JOURNEY
LATIN AMERICA



CLASSIC GROUP TOURS

MAGELLANIC: SOUTHERN VOYAGE

12 days from **£5,197pp**

ARGENTINA / BUENOS AIRES / ARGENTINIAN LAKE DISTRICT / EL CALAFATE AND LOS GLACIARES NATIONAL PARK / VALDES PENINSULA AND ATLANTIC PATAGONIA



WHY US

We are the UK's No.1 specialist in travel to Latin America and have been creating award-winning holidays to every corner of the region for over four decades; we pride ourselves on being the most knowledgeable people there are when it comes to travel to Central and South America and passionate about it too.

OUR JOURNEY

As our name suggests, we are single-minded about Latin America. This is what sets us apart from other travel companies – and what allows us to offer you not just a holiday but the opportunity to experience something extraordinary on inspiring journeys throughout Mexico, Central and South America.

WE LOVE LATIN AMERICA

- A passion for the region runs through all we do
- All our Consultants have lived or travelled extensively in Latin America
- Up-to-the-minute knowledge underpinned by 40 years' experience

TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE

- Fully bonded and licensed
- ATOL-protected
- On your side when it matters
- Book with confidence, knowing every penny is secure

THE REAL LATIN AMERICA

- Our insider knowledge helps you go beyond the guidebooks
- We hand-pick hotels with character and the most rewarding excursions
- Let us show you the Latin America we know and love

OVERVIEW & OUTLINE ITINERARY

DAY 1	Arrival into the city.
DAY 2	Guided tour of Buenos Aires.
DAY 3	Fly to Bariloche for three nights.
DAY 4	Full day tour around Bariloche.
DAY 5	Optional Excursions in Bariloche.
DAY 6	Fly to El Calafate for 3 nights.
DAY 7	Full day tour to Perito Moreno Glacier.
DAY 8	Day at leisure with optional excursions.
DAY 9	Fly to Trelew and travel to Puerto Madryn for 3 nights.
DAY 10	Full Day Wildlife-Spotting Tour of the Valdés Peninsula and whale watching.
DAY 11	Full Day Tour to Punta Tombo penguin colony and visit to Gaiman.
DAY 12	Fly back to Buenos Aires for your final night in the capital.

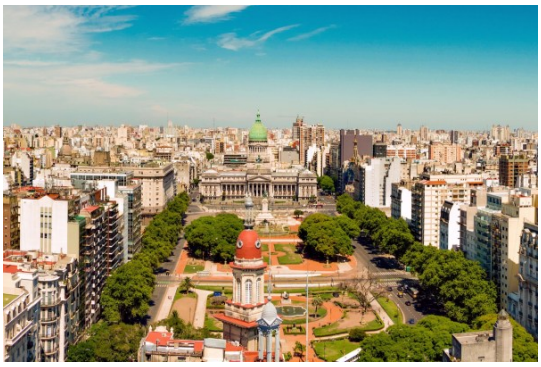
ITINERARY

The vast and wonderfully diverse landscapes of southern Argentina await on our Magellanic: Southern Voyage group tour. You'll begin your journey in one of Latin America's most iconic cities, Buenos Aires, renowned for its elegant boulevards, colonial architecture and fashionable café society. After spending a few days exploring its trendy modern districts and colourful neighbourhoods, you'll leave the capital behind and head to Bariloche in the Argentinian Lake District. Famed for its Swiss-style architecture and exquisite chocolates, the town is skirted by snow-capped Andean mountains and gemstone-clear lakes. It's the perfect base for outdoor explorations, from picturesque boat rides to hikes through ancient cyprus forests. Venturing deeper into Patagonian territory, you'll arrive at Los Glaciares National Park, where the Perito Moreno Glacier towers 60m above the glittering lake's surface and sends vast chunks of ice hurtling into the water. Your last few days will be spent in the Valdés Peninsula, taking in its astonishing array of exuberant wildlife: expect to encounter tens of thousands of chattering penguins, gargantuan elephant seals sprawled on beaches and southern right whales breeding and calving in the sheltered bay.

DAY 1

Arrival into the city.

At leisure in Buenos Aires, one of Latin America's most captivating and elegant cities. Those passengers arriving on an international flight will be met at the airport by the tour leader or a local representative and escorted to the group hotel.



DAY 2

Guided tour of Buenos Aires.

On this guided city tour you'll discover the capital's most iconic sites and vibrant neighbourhoods. Your explorations include the Plaza de Mayo, enclosed on three sides by the town hall, the metropolitan cathedral and the pink-hued Casa Rosada (presidential palace). Take in the brightly painted houses of La Boca, the birthplace of tango, before exploring the quirky antiques shops and quaint houses of bohemian San Telmo. You'll also explore the modern metropolitan port district and laid-back, trendy Palermo.



DAY 3

Fly to Bariloche for three nights.

Fly south to the Lake District. On the southern shore of serene Lake Nahuel Huapi is San Carlos de Bariloche, the principal town of Argentina's lake district. Famed for its delicious chocolates and alpine architecture, Bariloche is a charming centre for snow sports in winter and mountain hikes in summer.



DAY 4

Full day tour around Bariloche.

Take in the jagged, snow-capped Andes and glittering lakes that surround Bariloche on a full day tour. You will visit some of the area's most magnificent viewpoints. Expect panoramic vistas over the turquoise waters of the Moreno and Nahuel Huapi Lakes, idyllic walking trails in the Llao Llao peninsula and hidden views from the top of Cerro Campanario. Round off the morning's activities with a well-deserved lunch at a local brewery.



DAY 5

Optional Excursions in Bariloche.

You'll have the whole day free to explore the chocolate-box pretty region, with many excursions and activities on offer. We recommend a visit to Cerro Catedral ski resort- it involves a bit of a climb but your efforts are well rewarded by the sweeping panoramas from the top, and funicular railways and ski-lifts can shoulder some of the burden. Ancient Patagonian beech and cypress forests are animated by the sight and calls of an abundance of birds as varied as the woodpecker, ibis, goose and hummingbird. There are also plenty of scenic lakeshore drives from Bariloche, or you may wish to take a boat from Puerto Panuelo to Puerto Blest, one of the area's best day-trips.



DAY 6

Fly to El Calafate for 3 nights.

Continue south to the bustling Patagonian town of El Calafate, the principal gateway to the staggering glaciers, sparkling lakes and vertiginous peaks of Los Glaciares National Park in southern Patagonia.



DAY 7

Full day tour to Perito Moreno Glacier.

A scenic drive begins your tour, gliding through forest valleys dense with beech and birch trees, continuing alongside hidden lagoons bordered with crimson and heather lichens. Los Glaciares National Park itself is a carefully preserved wilderness, with discreet wooden viewing platforms landscaped into the cliffs. Views over the Perito Moreno Glacier are staggering: the icy tower stands at 60m above the surface of the lake and stretches out across 5km. There is an optional trek atop the immense glacier, so you can explore its every crevice and pool up close.



DAY 8

Day at leisure with optional excursions.

There are plenty of optional activities to choose from. Keen adventurers can take a full-day trip into the ice fields, past dense forests and snow-capped mountains to the icebergs afloat the glittering waters of Lago Onelli. Alternatively you may like to try horse riding, visiting a traditional estancia or driving to El Chaltén to hike in the shadow of the magnificent Fitzroy mountain range.



DAY 9

Fly to Trelew and travel to Puerto Madryn for 3 nights.

Fly north to the sandy beaches and windsweapt coastline around Puerto Madryn, a breezy seaside resort in Patagonia which offers plenty of restaurants and a marine museum with panoramic ocean views. Just across the bay is the Valdés Peninsula, home to an extraordinary array of marine wildlife, from vast penguin colonies and elephant seals to migrating whales.



DAY 10

Full Day Wildlife-Spotting Tour of the Valdés Peninsula and whale watching.



We'll spend a full day exploring the wild, craggy Valdés Peninsula, which juts out into the Atlantic Ocean where it laps the shores of Argentine Patagonia. Its cliffs, bays, lagoons, salt lakes and plains are teeming with an astonishing array of exuberant and vociferous wildlife – birds and mammals, both marine and terrestrial, mate, breed and thrive here. On this expedition, depending on the time of year, you're sure to see a variety of these creatures, from gigantic elephant seals sprawled on the beaches to gangs of playful fur seals and sea-lions jostling for position, while migratory seabirds wheel and cry mournfully above the waves.

The unique geography of the Valdés Peninsula makes it one of the best locations in the world for whale watching. You'll have the rare opportunity to witness southern right whales as they breed and calve in the calm waters of the gulf, sheltered by the cliffs of the peninsula. From Puerto Pirámides, you can take a boat trip to view them up close, their huge, primeval bodies and graceful forked tails heaving above sea-level almost within touching distance: an incredible sight.

DAY 11

Full Day Tour to Punta Tombo penguin colony and visit to Gaiman.



Each year the protected natural haven of Punta Tombo comes alive with the squawks of half a million Magellanic Penguins, the largest colony in the world. You'll visit in the morning, when the heat is not too intense and the penguins are busily arranging their nests and searching for fish. Wander amongst the chattering black and white birds from within the reserve before taking in panoramic views of the vast colony from atop a cliff. In the afternoon you'll have the chance to explore unique Welsh communities: in Trelew City visit a distinguished Paleontology museum, or sample exquisite Welsh tea at Gaiman..

DAY 12

Fly back to Buenos Aires for your final night in the capital.

INCLUDED EXCURSIONS

- Buenos Aires: city tour
- Bariloche: Full day tour of the area with viewpoints, walking and brewery lunch
- El Calafate: Visit to Perito Moreno Glacier
- Puerto Madryn: Full day tour to Peninsula Valdes and whale watching boat excursion
- Puerto Madryn: Full day tour to the penguin colony at Punta Tombo

ESSENTIALS

ABOUT OUR GROUP TOURS

To find out more about how our group tours including group sizes, solo travellers and why to choose us. Please click **here**.

TOUR LEADER

On this tour, you'll be accompanied from start to finish by one of our exceptional Journey Latin America tour leaders. From the moment you land in Latin America until the day the tour ends they will deal with all the practicalities, expertly adapting to the circumstances and individual needs of the group. Rather than different guides in different cities, your leader will get to know the group and keep you informed and entertained as you go.

SUMMARY OF NIGHTS

2 Buenos Aires; 3 Bariloche; 3 El Calafate; 3 Puerto Madryn; 1 Buenos Aires.

ACCOMMODATION

We use the following mid-range and upper mid-range hotels on this tour.

- Buenos Aires: Loi Suites Recoleta
- Bariloche: Cacique Inacayal
- El Calafate: Kosten Aike
- Puerto Madryn: Peninsula Hotel

On very rare occasions these hotels can change, however please speak to one of our consultants who can provide full details for each departure if you have any doubts. Address and contact details will be sent out with your final documents.

TRANSPORT

4 flights (between 1.5 and 2.5hrs). All land transport is operated privately for the group.

MEALS

Breakfast daily; Lunch is provided on days 4 and 11 as part of your daily excursions.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

On this tour the price includes excursions in all the places you visit as per the itinerary. There will however likely be some free time when you may choose to take part in an optional excursion. These are booked locally through your tour leader once you are in Latin America, however we are more than happy to advise you of what is on offer in advance of your holiday so you can best plan the excursions that suit you.

TRAVELLING ALONE

There is no extra cost for single travellers who are willing to share a room. You will be accommodated with a same-sex member of the group who is usually also travelling solo. For single travellers who wish to be sure of having their own room there are a limited number of single supplement places available, which carry a surcharge.

CLIMATE

This holiday operates in the latter half of the year. As a broad overview Argentina has the opposite seasons to the UK, meaning November to February tend to be the warmest summer months. The further south you travel in the country the cooler it gets, although this varies with altitude. A comprehensive overview of the weather in all the regions you are visiting can be found in our Destination pages. Our Travel Experts can answer your questions on climate and further details will be sent with your confirmation documents.

CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT AND LUGGAGE

A day-pack is essential for carrying rain-wear, snacks, books/tablet and a water bottle as are comfortable walking shoes. Bring a hat with a visor, sunglasses and sun block. Binoculars are useful for bird and wildlife spotting. Because the weather can be changeable we recommend wearing layered clothing for excursions.

Please take note that Aerolineas Argentinas (who will operate most of the internal flights) permit a maximum of 15kg hold

luggage on most domestic flights. Excess luggage can be paid for locally for a small fee. Please get in touch with the office before departure if you have any doubts.

MONEY

Please see the Country Info tab on this holiday for our latest currency information and advice about how to take your spending money. Tipping in Latin America is almost always done using cash. It is customary to tip tour leaders, local guides, drivers, boat crews and other service providers such as restaurant staff and porters. Full tipping guidelines are sent with your confirmation documents as is advice on local costs.

HEALTH, ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND INSURANCE

For health information on Argentina including recommended vaccinations, please see https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/

All Latin American countries have specific entry regulations related to Covid 19. Please also check our Travel Hub for further information.

Holders of a full British passport do not require a visa, although passports should be valid for at least 6 months after the trip begins. Other nationalities should enquire with us or check with the consulates.

Travel insurance is essential. Details of our recommended policy can be found on the Travel insurance website.

Our full briefing dossier contains more information on vaccinations, visas and insurance and will be provided with your final travel documents or can be requested from your travel consultant at any time.

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GET IN TOUCH WITH US...

Our friendly, knowledgeable team of travel experts are always happy to chat about holiday ideas and share helpful advice. Give us a call today and begin planning your perfect trip to Latin America.

0208 747 8315

OPENING HOURS

Monday – Friday: 9am – 6pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

SEND US AN EMAIL

tours@journeylatinamerica.com