

## PATAGONIAN ROUTE 40 TOUR



Patagonia Argentina Ruta Nacional 40 - Tour Extension

### 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

Travel along one of the most emblematic routes in Argentina (Route 40 Argentina), contemplating the captivating landscapes Patagonia has to offer. Departing from San Carlos de Bariloche, visit one of the five Argentine UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the 'Cueva de las manos' (or Cave of the Hands), the Marble Caves, and more highlights in Río Negro, Chubut, and Santa Cruz Provinces.

This tour doesn't operate during the Southern Hemisphere winter season (from May to September).

**Note: This is a tour extension, combine this tour with one of our full package tours.**

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| <p>FROM<br/><b>\$1836</b><br/>per person</p> | <p><b>THIS TOUR INCLUDES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accommodation at Hosteria Los Antiguos</li><li>• All breakfasts</li><li>• All transfers</li><li>• English-speaking guides</li></ul> | <p><b>HIGHLIGHTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Route 40, one of the two most important routes in Argentina</li><li>• Cueva de las Manos</li><li>• Andes Mountain Chain</li><li>• Patagonian Flora and Fauna</li><li>• Marble Caves</li></ul> |
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## ITINERARY



## Day 1

### DRIVE FROM BARILOCHE TO LOS ANTIGUOS

Leave San Carlos de Bariloche in the Río Negro Province and coast down the infamous Route 40 that extends from the North to the South of Argentina, crossing the Andes Mountain Chain on the way. Experience a slice of Welsh culture in the picturesque towns of El Bolsón and Esquel, situated deep in the heart of the Andes. Immigrants from Wales first settled here in the late 19th century and continue some of their traditions even today. Descend from the mountains and visit the old steam-locomotive called La Trochita and the Alerces National Park. Here, appreciate the native Patagonian forests and gaze up in wonder at the towering cypress trees, some of the tallest tree species in the world. Continue towards Cholila, renowned as one of the hiding places of the outlaws Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. Finally, arrive at Hosteria Los Antiguos to spend the night, located on the shores of Buenos Aires Lake adjacent to the Chilean Border.



## Day 2

### CUEVA DE LAS MANOS EXCURSION

Discover Patagonia's most important archaeological site, the Cueva de las Manos. Head out on the open road and drive down Route 40, passing through the immense Caracoles Canyon before reaching the Visitors' Center in the Pinturas River Canyon. Then it's time to stretch the legs, trekking along the well-worn path originally made by the Tehuelches who inhabited the area more than 10,000 years ago. The Tehuelches left their mark through the rock paintings featured in the cave. Study the details closely to make out the animal symbols and intriguing depictions of hands and learn about their significance. Afterward, there's an option to take another trek around the Pintura River Canyon and see the gradual geological changes that occurred over centuries of time to produce this impressive landscape. Wind up the tour at the Visitors' Center and return to Hosteria Los Antiguos.



## Day 3

### MARBLE CAVES EXCURSION

Marvel at the colorful trifecta of the Marble Cave, the Marble Chapel and the Marble Cathedral. These mesmerizing geological creations were formed by erosion and are located in Lake General Carrera, one of the five biggest lakes in South America, divided by the border between Argentina and Chile. The lake's spectrum of blue hues change depending on the season and weather. First travel overland, approaching the Northern Patagonian Ice Field, then cross the lake and head over the Andes. Observe the vegetation transform while passing through forests on the way to the lake and look up to the heavens to glimpse the majestic flight of Andean condors soaring through the sky. Transfer back to Hosteria Los Antiguos to relax and spend the night.



## Day 4

### DEPARTURE FROM LOS ANTIGUOS

Take in the arresting views of Hostería Los Antiguos one last time and then transfer to El Chaltén, a charming village located in the middle of the mountains near Los Glaciares National Park. From there, return home or continue your journey across the wilderness of Patagonia and the rest of South America.