



Sacred Earth Travel

Sustainable Nature and Adventure Travel

Southern Carretera Austral Self-Drive Adventure 6-Days

This short, 6-day adventure takes you down to the deep south of Chile to explore the southern Carretera Austral, and the turquoise waters of the amazing, huge Lago General Carrera with its Marble Cave. The itinerary starts off in the southern Patagonian town of Balmaceda and heads straight down south to discover Puerto Rio Tranquilo on the shores of Lago General Carrera, and then heads down to Caleta Tortel and the Chacabuco Valley before returning to Lake General Carrera and Balmaceda. This is a trip for nature lovers!

Much of the area is now protected under the Route of the 17 National Parks which links 17 National Parks and other protected wildlife areas. It is still about of an insider's tip, but it won't stay a secret for long. Now is the chance to

discover this region before it becomes a major wilderness destination.



This itinerary can easily be extended by adding extra days if you want a deeper experience, or combine with the Northern Carretera Austral itinerary to experience the full magic of the Carretera Austral.

DAY 1: BALMACEDA AIRPORT – PUERTO RÍO TRANQUILO (195 KM / 120 MI)

Pick up your car at the Balmaceda Airport and start your adventure. As you travel along the dry region, it will gradually give way to green forests. You will notice a marked change of terrain once you have crossed the famous pass leading to the Cerro Castillo National Park. Continue south towards Lago General Carrera. Overnight in or near Puerto Río Tranquilo.



DAY 2: PUERTO RÍO TRANQUILO

Today the day is yours to explore your surroundings. there are many options: Hike up to the lookout point in Exploradores Valley and take in the amazing views of the glacier. In the afternoon schedule a boat trip to a visit the famous Marble Caves. (Neither option is included). Overnight in Puerto Río Tranquilo.
(B)

DAY 3: PUERTO RÍO TRANQUILO – CALETA TORTEL (237 KM / 147 MI)

After about an 8-hour drive you will reach the hamlet of Caleta Tortel. The surrounding terrain is rugged: a maze of islands, fjords, channels, and estuaries. The Caleta Tortel itself consists mainly of stilt houses, built along the coast. There are no conventional streets, only wooden walkways. Overnight in Caleta Tortel. (B)

DAY 4: CALETA TORTEL – GENERAL CARRERA LAKE (198 KM / 123 MI)

Drive back up north. Along the way stop to visit either the Tamango National Reserve (named after its awe-inspiring hills: Tamango (1722 m.a.s.l. and Tamanguito 1485 m.a.s.l.) or the Chacabuco Valley. Overnight on the shores of the General Carrera Lake. (B)



DAY 5: GENERAL CARRERA LAKE

Before heading back to Balmaceda, enjoy another full day in the General Carrera Lake region. This is a great hub for many outdoor activities including; hiking, horseback riding and fishing. If you wish, you can also venture out to visit the town of Chile Chico, located near the Argentinean border. Overnight on the shores of the General Carrera Lake. (B)

GENERAL CARRERA LAKE – BALMACEDA (252 KM / 157 MI)

Drive back to Balmaceda and drop off your vehicle at the airport before you board your flight. (B)

Notes: Rates per person, based on double occupancy. Single supplement applies.

Hotels we use in this program:

Hostal El Puesto (Standard Room),
Entre Hielos Lodge (Standard Room),
Cabañas Mirador de Playa Guadal (Superior Cabin).

Included:

- 5 nights incl. breakfast.
- 6 days car rental including unlimited free mileage
- Local tax.
- Full CDW coverage
- Selfdrive brochure
- Roadmap and descriptions.
- Deductible regarding to general conditions (see above).

Not included:

Chile car rental companies charge an additional airport service fee when vehicle will be picked up from airport. This service charge is not included in the published rates. This extra fee has to be paid upon returning the car.