

EL CALAFATE – NIBEPO AIKE AND MUCH MORE

✓ DAY 01 – EL CALAFATE

Arrival to El Calafate airport and transfer to the hotel.

El Calafate, "the capital of the Glaciers", is a city located on the southern shore of Lake Argentino, in the region of Patagonia, in the province of Santa Cruz, Argentina. This picturesque town extends along Libertador Avenue, where its commercial center is located. The small Calafate stream goes down towards Lake Argentino winding among slopes and ravines and crosses the main avenue to drain into the Redonda Bay, an excellent site for birdwatching.

It takes its name from the small Calafate bush, typical of southern Patagonia. This fruit, is a very appetizing berry in the preparation of sweets. According to tradition, whoever eats Calafate will return for more. But reality indicates that those who know El Calafate never want to leave.



Half day visit Balcones del Calafate 4X4

The "El Calafate Balcon Experience" excursion allows visitors to El Calafate look out over an imposing natural viewpoint where you can enjoy a magnificent panoramic view of El Calafate and Lake Argentino. With departures daily at 10 am (includes lunch) and 3 pm (includes snack), the excursion part from El Calafate hotels and complete a 35-kilometer journey over the line of hills located behind the town. The footprint takes us through landscapes typical of the Argentine Patagonia. You can reach up to 1050 meters above the sea. The First stop is a natural viewpoint where passengers enjoy a panoramic view of El Calafate, the central body of Lake Argentino and, if the weather permitting, you can see the area of accumulation of glaciers, and the Fitz Roy and Torre hills in El Chalten. A unique show Follow the path to the Labyrinth of Stones. He it is a Cretaceous period formation that dates back 85 million years of antiquity and was once the bed of a river. We take a snack at the confectionery



Huyliche and from there we begin the descent down the northern slope of the hill until the Stone of the Hats, curious concretions of iron that only found in four places in the world. After this trip to other ages of the World history, we return to El Calafate with the view of Lake Argentino.

- ✚ Daily departures: At 10:00 and 15:00
- ✚ Departure point: Pick up from El Calafate hotels
- ✚ Duration: 3 h
- ✚ It includes: Transfers from El Calafate + Travesía in Trekker + Guide Spanish / English + Snack + Descent by Mexican Hats
- ✚ Available all year round

Return to the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

✓ **DAY 02 – EL CALAFATE – ESTANCIA NIBEPO AIKE**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from the hotel to the Estancia Nibepo Aike.

Activities at Nibepo Aike - **REGULAR SERVICE WITH SPANISH/ENGLISH GUIDE ASSISTANCE.**

Far from the mass tourism and near "El Calafate" is Estancia Nibepo Aike, a place that preserves the essence of the old Patagonian estancias. Formerly called La Jerónima, Nibepo Aike covers more than 12,000 hectares, delimited by the southern arm of Lake Argentina and the border with Chile, still surrounded by the Andes Mountains. Dedicated to livestock production with a flock of Hereford sheep and with many remains from the boom period of sheep production, it is an ideal place to enjoy a dive into the life of an authentic Patagonian "estancia".



Scheduled activities: Once the passengers arrive and check in, they will be informed about the activities they can do during their stay with local and/or bilingual guides. They may vary according to the calendar of breeding activities and the weather.



Overnight at Estancia Nibepo Aike.
Dinner included.

✓ **DAY 03 – ESTANCIA NIBEPO AIKE – FULL DAY GLACIER SOUTH PIONEERS – EL CALAFATE**

Breakfast at Estancia Nibepo Aike.

This proposal takes us along trails that have fallen into disuse since the creation of Los Glaciares National Park, when cattle breeding was interrupted to produce nature. These trails can only be accessed by boat and require a lot of logistics, but once the obstacle is overcome, they offer a perfect navigation and hiking experience.

Passengers staying at Estancia Nibepo Aike join the program at the pier or when the group arrives from El Calafate.

There, where more than 100 years ago the first settler arrived, today there is an estancia dedicated to the breeding of cattle, sheep and horses. You will visit its corrals and sheds, where you will participate in a demonstration of manual shearing.



In the estancia's barbecue area, a typical Patagonian lamb roast is served with salads. Walk to the pier from where a navigation on the Brazo Sur and Rico del Lago Argentino begins. The Moreno and Adriana mountain ranges and the Magellanic peninsula frame the landscape. Landing on Las Monedas beach, which can only be reached by boat. A 40-minute walk allows you to appreciate the native forest, where there are still wild cows, reminiscent of the cattle breeding season before these lands were declared a National Park. The trail goes into the lenga forest, until you see the Perito Moreno Glacier through the foliage. Leaving the woods, we go down to the South Glacier viewpoint: a rocky beach with a privileged view.



Back on board, the navigation runs along the southern face of the glacier. This is an opportunity to observe the landslides and appreciate how its front approaches the Magellan Peninsula, sometimes getting to ride on the rock generating a natural dam. We disembark at Bajo de las Sombras port, to reach the footbridges by land, which are 6 km away. The tour begins from the highest point, with a wide view, and then descends to the Canal de Los Témpanos. Along the way, the magnitude of the glacier can be admired from different angles. After staying more than an hour on the footbridges, we return to El Calafate by car.

- ✚ In this case the regular vehicle of Nibepo Aike takes your luggage.
- ✚ Season: From 1 October 2020 to 30 April 2021
- ✚ Difficulty: easy.

It includes:

- ✚ Regular excursión.
- ✚ Regular transfers Out to El Calafate.
- ✚ Lunch with beverages.
- ✚ Los Glaciares National Park entrance.
- ✚ Bilingual guides Spanish/English



It does not include:

- ✚ Transfers from hotels outside El Calafate (Eolo, La Usina)
- ✚ Transfers from/to the airport.
- ✚ Tips.

Notes:

- ✚ Discount for children under 12. Children under 2 years old do not pay if they do not occupy a seat.
- ✚ In case total or partial navigation is not possible, an alternative plan is made by accessing the Perito Moreno Glacier from Estancia Nibepo Aike by land, and if possible sailing in front of the Glacier. There is no refund.

What to take:

- ✚ Sunscreen and sunglasses.
- ✚ Beanie or cap.
- ✚ Trekking shoes or comfortable slippers.
- ✚ Comfortable clothes to walk in mountain environment.
- ✚ Enough warm clothes to withstand temperatures of 0°C
- ✚ Waterproof jackets, there could be some rains.
- ✚ Buff or face and neck protector.



If you have, we recommend to take:

- ✚ Cameras with enough battery.
- ✚ Binoculars.
- ✚ Waterproof trousers cover.

Overnight at the hotel.

✓ **DAY 04 – EL CALAFATE**

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast transfer to the El Calafate Airport.

END OF OUR SERVICES