

EXPLORE!



Fitz Roy and Torres del Paine

14 days

Argentina, Chile - Trip code TPF

Fitz Roy and Torres del Paine

Join this hiking trip to Patagonia, walking alongside the glaciers and peaks of the stunning mountain areas of Fitz Roy and Torres del Paine. Trek through the spectacular Los Glaciares National Park to view the magnificent Fitz Roy Massif, and hike the famous \W Trek\ from Lago Grey to Las Torres and the iconic Paine Towers. Visit the towering Perito Moreno Glacier and discover the fascinating city of Buenos Aires.

Trip highlights

- ★ Mount Fitz Roy and Mount Torre - Trek in the shadow of this iconic mountain
- ★ Torres del Paine - Reach the Torres viewpoint. Complete the 'W'Trek
- ★ Perito Moreno Glacier - Discover this stunning ice wall
- ★ Buenos Aires - Explore this lively and cosmopolitan city

ACCOMMODATION GRADE:

Standard

Our standard, mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service, often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en suite facilities.

WALKING GRADE:

Moderate To Challenging

Combining moderate grade walks with some more strenuous hikes. This grade is ideal if you are fit and want to challenge yourself with a few longer, more demanding trekking days, possibly on difficult terrain or at higher altitudes.

GROUP SIZE:

10 - 16

Maximum group size ranges from between 6 to 20 people, depending on the type of trip, the transport and accommodation used and activities included. We rarely have groups that are smaller than five or six people and the average is 12 people plus an Explore leader.

Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

DAY 1 - Trip start in Buenos Aires

Join trip in Buenos Aires and check-in to our hotel. Here we find ourselves in the midst of Argentina's capital, located on the southern shores of the Rio de la Plata. Since its founding by Pedro de Mendoza in 1536 the city has thrived on trade and its vibrant streets are filled with an eclectic mix of European architectural styles, with Spanish, French and Italian classicism rubbing shoulders with remnants of Victorian grandeur. After gaining independence from the Spanish in 1816 the city grew to rival the great cities of Europe, its wide avenues and elegant squares earning it the title of the Paris of the South.



Accommodation: Hotel Waldorf (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: None

DAY 2 - Explore the fascinating city of Buenos Aires

This morning we take a city tour (on foot and by public transport) to see the sites of Buenos Aires including the Plaza de Mayo, La Boca, San Telmo and Recoleta. The rest of the day is free to explore this lively city. You may also choose to wander the city streets, admiring the impressive architecture and relaxing parks, or enjoy the traditional Porteño pastime of people watching from the many sidewalk cafés.



Accommodation: Hotel Waldorf (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 3 - Fly to El Calafate. Drive to El Chalten

We leave the city far behind as we fly south to Patagonia and the town of El Calafate, the gateway to Los Glaciares National Park. From here we travel approximately three hours to El Chalten, the charming village close to Fitzroy and Torre Massif. After checking in to our hotel you may wish to explore some of the nearby short trails to local sites and viewpoints, such as Chorrillo del Salto Waterfall and Condor or Eagle lookouts.

Please note: If the group is six people or less the bus journey to El Chalten will be by public bus.



Accommodation: Kalenshen Hotel El Chalten (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 4 - Trek to Laguna de los Tres. Overnight at Poincenot Camp

After an early breakfast we drive to El Pilar, the starting point for the classic trek to Laguna de los Tres. Taking just what we need overnight we ascend for two hours up a gentle slope with fantastic views over the Fitzroy Massif and Piedras Blancas glacier. On reaching the Poincenot area we stop briefly at our campsite (750m) before continuing to Rio Blanco Base Camp. An hour of steep ascent takes us to De Los Tres Lagoon (1180m), the emerald small lagoon at the foot of Mount Fitzroy, where we will have the opportunity to appreciate the enormous granite walls of Fitzroy and its nearby peaks, Poincenot, Saint Exupery and Guillaumet. After exploring the area around the lagoon, we descend back to our campsite to spend the evening inside the forest. An additional hike to Capri Lagoon is available for those wanting to do more walking.

Today's hike takes six hours and covers approximately ten kilometres, with a total ascent and descent of +700/ -700m. The additional optional walk takes three hours and covers another six kilometres.



Accommodation: Poincenot Campsite (or similar)



Simple Camping



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 5 - Hike to Torre Lagoon and on to El Chalten

After a camp breakfast we set out for another days hiking through the unique landscape of Los Glaciares National Park - taking the

Madre e Hija Trail which links the Fitzroy and Torre Valleys. We walk passed two clear lagoons and through 'Lenga' forest on our way to Torre Lagoon, from where weather allowing, we will be rewarded with stunning views to Torre Massif and the surrounding glaciers as we have our picnic lunch. Later we continue our trek along Torre Trail back to El Chalten.

Our hike today is 18 kilometres and takes approximately seven hours. Total ascent and descent is +300m / -300m.



Accommodation: Kalenshen Hotel El Chalten (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 6 - Optional glacier ice trek. Return to El Calafate

This morning there is an optional excursion to Viedma Glacier by boat. In the afternoon we travel back to El Calafate, where we spend the night.

Please note: If the group is six people or less the bus journey to El Calafate will be by public bus.



Accommodation: Kalenshen El Calafate (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 7 - Bus into Chile and onto Puerto Natales

Today we travel for approximately six hours by public bus south to Puerto Natales, crossing the border into Chile en route. Puerto Natales is a small fishing port with a rich history as a meeting point for merchants and Patagonian pioneers. Later that day we have briefing with the Tour Leader and the local trekking guide on the 'W' Trek, and have the rest of the day to prepare for the trek and explore the town.



Accommodation: Hotel Glaciares (or similar)



Standard Guesthouse



Single room available

DAY 8 - Bus and ferry to the start of the Torres del Paine 'W' Trek

After breakfast we drive from Puerto Natales to Torres del Paine National Park (approximately an hour and a half). We continue along the winding roads of the park to the Grey Lake area, with great views to 'Cuernos del Paine' en route. Arriving to the lake we start our hike to Ferrier viewpoint. This can feel a demanding ascent but the views over Torres del Paine National Park - of the mountains and glaciers of Paine Grande and Los Cuernos Massif, are stunning. Later we take the ferry across Grey Lake to Grey refuge campsite (approximately one hour). The campsite is magnificently located between the lake and forest, close to Grey Glacier, we can make the short hike (two kilometres) to the glacier viewpoint.

Today's hike is six kilometres over approximately four hours, with total ascent and descent of +350m / -350m.



Accommodation: Grey Campsite (or similar)



Simple Camping



Single room available



Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 9 - Hike to Frances Domes

From Grey refuge we start our trek along the first leg of the 'W' circuit, walking by Grey Lake and crossing the beginning of French Valley, where we will spend the night. The trekking is fairly relaxed, passing through striking mountain and lake scenery to the Frances Domes refuge campsite.

Our hike today covers twenty - one kilometres and takes approximately eight hours. The total ascent and descent is +300m / -300m.



Accommodation: Frances Campsite (or similar)



Simple Camping



Single room available



Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 10 - Trekking in French Valley

We start early today for our trek along French Valley. As we walk along streams and the main river, if we are lucky we may see glacier breaks from Paine Grande to our right. There are some short steep climbs as we arrive to the main lookout point at Britanicos camp - to see the great granite amphitheatre and all its peaks revealed. We will also see other trekkers here as this is a popular area for walking. Later we return back down the central part of the 'W' to Frances Domes for a second night.

Today we trek for seven hours covering seventeen kilometres with total ascent and descent of +550 / -550m.



Accommodation: Frances Campsite (or similar)



Simple Camping



Single room available



Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 11 - Hike to Refuge Chileno

Today's trail is known as Sendero Paso Los Cuernos, due to the fact that it passes under the dramatic mountains known as 'Los Cuernos' (horns). We walk alongside the shores of the beautiful Nordenskjöld lake, crossing small rivers and wide grasslands along the way. We continue our trek to Chileno refuge campsite.

Our trek today is nineteen kilometres and takes approximately seven hours. Total ascent and descent is +500m / -500m.



Accommodation: Chileno Campsite (or similar)



Simple Camping



Single room available



Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 12 - Trek to the Base of Las Torres. Return to Calafate

Our final day of trekking takes us to the foot of what has inspired us over the last week - the impressive granite towers of Torres del Paine. Climbing steeply, high above the scattered blue lakes, we hike along the Asencio river, and up towards the Torres. After a final clamber over steep terminal moraine deposited by a glacier centuries ago, we reach a panoramic point from where we admire one of the best known sights of Patagonia, the Paine Towers, rising very close, above a green lagoon. The famous Torres del Paine (2900m) consist of three gigantic granite monoliths, overlooking a landscape shaped by the forces of glacial ice and the elements. Again this is an iconic walking area so we will see other trekkers here.

On returning to Las Torres we travel by charter bus via Cerro Castillo pass back into Argentina and to El Calafate.

Our last trek covers fifteen kilometres and takes approximately six hours. The total ascent and descent is +600m / -800m.



Accommodation: Kalenshen El Calafate (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 13 - Excursion to Perito Moreno Glacier

Today we make an excursion to Perito Moreno Glacier - an eighteen mile long, three mile wide ice river ice river towering an average of 60 metres above the surface of the lake water, a truly impressive sight. There is also the option of ice trekking (maximum age 65).



Accommodation: Kalenshen El Calafate (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 14 - Fly to Buenos Aires

This morning we leave the wilds of Patagonia behind and step back into the heat and bustle of Buenos Aires. We arrive late afternoon, and have the rest of the evening to enjoy the city.



Accommodation: Hotel Waldorf (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 15 - Trip ends in Buenos Aires

Our trip ends after breakfast in Buenos Aires.



Meals Provided: Breakfast

Walking and Trekking information

DAILY DISTANCES



Optional Walks

2018 Itinerary

DAILY DISTANCE



Optional Walks

2019 Itinerary

Walking grade

Moderate to challenging

Trek details

Trek on 9 days for between 2 and 8 hours. Maximum altitude of 1,200m.

Max walking altitude (m)

1200



What's included?



Included meals

Breakfast: 14
Lunch: 7
Dinner: 5



Transport

Bus
Ferry
Flight
Public Bus



Trip staff

Explore Tour Leader(s)
Camp Crew
Driver(s)
Local Guide(s)



Accommodation

5 nights simple camping
1 nights standard guesthouse
8 nights standard hotel

Trip information

Country information

Argentina

Climate

Argentina has a climate that ranges from subtropical in the north to cold in the temperate south. The Andes has erratic rainfall and flash floods from December to May. From June to September spring like sunny days temper the cold nights.

Time difference to GMT

-3

Plugs

3 Pin Flat

Religion

Predominantly Roman Catholic.

Language

Spanish is the main language throughout this region, along with a number of indigenous dialects, of

Chile

Climate

The best time to visit is spring (Sept-Nov) and autumn (March- April). Between June and September the heat in the northern part of the country is less intense. Remember rain can fall at any time of the year and the weather is changeable in the mountains. Easter Island has a tropical climate so is likely to be quite hot and humid. It can also rain there in the evenings and become chilly.

Time difference to GMT

-4

Plugs

2 Pin Round

Religion

Predominantly Roman Catholic.

Language

Budgeting and packing

Optional activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Buenos Aires - Tango show US\$70 and US\$120 with dinner; Fiesta Gaucha Don Silvano - US\$190, Tigre Delta cruise US\$95
El Chalten - Viedma boat trip - US\$78
El Calafate - Perito Moreno Ice trek - US\$120 without transfers, US\$98 inc. transfers (this excursion has an upper age limit of 65);
Perito Moreno boat trip US\$22

Clothing

A warm sweater or fleece, and a good waterproof and windproof jacket and trousers are essential, as weather conditions can change suddenly while walking. Gaiters are advisable as the snow can be heavy in parts. Warm waterproof gloves, hat and thermal underclothes are also recommended. A torch is useful in case of powercuts/emergencies.

Thermal underwear: Comfortable around camp and much more practical (and warmer) to sleep in than pyjamas.

Socks: Technical socks are recommended.

Waterproofs: Breathable waterproofs not only protect against the rain but also stop you from overheating. They 'breathe' and avoid condensation. Make sure your jacket and trousers are also windproof as the Patagonian wind can be cold and relentless.

Gaiters: Also worth bringing, especially in November and December but due to unpredictability of weather any time of year could be necessary.

Thick sweater/fleece jacket: A thick sweater or fleece jacket is necessary as nights can be cold. Make sure that your waterproof jacket is loose enough to wear over your sweater or fleece.

Gloves, scarf & hat: Especially useful around camp in the morning and in the evening. Worth bringing two pairs - one fleecy for warmth and one pair that is waterproof and windproof.

T-Shirts: Technical t-shirts are recommended. They dry faster and keep you warm even when they are wet. Cotton T-shirts should not be used for strenuous walking.

Layers - The best way to keep warm in changeable conditions.

Trousers - Walking trousers are recommended. Heavy trousers such as jeans can become uncomfortable when walking long distances, and are heavy when wet.

Sunhat/sunglasses/suncream/block and Lipsalve: A sunhat and sunglasses are imperative as is a high factor suncream as Patagonia is very near the ozone layer hole. A combination sunblock/lipsalve is ideal for facial protection.

Footwear

We recommend you bring walking boots with ankle support- leather or fabric are both fine. Make sure that your boots are worn-in and comfortable before the start of the trip. Also trainers or sandals for relaxing and general wear. We suggest that on international flights you either carry your walking boots in your hand luggage or wear them - should your luggage be lost or delayed, your own boots are the one thing that will be irreplaceable.

Luggage

20kg

Luggage: On tour

You will need to take one main piece of baggage and a daypack.

Your daypack should be at least 40 litres capacity. During the course of a trekking day, you will not have access to your trek kit bag and as the weather can change rapidly your daypack must be large enough to carry waterproofs, sweater, long trousers (if walking in shorts), warm hat and gloves, gaiters, sun hat, sun cream, water bottle (at least 1 litre bottle) and your packed lunch. Your daypack should also have a waterproof cover. Please note in the Fitzroy area you will also be carrying your overnight things for two days / one night.

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daypack should also have a waterproof cover. Please note in the Fitzroy area you will also be carrying your overnight things for two days / one night.

In Torres del Paine your main luggage will stay at our local ground suppliers (therefore we recommend that this bag is lockable) and you will be given a dry bag in which to put your kit for the W circuit which will be carried by local porters. This has a weight limit of 5kg. You will also still have your day bag during this time as well.

Equipment

Personal Equipment - Trekking

Trekking poles: Trekking poles are recommended.

Water Bottle: The camp staff will provide plenty of water each day with which to fill your own bottle. You need to drink lots of water when trekking, so 1 litre is the minimum size suitable, and it is as well to have two. Metal 'sigg'-type bottles also have the advantage of doubling up as a hot water bottle at night.

Mosquito Repellent: There can sometimes be mosquitoes at dusk so bring repellent and/or long sleeves.

Torch/Batteries/Bulb: A small torch is essential for finding things in your tent, going to the 'toilet' in the night etc. Often a head torch is the most practical option as it allows you to have both hands free. Bring spare batteries with you!

Toiletries: Essentials are toothbrush/paste, biological soap and a small towel. 'Wet Wipes' and hand sanitiser gel are recommended.

Penknife: A small penknife can come in very handy if you have one.

Personal First Aid Kit: On each trek a first aid kit is carried but you should have your own blister kit, supply of plasters, pain killers and all personal medication.

Travel Washing Line: Useful for hanging up wet clothes in refugio dorms and campsites.

Waterproof Cover for Rucksacks: Can be useful to offer extra protection for your bags against rain.

Plastic Bags: Useful for separating things out in your kitbag and keeping things dry in both your kitbag and day sack.

Tipping

Explore leader

Tour Leader: At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

Local crew

Local Crew: Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.

Accordingly, you should allow US\$60 for tipping.

Country Information

Argentina

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price

£11

Dinner price

£20

Beer price

£3-4

Water price

£2

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Peso

Recommended Currency For Exchange

Carry all your funds in US cash NOT Sterling or Travellers Cheques which are more difficult to exchange. We recommend to take a minimum of US\$400-\$500 of your total spending money in cash, in mixed denominations. Notes should be in good condition otherwise they might be difficult to exchange. You may wish to take extra cash as most

optional excursions need to be paid in USD cash (not dispensed by ATMs in Argentina or Chile).

Where To Exchange

Your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival.

ATM Availability

Available in Buenos Aires. In Patagonia some cards with Chip and Pin do not work in the ATM machines. Always have some cash as back-up as they are not always reliable

Credit Card Acceptance

Credit cards are useful and can be used in some places, but may be subject to a 10% service charge

Travellers Cheques

Travellers Cheques can be awkward or expensive to change

Chile

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price

£13

Dinner price

£20

Beer price

£3.00 - 4.00

Water price

£2

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Peso.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

Carry all your funds in US cash NOT Sterling. We recommend to take a minimum of US\$400-\$500 of your total spending money in cash for your tour, in mixed denominations. Notes should be in good condition otherwise they might be difficult to exchange.

Where To Exchange

Tour Leader will advise on arrival

ATM Availability

Available in Major towns. Always have some cash as back-up as they are not always reliable

Credit Card Acceptance

Credit cards are useful and can be used in many places, but may be subject to a service charge.

Travellers Cheques

Travellers' Cheques can be awkward or expensive to change

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

Transport Information

Bus, Ferry, Flight, Public Bus

Accommodation notes

Booking a Single Room

All of our group tours are planned and operated on a twin-share basis, meaning that the standard cost is based either on individual travellers sharing accommodation with another group member of the same sex, or people who book together sharing accommodation. Please refer to the tour notes where the single room option availability is detailed on a night by night basis for this tour, and the price for the available nights is detailed on the dates & prices tab by departure date. For Self-Guided trips the Single Room supplement offers the option of a single room each and is charged per person. The Single Room supplement also applies to the third person in a party of three that will be accommodated in a single room.

At Poincenet Camp shared two-man tents are provided, along with sleeping bags and mats. There is also a kitchen tent, dining tent and a latrine. However there is no running water so washing facilities are limited. It can also get very cold so bring warm clothes.

When camping at the refuges on the W-Trek shared two-man tents are provided, along with sleeping bags and mats you will have use of shared bathroom facilities with hot water showers (separate communal shower blocks for male and females) and use of the communal dining room at the refuges, where meals will be taken. Meals are held at fixed times and there is a small shop selling basic items and the refuges have electricity and heating. In high season the refuges can be very busy.

Essential Information

FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice click [here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, click [here](#)

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

Visa and Passport Information

Please note we require a photocopy of your passport 3 month pre departure.

It is essential that you provide Explore with a photo copy of your passport at the time of booking, as this will be required in order to confirm accommodation.

Argentina: Visas are not required for UK, US, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand citizens.

Please note Australian passport holders will need make a payment called the 'reciprocity fee' in advance of travel to enter Argentina. This currently costs US\$ 100. This payment needs to be made online at <http://www.migraciones.gov.ar/accesible/templates/reciprocidad/reciprocidad.htm> The receipt generated at the time of online payment must be printed and given to local immigration authorities together with your passport.

Chile: Visas are not required for UK, New Zealand, Australian, US and Canadian citizens.

Other nationalities should consult the relevant consulate.

USA: (including those in transit) Citizens of the UK, New Zealand, Australia, Canada and passport holders from several EU countries can enter the United States without a visa under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) - where you apply for an ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorisation), which applies if you enter the country by sea or by air. This must be done online - <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov> no later than 72 hours prior to travel. Travellers who have not registered before their trip are likely to be refused boarding.

You must have an electronic passport with a digital chip containing biometric information about the passport owner. UK passports which are biometric feature a small gold symbol (camera) at the bottom of the front cover.

If you have visited Iraq, Syria, Iran or Sudan since 2011 or are dual nationals of these countries, you cannot travel with an ESTA and instead you will need to apply for a visa from the nearest US Embassy or Consulate. If you are unable to provide a valid visa before boarding flights to the US, or entering via another method, you may not be permitted to travel.

Please note for your ESTA application you will be required to supply Point of Contact information. Explore's USA contact information will be listed on your final documentation which you will receive approximately 3-4 weeks before departure. If you are leaving for the USA before this, please call the Explore team to get this information. (Not necessary if in transit)

For further information please check out the US embassy website. Visa applications - <http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/apply.html>

Canada: An electronic travel authorisation (ETA) is required by British citizens transiting via Canada. For more information see the official Canadian government website: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/eta.asp>

Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. [Read more about them here.](#)

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Maximum altitude (m)

1200

Argentina

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, we recommend protection against typhoid, tetanus, polio and hepatitis A. Please consult your travel clinic for the latest advice on Malaria, Dengue and Zika Virus. Please take preventative measures to avoid mosquito bites - these include mosquito repellent as well as long trousers and long sleeve shirts to cover up when necessary. Please note many countries in Central America, South America and the Caribbean require a yellow fever vaccination certificates if travelling from infected areas. A detailed list of these countries can be found on the NaTHNaC website - <http://travelhealthpro.org.uk/countries>. Also on the NaTHNaC site there is a list of Countries (and specific areas within a country) which are at risk of infection and a vaccination is therefore recommended. Yellow fever is only recommended for those travelling to Iguazu falls. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at [Explore Travel Health](#) and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

Chile

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, we recommend protection against typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, polio and hepatitis A. Please consult your travel clinic for the latest advice on Malaria, Dengue Fever and Zika Virus. Please take preventative measures to avoid mosquito bites - these include mosquito repellent as well as long trousers and long sleeve shirts to cover up when necessary. Please note many countries in Central America, South America and the Caribbean require a yellow fever vaccination certificates if travelling from infected areas. A detailed list of these countries can be found on the NaTHNaC website - <http://travelhealthpro.org.uk/countries>. Also on the NaTHNaC site there is a list of Countries (and specific areas within a country) which are at risk of infection and a vaccination is therefore recommended. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at [Explore Travel Health](#) and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.
