to Jurassic Lake.

Departing from El Calafate, through the famous 40 road the drive takes around 6 hours. The scenic journey to the lodge offers a captivating glimpse of the region's diverse landscapes, from the patagonian steppe, through the magnificent views of the Fitz Roy (which you may find familiar since it inspired the Patagonia logo). Then you get to the cross, where the final section of the trip starts and the otherworldly views of the volcanic plateau appear.

Our transfer service includes a light meal, allowing you to enjoy a bite while taking in the scenic views.



SAY GOODBYE TO THE OLD "ROAD TO HELL"

When Jurassic Lake first began, the road was a disaster and rightfully earned the name 'Road to Hell'. Ken Morrish coined this term in 2013 when, on his first trip to the lodge, he wrote, quoting one of his friends: 'A drive from hell! It's not that the road is bad, because there's no freaking road. You're just driving over big old lava rocks'. This was undeniably true; there was no road, just a path filled with rocks. It used to take 12 hours to get there and that included tons of flats and even spending the night in the vehicle waiting for the rescue. And even when it's fun to have lived the adventure and some people still miss the good old days, we're happy those bumpy days are over. So, two things were done: First, we booked a plane for the anglers. But also we started working on improving the road, we still needed it for supplies, maintenance and everything that you enjoy at the lodge. Then came the global pandemic and the plane company had to discontinue the flight service, but by that time the road got so much better and now it only takes between 5 to 6 hours to get to the lodge.

The road to hell became a lot more heavenly. And we're glad we turned it around because you truly get to a fishing paradise. Thanks to our unwavering commitment to road maintenance and continuous improvements, your journey to our fishing haven has become smoother and more efficient.

GETTING TO THE LODGE VIA CHARTER FLIGHT

We're pleased to confirm that the charter flight service to and from Jurassic Lake Lodge is available throughout the 2024/2025 season and beyond.

Operating every **Saturday from El Calafate**, the flight offers a comfortable and direct transfer to the lodge in about **one hour**, significantly reducing travel time compared to the 6-hour ground transfer.

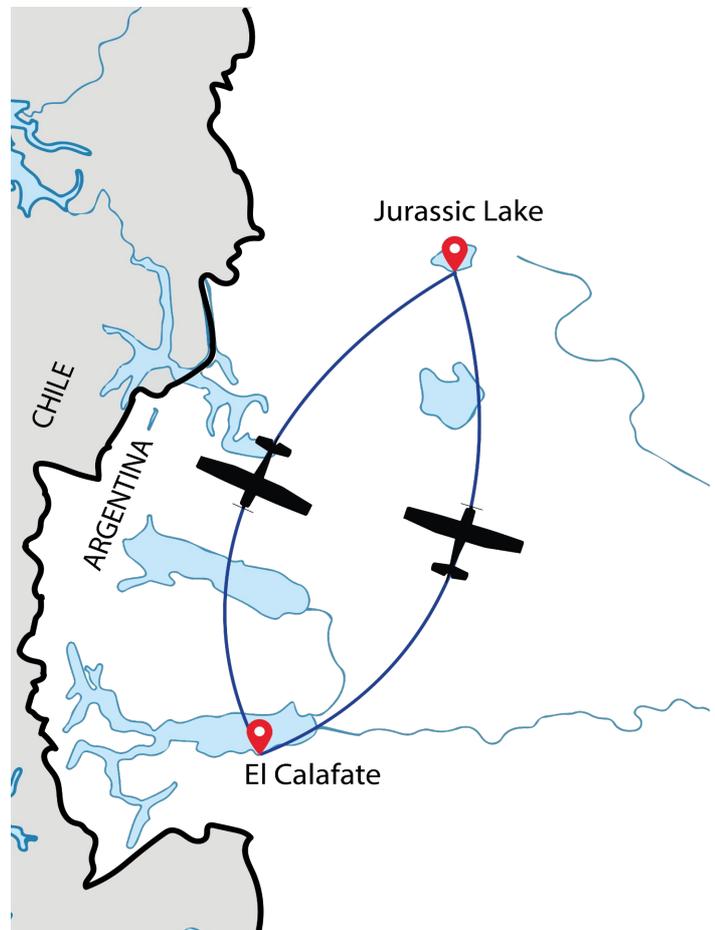
Charter Flight Pricing:

- During **October and November**, we have a special agreement with the flight company that allows us to offer seats at a **fixed rate of USD \$500 per leg**.
- For the **rest of the season**, the cost of the flight is **shared among the passengers**, with the **average rate being approximately USD \$700 per leg**.
- Final pricing depends on the number of confirmed guests for each flight.

Private or special weekday flights may be arranged upon request and are subject to availability. Please inquire for a personalized quote.

Flights may also be arranged from other key Patagonian hubs, including **Río Grande, Río Gallegos, Esquel, San Martín de los Andes**

Seats are limited and demand is high – if you are interested in using the charter service, we recommend that you **reserve early** to secure your spot.



A person wearing a dark jacket and waders is kneeling in a lake, holding a large rainbow trout. The fish is wet and has a vibrant rainbow pattern on its side. The background shows the blue water of the lake.

WELCOME TO JURASSIC LAKE

ARRIVAL TO OUR LODGE

Upon your arrival at our Jurassic Lake, you'll be introduced to our staff so they can take you to your room. Then you'll meet your seasoned guides and our lodge manager for an introductory talk. On the first day, the fishing is laid back, we create an easy-going atmosphere while you get familiar with the different angling spots and the guides. The scheduled program begins on the next day.

You'll notice our living room, the heart of Jurassic Lake, that's the place where we have lunch and dinner, but also there's a sitting area where you can have a drink or a snack anytime you want and relax or socialize by the warmth of our fire while you enjoy the breathtaking view of the lake. Next to the chambers we have the wader room, a space designed for your preparation before each fishing excursion. Get your wader on and head for the waters to start the adventure. Then get the wader and everything off and you're ready to enter the welcoming interiors of our lodge.

Despite our remote location, we have everything you need for a remarkable stay. Next are some recommendations and information you need to know to make the best of your stay.

Welcome to our haven in the wild!

TIPPING AT THE LODGE - CASH

At our lodge, expressing gratitude for the service is a customary practice, and tipping is a thoughtful way to acknowledge the dedication of our staff. While the amount is at your discretion, a guideline is to consider a gratuity of 10% of the overall cost of your fishing trip, preferably in cash. For added convenience, an alternative suggestion is to allocate approximately a hundred dollars per day of your stay. You may want to have some extra cash in case you take something from our fly-shop

FISHING PROGRAM

Picture yourself wading or standing on the bank, casting your line into the crystal-clear waters, surrounded by breathtaking Patagonian landscapes.

Our fishing program pairs two or three anglers, depending on the beat, with an experienced guide, ensuring personalized attention and expert assistance throughout your journey. Together, you'll explore a variety of fishing stations, from nearby bays to the lower stretches of the Barrancoso River. Whether you're casting into the wind with floating or intermediate lines or employing a slow retrieve, every moment promises excitement and anticipation.

The core of our fishing program centers on the most productive beats, situated within walking distance from the lodge. These beats, including the mouth and surrounding bays, Bay of Pigs, the pool, and the lower section of the Barrancoso River, are renowned for their exceptional fishing opportunities and have earned this destination global acclaim. However, our property boasts even more waters waiting to be explored, some of which remain untouched. Each day, anglers rotate through these beats, ensuring a varied and thrilling fishing experience. For those seeking further adventure, there's the option to explore additional areas of the lake or dedicate a full day to fishing the pristine waters of the mid or upper section of the river. The choice is yours, allowing you to tailor your fishing experience according to your preferences.

But the excitement doesn't end there. Keep a keen eye out for those magical moments when the big fish emerge from the depths, cruising the shallows mere feet from the banks. Even in challenging wind conditions, the chance to sight-fish for these majestic creatures adds an extra thrill to your angling experience.

Our guides are more than just skilled anglers; they're your companions and hosts, dedicated to ensuring your fishing adventure exceeds expectations. From offering advice on fly selection and technique to assisting with landing fish and capturing memorable photos, they're with you every step of the way, ensuring your time on the water is nothing short of extraordinary. Welcome to the ultimate fly fishing experience.



ACCOMODATIONS

The sheltered bay and lower Barrancoso are renowned for producing some of the largest rainbow trout in the world, just a short stroll away from our doorstep. It's not uncommon for guests to witness fellow anglers reel in the catch of a lifetime right from the Lodge's front room.

From humble beginnings as a tent camp to its transformation into a modern and luxurious retreat, Jurassic Lake Lodge has evolved to offer unparalleled comfort and convenience. Following a complete remodel and expansion in 2016, our lodge now accommodates up to twelve visiting anglers in single or double occupancy rooms (private rooms can be booked in advance), each equipped with private bathrooms and hot showers. Despite our remote location, we remain connected to the world through satellite phones, television, and high-speed internet access.

When you're not out on the water, indulge in the warm hospitality of Southern Argentina. Our dedicated chef prepares hearty and generous meals, featuring the famous Argentinian "Asado" barbecues and delectable dishes crafted from locally sourced Patagonian lamb. Savor these culinary delights alongside a wonderful selection of Argentinian wines, or unwind with a fine single malt or blended whisky from our extensive bar collection.



WEATHER

Weather at Jurassic Lake, like southern Patagonia, is unpredictable. Anglers can expect to experience a variety of weather conditions within the span of a single day. However, regardless of the temperature, wind is a constant factor in this region. It's important for anglers to be prepared for windy conditions and to adopt a mindset of embracing the wind. At the lodge, we often say, "Make friends with the wind".

During the summer months (December to February), temperatures in Lago Strobel area can range from mild to hot, with daytime highs averaging around 20 to 25 degrees Celsius (68 to 77 degrees Fahrenheit). However, temperatures can occasionally soar higher, reaching into the 30s Celsius (over 86 degrees Fahrenheit). Nighttime temperatures tend to drop significantly, often dipping below 10 degrees Celsius (50 degrees Fahrenheit).

Winds are a prominent feature of the weather in Lago Strobel, particularly during the summer season. Strong and gusty winds are common, which activates trouts but can make casting challenging at times and contribute to a wind chill effect, even on warmer days

Autumn (mid-March to May) in this region is characterized by variable weather patterns, including occasional rain showers and windy conditions. Daytime temperatures gradually decrease, ranging from around 10 to 15 degrees Celsius (50 to 59 degrees Fahrenheit). Nights may still be chilly, with temperatures typically ranging from 0 to 5 degrees Celsius (32 to 41 degrees Fahrenheit). During late April and May, daytime temperatures are usually in the range of 0 to 5 degrees Celsius (32 to 41 degrees Fahrenheit), and nights are typically below 0 degrees Celsius (32 degrees Fahrenheit). As you approach winter, the winds tend to calm down, but being an unpredictable area, it's possible to experience windy conditions even in May.

During the spring months of October and November, the weather begins to transition from the cooler winter conditions to the milder temperatures. Daytime temperatures gradually increase, ranging from around 10 to 15 degrees Celsius (50 to 59 degrees Fahrenheit). Nights may still be chilly, with temperatures typically ranging from 0 to 5 degrees Celsius (32 to 41 degrees Fahrenheit).

Overall, visitors to Lago Strobel should be prepared for a wide range of weather conditions, including wind, temperature fluctuations, and potential precipitation. It's essential to pack appropriate clothing layers, including warm outerwear, waterproof gear, and sun protection, to ensure comfort and safety while exploring the area.

Remember to be careful about the sun's intensity, due to the altitude of the region and the clear skies its rays can be amplified. Pack sunscreen with a proper SPF rating and clothing such as hats, long sleeve shirts and sunglasses to protect your eyes from UV exposure. Below you can find a detailed list of items to pack.

INTERNET CONNECTION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Even when “the middle of nowhere” is an accurate joyful way to describe our location, we’re fully communicated. There’s no cell reception in the area but we count with a reliable internet service, we recommend to install WhatsApp or another messenger app, so you can share your adventures with friends and family, stay updated with news or catch up on work emails while surrounded by nature’s tranquility. Although we strongly recommend avoid the two latter.

Additionally, for emergencies or essential communication needs, we count on satellite phones, ensuring reliable connectivity at all times.

DIETARY AND MEDICAL RESTRICTIONS

We encourage our clients to inform us about any dietary or medical requirements they have. If you have dietary preferences, food allergies or medical needs just let us know and we’ll make sure to provide everything you need to make your stay as enjoyable as possible.

Also, keep in mind that we keep a supply of basic first aid items so you can come to us for any medical concerns that may arise.

FLY SHOP

During your stay at the lodge you’ll be able to check our Fly shop with a wide selection of items. We have essential fishing gear, especially flies, professionally tied and proved to work on our waters, to ensure you’re properly equipped in your fishing adventure.

Additionally, you’ll find a range of items of all kinds, including clothing, such as caps or shirts, Yeti products, souvenirs and even argentinian wine and other spirits.

Also, if you have any specific request just let us know in advance and we make sure we get it for you.

LAUNDRY

At the lodge, and due to our electrical limitations, we can’t offer a full laundry service. However, in case of an emergency we are willing to wash your items.

GAS HEATING SYSTEM AT THE LODGE



Our lodge relies primarily on gas for heating, ensuring warmth and comfort during your stay. This is a common system in Argentina but not in the rest of the world, so it's crucial to familiarize with it and handle this system with care. When drying clothes or fishing gear, avoid placing them directly or near the stove, as this could pose a fire risk due to open flames. Please follow safety guidelines to help maintain a secure environment.

As a precaution, we turn off the stoves during the day and reignite them in the afternoon. If you need to use the stove at any time, don't hesitate to ask a member of our staff for assistance.

ELECTRICAL OUTLETS

The power supply in Argentina operates at 220 volts, utilizing the 2-prong plug (Type I). This plug has two flat pins in a V-shape, with a grounding pin located below the two flat pins. Opting for a universal travel adaptor is a convenient choice, enabling its use in multiple countries with diverse plug types, like the one on the picture. For travelers from regions with distinct voltage and plug standards, consider the following guidelines:

Voltage Compatibility: Many contemporary electronic devices, including laptops, smartphones, and camera chargers, are designed to accommodate a broad voltage range, typically spanning from 110 to 240 volts. They possess automatic voltage conversion capabilities, eliminating the need for a voltage converter when used in Argentina.

By ensuring the compatibility of your electronic devices with Argentina's voltage or using appropriate adaptors and converters, you can effortlessly keep your devices powered throughout your stay.



ELECTRICAL SUPPLY AND LIMITATIONS AT THE LODGE

The power supply at Jurassic Lake operates on a 24-hour solar power system, efficiently providing energy to the lodge. However, it is essential to note that high electrical-consuming items such as hair dryers or irons may exceed the system's capacity. If you intend to bring such items, kindly inform us in advance before you use them, and we will ensure to activate the power supplier engine during the times you plan to use them.



EXTERNAL CONVERTERS

For devices lacking built-in voltage converters and incompatible with Argentina's 220-volt supply, it's recommended to carry an external converter. We suggest a dual-wattage foreign travel AC converter, enabling the use of 110 VAC devices on 240 VAC, specifically for motorized or heat-producing devices up to 50 watts. This proves particularly beneficial for items such as radios and hair dryers. Please consider the earlier information concerning the electrical supply and limitations at the lodge.

MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

Argentina, like most countries around the world, predominantly uses the metric system for measurements. However, if you are visiting from the US, Liberia, or Myanmar, where the Imperial system is familiar, rest assured that our guides are adept at measuring trouts in both inches and pounds, as well as in the international metric system.

Conversions to the Imperial System:

Length:

- 1 meter = 3.28 feet
- 1 kilometer = 0.62 miles

Weight:

- 1 kilogram = 2.20462 pounds

Volume:

- 1 liter = 0.264172 gallons

Temperature:

- To convert Celsius to Fahrenheit: $^{\circ}\text{F} = (^{\circ}\text{C} \times 9/5) + 32$

WHAT TO BRING - GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Although the fishing season in Patagonia may not subject you to extreme weather conditions, it's crucial to remain prepared. Here are some clothing recommendations to ensure you stay comfortable and ready for any unexpected shifts in weather.

[Here's a video from our website with the basics you need to know](#)

Layering is Key:

Patagonia's weather can be unpredictable, so dress in layers to easily adjust to temperature changes.

Start with a moisture-wicking base layer to keep sweat away from your skin.

Insulating Layer:

Pack a warm insulating layer, such as a fleece or down jacket, for chilly evenings or colder days.

Waterproof and Windproof Outer Layer:

A waterproof and windproof jacket is essential, especially if you encounter rain or strong winds.

Comfortable Pants:

Opt for comfortable, quick-drying pants, like hiking pants, for outdoor activities.

Waterproof Footwear:

Wear waterproof and sturdy hiking boots to keep your feet dry and provide good traction.

Headgear:

Bring a hat to shield yourself from the sun and a beanie for warmth in cooler conditions.

Gloves:

Pack lightweight gloves for chilly mornings or higher altitudes.

If you're fishing with us, you're probably an experienced angler, but nevertheless we'd like to share some of the things you can't miss.

Fly Fishing Accessories:

Include essential accessories like forceps, nippers, a landing net, and a zinger for holding tools securely on your vest or pack.

Polarized Sunglasses:

Protect your eyes from the sun and enhance your visibility in the water with polarized sunglasses. They help reduce glare and improve your ability to spot fish.

Hat and Sunscreen:

Bring a wide-brimmed hat for sun protection and apply a high SPF sunscreen to shield yourself from the sun's rays during extended periods on the water.

Fishing Vest or Pack:

Carry your essential gear in a fishing vest or pack with multiple pockets for easy access to tools, leaders, and other accessories.

SELECTING THE RIGHT GEAR

WADING BOOTS

Our pristine waters at Jurassic Lake are Didymo-free, and we aim to keep them that way by preventing the introduction of any invasive algae. Therefore, we kindly request that you refrain from bringing felt sole boots. In our efforts to maintain the ecological integrity of the environment, we perform thorough cleaning of all waders and boots to ensure proper sanitization. Your cooperation in adhering to these guidelines is greatly appreciated as we work together to preserve the natural beauty of this remarkable fishing destination.

WADERS

We recommend lightweight / gore-tex or any other breathable waders.

RODS, REELS, LINES, LEADERS AND TIPPET

Single Hand Rods:

For the mid and upper section of the river:

- 4-5 weight Rod
- Floating line
- Large arbor reel with backing
- 0X - 9 Feet Leader
- 1X - 9 Feet Leader/15 pound and 20 pound
- 2X - 9 Feet Leader
- 0X, 1X, 2X, 3X Tippet

For the lake and lower section of the river:*

- 7-8 weight Rod
- WF Floating line, intermediate, and sink tip
- Large arbor reel with 100 -150 m of 30 Lb backing
- Similar leader and tippet setup as the 4-5 weight

Two-Handed Rod:

- 7-8 Weight Rod
- Scandi Line - Sink tips
- 0X - 9 Feet Leader
- 1X - 9 Feet Leader
- 0X, 1X Tippet

GENERAL FLY RECOMMENDATIONS

Here is a list of recommended flies; feel free to bring your own, but ensure they are tied on sturdy hooks. While we typically use regular trout flies at Jurassic, they tend to be larger than usual, and low-quality hooks may bend easily.

We have an amazing selection of flies available for purchase at the lodge. Some of them are not listed below since they are local patterns not found in any store. All our flies are tested in our waters and tied by guides and locals. Flies are available individually at the lodge, but we recommend asking us to secure a selection of 24-48 flies for your arrival.

DRY FLIES

DD Natural/UV Flash #10
Wulfs Irresistible White #10
Red Humpy #10
Chartreuse Humpy #10
Goddards Caddis #10
Small Black Round Beetle Dull Gold
Underbody #12 HEAVY HOOK
Small Black Round Beetle Peacock Underbody #12 HEAVY HOOK
Rubber Leg Parachute #12 HEAVY HOOK
Tan Rubber Leg Caddis/Hopper #10
Black Rubber Leg Hopper #10
Small Black Midge Dry Dubbed Body #14
Small Black Midge Foam Body #14

NYMPHS / SUB-SURFACE

Nymphs:

Prince Rubber Legs / Speckled red tail #12
STD SHANK HEAVY
Prince Rubber Legs / Speckled Yellow #12
STD SHANK HEAVY
Scud Orange / Pink / Pearl / Tan # 10 SCUD
HEAVY
San Juan Worm # 12 SCUD HEAVY

Hares Ear Rubber Leg STR SHANK #12 STD
SHANK HEAVY
Hares Ear Curved Rubber Leg Black / Brown
#12 HEAVY CURVED SHANK
Rubber Leg Flash B/Head Caddys Nymph #10
SCUD HEAVY

STREAMERS

Balance Leech Black / Olive / Chartreuse /
Claret - #6 LONGSHANK JIG HOOK
Black/Peacock Wooly Bugger B/Head Blue
Flash #10 LONGSHANK HOOK / #8 BALANCE
JIG HOOK
Yellow Yummy (Rubber Legs / Fleck) Yellow
/ Black / White #8 LONGSHANK HOOK
Buoface Black / Olive / Purple #6
LONGSHANK HOOK

EGGS-BEADS

Beads are not allowed in our waters, please
avoid bringing them



WELCOME TO ARGENTINA

Welcome to Argentina, a land of rich cultural diversity, breathtaking landscapes, and a passion for life that's palpable in every corner of this vast and captivating nation. Situated in the southern part of South America, Argentina is a country that defies easy categorization.

As you prepare for your journey to our fishing lodge, keep in mind that Argentina operates on Argentina Time (ART), which is GMT-3. This time zone difference is something to consider when planning your activities and making arrangements during your visit.

While many people in the tourism industry and urban areas speak some English, the primary language spoken in Argentina is Spanish. It's helpful to know a few basic Spanish phrases to enhance your interactions with locals and immerse yourself in the culture.

From the vibrant streets of Buenos Aires, often referred to as the 'Paris of South America,' to the awe-inspiring beauty of the Andes Mountains and the untamed wilderness of Patagonia, Argentina offers a remarkable array of experiences for travelers. Whether you're here to savor world-renowned Argentine beef, dance the tango, explore historic neighborhoods, or embark on thrilling fishing adventures in some of the world's most pristine waters, Argentina invites you to discover its extraordinary charm and immerse yourself in the warmth and hospitality of its people

If you're interested in Argentina's rich history, [here's a free online book you can read](#)

PASSPORT AND VISA

A valid passport is required for all visitors valid for at least six months beyond the duration of your trip.

Nationals of the United States, EU passport holders, UK, Australia, South Africa, Japan, Singapore, Russia, Mercosur members, Mexico, and most countries in America do not require visas to visit Argentina for tourism, family visits lasting up to 90 days, or for transit.

Please note that the list of countries may vary over time. To confirm whether your country requires an entry visa, [check here](#)



RECIPROCITY FEE

Argentina no longer requires the reciprocity fee for any country.

TRANSPORTATION FROM EZEIZA AIRPORT TO THE CITY

If you're taking your connection flight from the domestic airport AEP or you head to Buenos Aires to spend some time there you'll need to travel from the airport to the city. If you don't have a mean of transportation already booked you can find one at the airport. Once you're past customs you'll see counters with taxis and private cars, go to any of those counters inside the airport, avoid using the ones outside since they may not be regulated by the airport.

Remember that the other airport is located inside the city and the trip there can take between one and two hours, depending on the traffic. Keep in mind that you need to be at the domestic airport at least two hours before your flight so leave enough room for contingencies between flights.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

Health insurance is not mandatory but recommended. Argentina is one of the few countries in the world where healthcare remains free for everyone—regardless of nationality, as it is dispensed in all its public hospitals. However, given the quality disparity of the health system from one region to another, private healthcare offers have increased, being covered by local health insurance plans or international health insurance taken out by expatriates.

Currently, there are no mandatory vaccinations for anglers traveling to Patagonia. However, if your journey extends to the subtropical regions in the far north, it's advisable to consult with your doctor regarding specific inoculations.

The good news for nature enthusiasts is that Patagonia, particularly the southern areas, is devoid of snakes and bears. Biting insects are scarce, with mosquitoes being a rarity. Nevertheless, during the Patagonian summer, bees and yellow jackets make an appearance. Travelers allergic to bees should bring anti-reaction medication. Those sensitive to wild grasses, trees, and flowers should pack their regular allergy medicine, especially if dealing with hay fever.

Water throughout Argentina is potable and safe to drink, a notable distinction from some other Latin American countries where caution is warranted. If you have any pre-existing medical conditions, mobility concerns, or special needs, please inform us in advance, allowing for tailored arrangements.

While Argentina boasts good medical services, it's essential to note that they may not align with U.S. standards across the board. Additionally, immediate cash payment is often expected by hospitals and doctors, and U.S. medical insurance is seldom applicable outside the United States. Hence, we strongly recommend securing supplemental insurance covering overseas medical expenses and provisions for medical evacuation. In proximity to most Patagonian lodges, there are small clinics, hospitals, and outpost health facilities for first-aid and emergency care. Your well-being is our priority, and we're here to ensure your journey is both safe and enjoyable.



CURRENCY

In Argentina, the official currency is the Argentine Peso (ARS). The peso is widely accepted for all transactions within the country, and you'll find ATMs (cajeros automáticos) readily available for cash withdrawals in local currency.

However, it's worth noting that using American dollars (USD) in Argentina is a common practice, and many businesses, especially in the tourism industry, readily accept U.S. currency. In fact, in some cases, paying with dollars can be beneficial due to favorable exchange rates when compared to using a credit card or exchanging money at banks.

BENEFITS OF USING U\$S

Favorable Exchange Rates: Argentina has a fluctuating exchange rate, and sometimes, the unofficial market rate (known as the "blue dollar" or "dólar blue") can be more favorable than the official exchange rate. This means that you might get more pesos for your dollars when exchanging cash.

Widespread Acceptance: Many hotels, restaurants, and tour operators catering to tourists will accept U.S. dollars, often providing change in pesos. This can be particularly convenient for travelers who prefer to carry cash.

Avoiding Currency Exchange Fees: When you pay with dollars, you can avoid some of the currency exchange fees that may be associated with credit card transactions or currency conversion at banks.

Things to Keep in Mind:

While dollars are commonly accepted, it's a good idea to carry a mix of U.S. dollars and pesos for smaller transactions or in places that may not accept dollars.

Ensure that the U.S. bills you bring are in good condition, as damaged or excessively worn bills may not be accepted. Also small denomination bills might not be accepted, it's always best to carry hundred dollar bills

Always check the current exchange rates to determine whether paying in dollars or pesos offers better value during your stay.

Remember that the use of American dollars in Argentina is primarily for the convenience of travelers. It's advisable to be aware of any changes in regulations or local practices related to currency exchange during your visit.

TIPPING IN ARGENTINA



In Argentina, tipping, known as "propina", is a customary practice and an important part of the service industry. While tipping is discretionary, it's generally expected to show appreciation for good service. Here are some guidelines on tipping in Argentina:

Restaurants: It's common to leave a tip of around 10% of the bill in restaurants. Some restaurants may include a "cubierto" charge on the bill, which covers the cost of table service and bread. In such cases, you can still leave an additional tip if you wish.

Cafés: In cafés, leaving small change or rounding up the bill is appreciated, especially for simple orders like coffee.

Bars: Tipping at bars is not as common as in restaurants, but rounding up the bill or leaving a small amount as a tip is considered polite.

Taxis: Tipping taxi drivers is not obligatory, but it's customary to round up the fare to the nearest convenient amount.

Hotels: It's customary to tip hotel staff who provide services, such as bellhops who assist with luggage or housekeeping staff. A tip of a few pesos or dollars for each service is appreciated.

Tour Guides and Drivers: When you take tours or use transportation services, it's a kind gesture to tip tour guides and drivers if you're satisfied with their service. A guideline is around 10% of the cost of the service.

Spa and Wellness Services: For spa treatments and wellness services, tipping around 10% is customary, although you can adjust this based on your satisfaction with the service.



WELCOME TO BUENOS AIRES

Buenos Aires, a city where the past and present dance in harmony, is a celebration of Argentine culture. Tango, born on its cobblestone streets, encapsulates the city's soul, beckoning locals and visitors alike into the embrace of passionate rhythms and graceful movements. The architecture narrates tales of European influence, from the vibrant hues of La Boca to the majestic Teatro Colon. Culinary delights unfold in parrillas, where the aroma of barbecue mingles with the city's vibrant energy. In the realm of arts and letters, Buenos Aires is a haven, fostering creativity in galleries, theaters, and literary corners. Festivals punctuate the calendar, each event a vibrant expression of joy and diversity. Football, a cultural phenomenon, echoes through stadiums, stirring the hearts of devoted fans. Buenos Aires, with its rich cultural tapestry, invites exploration, offering a sensory journey through the essence of Argentine identity.

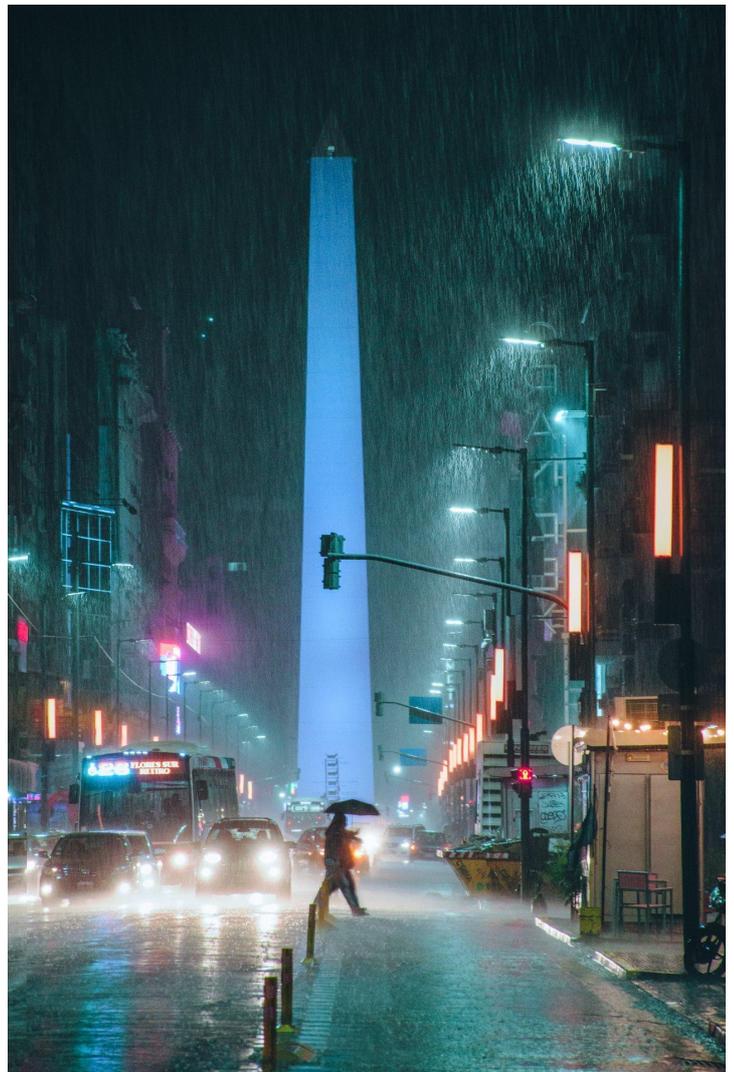
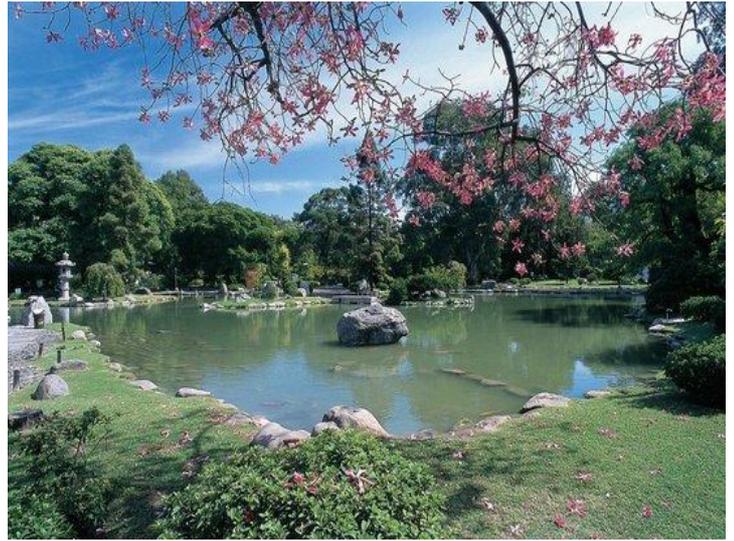
The city, founded by Juan de Garay in 1580, has a dynamic history that mirrors Argentina's journey to independence in 1816. Once a strategic port attracting European immigrants, the city blossomed into a cultural melting pot, shaping its unique identity. From pivotal moments like the May Revolution of 1810 to waves of immigration, Buenos Aires evolved into a cosmopolitan hub. The Casa Rosada witnessed political milestones, and today, the city stands as a vibrant metropolis, blending historical charm with contemporary flair. From tango rhythms to architectural marvels, Buenos Aires invites exploration into its rich and resilient narrative.

WEATHER IN BUENOS AIRES

As you embark on your journey to Argentina, it's essential to be prepared for the diverse climates you'll encounter. In Buenos Aires, the weather is generally temperate, offering a blend of warm summers and mild winters. During the summer months from December to February, temperatures can soar, often reaching highs between 25°C and 35°C (77°F to 95°F). These balmy conditions call for light, breathable clothing to keep you cool and comfortable. Don't forget to pack essentials like sunglasses and sunscreen to shield yourself from the intense sun rays.

Conversely, winters in Buenos Aires, spanning from June to August, bring cooler temperatures, with averages ranging from 8°C to 15°C (46°F to 59°F). While the weather remains relatively mild, it's advisable to include a jacket or sweater in your packing list to stay warm during the cooler evenings and early mornings. Additionally, a waterproof layer or umbrella can come in handy as occasional rain showers are not uncommon, especially during the summer months. These showers, though brief, can be quite intense, so it's wise to be prepared to stay dry while exploring the city.

While our fishing season at Jurassic Lake typically falls during the warmer months, it's still prudent to pack accordingly. Though you won't encounter cold weather during this time, it's always a good idea to be prepared for unexpected changes in weather conditions. With the right attire and accessories on hand, you'll be ready to fully enjoy your adventure in Argentina's stunning landscapes.



WHAT TO DO IN BUENOS AIRES

La Boca and San Telmo:

Explore the picturesque cobblestone streets, the colorful houses of Caminito, the San Telmo market where you can find antiques as well as live tango performances.

Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes (National Museum of Fine Arts):

Explore the impressive collection of Argentine and international art at the National Museum of Fine Arts. The museum houses works by renowned artists such as Goya, Van Gogh, and Rodin.

Teatro Colón:

Attend a performance or take a guided tour of Teatro Colón, one of the world's grandest opera houses. Admire the opulent architecture and learn about the history of this cultural landmark.

Recoleta Cemetery:

Wander through Recoleta Cemetery, the final resting place of many notable figures, including Eva Perón. The cemetery is known for its elaborate mausoleums and rich history.



MALBA (Museum of Latin American Art of Buenos Aires):

Immerse yourself in contemporary Latin American art at MALBA. The museum features a diverse collection of works, including paintings, sculptures, and photography.

Puerto Madero:

Stroll along the waterfront district of Puerto Madero, known for its modern architecture, upscale restaurants, and scenic views. Enjoy a leisurely walk or take a boat tour along the docks.

Palermo Soho and Palermo Hollywood:

Discover the trendy neighborhoods of Palermo Soho and Palermo Hollywood. These areas are known for their vibrant street art, boutique shops, and a lively nightlife scene.

Buenos Aires Botanical Garden:

Escape to the tranquility of the Buenos Aires Botanical Garden. Wander through beautifully landscaped gardens, explore the greenhouse, and enjoy a peaceful retreat from the bustling city.

THE CUISINE OF ARGENTINA

Argentina's cuisine is a captivating fusion of flavors, shaped by a rich tapestry of cultural influences. With a significant Italian and Spanish heritage, as well as the profound impact of indigenous culinary traditions, Argentine gastronomy is a harmonious blend of diverse tastes and techniques. Celebrated for its world-renowned beef, Argentine cuisine extends far beyond the iconic asado (barbecue), inviting food enthusiasts on a delightful exploration of traditional dishes and regional specialties. From succulent grilled meats and the ever-popular empanadas to delectable pastries and renowned Argentine wines, every dish tells a story of tradition, craftsmanship, and a deep appreciation for culinary artistry.



Buenos Aires, the vibrant capital of Argentina, is a gastronomic hub that beckons with a diverse array of flavors from every corner of the country. Here, culinary enthusiasts embark on a unique journey, savoring the richness of Argentine cuisine in its entirety. From the traditional dishes of the northern provinces to the seafood delights of the coastal regions and the hearty Patagonian specialties, Buenos Aires serves as a culinary melting pot. Local markets and eateries offer an extensive menu that allows you to experience the varied tastes and textures that define Argentina's gastronomic landscape. Whether indulging in Northern empanadas, savoring Andean stews, or delighting in the coastal bounty of seafood, Buenos Aires invites you to embark on a culinary adventure that celebrates the nation's diverse and delectable culinary heritage.

WHERE TO EAT IN BUENOS AIRES

From traditional asado to innovative fusions, these recommendations offer a spectrum of culinary experiences, ensuring a delightful journey through the heart of Argentine cuisine.

Don Julio:

Location: Guatemala 4699, C1425AIA CABA, Argentina.

Highlights:

Classic Argentine parrilla.

Renowned for its high-quality Argentine beef.

Authentic atmosphere, providing a traditional Argentine dining experience.

La Brigada:

Location: Estados Unidos 465, C1101AAL CABA, Argentina.

Highlights:

Classic Argentine parrilla known for excellent steaks. Traditional atmosphere, offering a hearty Argentine meal experience.

Sorrento:

Location: Honduras 5722, C1414BNJ CABA, Argentina.

A popular choice for delicious pasta dishes in Buenos Aires. Known for its quality ingredients and authentic Italian flavors.

Guerrin:

Location: Av. Corrientes 1368, C1043ABN CABA, Argentina.

Highlights:

Famous pizzeria in Buenos Aires.

Known for its classic Argentine pizza.

Casual setting, popular among locals and tourists.



Tegui:

Address: Costa Rica 5852, C1414BTJ CABA, Argentina.

Highlights: Renowned for its sophisticated atmosphere and contemporary Argentine cuisine. Tegui is often considered one of the best fine-dining establishments in Buenos Aires.

Cadore:

Location: Avenida Corrientes 1695, C1042AAB CABA, Argentina.

Highlights:

Well-known ice cream parlor in Buenos Aires. Offers high-quality artisanal ice cream. Popular among locals for its delicious flavors and traditional preparation.

Café Tortoni:

Location: Avenida de Mayo 825, C1084AAP CABA, Argentina.

Historic café with a rich cultural heritage.

Offers a classic Buenos Aires café experience.

Known for its elegant ambiance and traditional Argentine pastries.



WELCOME TO EL CALAFATE - PATAGONIA

Nestled in the southern reaches of Argentina, Patagonia emerges as a realm of captivating beauty and a tapestry of historical narratives that have shaped its identity over the centuries. Its rugged terrain and formidable climate have forged a culture deeply rooted in resilience and adaptation. The region's history unfolds like chapters in an epic saga, beginning with the nomadic lifestyle of the indigenous Tehuelche people, who traversed the vast Patagonian expanse with remarkable dexterity. Bold expeditions, led by illustrious figures such as Ferdinand Magellan and later explorers, left an indelible mark on the landscape, with landmarks like the awe-inspiring Perito Moreno Glacier standing as testament to their endeavors.

Moreover, the relentless Patagonian weather, characterized by fierce winds and dramatic shifts in temperature, has profoundly influenced the cultural fabric of the region. It has instilled in its inhabitants a spirit of resilience and ingenuity, evident in the traditional practices of the gauchos, who navigate the harsh terrain with unparalleled skill and grace. In the face of adversity, Patagonians have embraced a way of life that celebrates communal bonds and resourcefulness, fostering a sense of solidarity and camaraderie among its people.

Amidst this rugged backdrop, Patagonia's cultural landscape is enriched by a tapestry of traditions that reflect its diverse heritage. From vibrant folklore and artisanal crafts to the warmth of community gatherings, each aspect of Patagonian culture contributes to the region's unique identity. As visitors traverse its breathtaking landscapes and immerse themselves in its rich history, they become part of a timeless narrative that continues to unfold with each passing moment.

WEATHER IN PATAGONIA



Heading to Patagonia be ready for some variable conditions. Here you can experience unpredictable weather, with temperatures fluctuating throughout the year. Summers (December to February) can bring daytime highs of 15°C to 25°C (59°F to 77°F), but evenings may be chilly. Winters (June to August) can be cold, with daytime temperatures ranging from 0°C to 10°C (32°F to 50°F). Pack layers, including a waterproof jacket, thermal clothing, and sturdy footwear, to adapt to the changing Patagonian elements. Additionally, for your fishing adventures, ensure you have appropriate gear to stay comfortable in various weather scenarios.

EL CALAFATE

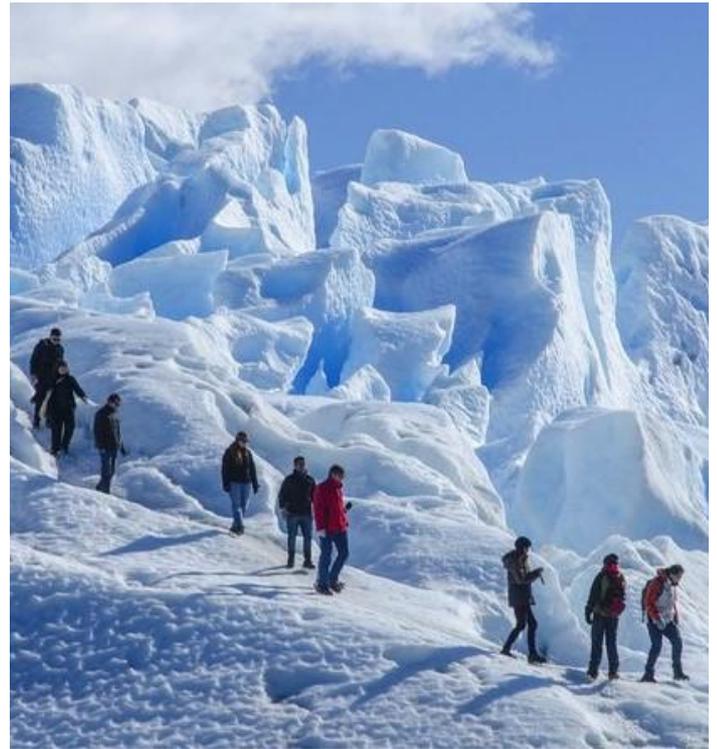
El Calafate itself is a charming town nestled on the southern shore of Lake Argentino. While you're in the city, you can explore its quaint streets, visit local shops, and enjoy a taste of Argentine cuisine in its various restaurants and cafes. Don't miss the opportunity to try the famous Patagonian lamb or indulge in local dishes featuring the regional flavors. You can also visit local artisans' markets to find unique souvenirs and handicrafts that capture the spirit of Patagonia.



WHAT TO DO IN EL CALAFATE

Should you find yourself with an extra day in El Calafate, the Perito Moreno Glacier beckons as the quintessential choice for an enriching and awe-inspiring experience. This glacial wonder, renowned worldwide for its magnificence, offers an array of excursion options to make the most of your additional day.

Embark on an exhilarating boat ride, navigating the turquoise waters to witness the colossal ice walls from an intimate perspective. If seeking a more adventurous encounter, opt for an ice trekking expedition guided by seasoned professionals, allowing you to traverse the glacier's dynamic terrain.



For those preferring a leisurely exploration, meander along the well-constructed catwalks strategically positioned for unparalleled panoramic views.

Whether you choose the thrill of a boat excursion, the adventure of ice trekking, or the serenity of catwalk exploration, a day at the Perito Moreno Glacier promises to be a captivating extension to your El Calafate stay, leaving you with indelible memories of Patagonia's natural splendor.

WHERE TO EAT IN EL CALAFATE

Patagonian cuisine

A delightful blend of flavors inspired by the region's rugged terrain and abundant natural resources. Argentine barbecue, or "asado," takes center stage, showcasing the succulence of Patagonian lamb and beef. Unique dishes like cordero al palo (spit-roasted lamb), locally caught seafood, and the introduction of guanaco bring exciting new dimensions to the culinary journey, reflecting the diverse landscapes and evolving tastes of Patagonia.

Here are some places we would recommend:

Isabel - Cocina al Disco:

Address: Gobernador Gregores 1192, El Calafate, Santa Cruz, Argentina.

Highlights: Isabel is known for its unique cooking style using a traditional Argentine plow disc (disco). The menu includes a variety of meats and seafood cooked to perfection.

La Tablita:

Address: Calle 9 de Julio 202, El Calafate, Santa Cruz, Argentina.

Highlights: La Tablita is a traditional Argentine parilla (steakhouse) with a rustic atmosphere. It's a great place to enjoy high-quality grilled meats, including Patagonian lamb.



Mako Fuegos y Vinos:

Address: Av. del Libertador 1223, El Calafate, Santa Cruz, Argentina.

Highlights: Mako Fuegos y Vinos offers contemporary Patagonian meals in an elegant and stylish setting. With its focus on modern Patagonian cuisine, it promises a unique and delightful culinary experience.

HAVE A DRINK IN EL CALAFATE

Patagonia:

Address: Av. Del Libertador 997

This brewery and bar is renowned for crafting its own signature beers, inspired by the rugged landscapes and pristine waters of the region. Visitors can sample a diverse selection of locally brewed beers, each with its own distinct flavors and character. With a cozy atmosphere and friendly staff, Patagonia is the perfect spot to unwind after a day of exploration.

La oveja negra:

Address: Av. Del Libertador 761

Known for its lively atmosphere and live music performances, La Oveja Negra is a popular spot among locals and tourists alike. It serves a range of drinks, including cocktails, beers, and wines, and often hosts events and parties.

La Zorra:

Address: Av. Del Libertador 832

Nestled in the heart of El Calafate, La Zorra is a popular bar known for its laid-back ambiance and extensive selection of beers. With a diverse range of craft beers and imports available, beer enthusiasts will find plenty to indulge in. The bar's cozy interior and friendly atmosphere make it a favorite among locals and tourists alike.

Shackleton Solo:

Address: Av. Del Libertador 3287

Located a bit apart from the bustling city center, Shackleton Solo offers a unique experience with live music and an array of cool drinks. This cozy spot is perfect for those seeking a laid-back atmosphere and great tunes. While it may be slightly off the beaten path, Shackleton Solo is well worth the visit for its vibrant ambiance and refreshing beverages.



WHERE TO STAY IN EL CALAFATE

Los Alamos:

Los Alamos offers comfortable accommodations with rustic charm, set amidst lush gardens. It features cozy rooms, an on-site restaurant serving regional cuisine, and amenities like a heated indoor pool and sauna.

Website: [Los Alamos](#)

Mirador del Lago:

Overlooking the picturesque Lake Argentino, Mirador del Lago offers modern rooms with stunning views. On-site restaurant, bar, and spacious lounge areas.

Website: [Mirador del Lago](#)

Xelena Hotel & Suites:

Xelena Hotel & Suites offers luxurious accommodations with elegant decor and panoramic views of Lake Argentino. Spacious suites, a gourmet restaurant, spa facilities, and an indoor swimming pool.

Website: [Xelena Hotel & Suites](#)

Altos Calafate Hotel Boutique:

Altos Calafate Hotel Boutique offers boutique-style accommodations with modern amenities. Nestled amidst natural surroundings, it boasts comfortable rooms, a restaurant serving local cuisine, and a cozy lounge area with a fireplace.

Website: [Altos Calafate Hotel Boutique](#)



EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

911 You can call this number all over the country at any time.

107 Medical emergencies.

At El Calafate you can call the hospital for a medical emergency: **+54 2902 49183**
Cemic Hospital in Calafate

IF YOU NEED TO REACH US:

Patricio Duran, Travel Agent in Argentina: **+54 9 11 5601 0468**

Julian Escalada, Lodge Manager: **+54 9 2966 409178**

