

PATAGONIA

31-DAY

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ▶ Receive your Wilderness First Responder (WFR) certification
- ▶ Become certified as a Leave No Trace (LNT) Trainer
- ▶ NCOAE Curriculum for outdoor educators, teachers, and trip leaders
- ▶ Gain experience in expedition planning, wilderness risk management, backcountry navigation, teaching in the wilderness, and more

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

- ▶ Advance your knowledge of outdoor education curriculum to a new level — while living and learning in Chile's wild, beautiful places
- ▶ Discover which areas of outdoor and wilderness education are best suited to your strengths
- ▶ Acquire the career skills you need to teach and travel in pristine destinations around the world!

WHERE YOU'LL BE:

- ▶ Chile and Argentina
- ▶ Cascadas de las Animas
- ▶ Banós Colina
- ▶ Volcan San Jose
- ▶ Rio Tolten and Rio San Pedro



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For complete itinerary details, see reverse side ▶

OUTDOOR EDUCATOR — PATAGONIA ITINERARY (Subject to change)

- ▶ **Day 1: After a morning airport pickup, we'll drive 90 minutes outside of Chile's capital to the Maipo Valley** — stopping at a choice café along the way for one of Chile's classic dishes: Empanadas from a mud oven. Your group will have the convenience of spending its first in-country days basing at the world famous Cascadas de las Animas, Chile's oldest ecotourism area. There, the nationally famous Astorga clan are proactively fighting with a giant hydropower company threatening to dam and remove the Rio Maipo water that is the livelihood of thousands in the Maipo Valley.
- ▶ **Days 2 – 4: Introduction to basic camp craft and the NCOAE core curriculum.** Leave No Trace (LNT) training, expedition planning, and preparation and packing.
- ▶ **Days 5 – 8: Banós Colina – Banós Colina is one of the most stunning hot springs you will experience.** Soaring condors, 360-degree vistas and a remote high-altitude land where the people are as rugged as the mountains. On the trail, you'll practice camp craft and backpacking skills during your multi-day trek over the pass into Argentina.
- ▶ **Days 9 – 14: High altitude trekking and mountaineering to the main summit of Volcan San José at 19,193 feet (5,850 meter).** *Volcan San Jose* is of the big classics in the High Andes. It is a big volcanic complex consisting of four summits. Trek along the ridge as it stretches in the shape of an arch from Josecito as far as the slopes of the San José, scramble along rocky islands in the middle of large snowfield, and ascend around awe-inspiring séracs. From the summit, hike around the crater and enjoy the magnificent view of the heavily glaciated Marmolejo to the north
- ▶ **Days 14 – 23: Resupply.** Travel to Pucon, followed by Wilderness First Responder (WFR) training in a geodesic dome built for outdoor educators.
- ▶ **Days 24 – 27: Entry-level training in whitewater kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, and rafting.** You will learn to roll your kayak in a hot springs pool where you can stay warm, relax and have fun learning the Eskimo roll and fundamental strokes. Your whitewater adventure continues as you learn how to read the currents of the river and guide a raft through Class III and IV rapids. You will learn how to command a raft crew as you navigate rapids. You will also get to try your hand at stand up paddle boarding on a calmer Class I and II Rio Tolten, which circles Volcan Villarrica with multiple vistas of the towering volcano and rapids that are sure to knock you off your board.
- ▶ **Day 28 – 29: Your whitewater adventure will culminate with an overnight raft camping trip on the Rio San Pedro.** The San Pedro, like many rivers in the region, is under threat to be dammed. Chilean rivers are known for their clear turquoise waters, and this final part of your voyage down Rio San Pedro will provide an environmental education lesson like no other. By the end of this three day paddle, you may even choose to pursue a summer job in the whitewater industry
- ▶ **Day 31: De-issue, gear cleanup, and Closing Circle** — where we will celebrate our individual and group accomplishments and hold a one-of-a-kind graduation before departing.

More courses offered. Please visit NCOAE.org for complete details.