



CHILOÉ ON DARWIN'S STEPS

Length: 4 days / 3 nights



Quinchao church, UNESCO site

Join us in this unique and comprehensive journey to the island of Chiloé, discovering trails off the beaten path to get a real local and naturalist experience. The island is the land of myths, local communities, fishermen villages and ancient traditions. Through this 4 days experience we will deeply explore the culture and the nature of the island sharing time with locals, hiking through wild and unbeaten paths, navigating the Pacific Ocean and learning about the culture of a remote land in a remote country.

ITINERARY:

DAY 1. ARRIVAL TO CHILOÉ

We will drive the last portion of the Route 5 to reach the south-west coast of the Lake District and get the ferry to cross to the island of Chiloé. During the 45 minutes of navigation we will have great views of the Andean range and the first villages of the island with the typical wooden towers of the churches that mark the entrance to the living cultural heritage of Chiloé.

Today we will be exploring the north part of the island visiting small villages, having a taste of oysters and navigation to a breeding colony of Humboldt and Magellanic Penguins among other species of birdlife related to the Humboldt Current. // Lunch included. Overnight in Ancud

DAY 2. THE CHEPU RIVER AND PACIFIC COAST HIKE

A day off the beaten path with a medium difficulty hike through the forests and the cliffs of the Pacific Coast of Chiloé (10 km., 5-6 hours). At the end we will board a boat and navigate the mouth of the river Chepu crossing the sunken forest and disembarking in the village. After a short transfer we will be getting to a local family house where we will participate in the preparation of the typical Curanto. // Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included. Overnight in Castro

DAY 3. CASTRO AND THE NATIONAL PARK CHILOÉ

Morning walking tour of Castro, visiting the Palafitos (houses on stilts) and the downtown area. Before we continue to the west coast, we stop at the local market where we meet our chef and we buy the products that later we will use to prepare our dinner. Once we reach the park we have a low difficulty hike (6km., 2 hours) to Muelle Las Almas. We return to Castro just in time for dinner at a real palafito. The dinner will be prepared by the traveller and our chef, with the ingredients that we bought at the market when we started the day. // Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner. Overnight in Castro

DAY 4. THE UNESCO CHURCHES AND VILLAGES OF THE EAST COAST

Our last day in the island is dedicated to the villages of Dalcahue, Quinchao and Achao visiting three of the sixteen Unesco churches of the island. Once back in the mainland we drive through the east coast stopping at Tenaún and Aucar before we get to Chacao and board the ferry back to the mainland. // Breakfast and Lunch included

Destinations	Chiloé Island
Departure	Puerto Varas and surroundings, Chiloé
Length	4 days / 3 nights
Hikes	Duhatao (10 km. 6 hours), Muelle Las Almas (6 km. 2 hours)
Difficulty	Low
Activities	Navigation to the Penguin Colony in Puñihuil Visit to Caulín Bay: Bird's Sanctuary Navigation through Chepu river Walking tours in the villages of Ancud, Castro, Dalcahue, Quinchao, Achao, Tenaún, Nercón and Vilipulli Visit to seven UNESCO churches of Chiloé Hikes Full immersion of the local culture Flora & fauna observation Photo opportunity
Meals	Day 1: Oyster tasting - Lunch at Puñihuil Bay / Day 2: Home hosted Curanto / Day 3: Box Lunch and dinner / Day 4: Lunch at a local restaurant Breakfast from day 2–4. (vegetarian, vegan and gluten intolerant options available upon request)
Accommodations	Day 1: Ancud / Day 2-3: Castro
Transportation	Professional Driver with license A2, modern vehicles, private terrestrial transportation
Insurances	Metlife coverage for each traveller between 18 and 64 years old
Equipment provided	Literature, water.
Equipment required	Sun-hat and sunscreen, comfortable shoes, waterproof clothes. Bottles for water.
Not included	International and Domestic flights (we can book it for you upon request), tips, insurances and any other item not specified
Guide	Professional Bilingual Naturalist guide with International WFR
Minimum of passengers	This trip is guaranteed to depart with a minimum of two participants. Maximum 8 participants.
Sustainability	0% Plastic emissions, Carbon Print compensation, Water to refill reusable bottles, small groups for low impact, 100% of the waste produced recycled, Conservation/Educational Programs supported through your booking
Pre-Post Tours	Possible to connect with pre or post extensions