



# Chile - Kayaking from the Andes to the Pacific!

## Our "Classic" Exploration of Northern Patagonia from Mountain to Ocean

December 17-28, 2006

January 11-22, 2007

December 18-29, 2007

January 10-21, 2008

12-DAY ADVENTURE RUGGED KAYAKING TRAVEL,  
MEDIUM TO HARD DAY HIKES-  
3 NIGHTS HOTEL, 7 NIGHTS IN TENTED CAMP OR ON BOAT,  
2 DAYS TO AND FROM YOUR HOME

Explorers' Corner has found what we consider the ultimate South American kayaking adventure: a "mountain-to-ocean" kayak journey down a remote, calm mountain river through the wild Patagonian Andes to a famed archipelago in southeastern Chile. This Patagonian kayaking adventure journeys through diverse landscapes and animal habitats, through some of the finest, remote natural areas in South America.

Our great Andean paddling traverse starts where one of the wildest rivers on the continent, the mighty Futaleufú, drains into Lake Yelcho. At the lower calm part, there will be no rapids and the river is easily negotiable by sea kayaks. The swift current will move us along at five miles per hour. We'll paddle eastward towards the ocean on Lake Yelcho and camp on the lake shore. Views of towering Monte Hornos, Volcán Corcovado

(1827 m) often vanish in whirling blankets of damp mist during the river's march to Golfo Corcovado. We'll take out at the western end of the lake at the little town of Puerto Gardenas. Then we'll continue by car to the hamlet of Caleta Gonzalo at the bottom of the protected Reñihue Fjord complex that connects to the Pacific Ocean.





For the next six days, we will paddle north in the protected Reñihue Fjord system and explore its many inlets. Our small support vessel will follow us and we'll camp ashore at a series of hot springs and use these base camps for hikes into the dramatic rain forest. This is a journey through a mountainous wilderness of majestic fjords, deep valleys, crystal rivers, ribbon waterfalls, snow-covered peaks and impenetrable rainforests. This area is part of the Pumalin Park, named after the pumas that roam there. It is a

Yosemite-sized Eden that has been saved from exploitation by a recent effort to make it into a Natural Preserve. We take out at the hamlet of Hornopiren, a couple of hours of drive from Puerto Montt.

This journey offers a "full palette" of Patagonian landscapes and natural wonders. A sea kayaking adventure not to be missed -- come on down with Explorers' Corner for a southern getaway!

## Day-to-Day Itinerary

Day 1. Departure from home - arrival Puerto Montt.

Leave your hometown and fly to Puerto Montt via Santiago, Chile. Welcome dinner in town.

D... Hotel Club Presidente

Day 2. Chaiten - Lower Futaleufú.

Morning transfer to Puerto Montt Harbor and Catamaran ride to Chaiten over the Golfo Ancud. We then drive a van up to the first campsite at the Lower Futaleufú.

L, D... Wilderness Camping

Day 3. The Lower Futaleufú - Lake Yelcho.

Sea kayaking instruction and start of paddling down the lower part of the Futaleufú River flowing into Lake Yelcho. In the late afternoon we set up camp at Isla Monita.

B, L, D... Wilderness Camping

Day 4. Lake Yelcho.

We continue along the north of Lake Yelcho and camp when we find a great campsite.

B, L, D... Wilderness Camping

Day 5. Lake Yelcho - Reñihue Fjord.

Our fresh water paddle ends at the hamlet of Puerto Gardenas where we transfer by vehicle to Caleta Gonzalo at the southern end of Reñihue Fjord. There our support vessel will meet us.

B, L, D... Overnight in Caleta Gonzalo Cabins

Day 6. Porcelana Bay.

Hike through Leptepu Isthmus along a wide trail (actually a part of Carreta Austral). We'll meet the support vessel again and board our sea kayaks for a paddle to Porcelana Bay. There should be fine



wildlife viewing opportunities today: dolphins, cormorants, penguins and more. Porcelana is a creek of natural hot water emerging from the rain forest. After setting up camp on shore, we hike a short distance to a creek lined with natural hot springs. A great place to soak after a day of paddling!

B, L, D... Wilderness Camping

#### Day 7. Porcelana Bay - Cahuelmo Bay.

From Porcelana we continue by kayaks and support vessel, depending on our level of ambition, and enter the dramatic Cahuelmo Fjords. We set up camp near a hot spring where indigenous people carved rustic tubs many years ago. Each one is a different size and all have very hot water. These baths are a part of the Pumalin Preserve, and this site provides very comfortable camping facilities and bathrooms.

B, L, D... Wilderness Camping

#### Day 8. Cahuelmo Bay.

Paddle up the Cahuelmo River where there is a temperate rain forest and continue by foot to Lake Abascal-about seven miles from camp, nestled between tremendous spires of the Andes. We return to the Cahuelmo campsite in the afternoon.

B, L, D... Wilderness Camping

#### Day 9. Cahuelmo - Quintupeu Fjord.

This day we treat ourselves to a great 4-5 hour paddle into the fjord of Quintupeu. After setting up our camp in the afternoon, we will be able to see views of glaciers in one direction and four miles of fjords in the other. In the afternoon we'll be free to hike and explore the beautiful surroundings.

Campsite or vessel will be waiting at the end of the fjord.

B, L, D... Wilderness Camping

#### Day 10. Quintupeu - Llancahue Hotsprings.

Paddling from Quintupeu to the beautiful island named Llancahue. Another camping spot with hot springs!

B, L, D... Wilderness Camping

#### Day 11. Llancahue - Hornopiren - Puerto Montt.

This is our last half day of paddling to the take-out at the hamlet of Hornopiren. We say good-bye to our boat crew and drive back to the City of Puerto Montt. In the evening we celebrate our Andean paddle exploration with a farewell dinner in town.

B, L, D... Hotel Club Presidente.

#### Day 12. Puerto Montt - Departure to your home destination.

B .. Return Home

## Land Cost

\$3,390 per person (8-10 members)

\$3,690 per person (6-7 members)

Rates quoted are per person, based on sharing double accommodations.

Single Supplement-\$100 (in hotel in Puerto Montt only)



## What's Included?

- Expert leadership and support personnel
- All accommodations in Chile as noted
- Meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- All group airport transfers
- Zodiac assistance in Lake Yelcho
- 50-ft support vessel from day 6 to day 11, including crew
- All kayaking gear, safety equipment and common camping equipment
- Ground transportation

## What's Not Included?

- International airfare (home/Puerto Montt r/t)
- Insurance of any kind
- Excess baggage charges
- Airport taxes
- Items of a personal nature (sleeping bags and pad, clothing, sodas, liquor, snack foods, laundry, souvenirs, etc.)



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## Explorers' Corner

Explorers' Corner endeavors to foster a community of explorers that dare to make true travel dreams-only limited by the world and our imaginations. Explorers' Corner is a mainly referral specialty adventure travel company offering unique destinations and/or experiences, custom adventures and "old-world" one-to-one customer service.

Dr. Olaf Malver, who has lead hiking, climbing and sea kayaking trips and expeditions on all seven continents for over 25 years, founded Explorers' Corner. He's visited over 100 countries and has operated expeditions to diverse locations such as Pakistan, Nepal, the Antarctic, Greenland, Indonesia, Vietnam, Panama, the Nicobar Islands, Zanzibar-and many other "frontier destinations."

We're here to answer any of your questions about this trip or other trips Explorers' Corner offers. Don't hesitate to visit our web site at [www.explorerscorner.com](http://www.explorerscorner.com), call us at 510-559-8099 or email us at [info@explorerscorner.com](mailto:info@explorerscorner.com).

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