

The best of Chilean Fjords - with National Geographic

From **23/10/2022**
to **05/11/2022**

Ship: **L'AUSTRAL**

From **Talcahuano**
to **Ushuaia**



Flight Santiago/Concepción + transfers + flight
Ushuaia/Buenos Aires

In collaboration with National Geographic Expeditions.

Winding channels, snow-covered mountains, majestic glaciers and narrow passages: welcome to the magic of the **Chilean fjords**. PONANT is inviting you aboard *L'Austral* for an **14-day expedition cruise** to the heart of **South America's extraordinary landscapes**.

Departing from **Talcahuano**, you will discover **Quemchi**, an authentic village located on the lush island of Chiloé.

After sailing in **the Pulluche Channel**, your next call will be the remote village of **Tortel**, suspended above the water, and its typical wooden footbridges which take the place of streets.

You will then enter the Patagonian channel known as **the English Passage**, before getting closer to including El Brujo, and Pie XI Glacier glaciers.

You will enjoy an unforgettable experience of sailing along the **Strait of Magellan**, then you will glimpse the gigantic **Agostini** and **Garibaldi** before rounding **Cape Horn**, surrounded by the stunning scenery provided by **Tierra del Fuego National Park**.

On **Navarino Island**, you will make a final call at **Puerto Williams**, a pleasant fishing port considered by the Chileans to be the world's southernmost city, and finally you will sail to Argentina and **Ushuaia**, the final destination on your trip.

Subject to ice and weather conditions. The expedition highlights and itineraries described above illustrate possible experiences only and cannot be guaranteed.



The information in this document is valid as of 25/01/2022

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

TALCAHUANO

Embarkation 23/10/2022 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 23/10/2022 at 18:00

Talcahuano, Chile's largest fishing port, neighbours the overflowing energy of **Concepción**, where music resonates on every street corner. Renowned for its cultural and artistic life, it is nicknamed "**the gateway to the south**". With its 215,000 inhabitants, Concepción is a relatively prosperous city in Chile and the country's largest town south of Santiago. Very beautiful little traditional fishing villages scattered along the coast add to the charm of this part of the Chilean coastline.

AT SEA

Arrival 24/10/2022

Departure 24/10/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

QUEMCHI, CHILOE ISLAND

Arrival 25/10/2022

Departure 25/10/2022

In **southern Chile**, in the Lake District, discover the small fishing port of **Quemchi** on the east coast of **Chiloé Island**. With its authentic charm, its pretty wooden houses, its narrow streets lined with small shops, and its fish market, this faraway village is sure to win you over. Be sure to visit the museum dedicated to **Francisco Coloane, the famous Chilean author and adventurer** born on this southern land. Not far from there, the small island called **Isla Aucar**, accessible via a wooden footbridge, will be a chance to observe a wide variety of birds and discover a magnificent botanical garden, home to many of the region's endemic plants.

SAILING IN THE PULLUCHE CANAL

Arrival 26/10/2022

Departure 26/10/2022

Near the **Peñón de Lobos** ('wolf rock'), in Chile, the **Pulluche Canal** is located northwest of Monte Prieto and the island of Sin Nombre, literally "the island without a name". This maritime channel in the **Aysén du Général Carlos Ibañez del Campo Region**, in the south of the country, is 1,400 km south of the capital. You will sail through a very singular landscape made up of islands, canals and fjords. Recognised as a **Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO** in 1979, the **San Rafael Lake** brims with rainforests and abundant wildlife: sea birds (Black-browed Albatrosses, cormorants...) and marine mammals (pinnipeds).

TORTEL

Arrival 27/10/2022

Departure 27/10/2022

A picturesque, colourful fishing village, **Tortel** boasts a splendid location in the heart of southern Patagonia, halfway between Puerto Montt and Cape Horn. From the little streets made up of small walkways, you'll love the **grand panorama** of rounded mountains, dense forest, the clear waters of the Pacific. If you walk out onto one of the many wooden pontoons, you can admire the views as you stand suspended a few metres above the water. The village is scattered with **sculptures made by local artists**, an excellent introduction to this friendly community.

ENGLISH PASSAGE

Arrival 28/10/2022

Departure 28/10/2022

Between green hills rising from the water and snow-capped peaks, **the English Passage** is **one of the main Patagonian channels**. Situated off the south-western coast of Chile, **at the end of the Messier Channel**, this narrow waterway with a width of just 180 metres offers a unique sailing experience due to its exceptional dimensions and its magnificent natural setting.

PIE XI GLACIER

Arrival 28/10/2022

Departure 28/10/2022

The Brüggen Glacier, a coastal glacier in southern Chile also known as **Pio XI**, is astonishing for its almost surreal dimensions. With **a surface area exceeding 1,200 km²**, it is the largest of the glaciers making up the Southern Patagonian Ice Field. This gigantic ice field is the third largest ice mass in the world. Straddling the southern Andes Mountains, its breathtaking natural setting inspires sheer wonder and awe.

EL BRUJO GLACIER

Arrival 29/10/2022

Departure 29/10/2022

At the heart of **Bernardo O'Higgins National Park**, the largest protected area in Chile, discover **El Brujo Glacier**. Located

at the end of the Asia Fjord, this huge wall of ice sculpted by the wind is fascinating and impressive. This magical, natural and grandiose décor that changes as the light plays upon it will be an unforgettable sight.

SKUA GLACIER (SAILING)

Arrival 29/10/2022

Departure 29/10/2022

In the heart of the **Southern Patagonian Ice Field**, where the National Parks of Bernardo O'Higgins, Torres del Paine and Las Glaciares meet, discover the **Skua Glacier**, also known as the Amalia Glacier. Nested on the Andes, this **three-kilometre-wide tidewater glacier** will offer you sumptuous landscapes in infinite shades of blue: a magical show during which the impressive cracking of the ice can be heard at times.

ESTERO LAS MONTANAS

Arrival 30/10/2022

Departure 30/10/2022

Also called **Fjord of the Mountains** or Channel of the Mountains, the **Estero Las Montañas fjord** offers enchanting landscapes. Situated in large part in the **Alcalufes National Reserve**, this former glacial valley now flooded with water seems to stretch on for ever inland. Surrounded by tall mountains with lush slopes and edged with numerous glaciers tinged in various shades of blue, it will be a highlight of your cruise.

SAILING IN THE STRAIT OF MAGELLAN

Arrival 31/10/2022

Departure 31/10/2022

This mythical strait situated in the south of Chile and separating South America from Tierra del Fuego, awakens our imagination, stirring up a longing for adventure. For the first time, follow in the footsteps of the famous Portuguese explorer **Ferdinand Magellan**, known for having organised the first circumnavigation of the globe in the 16th century. Aboard your ship, cruise along the 600 km separating the Atlantic Ocean from the Pacific and, before arriving in Ushuaia, discover the sea route which was long nicknamed "Strait of All Saints" because Magellan's ships first entered it on All Saints' Day. A fascinating adventure.

AGOSTINI GLACIER

Arrival 01/11/2022

Departure 01/11/2022

In the Tierra del Fuego archipelago, the **Agostini Glacier** sits at the back of the eponymous fjord, framed by the Cordillera Darwin. Named after the **Italian missionary and explorer Alberto Maria De Agostini**, this imposing blue-tinged glacier offers a stunning view over the fjord.

GARIBALDI GLACIER

Arrival 02/11/2022
Departure 02/11/2022

Cruise along the narrow arm of **Garibaldi Fjord** and marvel at its stunning landscapes: **thick green vegetation** adorns steep mountains, rivalling the beauty of surrounding ice and snow. Further on, **Garibaldi Glacier** unveils itself: a towering ice titan looming at the end of the fjord that shares its name. Don't be surprised if sea lions and numerous birds accompany you on your enchanting journey into the heart of one of Chile's most beautiful glaciers.

SAILING AROUND CAPE HORN

Arrival 03/11/2022
Departure 03/11/2022

It's at the meeting point between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans that you enter Chilean Patagonia where you head for the Tierra del Fuego archipelago and its famous **Cape Horn**. From the top of its impressive 425-metre high cliff, South America's southernmost tip has, for many centuries, seen merchant ships from the world over passing by. Because of its legendary storms and rough seas, getting round this cape has gone down in history as a challenge for all seafarers.

PUERTO WILLIAMS

Arrival 04/11/2022
Departure 04/11/2022

Located on Navarino Island a few kilometres from the Argentinian border, the city of **Puerto Williams** is, according to Chileans, the southernmost city in the world. It is first and foremost, a charming fishing port whose calm and isolation will delight you. You can stroll around a few little streets and admire the dark silhouette of the **Patagonian Andes**, surmounted by eternally white peaks. The **Martin Gusinde** museum of anthropology gives an aperçu of the living conditions of the ancient indigenous people, the Yámanas, while the surrounding areas propose hiking paths across wild, unspoiled nature.

USHUAIA

Arrival 05/11/2022 early morning
Disembarkation 05/11/2022 at 07:30

Capital of Argentina's **Tierra del Fuego** province, Ushuaia is considered the gateway to the White Continent and the South Pole. Nicknamed "**El fin del mundo**" by the Argentinian people, this city at the end of the world nestles in the shelter of mountains surrounded by fertile plains that the wildlife seem to have chosen as the ultimate sanctuary. With its exceptional site, where the Andes plunge straight into the sea, Ushuaia is one of the most fascinating places on earth, its very name evocative of journeys to the unlikely and the inaccessible...