



WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
of Philadelphia & Cooperating Councils

October 25 – November 5, 2024

Patagonia and the Chilean Fjords



PATAGONIA AND THE CHILEAN FJORDS

“It is scarcely possible to imagine anything more beautiful than the beryl-like blue of these glaciers,” wrote Charles Darwin, awed by the striking iridescent ice while cruising southern Argentina and Chile in 1833. On this exclusive land and sea journey, assume the role of explorer, retracing the bold travels of Darwin and Ferdinand Magellan in southern Chile, a landscape still virtually untouched even more than a century after the first European settlers.

From sweeping pampas grasslands to magnificent glacier-studded fjords and the legendary Tierra del Fuego archipelago, you too can experience the extremes and contrasts of Patagonia, which crosses the Andes Mountains from the Pacific to the Atlantic. See distinctive subantarctic and Patagonian wildlife, including guanacos, rheas, condors, elephant seals and penguins. Enjoy excursions that range from a Maipo Valley wine tasting to a visit to Cape Horn National Park, the world’s southernmost national park.

Along your journey on the VENTUS AUSTRALIS, seasoned expert naturalists, who have studied and traveled extensively in this remote region, will provide presentations on glaciology in Patagonia, the exploration of Tierra del Fuego and more.

Front cover: Lake Pehoé, Torres del Paine National Park, Chile

This page: Zodiac excursion to Pia Glacier, Chile



Guanacos, Torres del Paine National Park, Chile



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Dear Council Traveler,

Our unique voyage to Patagonia and the Chilean fjords begins in Santiago on a land and sea itinerary that takes you in the path of legendary explorers Captain Robert FitzRoy and Charles Darwin — through the awe-inspiring Strait of Magellan, the historically significant Beagle Channel, the crystalline Glacier Alley and Wulaia Bay. Along the way, uncover the wonders of Santiago, the extraordinary diversity of Patagonia and Cape Horn, the “edge of the world.”

Launch your adventure in Santiago and visit an award-winning winery in the Maipo Valley. Then venture into the vast expanse of Patagonia to see sparkling glaciers, unique wildlife and the iconic peaks of Torres del Paine National Park. Cruise aboard the expedition ship VENTUS AUSTRALIS, designed specifically for navigating the rich waterways of southern Patagonia, where mountains meet the seemingly endless ocean. The Chilean fjords offer, among their hidden islands and narrow channels, some of the world’s best viewing of tidewater glaciers, subantarctic woodlands and marine wildlife — Andean condors, humpback whales, Peale’s dolphins and rare Chilean dolphins.

Along your journey, an onboard team of multilingual expert naturalists will enrich your expedition with their in-depth knowledge of the region’s history, natural wonders and wildlife. The ship is equipped with Zodiac landing craft for excursions to observe glaciers up close as they crack and calve; distinctive species, including elephant seals, cormorants and endemic Magellanic penguins; and traces of the Yámanas, the original settlers of Wulaia Bay.

Join us for this incredible voyage of a lifetime. Book now while early booking savings and space are still available! Other educational groups share this departure, so make your reservation today. Call (800) 942-5004 x 209 (email: travel@wacphila.org).

Warm Regards,

Andrew Haight, Director of Travel

Can't travel at this time? Ask about the Council's other cruises with Gohagan & Company to Scandanavia and Ireland.

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**To secure your spot, call Travel Department at World Affairs Council of Philadelphia
at 800-942-5004 or www.wacphila.org/travel**



CHILEAN WINES — EXQUISITE & DIVERSE

Although grapevines were first planted in Chile in the early 1500s with rootstock brought over on Spanish ships, it wasn't until the 1980s that the country's excellent viticulture was recognized as a prominent world player.

Due to Chile's unique weather patterns, topography and location — the Pacific Ocean to the west, the Atacama Desert to the north and the Andes Mountains to the east — the country boasts ideal conditions for wine growing. This geographical protection from all sides has also kept Chile largely immune to the disasters, diseases and pests that have plagued other wine-producing countries, including the phylloxera epidemic of the mid-19th century.

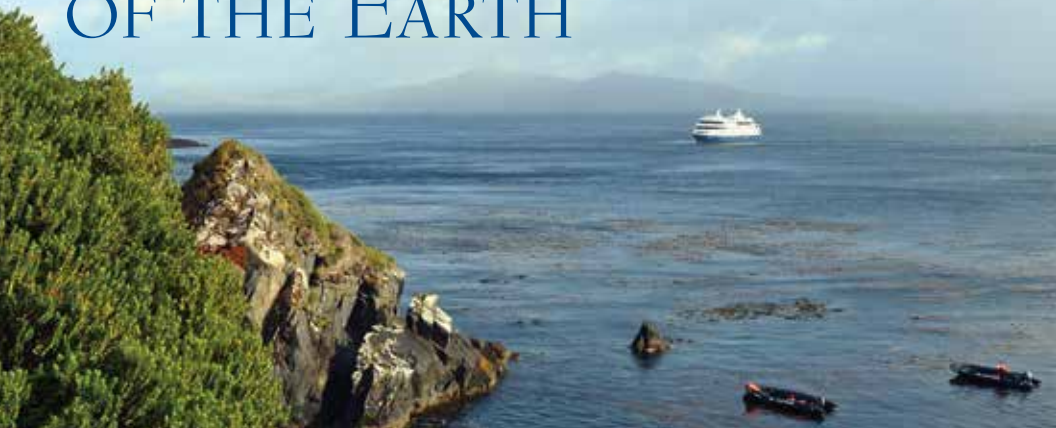
Located just south of Santiago, the Maipo Valley is home to Chile's largest commercial wine-growing region and oldest, most established wineries. Full-bodied, elegant reds flourish here, especially Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Carmenère, Chile's national wine.

With Chile's variety of pleasing wines, from classic terroir-driven wines to obscure Marselan grapes and delectable dessert wines, both wine debutants and oenophiles can sip, savor and return home with excellent memories.



Santa Rita vineyard,
Maipo Valley, Chile

EXPLORING THE END OF THE EARTH



While sailing toward Indonesia's fabled Spice Islands in 1520, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan became the first European to enter the channel that would later bear his name. Along the south side of the strait, amid the world's southernmost forests, smoke rose from numerous native Selk'nam campfires, leading Magellan to name this island Tierra del Humo, "land of smoke," which Spain's King Charles V changed to the more poetic Tierra del Fuego, "land of fire." The northern side of the strait came to be known as Patagonia, "land of giants," for Magellan and his men's impression of the tall, indigenous inhabitants. Three centuries later, the HMS Beagle, under the command of Admiral Robert FitzRoy and with young naturalist Charles Darwin on board, became the first ship to sail east to west through its namesake channel. Experience the same wonder of these intrepid explorers as you cruise through these mesmerizing landscapes almost untouched since Magellan explored them nearly 500 years ago.



Cape Horn, Chile



South American fur seals

INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).
- ◆ Traveler's Choice: A choice of excursions in selected locales.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS



GOHAGAN & COMPANY

Bernardo O'Higgins National Park

Torres del Paine National Park



12-DAY/11-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart Home City

Day 1

Depart your home city for Santiago, Chile.

Santiago, Chile

Day 2

Arrive in Santiago. Transfer and check in to the HYATT CENTRIC LAS CONDES HOTEL. Enjoy the remainder of the day and lunch at leisure. Later tonight, gather for a convivial Welcome Reception. (R)

Santiago/Maipo Valley

Day 3

Venture out to explore vibrant Santiago, nestled in the foothills of the snowcapped Andes. Tour the highlights of the city's indigenous and European-influenced architecture and culture, including the outstanding collections in the Museo Chileno de Arte Precolombino. En route to a 140-year-old Santa Rita vineyard, marvel at views of the scenic Maipo Valley. A local expert

will guide your vineyard tour and wine tasting. (B,L)

Santiago/Puerto Natales

Day 4

After breakfast, fly to Puerto Natales, which once served as a major transit point for the sheep and coal industries of 20th-century Patagonia. Following lunch, check in to the COSTAUSTRALIS PUERTO NATALES HOTEL, spend time at leisure and gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Última Esperanza Fjord/ Bernardo O'Higgins National Park/ Puerto Natales

Day 5

Watch as rugged landscapes and vast, rolling countryside unfold before you. Cruise on the Última Esperanza Fjord to witness the imposing Balmaceda Glacier. Next, join your guide for a beautiful walk through the unspoiled Bernardo O'Higgins National Park to see the magnificent

Serrano Glacier. Savor lunch at a Patagonian ranch before returning to Puerto Natales. (B,L,D)

Torres del Paine/ Milodón Cave/Grey Lake

Day 6

Torres del Paine is South America's most celebrated national park and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Observe its pristine landscape, brimming with spectacular glaciers, lakes and mountain ranges. Search for the region's iconic wildlife — ostrich-like rheas, pumas and guanacos. In nearby Milodón Cave, 1890s German pioneer Herman Eberhard discovered the prehistoric remains of a 13-foot giant sloth. Enjoy a hike along the gentle shores of Grey Lake, admiring the inspiring granitic towers and Grey Glacier. Relax over lunch in the park and survey its spectacular mountaintop views, including the three-peaked Cordillera del Paine. (B,L)



Hiking in Patagonia, Chile



Glacial fjord of the Beagle Channel, Chile

Puerto Natales/ Punta Arenas

Day 7

After checking out of the hotel, indulge in a traditional lunch and watch a sheep herding demonstration at a Patagonian ranch. Continue to Punta Arenas, the gateway to Patagonia and embark the VENTUS AUSTRALIS. Gather for a Captain's Welcome Reception, followed by dinner. (B,L,R,D)

Ainsworth Bay/ Tucker Islets

Day 8

Arrive in Ainsworth Bay. This coastal inlet in the seldom-visited Alberto de Agostini National Park is fed by the retreating tidewater Marinelli Glacier. Board a Zodiac for a shore landing and choose between two excursions to explore the subantarctic Magellanic forest. During a Zodiac excursion in neighboring Admiralty Sound, observe the

Tucker Islets' unusual birds — rock cormorants, dolphin gulls, Magellanic penguins and chimango caracaras. (B,L,D)

Beagle Channel/ Pia Glacier/Glacier Alley

Day 9

Enjoy an unforgettable cruise through the historic Beagle Channel, named for Darwin's ship, which explored these waters in the mid-19th century. Make a Zodiac landing and choose between two excursions that lead you to a magnificent vantage point to watch for the tidewater Pia Glacier to calve into the fjord. A highlight of today is a mesmerizing cruise through the sublime wonderland of Glacier Alley, where swaths of blue ice flow from the towering gray mountains of the Cordillera Darwin. (B,L,D)

Cape Horn/Wulaia Bay

Day 10

Majestic Cape Horn, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, embodies nature's power

and demands reverence. Aboard a Zodiac craft, go ashore for an opportunity to stand at the "edge of the world" overlooking the legendary Drake Passage (weather permitting). Walk across the low-lying, fragile tundra vegetation for unmatched panoramic views. This afternoon, anchor in the historic Wulaia Bay, a site described by Charles Darwin and illustrated by FitzRoy during his voyages on the Beagle. Choose between three excursions to discover the area and soak up amazing views of the bay. Gather for a Farewell Reception tonight. (B,L,R,D)

Ushuaia/Buenos Aires/ Return to Home City

Day 11 and Day 12

After breakfast, disembark in Ushuaia and fly to Buenos Aires to depart for your home city. Arrive home the next day. (B)

Zodiac landing at Tucker Islets, Chile





VENTUS AUSTRALIS Explore the wonders of the Patagonian fjords aboard the exclusively chartered, first-class VENTUS AUSTRALIS, specially designed to access the most remote corners of the Straits of Magellan, where larger vessels cannot navigate. Each of the ship's 100 cabins features one double bed or two twin beds, individual climate control, a private bathroom with shower and exterior windows to soak up the glorious landscapes. Enjoy complimentary nonpremium alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages throughout the cruise. All meals aboard the ship are included.



2024 DEPARTURE DATE: October 25 to November 5 (Tour Begins: October 26)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <i>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</i>	Early Booking Rate through June 3, 2024	Rates after June 3, 2024
B	Standard stateroom, large window featuring bathroom with shower. <i>Magallenes Deck. (limited availability)</i>	\$6,745	\$7,495
A	Standard stateroom, large window featuring bathroom with shower. <i>Magallenes Deck.</i>	\$9,695	\$10,770
AA	Standard stateroom, large window featuring bathroom with shower. <i>Tierra del Feugo Deck.</i>	\$10,195	\$11,330
AA Superior	Superior stateroom, large window featuring bathroom with shower. <i>Tierra del Feugo Deck. (limited availability)</i>	\$10,895	\$12,105
AAA	Standard stateroom, large window featuring bathroom with shower. <i>Cabo des Hornos Deck.</i>	\$11,195	\$12,440
AAA Superior	Superior stateroom, large window featuring bathroom with shower. <i>Cabo des Hornos Deck. (limited availability)</i>	\$12,195	\$13,550

BONUS SAVINGS! Pay in full at the time of booking to receive additional savings. Bookings made inside 121 days prior to departure are not eligible for this discount. Please call for details.

Single supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Port taxes are an additional \$115 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment.

This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call Travel Department at World Affairs Council of Philadelphia at 800-942-5004 or www.wacphila.org/travel

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Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/



PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

Easter Island

October 21 to 26, 2024 (Tour Begins: October 22)

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage site of Easter Island and behold its unique archaeological treasures. Visit the island's most important and celebrated landmarks, including the basalt quarry from which the *moai* were carved, the white sand beach and the village central to the Birdman culture — predominant until the arrival of Christian missionaries. This tour features roundtrip flights between Santiago and Easter Island and all accommodations, including one night at the HYATT CENTRIC LAS CONDES HOTEL and three nights at the HANGAROA ECO VILLAGE & SPA.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$4,495**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$5,845**



POST-PROGRAM OPTION

Buenos Aires and Iguazú Falls

November 4 to 9, 2024 (Tour Ends: November 8)

Extend your journey with a tour of Argentina's capital city of Buenos Aires and the rainforest of Iguazú Falls. In elegant Buenos Aires, see the colorful La Boca district and the neighborhoods of San Telmo, Puerto Madero and Palermo. Visit Recoleta Cemetery, the final resting place of Eva Perón. Fly to Iguazú Falls and explore both the Argentine and Brazilian falls. Enjoy visiting the Parque das Aves, home to more than 500 species of bird. This tour features a flight to Iguazú Falls and all accommodations, including two nights at the MELIÁ RECOLETA PLAZA and two nights at the GRAN MELIÁ IGUAZÚ.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$1,995**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$2,595**

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

SPECIAL SAVINGS! Early Booking up to \$2,710 per couple, plus receive Bonus Savings if you pay in full at the time of booking! Call for details.

Magellanic penguins



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