

MAGALLANES AND CHILEAN ANTARCTICA REGION

The Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica Region is the southernmost region in Chile, known for its stunning natural beauty, vast landscapes, and unique biodiversity. Its extension encompasses the South American continent and numerous islands, offering a unique combination of mountains, glaciers, fjords, and tundra.

History and Culture

The region has been home to Indigenous people such as the Selk'nam, Yámana, Aonikenk, and Kawésqar, whose cultures and traditions are still visible in the area. During colonization, Magallanes became a strategic point for navigation and exploiting natural resources, leaving a historical legacy visible in its cities and monuments.

Geography and Climate

Magallanes is characterized by its cold and windy climate, with temperatures varying significantly depending on the season and location. The climate in Chilean Antarctica is even more extreme, with polar conditions that challenge explorers and scientists visiting the area.

Economy and Development

The economy in the region is based on fishing, tourism, cattle ranching, and the exploration of natural resources such as oil and gas. Tourism is especially important, attracting visitors worldwide who explore its unspoiled nature and rich history.

Relevant links

Social networks and destination website

<https://patagonia-chile.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/thisispatagonia>

<https://www.instagram.com/sernaturmagallanes>

<https://www.facebook.com/ThisIsPatagonia>

<https://www.facebook.com/SernaturXII>

<https://x.com/ThisIsPatagonia>

<https://x.com/SernaturXII>

Tourist Services Search Engine: <https://serviciosturisticos.sernatur.cl/>

Chileestuyo Experiences Catalog: <https://chileestuyo.cl/experiencias/>

BORDER CROSSINGS

The Magallanes and Chilean Antarctic Region has six border crossings, and there is different information on opening hours and conditions due to weather conditions, road restorations, etc. For more information on the status of the border crossing of your interest, we suggest you access the following link to consult directly with the border crossing point unit: <https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaEOckeE3LdQRRRmLea3w>

<p>Paso Integración Austral Neighboring country: Argentina. Qualified for: All types of vehicles. Height: 163 masl. Nearest town: Villa Punta Delgada (San Gregorio). Access route to Chile: Ruta 255 – CH. Distance from Punta Arenas: 199 km.</p>	<p>Paso Dorotea Neighboring country: Argentina. Qualified for: All types of vehicles. Height: 605 masl. Nearest town: Puerto Natales. Access route to Chile: CH-250. Distance from Puerto Natales: 21 km.</p>
<p>Paso Laurita Casas Viejas Neighboring country: Argentina. Qualified for: All types of vehicles. Height: 240 masl. Nearest town: Puerto Natales. Access route to Chile: Ruta 9 Norte. Distance from Puerto Natales: 18 km.</p>	<p>Paso Rio Don Guillermo Neighboring country: Argentina. Qualified for: All types of vehicles. Height: 260 masl. Nearest town: Cerro Castillo. Access route to Chile: Ruta 9 Norte.</p>
<p>Paso San Sebastián Neighboring country: Argentina. Qualified for: All types of vehicles. Height: 17 masl. Nearest town: Porvenir. Access route to Chile: Ruta 71 – Y. Distance from Porvenir: 139 km.</p>	<p>Paso Bellavista Neighboring country: Argentina. Height: 113 masl. Nearest town: Villa Cameron. Access route to Chile: Ruta 85 – Y. Distance from Villa Cameron: 100 km.</p>

ACCESS AND TRANSPORTATION

The Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica Region is accessible by air, sea, and land. Airports in Punta Arenas and Puerto Natales connect the region with the rest of Chile and the world. Maritime and land connections are also essential, facilitating movement within the region and to nearby destinations in Argentina.

AIR CONNECTIONS

The companies that connect the region with the rest of the country are Latam Airlines, Sky Airlines, and Jetsmart. Meanwhile, DAP Airlines has inter-regional and out-of-region connections.

More information at the following links

<https://www.latamairlines.com/cl/es>

<https://www.skyairline.com/chile>

<https://jetsmart.com/cl/es/>

<https://dapairline.com/>

Magallanes Region Airport Addresses

Punta Arenas: Carlos Ibáñez del Campo Km 20.5 RN9.

Puerto Natales: Teniente Julio Gallardo Airtport Km 7, RN9 Norte.

Porvenir: Capitán Fuentes Martínez Airport, Km 5 Norte.

Puerto Williams: Guardiamarina Zañartu Airport, 1 km from Puerto Williams.

Antártica: Teniente Rodolfo Marsh Martin Airport. Fildes Peninsula, King George Island.

LAND CONNECTIONS

Different bus companies allow inter-regional connections and to the rest of the country, including Argentina. The information of each one is detailed at the following links.

<https://www.bussur.com/>

<https://www.busesfernandez.com/>

<https://www.busesbarria.cl/>

<https://turismozaahj.co.cl/>

Addresses of bus terminals and offices in each district of the Magallanes Region

Punta Arenas Bus Sur: Avenida Cristóbal Colón 842 Buses Fernández: Armando Sanhueza 1255 Buses Barria: Avenida España 264	Puerto Natales: Rodoviario: Avenida España 1455
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MARITIME CONNECTIONS

Punta Arenas, Porvenir, Puerto Williams

Puerto Natales, Caleta Tortel

Puerto Edén, and Puerto Yungay

Two shipping companies have many years of history and positioning in our region.

More information at the following links:

<https://www.tabsa.cl/>

<https://www.navimag.com/>

Dock Locations in Each District of the Magallanes Region

<p>Punta Arenas Muelle Santos Mardónez, Avenida Costanera, north exit of Zona Austral. Muelle Prat, Avenida Costanera 1398. Terminal 3 Puentes: Avenida Bulnes at Ruta 9</p>	<p>Puerto Natales Muelle Navimag, Pedro Montt 308 Muelle Tabsa, Pedro Montt 605</p>
<p>Porvenir The dock is located in Bahía Chilota, 5 km from the city.</p>	<p>Puerto Williams: The dock is located in Ruta Y-905, Puerto Williams.</p>

Telephone contacts of the maritime authority of Punta Arenas and Punta Delgada. This information can be used to consult the status of crossings to and from Tierra del Fuego.

Maritime Government: 61 2 201102

Punta Delgada Maritime Authority: 61 2 201189

MAGALLANES PROVINCE PARKS

<https://www.conaf.cl/parques-nacionales/>

Los Pingüinos Natural Monument, Magdalena Island

Magdalena Island is 35 kilometers northeast of the capital of the Magallanes province, Punta Arenas. The season is from October to mid-April and can only be accessed through an agency by sea. More information at the following link

<https://www.conaf.cl/parques/monumento-natural-los-pinguinos/>

Magallanes National Reserve

It is located 7 kilometers west of Capital of the Magallanes province, Punta Arenas. Open all year round, with changes in schedules depending on the season. You can buy the entrance ticket at <https://www.pasesparques.cl/> or pay directly at the entrance to the reserve. More information at the following link: <https://www.conaf.cl/parques/reserva-nacional-magallanes/>

Laguna Parrillar National Reserve

It is located 52 kilometers south of the capital of the Magallanes province, Punta Arenas. The season is from October to mid-April. You can buy tickets at https://www.pasesparques.cl or pay directly at the entrance to the reserve. More information at the following link: <https://www.conaf.cl/parques/reserva-nacional-laguna-parrillar/>

Fuerte Bulnes

Historical place of the Magallanes Region. It is currently concessioned by a private company named Parque del Estrecho. It is located 52 kilometers south of Capital of the Magallanes province, Punta Arenas. More information at the following link: <https://nuevo.parquedelestrecho.cl/>

Pali Aike National Park

It is located 196 kilometers northwest of the Capital of the Magallanes province, Punta Arenas. The season is from October to mid-April. Tickets can be purchased at the entrance to the park. More information at the following link: <https://www.conaf.cl/parques/parque-nacional-pali-aike/>

Francisco Coloane Marine Park

The season is between October and April. It is the first marine park in Chile and the most important feeding place for humpback whales. This park can only be accessed by an agency. More information at the following link: <https://patagonia-chile.com/destino/parque-marino-francisco-coloane/>

ÚLTIMA ESPERANZA PROVINCE PARKS

<https://www.conaf.cl/parques-nacionales/>

Kawésqar National Park

The Alacalufes National Reserve, currently known as Kawésqar National Park, is located in the Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica Region. It comprises the western archipelagos of the provinces of Última Esperanza and Magallanes. The only way to get to the National Park at present is by sea from Puerto Natales, from where boats leave to travel through the channels in the park. Nowadays, one of the companies that officially provides this service is Skorpios with the Skorpios III Cruise from October to April, sailing through the north of Kawésqar National Park and the south of Bernardo O'Higgins National Park on a 4-night trip. The other company that visits a sector of the Kawésqar National Park is "Turismo 21 de Mayo" from November to March with a 9-hour navigation to the Fjord of the Mountains, from where the Bernal, Herman, Alsina, and Paredes glaciers descend. This tour is subject to a number of reservations.

Bernardo O'Higgins National Park

Bernardo O'Higgins National Park, located in the Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica Region, is one of the largest and most remote national parks in Chile. With more than 3.5 million hectares, it encompasses a diversity of ecosystems, from towering glaciers to dense sub-Antarctic forests. To visit this park, you can sail from Puerto Natales to Caleta Tortel in a 39-hour maritime trip, crossing the channels of the Magallanes and Aysén regions. You can also visit the Balmaceda and Serrano Glaciers in the Park. Two local tour companies offer this tour for the day from Puerto Natales.

Cueva del Milodón Natural Monument

This protected wilderness area, located 25 km from Puerto Natales, offers walking trails through native forests, rock portals, and three caves where the first inhabitants of this part of the region,

the Aonikenk, took refuge. In these caves, vestiges of prehistoric animals such as panthers, saber-toothed tigers, and Mylodon, among others, were found.

Torres del Paine National Park

It is located in the district of Torres del Paine, Province of Última Esperanza, Magallanes, and Chilean Antarctica Region, 400 km northwest of Punta Arenas and 112 km northwest of Puerto Natales. It is the most emblematic of the region and one of the most famous in Chile and the world. Its breathtaking landscapes, which include the iconic Torres del Paine and the Cuernos del Paine, among other peaks, make it an internationally renowned trekking and nature observation destination.

TIERRA DEL FUEGO PROVINCE PARKS

<https://www.conaf.cl/parques-nacionales/>

Pingüino Rey Park

The reserve where the penguins live is located 110 km from Porvenir, the provincial capital of Tierra del Fuego, in the Bahía Inútil sector. This park promotes the conservation and protection of the king penguin and the richness of its vegetation. For more information about schedules and rates, go to the following link: <https://www.pinguinorey.com/>

Karukinka Park

It is located 261 km from Porvenir. The park promotes a new model for the conservation of biodiversity, which is promoted by the NGO Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), which manages this natural reserve. More information on access, rates, and schedules at the following link: <https://chile.wcs.org/Karukinka.aspx>

Laguna de los Cisnes

Located 6 km from Porvenir, the unit stands out for protecting terrestrial and marine birdlife.

Yendegaia National Park

Yendegaia National Park, whose Yaghan meaning is “deep bay,” covers a territory of 150,587 hectares that includes Tierra del Fuego and the Antarctic province, specifically the area of Cape Horn. It is a national park in Chile that protects a representative sample of the ecosystems of the southernmost sector of Chilean Patagonia, at the southernmost tip of South America. Ruta Y-85 can access it to the Azopardo River. The Military Labor Corps (Cuerpo Militar del Trabajo) is currently working on the road that will cross the entire park to Yendegaia Bay. More information can be found at the following links:

<https://www.rutadelosparques.org/parque-nacional-yendegaia/>

<https://www.conaf.cl/se-cumplen-6-anos-de-la-creacion-del-parque-nacional-yendegaia/>

Alberto de Agostini Park

Alberto de Agostini Park: The Alberto de Agostini National Park, with an extension of 1,460,000 hectares, extends across three provinces of the 12th Region: Magallanes, Tierra del Fuego, and Chilean Antarctica. The unit stands out for protecting fauna species such as the culpeo fox, chilla fox, leopard seal, dolphins, whales, sea lions, elephant seal, southern dolphin, and Chilean dolphin, as well as 49 species of birds. Access is mainly by sea or air from Punta Arenas, continuing

by sea with private companies to the destination area within the park.

ANTARCTICA PROVINCE PARKS

<https://www.conaf.cl/parques-nacionales/>

Omora Ethnobotanical Park

Omora Ethnobotanical Park is a botanical garden located in the extreme south of Chile, in the north of Navarino Island, on the southern shore of the Beagle Channel. It is administratively dependent on the Universidad de Magallanes (UMAG) and develops scientific, educational, and biocultural conservation activities in the southernmost area of our country. More information in the following link: <https://www.instagram.com/parqueomora/?hl=es-la>

Cabo de Hornos National Park

It is located 12 hours by sea from Puerto Williams, the capital of the Antarctic Province.

MAGALLANES PROVINCE MUSEUMS

Magallanes Regional Museum

This historic museum, built between 1903 and 1906, was the private residence of the family union between Mauricio Braun Hamburger and Josefina Menéndez Behety, both families representing the Patagonian commercial boom of the early twentieth century. More information about this historic museum at the following link: <https://www.museodemagallanes.gob.cl/>

Nao Victoria Site Museum

A place that aims to provide an authentic experience in the replicas of the most important ships of the Magallanes region. More information at the following link: <https://www.registromuseoschile.cl/663/w3-article-50786.html>

Museo Natural de Río Seco

Place in development or permanent state of construction around assemblies and permeable dialogues, mainly around the sciences and the arts, on natural and cultural materialities. More information at: <https://www.registromuseoschile.cl/663/w3-article-77152.html>

Museo del Recuerdo

A place that presents objects from the colonizing period in Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. More information at the following link: <https://www.registromuseoschile.cl/663/w3-article-50620.html>

Maggiorino Borgatello Salesian Museum

The third oldest museum in Chile, since 1893, has had the mission of preserving cultural heritage through the conservation and safeguarding of heritage collections. More information at the following link: <https://museomaggiorinoborgatello.cl/>

Keu Ken Ethnic Park

Park that brings together the history and heritage of the native peoples of our region. More information at the following link: <https://www.registromuseoschile.cl/663/w3-article-64946.html>

ÚLTIMA ESPERANZA PROVINCE MUSEUMS

The Singular Museum

The Singular Patagonia was built on the site of the cold storage Frigorífico Bories, declared a National Monument in 1996. In the transition areas of this hotel-museum, the ancient machinery is still visible. You can access this museum without needing to be a hotel guest. More information at the following contact links: repcionpatagonia@thesingular.com - +56 61 2 722 030

Puerto Natales Municipal Historical Museum

The objective of this museum is to preserve, document, disseminate, and exhibit the history of the Natales district. More information at the following link: [Museo Histórico Municipalidad Natales - Registro de Museos de Chile \(registromuseoschile.cl\)](#)

Estancia La Cumbre Museum

A place that allows the interpretation of the geology and paleontology of Sierra Baguales. You can find information about history dating back 67,000,000 years. More information at the following link: [Museo Estancia La Cumbre – Registro de Museos de Chile \(registromuseoschile.cl\)](#)

Villa Cerro Castillo Municipal Museum

Here, you can enjoy two exhibition rooms with one of the most complete collections of fossils in the south of our country. More information at the following link: [Museo Municipal de Villa Cerro Castillo – Registro de Museos de Chile \(registromuseoschile.cl\)](#)

TIERRA DEL FUEGO PROVINCE MUSEUMS

Alberto Baeriswyl House Museum

An Interpretation Center of the Fuegian territory and a meeting place for the arts, sciences, and humanities. More information at the following link: <https://www.instagram.com/cabpatagonia/>

Cerro Sombrero Museum

This museum is in the Primavera district, next to an abandoned astronomical observation dome. It was inaugurated in November 2003 with an exhibition of photographic material of the Selk'nam aboriginal ethnic group. More information at the following link: <https://www.registromuseoschile.cl/663/w3-article-50871.html>

ANTARCTICA PROVINCE MUSEUMS

Yagan Usi Territorial Museum

Located in Puerto Williams, the capital of the Antarctic Province. This museum is the southernmost in the world. Its museography focuses on the ancestral Yagan culture and on building bridges between the vision of the past and the living community. More information at the following link: Museo Territorial Yagan Usi - Martín González Calderón - Chilean Museum Registry (registromuseoschile.cl)

STEP BY STEP TO PURCHASE ASP TICKETS AT PASESPARQUES.CL

Step 1: Login to pasesparques.cl

Step 2: Choose the Protected Area (ASP) you want to visit.

Step 3: Log in with your username and password. If you have not registered yet, you must do so to proceed.

Step 4: Select the day of your visit. If applicable, you must also enter the day of departure.

Step 5: Fill in the personal data (nationality, document number, date of birth, gender, contact number, email), or you can autocomplete the data already recorded in step 3 if the ticket is for the same person.

Step 6: Choose your ticket category.

Step 7: Select your payment method.

Step 8: Download your tickets.

Places to visit and activities to perform in the

Province of Última Esperanza

Provincial Capital: Puerto Natales

Puerto Natales is a charming city in the Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica region. Located on the shores of the imposing Última Esperanza Fjord and surrounded by spectacular mountains, it is the gateway to the famous Torres del Paine National Park and a must-see destination for nature and adventure lovers.

Founded as a small cattle town, Puerto Natales has evolved to become a meeting point for explorers worldwide. Its tranquility and unparalleled views of the fjord make this town a unique place where the connection with nature is immediate.

The coastal walkway, with its characteristic Patagonian breeze, is perfect for sunset strolls. Iconic sculptures such as “La Mano de la Patagonia” and the remains of old piers are excellent spots to capture unforgettable photographs. From this point, you can also admire the majesty of the Andes Mountains reflected in the fjord waters.

The Plaza de Armas Arturo Prat (the Main Square) and its surroundings offer a taste of local life in the city center. There are cozy cafeterias, restaurants highlighting Patagonian cuisine, and handicraft stores where you can find authentic souvenirs of the region.

Puerto Natales is also known for being the starting point of several excursions, such as the navigation through the Última Esperanza Fjord, which leads to the impressive Balmaceda and Serrano glaciers. It is also the perfect place to organize activities such as trekking, horseback riding, and kayaking in the surrounding area.

The city reflects the hospitality characteristic of Patagonia, with a community that welcomes travelers with warmth and a lifestyle in harmony with its natural surroundings. The combination of stunning scenery, rich local culture, and access to some of the most iconic destinations in Chile make Puerto Natales an unforgettable stop for those venturing south of the world.

Torres del Paine National Park

It is the most emblematic destination of the Province of Última Esperanza and one of the best-known in Chile. This park offers a variety of activities for nature and adventure lovers:

- **Trekking:** Routes such as the **W Circuit** and the **O Circuit** allow hikers to explore the impressive Torres del Paine, the French Valley, and the Grey Glacier.
- **Serrano River:** This river is perfect for fishing, kayaking, and navigation to the Serrano Glacier. It is a natural entrance to the park, offering spectacular views of the Patagonian landscape.
- **Cerro Guido:** This historic Estancia, located on the outskirts of the park, combines traditional rural life with luxury accommodation. Visitors can enjoy horseback riding, photographic safaris, and trekking, all in a setting of breathtaking natural beauty.

Puerto Natales

It is the capital of the province and the main access point to Torres del Paine National Park. In addition to its coastal charm, the city offers a variety of activities:

- **Gastronomic Pole:** Puerto Natales has emerged as a gastronomic destination, with restaurants that stand out for their Patagonian cuisine. Typical dishes include Cordero al Palo (spit-roasted lamb), Spider Crab, Calafate, and local products such as Murta.
- **Navigation through the Fjords:** From Puerto Natales, boat excursions can be taken on the Seno Última Esperanza, which takes visitors to glaciers such as the **Balmaceda Glacier** and the **Serrano Glacier**. These navigations offer the opportunity to see the rich marine fauna and enjoy spectacular views.

Ether Aike Artisanal Town

This handicraft market offers a sample of local culture and art, an agency area, and a restaurant where visitors can buy souvenirs, handmade clothes, and typical Patagonian handicrafts. It is an excellent alternative to visiting. It is a meeting place to discover and be enchanted by the handcrafted works of local artisans.

Calle Valdivia 600, Esquina Calle Phillipi, Puerto Natales.

Opening hours: Monday to Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Puerto Natales Waterfront

A must-see walk in Puerto Natales, the waterfront offers panoramic views of the Última Esperanza fjord and the surrounding mountains. It is the perfect place to walk, relax, and enjoy the natural landscapes of the city.

Braun and Blanchard Historic Pier

This abandoned pier evokes the history of Puerto Natales and its early expeditions. Often photographed for its nostalgic atmosphere, it is an iconic place that recalls the era of maritime exploration in Patagonia.

Monument to the Wind

This monument celebrates the strength of the Patagonian wind, which is omnipresent in the region. It is a must for those who wish to experience and capture one of the most characteristic natural elements of the area in images.

Monument of the Hand

This sculpture, a replica of the famous monument in the Atacama Desert, is a meeting point on the Puerto Natales waterfront. It represents human resistance and strength in the face of the elements of nature.

Última Esperanza Sound

It is a maritime entrance that offers some of the most dramatic scenery in Chilean Patagonia. Navigations through the Sound allow visitors to see glaciers, mountains, and a wide variety of marine fauna, including sea lions and seabirds.

Laguna Sofía

Laguna Sofía is a lake surrounded by imposing mountains, ideal for trekking and recreational fishing. From the Cerro Benitez viewpoint, visitors enjoy spectacular views of the lagoon and the Patagonian steppe, surrounded by a unique natural environment.

It is a quiet place near Puerto Natales, ideal for fishing, bird watching, and water activities such as kayaking. Surrounded by mountains and cliffs, it is a perfect destination for those seeking peace and tranquility in a natural environment.

- Contact: margoni.turismo@gmail.com

Municipal Historical Museum

The Museum is arranged as follows:

- **Sala Vida Indígena (Indigenous Life Room):** Presents the way of life of the Aónikenk and Kawésqar native peoples of the Última Esperanza territory.

- **Sala Colonización (Colonization Room):** exhibit of pieces and background of the Eberhard family, settlers of German origin who were the first to settle in this area.

- **Sala Vida Rural (Rural Life Room):** The colonizing establishment in the fields of Última Esperanza and the presence of the Sociedad Explotadora Tierra del Fuego in the cattle development of the territory stand out.

- **Sala Vida Urbana (Urban Life Room):** An exhibition designed to organically exhibit objects and elements of the citizen's life in Puerto Natales from 1908 to the 1930s.

Bulnes 285, Puerto Natales

Cerro Dorotea Viewpoint

With an altitude of 600 mts. It is ideal for a panoramic view of the glacier landscape surrounding Puerto Natales, the Última Esperanza fjord, Golfo Almirante Montt, and the Dumestre area. You can trek for about three hours on a round trip to get to the viewpoint.

It is located 10 km approximately from Puerto Natales on Ruta 9 towards Punta Arenas.

Mylodon Cave

It is an archaeological site of great importance. The remains of the Mylodon, a prehistoric mammal that inhabited the area thousands of years ago, were found there. Visiting the cave includes trails and viewpoints that allow you to explore the geology and history of the site.

Famous for discovering the fossilized remains of a prehistoric mylodon, this cave offers a unique exploration experience in a natural setting. The trails and the story behind the mylodon attract travelers interested in paleontology and nature.

Located near the city, it is a reminder of Patagonian prehistory and the paleontological richness of the area.

Opening hours: Monday to Sunday and holidays, 08:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

- Website: cuevadelmilodon.cl

Grey Glacier

It is one of the most spectacular spots in Torres del Paine National Park. Visitors can access the glacier by hiking or boat excursions, enjoying the views of the imposing icebergs floating in Grey Lake.

Sailing in the Fjords

The navigations from Puerto Natales through the fjords of the Última Esperanza Province are a unique experience. These excursions allow visitors to see glaciers such as Balmaceda and Serrano up close, with the possibility of disembarking and walking near the glaciers. In addition, it is common to observe marine fauna such as sea lions and various species of birds.

Bernardo O'Higgins National Park

- Opening hours: Monday to Sunday and holidays, 08:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Access only by navigation through the Balmaceda and Serrano Glaciers.

This park is the largest in Chile and is home to the impressive Balmaceda and Serrano glaciers. It is accessible only by sea, visiting a unique adventure ideal for those seeking direct contact with nature.

Places to Visit and Activities to Perform in the

Magallanes Province

Provincial Capital: Punta Arenas

The southernmost city in continental Chile and the gateway to the majestic region of Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica. Located on the shores of the mythical Strait of Magellan, this city combines a rich history, unique landscapes, and a vibrant culture that captivates all visitors.

Punta Arenas is known for its historical legacy as a key point in maritime exploration and trade since the 16th century. In the center of the city is the iconic Plaza de Armas Benjamín Muñoz Gamero, home to emblematic monuments such as the statue of Hernando de Magallanes. It is said that kissing the toe of the native at the base of the statue ensures a return to the region.

The architecture of the city reflects its prosperous past, with imposing mansions built by pioneers and sheep industry magnates. A tour of the Sara Braun Municipal Cemetery, which is considered one of the most beautiful in the world, offers a gateway into the cultural and economic legacy of the area.

In addition, Punta Arenas is the perfect starting point to explore the natural wonders of the region, such as Torres del Paine National Park, the fjords and glaciers, and Tierra del Fuego. Expeditions to the White Continent, Antarctica, are also organized from here.

A visit to the Cerro de la Cruz viewpoint, which offers a panoramic view of the city, the Strait of Magellan, and, on clear days, the distant lands of Tierra del Fuego, is a must. The Regional Museum of Magallanes and the Nao Victoria Museum are perfect places to immerse yourself in the history of the explorers, the native peoples, and the colonization of this extreme region.

Another outstanding attraction is the local cuisine. Visitors can enjoy unique dishes such as Cordero al Palo (spit-roasted lamb), Magellanic Spider Crab, and delicious desserts made with Calafate, the emblematic fruit of the region.

Punta Arenas is not only a destination for history and nature but also a vibrant cultural life and events throughout the year. Magellanic hospitality is experienced at every moment, making every visitor feel at home, even at the end of the world.

Cerro de La Cruz Viewpoint

It offers a spectacular panoramic view of Punta Arenas, the Strait of Magellan, and, on clear days, the distant Tierra del Fuego. It is a perfect place to photograph the essence of the city and impressive natural environment. The viewpoint is easily accessible and is a must for those who wish to appreciate the scenic beauty of the region from above.

- **Address: Almirante Manuel Señoret 1012, Punta Arenas.**

Plaza de Armas Muñoz Gamero

Commonly known as **Plaza de Armas**, it is the historical and social heart of Punta Arenas. The square is an ideal place to stroll and immerse yourself in local history, surrounded by emblematic buildings such as the **Sara Braun Palace** and the **Punta Arenas Cathedral**. In the center of the square stands a statue of **Hernando de Magallanes** (https://sernaturchile-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/imagenesmagallanes_sernatur_cl/EvTKUYqGowIGrZrA0W0AdUk6NDIC2e0oL564jVBBTVILw?e=CTP85y), around which many stories and local legends are woven.

Punta Arenas Historical Center

The heart of the city is a whole of European-influenced architecture, squares, monuments, and museums that tell the rich history of colonization in the region and its importance in the maritime routes.

Strait of Magellan Waterfront

It is a promenade that follows the contour of the Strait of Magellan. This promenade is perfect for relaxing walks where you can enjoy the fresh air, observe the marine life, and enjoy unparalleled strait views. Along the waterfront are monuments, parks, and recreational areas, making it an ideal place to observe the coming and going of ships and port life.

Mercado Municipal

The Punta Arenas **Mercado Municipal** (Municipal Market) is a vibrant cultural and gastronomic center where visitors can explore the rich supply of local products. Here, you can find fresh seafood, such as spider crabs and sea urchins, and typical regional products, such as Magellanic lamb. It is also an ideal place to buy authentic handicrafts and souvenirs.

- **Address: Avenida del Estrecho 1465, Punta Arenas.**

Handicraft Center

It is located next to the Mercado Municipal. It is a meeting point for local artisans selling handmade products. From traditional weavings to jewelry and indigenous art, this center is perfect for acquiring unique souvenirs that reflect the rich cultural heritage of the region. It is also an excellent place to learn about Patagonian handicraft traditions and techniques.

Punta Arenas Municipal Cemetery

The **Punta Arenas Municipal Cemetery** is one of the most beautiful and emblematic in Chile. It is known for its imposing mausoleums and carefully maintained gardens. It is a place of great historical and architectural interest, where many pioneers and key figures in the history of the region rest. Visiting here offers an opportunity for reflection and a glimpse into the past of the city.

- **Address: Bulnes No. 029, Punta Arenas**
- **Phone: (61) 221 2777**
- **Website: monumentos.gob.cl**

Monumento al Ovejero

It is a tribute to the shepherds who played a crucial role in developing the livestock industry in the region. Located on Avenida Bulnes, the sculpture depicts a shepherd with his dog and sheep, symbolizing Patagonia's effort and rural life. It is a mandatory stop for those who wish to learn more about the culture and history of the region.

Maggiorino Borgatello Salesian Museum

Located on Avenida Bulnes, it offers an in-depth look at the identity of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. Its collection includes displays of fauna, flora, historical and scientific landmarks, and the culture of Patagonia's indigenous ethnic groups. It is an ideal place for those who wish to learn about the natural and cultural history of the region and connects well with the historic center and the Municipal Cemetery.

Nao Victoria Museum

It is an interactive open-air museum that houses life-size replicas of the **Nao Victoria**, the ship that carried Hernando de Magallanes on his historic circumnavigation. In addition, you can explore replicas of the **H.M.S. Beagle** (the ship on which Charles Darwin sailed) and the **Schooner Ancud** (the first Chilean vessel to reach the Strait of Magellan on behalf of the State of Chile). This museum offers a unique educational experience that allows you to learn about maritime exploration and the history of the region.

Magallanes National Reserve

It is a natural refuge a few kilometers from Punta Arenas. This protected wilderness area offers hiking trails that allow you to observe local flora and fauna and views of the mountain range, the city of Punta Arenas, and the Strait of Magellan. It is an ideal destination for those seeking an outdoor escape in *contact with nature*. It is perfect for *hiking through the lush forests of Lenga and Coigüe*. *It offers spectacular viewpoints and rich native fauna like guanacos and condors.*

- **Opening hours: Monday to Sunday, 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
- **Website: conaf.cl**

Sailing through the Strait of Magellan

Navigating the **Strait of Magellan** is one of the most outstanding experiences for those visiting the region. There are tour operators that offer excursions where, in addition to enjoying sailing, you can observe marine fauna, such as southern dolphins and various species of birds. These excursions also include visits to historical and natural sites along the strait.

El Andino (Ski Center)

- **Seasonal.**

This ski center is perfect for those looking to enjoy winter sports near Punta Arenas. It offers slopes for skiers of different levels and spectacular views of the city and the Strait of Magellan.

Francisco Coloane Marine Park

This marine park is famous for being a privileged place to sight humpback whales, penguins, and dolphins in an environment of imposing fjords and glaciers. The area includes the Strait of Magellan and adjacent fjords, the most crucial area for the feeding of the humpback whale, registering the highest number of sightings (between the end of October and the beginning of March).

Approximately 10-hour sailing, private charter excursions, and regular excursions from November to March.

Consult local agencies.

Francisco Coloane Marine Park

- **Open seasonally.**

Pali Aike National Park

It is located 196 km from Punta Arenas. It consists of 5,000 hectares, was created in 1970, and is also known as “El Escorial del Diablo.” It protects a pampas populated by guanacos, rheas, and armadillos. It has hills and craters of low height.

Puerto de Hambre (Historical Monument)

This historical site marks the place where the first Spanish colonizers attempted to settle in the Strait of Magellan. Today, it is a place of reflection on the challenges of colonization in extreme conditions.

Los Pingüinos Natural Monument (Magdalena Island)

It encompasses the Magdalena and Marta Islands and is one of most southern essential penguin rookeries in Chile. Managed by the National Forest Corporation (CONAF), the protected area is home to more than 60,000 Magellanic penguins and other species, such as cormorants, seagulls, and sea lions. Excursions to this natural monument include navigations from Punta Arenas to the islands, where visitors can disembark and walk along trails near the penguins' nests, offering an unforgettable wildlife-watching experience.

Parque del Estrecho (Fuerte Bulnes)

The **Parque del Estrecho de Magallanes** is home to the National Historical Monuments **Fuerte Bulnes** and **Ciudad Rey Don Felipe** (also known as “Puerto del Hambre”). This park is the most important historical site in Chilean Patagonia, with archeological sites that show evidence of human presence for thousands of years. Located 55 km south of Punta Arenas, it can be accessed privately or through organized tours, offering visitors the opportunity to explore the early history of the colonization of the Strait of Magellan.

Places to visit and activities to do in the Province of Tierra del Fuego

Provincial Capital: Porvenir

Located on the large island of Tierra del Fuego, south of the Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica region, this quiet and picturesque town is an ideal destination for those seeking a deep connection with the history, culture, and unique landscapes of Fuegian Patagonia.

Founded in 1894 during the gold rush, Porvenir preserves the charm of a town where time seems to stand still. Its history is marked by the arrival of Croatian, Chilote, and European settlers who left an indelible mark on its culture and architecture, visible in its colorful houses and traditional buildings.

One of the main attractions is the Fernando Cordero Rusque Municipal Museum, where you can learn about the history of the native Selknam people, the colonization of Tierra del Fuego, and the gold mining boom. This museum also stands out for its display of local fauna and fossils.

Porvenir's coastal walkway offers spectacular views of the Strait of Magellan and, on clear days, the coastline of the mainland. It is also an excellent place to relax and enjoy the tranquility of the island.

The Laguna de Los Cisnes is near the town, a natural sanctuary perfect for bird lovers and photographers. Here, you can see flamingos, black-necked swans, and other native species. Also, a visit to Cerro Mirador, from which you can get a panoramic view of the town and its surroundings, is not to be missed.

From Porvenir, travelers can explore the mystical Tierra del Fuego further. Destinations such as Pingüino Rey Park, home to a colony of king penguins, offer a unique experience to meet this majestic species in its natural habitat. You can also visit historical estancias, such as Estancia San Gregorio, and marvel at the vast landscapes of the Fuegian pampas.

Porvenir is much more than a destination; it is a place where you can feel the untamed spirit of Tierra del Fuego, with its mix of history, nature, and the warm hospitality of its people. It is a perfect place to explore, disconnect, and marvel at the landscapes and culture of this corner of the end of the world.

Laguna de los Cisnes

The Laguna de los Cisnes, located near Porvenir, is a bird sanctuary and a perfect place to sight species such as black-necked swans, flamingos, and other aquatic birds. The lagoon is ideal for wildlife photography and enjoying the tranquility and natural beauty of the surroundings. It is a popular destination for ornithologists and those seeking close contact with nature.

Parque Estromatolitos

Located about 6km from Porvenir, This Geo site is on the island of Tierra del Fuego, one of 15 worldwide, of which six are located in the Magallanes Region. These cyanobacteria are preserved thanks to the extreme conditions of temperature and ice, and they are of great importance to the scientific community as they are living prehistoric beings.

Bahía Inútil and Pingüino Rey Park

Bahía Inútil is home to the Pingüino Rey Park, one of the few places in the world where king penguins can be observed in their natural habitat outside Antarctica. This private park allows visitors to get close to these majestic animals without disturbing their environment, providing a unique experience for wildlife lovers. Guided tours in the park offer an opportunity to learn about the ecology, behavior, and conservation of king penguins while enjoying the breathtaking views of the bay.

<https://www.pinguinorey.com/>

- **Opening hours: Spring: Thursday to Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Summer: Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fall: Thursday to Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
- **Website: pinguinorey.cl**

Villa Cameron

Cameron is a small, quiet town representing Tierra del Fuego's rural life. With a rich ranching history, Cameron offers visitors an authentic glimpse of the Fuegian culture. Vast grasslands and open skies are perfect for hiking, photography, and enjoying the serenity of the surroundings. It is an ideal place for those looking to disconnect and experience the tranquility of rural life in Patagonia.

Karukinka Park

Private park dedicated to conserving Patagonian biodiversity, where visitors can explore extensive forests, mountains, and boglands. It is home to species such as the guanaco and the culpeo fox.

Karukinka Park is one of the most important natural reserves in Tierra del Fuego, covering more than 300,000 hectares of diverse landscapes, including native forests, boglands, and mountains. It is a paradise for nature and adventure lovers, with opportunities for trekking on trails through pristine ecosystems, wildlife observation of guanacos, culpeo foxes, condors, and landscape photography. The park also plays a crucial role in conserving Fuegian biodiversity, making each visit an educational and ecological experience.

WCS currently manages Karukinka Park.

<https://chile.wcs.org/Karukinka.aspx>

- **Opening hours: From October 20th to April 15th, 09:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**
- **Website: [Karukinka](#)**

Sport fishing in Tierra del Fuego

Undoubtedly, one of the most attractive places for fishing in Tierra del Fuego is “Río Grande,” considered the best river in the world in its category for Sea Run or sea trout fishing. These trout have an average weight of 5 to 14 kilos and are an attraction for fishing lovers worldwide, who arrive every year to this basin known as the most important in Tierra del Fuego.

Another of the most important spots in Tierra del Fuego is the Lago Blanco, where you can fish for Fario and Rainbow trout between 2 and 10 kilos. This place also draws attention to its incredible landscapes, where you can appreciate the typical flora and fauna of the place.

If you continue your trip south of Tierra del Fuego, you can fish in Lago Deseado, where you can practice fly fishing and spinning.

At the southern end of the island, you can find Lago Fagnano, almost at the current limit of the road to Tierra del Fuego. Along with its beautiful landscapes, you can enjoy fishing in the Río Azopardo, which is only 11 kilometers long and offers abundant fishing for different trout and salmon.

Caleta María and Parry Fjord

Caleta María was an important bay where sawmills were located during the first half of the 20th century. However, a strong earthquake led to the locality being abandoned. Today, with the recent arrival of a road that seeks to cross Tierra del Fuego from north to south, Caleta María is preparing to gradually open up to tourism as a destination where some of Patagonia's most pristine and remote landscapes can be found.

Navigating Admiralty Sound and Parry Fjord is recommended to learn more about the ecological history in the area.

The Parry is an extended arm of the sea that goes deep into the Southern Patagonian Ice Field. Therefore, you can reach spectacular views of the glacial amphitheater that falls from the mountains to the sea.

Bahía Lomas

It is located at the eastern mouth of the Strait of Magellan, on the north coast of Tierra del Fuego Island. It is a Wetland of International Importance designated a Ramsar site (February 2009). It has the broadest intertidal flats in Chile, extending in front of a 69 km long beach and several salt marshes. The bay is renowned for its high concentrations of migratory shorebirds from October to March. Records of near-threatened birds such as the Magellanic plover and the Chilean flamingo are also important. The vegetation is typical of the Patagonian steppe, dominated by *Festuca pallescens* and *Festuca gracillima* grasses.

Places to visit and activities to do in the Antarctic Province

Provincial Capital: Puerto Williams

The southernmost city in the world is located on Navarino Island, in the heart of the Tierra del Fuego archipelago. This charming town, the capital of the province of Chilean Antarctica, is a unique destination that combines imposing nature, a fascinating history, and the warmth of its community.

Puerto Williams is the gateway to some of the most remote and pristine landscapes on the planet. Surrounded by the Beagle Channel and the majestic mountains of the Darwin Range, this town offers an authentic southern Patagonian experience. Visitors can explore an almost untouched natural environment full of fjords, glaciers, and sub-Antarctic forests.

One of the main attractions is the famous Dientes de Navarino Circuit, considered one of the southernmost and most challenging treks in the world. This route takes adventurers through unique landscapes of lagoons, mountains, and spectacular views of the Beagle Channel and Cape Horn. It is an unforgettable experience for trekking and nature lovers.

Culture also plays an important role in Puerto Williams. The Martín Gusinde Anthropological Museum offers a window into the legacy of the native Yagán peoples, showing their history, customs, and close relationship with the marine environment. In addition, it is possible to visit the Yagán community, which still resides on the island and keeps its traditions and ancestral knowledge alive.

The town is small and quiet, ideal for those seeking disconnection and tranquility. Unique landscapes surround its streets, and its port is a perfect place to admire the ships sailing to Antarctica or Cape Horn.

Excursions can also be made from Puerto Williams to places such as Wulaia Bay, known for its beauty and historical importance as a site of Yagán settlement and European exploration.

Puerto Williams is not just a tourist destination. It is a unique experience that connects travelers with nature at its purest and with the stories of the people who have called this corner of the world home for centuries.

Navarino Island

It is one of the most impressive destinations in the Chilean Antarctic Province. It is known for its mountainous landscape and the famous **Dientes de Navarino Circuit** trekking route.

Dientes de Navarino Circuit

This circuit is one of the most challenging and spectacular routes in South America. It offers adventurers panoramic views of the Fuegians channels, glaciers, lagoons, and rugged mountains. The route traverses a variety of ecosystems, from sub-Antarctic forests to rocky peaks, providing a unique experience for trekking lovers.

Cerro Bandera

Cerro Bandera is a 4.5 km hike of medium difficulty that starts and ends in Puerto Williams. It is an easy trek that climbs along a well-demarcated trail with good signage. The trail begins at La Virgen waterfall, about 3 km west of the city center. It offers a unique view of the Beagle Channel and part of Navarino Island.

Puerto Williams

It is the capital of the Chilean Antarctic Province and is recognized as the southernmost city in the world. This small but vibrant town is a center for adventure tourism and the starting point for expeditions to Antarctica. Among its main attractions is the Martin Gusinde Anthropological Museum, which offers a deep immersion into the culture and history of the Yaghan people, the original inhabitants in the region. Puerto Williams is also a meeting point for adventurers and scientists exploring the southernmost regions of the planet.

Omora Ethnobotanical Park

It is located near Puerto Williams and is a protected area that focuses on biodiversity conservation through ethnobotany, the study of the relationships between plants and indigenous peoples. The park is famous for its focus on “magnifying glass tourism,” an activity that allows visitors to explore the rich flora of mosses, lichens, and other small plants that are key to the ecology in the area. It is an ideal destination for those interested in biodiversity and conservation in a unique natural environment.

Villa Ukika

It is inhabited by the last descendants of the Yahgan people, who moved in the 1960s from Mejillones Bay, Róbalo, and Punta Truco to provide them with better welfare. Today, these families continue to dedicate themselves to the traditional work of basket weaving and artisanal fishing.

Los Bronces Waterfall

It starts approximately 6 kilometers from Puerto Williams on Ruta Y-905. The beginning is marked on the right side of the Los Bronces River and continues upwards, bordering it until it crosses a wooden bridge and continues along its right side.

We can enjoy the force and enchantment of the nature here when we arrive at this impressive waterfall.

Puerto Toro

It is the southernmost permanent settlement in the world, located southeast of Puerto Williams on Navarino Island. This small and remote village is a fishing port where its inhabitants extract spider crabs. Visiting Puerto Toro offers an authentic life experience in one of the most isolated places on the planet, providing a window into the traditions and challenges of living in the far south.

Beagle Channel

It is an emblematic waterway that separates Navarino Island from the Isla Grande of Tierra del Fuego. It is famous for its scenic beauty and historical importance as an exploration route. Boat excursions through the channel offer the opportunity to observe rich marine fauna, including sea lions, penguins, dolphins, and various birds. Visitors can enjoy spectacular views of the snow-capped mountains and fjords surrounding the channel, especially at sunrise and sunset.

Cape Horn

The mythical Cape Horn, at the southernmost tip of Chile, is a natural landmark that attracts sailors and adventurers worldwide. With its towering cliffs and challenging sea conditions, it is a symbol of exploration and adventure.

Cabo de Hornos National Park is an iconic destination known worldwide as a landmark for navigators. The Cape Horn Monument is located on the island of the same name and marks the point where the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans meet. This place is famous for its extreme weather conditions and is a challenging but unforgettable destination. The park is part of the Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve, renowned for its biodiversity and pristine landscapes, including uninhabited islands and turbulent waters that have witnessed countless stories of exploration.

Alberto de Agostini National Park

- Opening hours: Between October and April.
- Website: conaf.cl

This national park, accessible only by sea, is home to fjords, glaciers, and mountains. It is a paradise for those seeking to experience nature in its wildest and most remote state.

Chilean Antarctic

The portion of the Antarctic continent claimed by Chile is administered as part of the Chilean Antarctic Province.

This vast and remote territory has extraordinary natural beauty and immense scientific value. Chilean scientific bases, such as the Base Presidente Eduardo Frei Montalva, are research centers where the climate, fauna, and other crucial aspects of the frozen continent are studied.

Tourist expeditions to Antarctica allow visitors to experience breathtaking landscapes of glaciers, icebergs, and unique wildlife such as penguins, seals, and whales. These expeditions are a unique opportunity to explore one of the most inhospitable and beautiful places on the planet.

Decalogue for safe driving on Patagonia's roads

1. **Check weather conditions in advance**, regardless of the time of year. In the sub-Antarctic area, it can rain, snow, or have winds with gusts of more than 100 km/h. Weather conditions change rapidly. Be informed in advance to foresee scenarios and avoid surprises.
2. **Pay attention to wind gusts.** They can come from different directions and push or even lift a vehicle. Drive at a cautious speed because the car could overturn if the tires lose grip.
3. **Even in summer, roads may have a thin layer of frost from early morning.** Sometimes, it is not visible, and the pavement may seem dark, which in Patagonia is known as “black frost.” This is very dangerous, especially if you do not drive at a moderate speed.
4. **Beware of intense sun in summer and low sun in winter.** During the mid-season, the late afternoon sun can dazzle you. Drive cautiously!
5. **Many secondary routes lead to gravel roads off the main roads.** Gravel is a filler of gravel and stones. These routes are more passable than dirt roads, but vehicles have less stability and grip than on asphalt.
6. **Do not speed on gravel roads.** When these roads have heavy traffic, the soil loses its compaction, known as “loose gravel.” This makes the vehicle unstable.
7. **Long distances separate cities and towns.** When leaving the regional capital, the next town to the north (where you can access goods or services) is at least 100 km away. Take the necessary precautions to avoid unforeseen events.
8. **The distance between Punta Arenas and Puerto Natales is 275 km.** In this part of the road, there is not much digital connectivity, so assistance may take some time to arrive in case of an accident. Be responsible!
9. **We are surrounded by wildlife.** Remember that roads are used for the massive transfer of animals. Drive attentively to the environment and never exceed speed limits.
10. **Check your vehicle before each trip.** Make sure it is in optimal condition, and check the condition of tires, brakes, lights, and fuel levels. Always carry an emergency kit with essential tools, a flashlight, a reflective vest, and a spare tire. Preparation is key for a safe trip!

Decalogue for the Good Tourist – SERNATUR

1. **Plan your trip by informing yourself about the place you will visit.**
Researching the destination allows you to learn more about its customs, climate, and culture, improving your experience and avoiding misunderstandings or inconveniences during your stay.
2. **Value tourism as a form of exchanging experiences, encounters between cultures, and personal enrichment.**
Tourism fosters cultural understanding. By interacting with different cultures, you can learn and share experiences, enriching your world perspective and respecting differences.
3. **Respect the local community, customs, traditions, and established order.**
Every place has its own rules and traditions. Respecting them shows consideration for the residents and helps maintain a harmonious relationship between tourists and locals.
4. **Care for and value the cultural heritage of your destination.**
Cultural heritage is a legacy for everyone. Respecting and protecting monuments, historical sites, and customs guarantees their preservation for future generations of tourists.
5. **Be interested in learning about your destination's artistic, historical, and tourist values.**
Learning about the local history and culture enriches your visit and shows appreciation for each community's effort in its development.
6. **Take care of the environment during your visit, enjoying the natural surroundings without altering ecosystems or harming flora and fauna species.**
Responsible tourism includes respect for nature. Not interfering with ecosystems contributes to the preservation of biodiversity and natural landscapes.
7. **Throw garbage in the places indicated for it. Ask if recycling is possible and how.**
Everyone is responsible for keeping spaces clean. Using the proper containers and recycling helps reduce the environmental impact of tourism.
8. **Rationally use scarce resources at the destination, such as water and/or energy.**
Some places have limited resources. Using water and energy in moderation contributes to the destination's sustainability and avoids endangering its availability.
9. **Take care of your physical integrity and that of those who accompany you on your trip, avoiding dangerous situations.**
Safe travel is essential. Avoiding unnecessary risks, such as entering dangerous or unauthorized areas, ensures a safe experience for everyone.
10. **Respect the rest and interests of other tourists.**
Tourism is a shared activity. Being considerate of others and avoiding excessive noise or annoying behavior ensures everyone can enjoy their experience.

Decalogue of the Good Host - SERNATUR

1. Act cordially with tourists in every interaction, always trying to smile.

A friendly and positive attitude creates a welcoming experience for visitors and reflects the warmth of your community, making tourists feel welcome and valued.

2. Be empathetic, hospitable, and supportive of travelers.

Understanding tourists' needs and challenges and offering them help and hospitality creates an emotional connection and significantly enhances their experience in the destination they visit.

3. Be proud of your location and grateful to those who have traveled there.

Pride in your region is reflected in how you present it. Valuing that tourists choose your location encourages respectful treatment and a greater commitment to its promotion.

4. Teach others to respect and love their environment.

Encouraging respect for the natural and cultural environment ensures the preservation of local resources so future generations can enjoy them.

5. Be informed to inform and be honest and respectful in your answers to those who visit us.

Providing accurate and honest information helps tourists make informed decisions and enjoy their visit to the fullest, generating trust and a good impression of the destination.

6. Know your area and its tourist attractions' value, access conditions, and characteristics.

Being well-informed about local tourist attractions allows you to guide visitors better and offer accurate recommendations that improve their experience and safety.

7. Take care of the cleanliness of your locality, natural environment, routes, and heritage.

Cleanliness and heritage care are essential to maintaining the beauty of tourist sites and reinforcing a positive image of the destination.

8. Be punctual and correct with the commitments acquired with tourists.

Punctuality and fulfillment of commitments with tourists reflect professionalism and seriousness, which generates confidence and satisfaction in those who visit your location.

9. Transmit the customs and traditions of your area to new generations.

Keeping local traditions alive and sharing them with tourists allows new generations to understand and value their culture, contributing to cultural tourism and community pride.

10. Make tourists feel at home.

Creating a warm and welcoming environment for visitors fosters their desire to return, while friendly and personalized treatment improves their perception of the destination.

Exchange Offices in Punta Arenas

- Casa de Cambio Exchange: Presidente Julio Roca 915
- Sur Cambio: Lautaro Navarro 1001
- La Hermandad: Lautaro Navarro 1099
- Cambios Opitz: Lautaro Navarro 1070
- Scott: Modulo Central Zona Austral, Av Bulnes Km 3.5 Norte

Exchange Offices in Puerto Natales

- Bosque Patagonia: Avenida España 1455 Unit 3
- Turismo Kren: Avenida España 1455 Unit 4
- Sipaal Rent A Car: Simon Bolivar 1444
- Money Exchange Natales: Alberto Dagostini 1327
- La Hermandad: Manuel Bulnes 692
- Go! Zona Patagonia: Hermann Eberhard 230
- Casa de Cambios Sur: Eberhard 385
- Cambios Toledo: Arturo Prat 260
- VC Patagonia: Eberhard 514
- Tour 365: Eberhard 545

Exchange Offices in Porvenir

- Supermercado Paulina: Manuel Señoret 346

Exchange Offices in Puerto Williams

Please note that there are no exchange houses in Puerto Williams, so carrying cash in local currency or using international credit cards is recommended. Most of the services accept credit cards.

Punta Arenas Municipal Cemetery

Location:

Bulnes, Punta Arenas.

Phone number: (61) 221 2777

Opening hours:

- Monday to Thursday: 08:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Friday: 08:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday: 09:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

History and Architecture

Founded in 1894, the Punta Arenas Municipal Cemetery is characterized by its eclectic architecture with neo-baroque details, representative of the cosmopolitan and thriving spirit of the region at the turn of the century. This cemetery arose as a necessity due to the saturation of the old funeral precinct, which had been in operation for 30 years. Its inauguration coincided with a period of economic and social growth driven by shipping, livestock, and sea lion hunting.

The avenues of the cemetery are adorned with 639 cypress trees, including species such as the English Lawson and Macrocarpa. These trees, planted at the end of the 19th century, refer to the European tradition that associates cypresses with the passage of souls to the heavens.

Sara Braun Donation

One of the most significant moments in the history of the cemetery is the donation made by Sara Braun, a prominent businesswoman of Russian Jewish origin and the widow of José Nogueira. Braun financed the construction of the family mausoleum and moved her husband's remains to the cemetery in 1896. A peculiar event occurred in 1956, during Sara Braun's funeral: the main doors were opened for the only time, fulfilling her last wish.

Immigration and Cultural Diversity

At the end of the 19th century, Punta Arenas ceased to be a prison and became a center of immigration due to the franchises granted by the Chilean government. The region received immigrants from different parts of Europe, such as the French, Swiss, Croatians, English, and Italians, whose families left a deep imprint on the local culture and economy. This legacy is visible in the graves in the central area, belonging to families dedicated mainly to cattle raising.

Cemetery Highlights

- Ruta Inglesa (English Route): This tour highlights the British influence in the city, with notable tombs such as the Charles Amherst Milward tomb, the British consul and explorer, and the crew of the gunboat HMS Doterel, which was sunk in 1881.
- Mausoleo de Sara Braun (Sara Braun's Mausoleum): This monumental-style tomb houses the benefactress's and her family's remains.
- Monumento al Indio Desconocido (Unknown Indian Monument): Built in honor of the Indigenous communities in the region, this monument has become the center of a popular cult due to its supposed miraculous capacities.

Notable Characters

- Antonio Gonzalo Soto Canalejo: Leader of the workers' strikes in Patagonia.
- Adolf Amandus Andressen: Explorer and pioneer who raised the Chilean flag in Antarctica.
- José Grimaldi Acotto: Magellanic poet whose work inspired the famous Ovejero Monument.
- Pascual Rispoli (Pascualini): Italian adventurer linked to historical episodes and legendary anecdotes.

Tourism and Cultural Impact

The Punta Arenas Municipal Cemetery is considered one of the most attractive in South America, not only for its architecture and landscape design but also for the stories it holds. In addition, it has been a source of inspiration for literary works such as Bruce Chatwin's "In Patagonia," which has increased tourist interest in the region.

Review: Places to observe flora and fauna in Magallanes Region

The Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica Region is a paradise for nature lovers. With pristine landscapes, unique ecosystems, and a rich biodiversity, here you will find some of the best places to observe flora and fauna:

1. Torres del Paine National Park

- **What to see:**
 - Fauna: Guanacos, culpeo foxes, pumas (luckily), and Andean condors.
 - Flora: Ñirres, lengas, coirón (characteristic grass of the steppe), and endemic flowers such as calceolaria.
 - **Activities:** Hiking on trails such as Base Torres or the W circuit. Ideal for photography lovers.
 - **Recommendation:** Visit in spring and summer (October to March) to maximize the chances of sightings.
-

2. Bahía Lomas (Tierra del Fuego)

- **What to see:**
 - One of the most important wetlands for migratory shorebirds, such as the **Arctic Sandpiper**, and other species, such as curlews and flamingos.
 - **Relevance:** Key site for the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network.
 - **Activities:** Bird watching and photographic tours.
 - **Recommendation:** Bring binoculars and check migration dates to plan your visit.
-

3. Tres Puentes Wetland (Punta Arenas)

- **What to see:**
 - Diversity of waterfowl such as black-necked swans, coots, and dabbling ducks.
 - Natural attraction within the urban environment.
 - **Activities:** Ideal for birdwatching in an accessible environment near the city.
-

4. Francisco Coloane Marine Park (Strait of Magellan)

- **What to see:**
 - Marine life: Humpback whales, sea lions, southern dolphins, and Magellanic penguins.
 - Seabirds: Cormorants and petrels.
 - **Activities:** Navigation for whale watching and guided tours.
 - **Recommendation:** Hire a registered tour to ensure a safe and responsible experience.
-

5. Laguna Parrillar National Reserve

- **What to see:**
 - Fauna: Black-necked swans, foxes, and small birds like the southern churrin.
 - Flora: Lenga and ñirre forests.
 - **Activities:** Hiking around the lagoon and picnicking in designated areas.
 - **Recommendation:** A quiet destination, perfect for enjoying nature.
-

6. Magdalena and Marta Island

- **What to see:**
 - **Magellanic penguins:** One of the largest colonies of this species in Chile.
 - Seabirds and sea lions at Marta Island.
 - **Activities:** Sailing from Punta Arenas to visit the islands.
 - **Recommendation:** Visit between November and March when penguins are in nesting season.
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7. Cape Froward

- **What to see:**
 - Flora: Magellanic forests with species such as lenga and coigüe.
 - Fauna: Diversity of birds and, sometimes, marine mammals sighted from the coast.
 - **Activities:** Trekking and observing unique landscapes in the southernmost point of the American continent.
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8. Pali Aike National Park

- **What to see:**
 - Fauna: Ñandúes, foxes, and small birds such as the cachaña.
 - Unique landscape with lava fields and volcanic formations.
 - **Activities:** Hiking through the craters and volcanic areas.
 - **Recommendation:** Ideal for those looking for a different landscape from the classic Patagonian forest.
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General tips for observation:

- Bring binoculars and cameras with telephoto lenses for maximum enjoyment.
- Wear appropriate clothing for the Patagonian climate: windproof, waterproof, and layered.

- Hire guides or registered tours to learn more about the local species and guarantee safety.
- Respect the flora and fauna, avoiding disturbing the ecosystems.

Key recommendations to enjoy your visit to the flora and fauna sites in Magallanes to the fullest:

Before the Visit: Preparation

1. Research the Ideal Season:

- Some species, such as Magellanic penguins or migratory birds, are only present at certain times of the year. Check the seasons before traveling.
- For example:
 - **Penguins:** November to March.
 - **Migratory birds (Arctic Sandpiper, Curlew):** Spring and austral summer.

2. Hire Registered Services:

- If you need tours or guides, be sure to choose operators registered with **SERNATUR** for a safe and quality experience.

3. Plan Transportation:

- Some destinations, such as Bahía Lomas or Francisco Coloane Marine Park, require navigation or 4x4 vehicles.
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During the Visit: Equipment and Behavior

1. Wear Appropriate Clothing:

- **Layers:** The weather in Magallanes is changeable; wear thermal, waterproof, and windproof clothing.
- **Footwear:** Trekking boots or comfortable, waterproof footwear are essential.

2. Carry the Right Equipment:

- **Binoculars:** Crucial for observing birds and marine wildlife.
- **Camera:** A telephoto lens will help you capture images without disturbing the animals.
- **Sun Protection:** Although it is cold, UV rays are intense. Use sunscreen and sunglasses.

3. Respect Nature:

- Do not feed or get too close to animals.
- Stay on marked trails to protect the flora and avoid accidents.
- Take your waste with you and avoid generating garbage.

4. Consult Local Experts:

- In wetlands such as Tres Puentes or Bahía Lomas, local guides can provide you with data on the species present and their behavior.
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What to bring in your backpack

- **Water and light snacks:** Hydration is essential, but avoid carrying food that may attract animals.
 - **Maps or offline apps:** Some areas have limited signal.
 - **Basic first aid kit:** Include band-aids, painkillers, and insect repellent.
 - **Waterproof layer for your equipment:** Protect your camera or binoculars from wind and rain.
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Special Considerations

1. Navigations:

- For places such as the Francisco Coloane Marine Park, check weather conditions before departing.
- Wear life jackets at all times during navigation.

2. Extreme Weather:

- In areas like Cape Froward or Torres del Paine, winds can exceed 100 km/h. Be cautious and avoid risky activities on days of intense wind.

3. Respect Local Communities:

- Many of these areas are inhabited by rural communities. Support local enterprises by buying their products or hiring their services.
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Extras for More Enjoyment

- **Learn about wildlife:** Research the species you might encounter to identify them better (birds, mammals, flora).
- **Schedule a thematic tour:** Some operators offer specialized tours, such as wildlife photography or whale watching.