

FDX PATAGONIA



MARCH 6-14, 2013

With almost every imaginable activity to choose from on this action packed adventure in Southern Chile, you will be based out of an amazing riverside camp overlooking the turquoise blue waters of the Futaleufu River as it surges beneath Patagonia's snow-capped mountains. Keep reading to learn more about the incredible journey you will experience in Patagonia...



Rafting.

Bridge to Bridge is 12 kilometres of some of the most fun white water in the world. We start the day with a safety talk and equipment allotment (helmet, lifejacket, wetsuit and splash jacket), before flatwater training to understand how to work as a team in the raft. After our preparation we drop into some of the best white water in the world. Crystal Clear water flows through a continuous section of very bouncy high volume white water. It's a perfect section to hone our skills on exhilarating white water before moving onto Futa class 5!



Day two of rafting, runs the same Bridge to Bridge section but adds on a further 10 kilometres including two slightly larger rapids Mas o Menas, a long bouncy technical wave train before our hardest rapid, Casa De Piedra (house of Stones) a perfect opportunity to put to the test all that was learned over the previous days.

Sea Kayaking

Shortly after the Final rapid of Casa De Piedra the Futa loses its force and becomes more sedate. Accessing just below here we will Sea kayak the last of The Futa approximately 5kms before it discharges into Lago Yelcho a huge lake of clear water with spectacular Chilean Vistas of Glaciated peaks and vibrant green Patagonian Bush. More of a traditional self support expedition meaning we pack food and camping equipment for this overnight trip, that will see us spending the evening camping on one of Lago Yelcho's sandy beaches. Day two sees us completing our trip across the lake just shy of The Pacific Ocean.



Duckyng.

While the rafting offers river running on par with anywhere on the planet, duckying is a whole different kettle of fish and one that often provides the most satisfaction and sense of accomplishment of all the activities we offer. Using either one man or two person inflatable kayaks (depending on peoples level of confidence) we run a ten kilometer section of the main tributary to the Futaleufu, The Rio Azul. A lower volume alpine creek, The Azul begins gently among snow capped and glaciated peaks, this gentle start provides a great opportunity to hone skills on these new craft. The descent becomes successively more difficult building up to class III + and a lovely deep little canyon is the climax to the days learning and challenge. Part technical challenge and part joyride, it's a perennial favorite.

Mountain Biking.

Among Bio Bio's adventure arsenal is a large set of quality mountain bikes another fantastic form of accessing the incredible Futaleufu Valley. Depending on ability and stamina levels there are a variety of options available varying from sedate roadside challenging single track.

Among the highlights for the moderately aggressive rider is the swinging bridge loop, starting on the gravel road at camp we head upstream turning off the main road and crossing a wooden hanging bridge before hitting about 10km of single track which meanders down along the Futa valley,



Horseback safari.

Chilean Patagonia is a Huaso culture, Patagonian Cowboys. The remote mountain wilderness means that the local communities have developed on the use of horses for transport and agriculture and so lay claim to a huge network of trails and horse paths. Working with local Huasos we use horses to access the upper Azul valley, a trip that leaves the broad mountainous Futa valley and winds up next to the Azul (literally Blue...) River among its spectacular glaciated peaks. Crossing the river on the horses

several times we eventually end up at the spectacular Cascada waterfall a hundred metre cascade that plummets from one of the Azul feeder valleys.

