

Patagonia Motorcycle Tour – To the End of the Earth

This Patagonia Motorcycle Tour takes you to a remote, but incredibly beautiful part of the world, at the most southern tip of **South America**. Set in both Chile and Argentina, this region offers an amazing combination of riding on paved and unpaved roads. Our routes zig-zag through traverse this unique and **undisturbed wilderness**. Patagonia is one of the most sparsely populated places on the planet, so getting away from it all is easy! Don't be surprised that you can ride for hours, yet hardly see a soul.



Against a backdrop of turquoise lakes, jagged granite mountains and blue glaciers, we ride through “off the beaten track” places. There's also plenty of time to explore the incredible beauty of the national parks. You can ride the amazing gravel roads around [Torres del Paine](#). Why not head out to **Los Glaciares National Park** to see the massive wall of blue ice that is [Perito Moreno Glacier, some 74m high and over 5 km long](#).

Imagine staying with a local family on their working estancia to enjoy traditional roast lamb. Or seeing millions of **Magellan Penguins** (there are more penguins than people in Patagonia)! Our Patagonia Motorcycle Tour takes you all the way south to the island of [Tierra del Fuego](#). Here you cross the Magellan Straits on a small ferry, to reach **Ushuaia**. Our ultimate destination the “End of the Road” – the most southern place on the planet reachable by road and located in **Bahia Lapataia** in the **Tierra del Fuego National Park**. Congratulations on making it to the end of the road!

This tour is accompanied by our **expert Tour Manager**, and with a **support vehicle** to carry your luggage and provide other assistance. Remember we have 20 years of experience of riding in Patagonia!

At a glance

Duration (days): 18
Miles Covered: 2750
Riding difficulty: Difficult
Unpaved Roads: 25%
Culture Shock: Medium

Highlights

This 18 day Patagonia Motorcycle Tour covers around 2,750 miles (4,800 kms) and it starts in Osorno, Chile and finishes in Punta Arenas, Chile.

- The volcanic landscapes, lakes and waterfalls of the Chilean Lake District
- Siete Lagos Route, Lake Nahuelhuapi & picturesque San Carlos de Bariloche
- [Carretera Austral](#) through pristine wilderness and stay in log cabins on Rio Baker
- Ruta 40, with a stay on a working estancia and enjoy traditional Patagonian roast lamb
- El Calafate and a ride to the Perito Moreno Glaciar in [Los Glaciares National Park](#)
- A stunning ride through Torres del Paine National Park, Look out for rhea and guanaco!
- Cross the Magellan Straits to the Island of Tierra del Fuego
- Ushuaia, “Fin del Mundo” the end of the road in Bahia Lapataia, [Tierra del Fuego National Park](#)

ROUTE MAP

This route map is illustrative only. Routes may differ.

Itinerary

This is an 18 day itinerary, covering around 2,500 miles (4,800 kms). It starts in Santiago, Chile and finishes in Punta Arenas, Chile.

Day 1 : Osorno

Fly into the capital of Chile, Santiago and onwards to either Osorno or Puerto Montt. Arrive no later than 1pm and we will collect you from the airport and transfer you to the hotel. Bike Handover and Welcome Evening Meal.

Day 2: Villarrica, Chile (260m)

A beautiful route via Volcan Llaima in the Conguillio National Park – ride on old lavafields! The small town of Villarrica is on the edge of Lake Villarrica and is the shadow of the smoking Villarrica Volcano.

Day 3 & 4: Bariloche, Argentina (249 m). (Up to 65 miles gravel roads, plus border crossing)

We leave Pucon and take a great dirt road border crossing, past Volcan Lanin. Once into Argentina, from San Martin, there's the incredibly picturesque [Siete Lagos route](#). Ride the dirt road Trafal route or take the paved road lakeside to San Carlos de Bariloche. Day off to explore Bariloche.

Day 5: Futaleufu, Chile (205 m) (up to 60 miles gravel road)

More beautiful mountain scenery, swooping bends and perfect tarmac miles. Esquel, which was founded by [Welsh immigrants](#) back in 1865 and is twinned with Aberystwyth in Wales. The small Welsh founded town of Trevelin. Cross at Paso Futaleufu.

Day 6: Coyhaique, Chile (270 m) (up to 65 miles gravel road)

[Carretera Austral](#) south to Puyuhuapi through the [Queulat National Park](#). Hanging glaciers and waterfalls line your way as you tackle tight switchbacks. Coyhaique is the provincial capital of the area.

Day 7: Puerto Bertrand, Chile (169 m) (up to 110 miles gravel road)

The famous viewpoint just before Cerro Castillo (Castle Hill). Back on to the gravel roads south to Rio Baker and a night in traditional pine cabins, with a stunning lakeside view.

Day 8: Estancia Angostura (312m) (up to 30 miles gravel road)

Southern end of the Lake General Carrera. Cross to Argentina at the border of Chile Chico. The town of Perito Moreno. Ruta 40 south, a very remote route through the Patagonian desert and ending in a working "estancia" (ranch).

Day 9 & 10: El Calafate, Argentina (180 m) (up to 90 miles gravel road)

A wide open dirt road leaves the estancia for the small town of Tres Lagos. El Calafate is a two night stop over with a day to explore the Perito Moreno Glacier in [Los Glaciares National Park](#).

Day 11 & 12: Puerto Natales, Chile (175 m) (up to 45 miles gravel road plus border crossing)

A small section of gravel road leads us to the tiny frontier town of Cerro Castillo, then ride south to Puerto Natales, a coastal town on the shores of the Almirante Montt Gulf. This is our base to ride out to [Torres del Paine National Park](#).

Day 13: Cerro Sombrero, Chile (217 m) (All paved road plus ferry to Tierra del Fuego).

Today we cross the Magellan Straits onto Tierra del Fuego by small ferry. Our night time stop is a family run hotel on the edge of a small oil refinery town. It's in the middle of nowhere!

Day 14 & 15: Ushuaia, Argentina (249m) (up to 75 miles gravel road plus border crossing).

Today we ride to the most southern town in the world reachable by road and get our pictures by the “End of the Road” sign in the [Tierra del Fuego National Park](#).

Day 16: Lago Blanco, Chile (225 m) (up to 65 miles gravel road plus border crossing)

We retrace our tracks north back out over the mountain pass of Paso Garibaldi, then turn west, crossing the Chilean border onto a great dirt road to spend the night on the edge of the beautiful Lago Blanco.

Day 17: Punta Arenas, Chile (285 m) (up to 65 miles gravel road)

From Lago Blanco we head back to the Magellan Straits ferry. Our final destination is Punta Arenas, meaning “Sandy Point”, established in the 1800’s by English explorer, John Bryon (grandfather of the famous poet!).

Day 18: Leave Punta Arenas

Book your flight to leave Chile today from Punta Arenas. Take an internal domestic flight to Santiago, for onward international flight back home.

Accommodation

In the main towns, we primarily use good standard 4* hotels, where hotel rooms are equipped with en suite bathrooms, satellite television and wifi.

There is a section of this route that is through remote areas and we stay in accommodation such as pine cabins, a local “estancia” (ranch) and wooden lodges. These types of places sometimes do not have single room accommodation and are small, so that the group takes all the rooms in the accommodation. When we stay in the estancia, we have to use multiple room share – up to five riders per bunk house. Therefore, if you book Single Room Supplement, there are up to 3 nights where this may not be possible and we have already factored this into the price you pay.

These quirky, local places add to the flavour of the Patagonia motorcycle adventure and are appropriate for the location we are in. They are all clean and comfortable, but some remote places do not have the level of infrastructure that you get in the main towns, so electricity can be supplied by a generator, hot water may only be at certain times and there may not be internet.

Whats Included

You have the benefit of booking your motorcycle tour with a tour operator with Financial Payment Protection Insurance with Townergate Travel and your money paid to us in advance is protected in accordance with The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018. You may wish to know that during the COVID-19 crisis, we gave a cash refund to all customers for all monies paid to us within 14 days as required by law.

Before you go

- The assurance of booking with a fully bonded and insured UK tour operator and knowing that your money paid in advance is protected.
- Access to the GlobeBusters Team for one to one meeting about preparing for the tour and what to expect.
- Motorcycle Tour Travel Pack, including Tour Specific Guidance Handbook & hard copy Michelin / Reise Know How Maps, marked with route.
- Daily hard copy route notes with GPS co-ordinates and information about the hotels, the roads and the sights
- Loan SD Card with open source GPS mapping for the region (suitable for Garmin units), downloadable routes and custom waypoints for hotels, lunch stops, viewpoints etc

En Route

- Hotel bed and breakfast accommodation on a shared basis (unless Single Room booked, guaranteed for 14 nights out of 17 nights).
- Standard of accommodation is 2 nights in five star hotels, 10 nights in four star hotels, 4 nights in three star hotels, 2 nights in riverside/lakeside pine cabins and 1 night on working estancia (“ranch”). Note multiple share accommodation is the only option at the Estancia.
- Seven evening meals, including your Welcome & Farewell Meal and five evening meals in locations which are remote. (Drinks are excluded).
- Local overnight hotel parking charges.
- Entrance to Torres del Paine National Park, Los Glaciares National Park, Tierra del Fuego National Park.
- Return ferry crossing to Tierra del Fuego.
- Airport Transfers at the start and the end of the Tour, **provided you arrive on the official start and end dates**.

Support Crew

- GlobeBusters Motorcycle Tour Manager to accompany the Group
- Local support driver / mechanic with a support vehicle, equipped with satellite phone.

Motorcycle Hire

Where you have chosen to rent a motorcycle, this is organised by us with the local motorcycle rental provider, Motoaventura, who is the Approved BMW Travel Partner for Chile. Your rental fee includes:

- 16 days of motorcycle rental of the model as chosen by you (or equivalent model)
- Motorcycle is supplied with side cases / panniers.
- International third party motorcycle insurance in Argentina and third party motorcycle insurance in Chile.
- Damages Insurance, which limits your liability to a maximum excess of US\$2,000.
- One way charge to return the motorcycle from Punta Arenas back to the original hiring depot

Your contract for motorcycle rental is with Motoaventura and not with us and you must comply with their terms and conditions for rental. We act as agent for Motoaventura, and on arrival you will be required to sign the local motorcycle rental contract. You can request a copy of these terms and conditions from us by **contacting us** in advance. You must provide the local provider with valid credit card details with sufficient credit limit as a guarantee against damages up to the agreed insurance excess of US\$2,000. Please note that on rare occasions the local provider may need to substitute your choice of motorcycle for something equivalent.

If you require any other motorcycle accessories (tank bag, top box, GPS mount, GPS unit etc), you will be able to add these to your tour booking by ticking the relevant boxes on our booking form. Additional charges will be applicable.

Not Included

- Return passenger airline flights or any other travel costs to get to the start and from the finish point for the tour.
- Personal travel, accident and medical insurance (covering matters such as medical expenses, repatriation, cancellation, curtailment, loss or damage to property)
- Motorcycle insurance (unless you have taken the motorcycle rental option)
- Entrance fees to sights and parks, optional local excursions or local activities, (except where stated)
- Lunches, snacks or evening meals (except where stated). Any meals whilst on board ferries.

- Personal spending money, tips, souvenirs or other extras.
- Personal documentation (eg visas, passport), vaccinations, personal taxes, border crossing fees.
- We do not supply riding gear; you must bring a minimum of your own helmet, jacket, trousers, boots and gloves.
- Fuel, oil & other motorcycle consumables, toll road fees, traffic fines.
- Cost of parts, labour or other indirect costs (eg recovery of motorcycle) relating to the repair of any damage to your motorcycle or a rental motorcycle
- Any other item not specifically stated as included in the price.

Flights

For clarity, we do **not include** your passenger flights. Once we have confirmed that this tour is a guaranteed departure, it is your responsibility to organise your own flights to and from the destination. You need to book an outward flight to our start point, Osorno to arrive no later than around 1pm on 11 March 2021. The earliest leave date is any time on 28 March 2021 from the town of Punta Arenas. An alternative arrival point is Puerto Montt, around 100kms south of Osorno. If you decide to arrive into Puerto Montt, there will be a charge of US\$80 for taxi collection from the airport to the group hotel (approx 100kms / 62 miles). We will add this charge to your final invoice.

Your flight route will normally be an international flight to/from Santiago (Chile's capital) and then via [LATAM](#) or [Sky Airlines](#) from Punta Arenas. **Only book your flights once we have confirmed that your tour is a guaranteed departure. We do not refund flight costs if you have booked flights for a tour that has not been notified as a guaranteed departure.**

Should you wish to arrive before the official date or stay after the official end date, please simply request extra nights at the time of booking and we can make the reservation at our group hotel.

Please also refer to our [Booking Conditions](#).

Useful Info

What riding experience do I need?

This route includes approximately 780 miles of gravel road through Patagonia on the Carretera Austral and Ruta 40. Ruta 40 can be subject to strong cross winds. There can be up to 200 miles between stops. We recommend this tour for riders who have experience of riding on unpaved surfaces, such as gravel or dirt. All roads used are public highways and shown on maps. Gravel roads are normally well maintained, but you do need to be aware of possible strong cross winds on Ruta 40 and deeper gravel on bends. To get the best out of this tour, we do strongly recommend that you take an off road course, such as [Triumph Adventure Experience](#), [Off Road Skills](#) or for one to one training, go to [Adventure Bike Training](#).



Do I have to ride in a group?

We do not make you ride in convoy. We offer you the freedom to decide how you would like to ride. We give you a road book, with recommendations for lunch or coffee stops, fuel stops and hotel information. You also get an SD card with mapping, custom routes & GPS co-ordinates to download to your GPS. You can use these tools to self-navigate. Most riders prefer to have this freedom, so they can stop where they want and for how long they want without feeling under pressure. However if you prefer to ride with our Motorcycle Tour Manager, then you can do this. They will give you a time to start in the morning, so please be prompt and ready to ride with them. Each day you can change between riding on your own, or with a small group of other riders or with the Tour Manager. We

like to have a very flexible approach.

What is the average group size?

Our groups are normally between 8 – 12 riders (some riders will have passengers).

Is this ride suitable for a passenger?

We have had other riders successfully complete this ride with a pillion passenger. Your passenger needs to also be an experienced tourer, used to long distance riding. Your passenger must ride the motorcycle each touring day – there is no option to sit in the support vehicle as this is only for participants who are ill or injured, or unless the road conditions are too difficult for a rider and passenger to attempt two-up.

Is there a support vehicle?

Yes, this tour operates with a local [support vehicle](#) and driver. You are able to put luggage in the van, but it must be packed suitably in soft waterproof and dustproof bags. Hard suitcases are not appropriate. If you do not have a soft waterproof bag as described, we will loan you a suitable bag for your belongings. Your airline luggage will then be transported to the end hotel, ready for your collection when the tour finishes. The support vehicle has the capacity to carry two bikes and two passengers in an emergency situation, if you are ill or injured. This is not a designated passenger carrying vehicle.

What will the weather be like?

As we are in the Southern Hemisphere, March is the equivalent of the end of summer. However, we travel a long way south and so even in summertime, the weather can be unpredictable. It is likely that you will experience some rain, especially on the Carretera Austral, due to its temperate climate. You must be prepared for a range of weather.

Tell me about the motorcycle rental

Riders must be age 25 years and older, with a valid, full motorcycle licence. We work with the local motorcycle rental agency, Motoaventura based in Osorno Chile, who are BMW Approved. We act as an agent for them and your contract for the motorcycle rental is with them and not with us (you can request a copy of the contract from us in advance). Your rental fee includes:

- 16 days of motorcycle rental of the model as chosen by you (or equivalent model)
- Motorcycle is supplied with side cases / panniers.
- International third party motorcycle insurance in Argentina and third party motorcycle insurance in Chile.
- Damages insurance with excess of US\$2,000
- One way charge to return the motorcycle from Punta Arenas back to the original hiring depot

Should you require any other equipment, you can order this when you make your booking. When you collect your bike, you must provide Motoaventura with a valid credit card as a guarantee in case of damage, with at least US\$2,000 credit limit available. Note that we also **include Damages Insurance** which will limit your liability to US\$2,000. It is not possible to lower the excess any further than the amounts shown. Therefore it is in your interest to ride the motorcycle in a safe and moderate manner to lower any risk of damage.

You are free to book motorcycle rental direct with **Motoaventura** and not through us. Their details can easily be found via google.

What about flights?

We do not include your passenger flights in our tour price. Once we have confirmed the tour as a guaranteed departure, you need to organise your own flights to and from the destination. You should book an outward flight to our start point, Osorno or Puerto Montt to arrive no later than around 1pm on 11 March 2021. If you arrive in Puerto Montt, the taxi fare to Osorno is around US\$80-100. The earliest leave date is any time on 28 March 2021 from the town of Punta Arenas. Your flight route will normally be an international flight to Santiago (Chile's

capital) and then via [LATAM](#) or [Sky Airlines](#) from Punta Arenas.

What documents do I need?

You will need your original documents as follows: Passport, Driving Licence, International Driving Permit. In addition you must have travel/medical insurance and cancellation / curtailment cover. We also advise that any policy includes loss or damage to your property & equipment.

UK / EU / USA Citizens do not normally require a visa for Chile or Argentina. As visa requirements are dependent on your nationality and can be complex, with constantly changing requirements, we would direct you to our appointed visa agency for advice. www.thevisamachine.com

What about my health when I am abroad?

You need to be physically fit and healthy and also take the necessary health precautions. It is essential for you to consult your doctor or travel clinic for up-to-date medical travel information prior of travel, particularly if you have a pre-existing medical condition. For up-to-date medical advice you may wish to use the Medical Advisory Service for Travellers Abroad "MASTA" <https://www.masta-travel-health.com/>, the NHS website <http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/home.aspx> or NaTHNaC <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/>.

You will be obliged to disclose any medical condition or medication that you are taking to GlobeBusters in advance and to your Tour Manager at the start of your Tour, for health and safety purposes. We provide you with our Emergency Details Form for this purpose and to collect information about who to contact for you back home in the event of an emergency.

Please note that many countries on this route do not have the same level of medical infrastructure nor consistent medical standards that you may be used to. In particular, emergency services often may be a long distance away, with no co-ordinated response, or sometimes no medical response available within reasonable times. Please do not book this trip if this unduly concerns you.

First Aid Training

It is not a requirement to be first aid trained to participate in this expedition. However, we do strongly recommend that you consider doing a motorcycle first aid course. Some sections of this trip are remote and hundreds of miles away from medical treatment. If you, or a rider you are with, are involved in any accident, whilst not riding with or not close to the support team, having first aid skills may make a significant difference to an injured party.

Travel / Medical Insurance

It is a condition of you travelling with us that you are adequately insured. Your insurance policy must cover you for the costs of any medical expenses, medical treatment or repatriation needed, due to injury or illness on this trip, including those that occur whilst motorcycle touring, either as the rider or a passenger. It is important that your insurance company understands that the MAIN PURPOSE of your trip is motorcycle touring, using your own large capacity cc motorcycle or a rental motorcycle. Your insurance must cover you for the full duration of the trip and for all countries we travel through.

In addition, we strongly recommend that your insurance policy has cover for loss or damage to your personal belongings, delay at your outward or homeward point of departure, personal liability, overseas legal expenses and cancellation and curtailment.

We also strongly recommend that you take out your travel **insurance at the time of booking your trip** as cover will commence for pre-departure cancellation from the policy issue date. This will therefore provide cover should you have to cancel your trip for an insured reason such as illness or serious injury. We do not refund your deposit simply because you failed to take out insurance in sufficient time.

Official Travel Advice

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) (www.fco.gov.uk/travel) monitors overseas destinations and provides destination travel advice for UK nationals. GlobeBusters monitors the advice from the FCO and any decisions taken regarding a Tour's safety and security will use the vast experience of the company's 16 years of operating as well as the FCO advice. In the interests of your safety and security, changes may be made to your tour based on any FCO warnings given.

We strongly recommend that you read the information about the country you are planning to visit to be fully informed – each country has a summary and general information as well as advice on safety & security, local laws & customs, entry requirements and health, and road conditions.

There are currently warnings and travel restrictions in place about travel to the countries listed in the itinerary due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We assume that by the time of travel these will have been withdrawn.

If you are not a UK national please make sure you have checked your own country's travel advice for your destination/s: The US Department of State: <http://travel.state.gov> Canadian Foreign Affairs: www.voyage.gc.ca Australian Government Travel Advice: www.smarttraveller.gov.au NZ Government Travel Advice: www.safetravel.govt.nz.

What about local currency?

The base currency for this trip is the US Dollar. The US Dollar is readily exchangeable for the local currencies. When you bring US Dollars, it must be in MINT condition or locals will not readily exchange the notes. It is easy to get local currency from ATMs using your debit / credit card in all towns and cities. Cards are readily accepted by hotels, restaurants, fuel stations. The websites below will give you the current rates of exchange.

<http://www.oanda.com/>
<http://www.travelex.co.uk/>

Minimum Numbers

We require a minimum number of 8 riders on this tour. If we do not have this number of bookings, then we reserve the right to cancel the tour. If we have to cancel the tour we will provide you a minimum of 84 days notice prior to departure.

Available Dates & Prices

Date	Rider Shared Room	Single Supplement	Passenger Shared Room	Bike Rental
Mar 11 – 28, 2021	£4,500	£1,600	£4,000	BMW R 1250 GS: £2,995 BMW R 1200 GS: £2,795 BMW F 800 GS Adventure: £2,695 Africa Twin CRF 1000: £2,695 Tiger 800 XCA: £2,595