

# Winter Break '19 / '20

## Outdoor Educator & Environmental Sustainability Whitewater Paddling & Backpacking

Eligible for up to 6 college credit hours

- 3 credit hours – Wilderness First Responder (WFR) certification
- 1 credit hour – Leave No Trace (LNT) trainer certification
- 2 credit hours – Environmental Sustainability or Outdoor Leadership

# PATAGONIA 25-DAY

**TUITION: \$5,800**

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- ▶ Become certified as a Leave No Trace (LNT) Trainer, 1 credit
- ▶ Receive a certification in wilderness medicine
- ▶ NCOAE Curriculum for outdoor educators, teachers, and trip leaders
- ▶ Gain experience in expedition planning, wilderness risk management, environmental studies, backcountry navigation, teaching in the wilderness, outdoor technology skills, and more

### WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

- ▶ Advance your knowledge of environmental science & outdoor education curriculum — 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 needed to teach and travel in pristine destinations around the world!

### WHERE YOU'LL BE:

- ▶ Chile and Argentina
- ▶ Cascadas de las Ánimas
- ▶ Baños Colina
- ▶ Volcan San José
- ▶ Río Tolten and Río San Pedro



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*For complete itinerary details, see reverse side ▶*

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# PATAGONIA '19 / '20 — WHITEWATER PADDLING & BACKPACKING 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 based at the world famous Cascadas de las Ánimas, 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 Río 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 and expedition planning, preparation, and packing.
- ▶ **Days 5 – 8: Baños Colina — 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 meters).** Volcan San José 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 15 – 19: Resupply.** Return to Pucón base for lessons, held in a geodesic dome built for outdoor educators.
- ▶ **Days 20 – 24: Entry-level training in whitewater kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, and rafting.** Learn to roll your kayak in a hot springs pool where you can stay warm, relax, and have fun, then 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'll also get to try your hand at stand-up paddle boarding on a calmer Class I and II Río Toltén, which circles Volcan Villarrica with multiple vistas of the towering volcano and rapids that are sure to knock you off your board.
- ▶ **Day 21 – 23: Your whitewater adventure will culminate with an overnight raft camping trip on the Río 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 Río 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 23: 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.
- ▶ **Day 24 – 25: Flight from Santiaio, Chile to home.**

*Please visit [NCOAE.org](http://NCOAE.org) for complete details.*