

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS

Tierra del Fuego National Park was created in 1960 by Law nº 15554, it is a protected area under the administration of Parques Nacionales. It's located at the south-west of Tierra del Fuego province, next to the international border of the Republic of Chile. It protects 68909 hectares of Los Andes Cordilera's southermost extreme, on a range that goes from Injoo Goiyin o de Beauvoir, to the north of Fagnano lake and the Beagle Channel's coast.

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/parquesnacionales/tierradelfuego



Tierra del Fuego National Park belongs to the jurisdiction of PARQUES NACIONALES ADMINISTRATION, responsible for the control and administration of the area.

Tierra del Fuego National Park Administration

tierradelfuego@apn.gob.ar

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https://www.argentina.gob.ar/parquesnacionales

CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

General Objective

Conserve the natural and cultural diversity of the site; promote the sustainable development of suited anthropic activities for each of the conservation zones in the protected area.

Specific Objectives

- · Protect a significant part of Bosque Andino Patagónico.
- · Protect rivers basins.
- · Guarantee the protection of the cultural heritage.
- · Promote scientific research
- · Protect the landscape and cultural heritage. Provide touristic and recreational opportunities to be in contact with the natural environment.
- · Promote public awareness and help to understand the importance and function of protected areas.

CARACTERÍSTICAS

Weather

The climate goes from temperate to cold, humid without dry season, with average precipitations that oscillate around 700 mm per year, reaching its highest peak in autumn. The sea influence and the impact of the preceding winds coming mainly from the west determine a uniform climate the whole year. Average temperatures are low, in winter, they are near 0° C and in summer they don't exceed 15°C. During winter, snow is abundant and it accumulates for long periods on valleys and slopes.

Wildlife

In Tierra del Fuego National Park inhabits a limited variety of wild animals with 20 mammals' species and more than 100 bird species. A peculiar characteristic is the absence of reptiles (there is a single species that inhabits the north plain area of the province, which is not found in the park's environments) and amphibians; and some other unfortunate, EXOTIC SPECIES such as the beaver, muskrat, rabbit, mink, grey fox, yellow jacket wasp, salmon, trout, among others, which generate negative impacts in the environment.



Vegetation

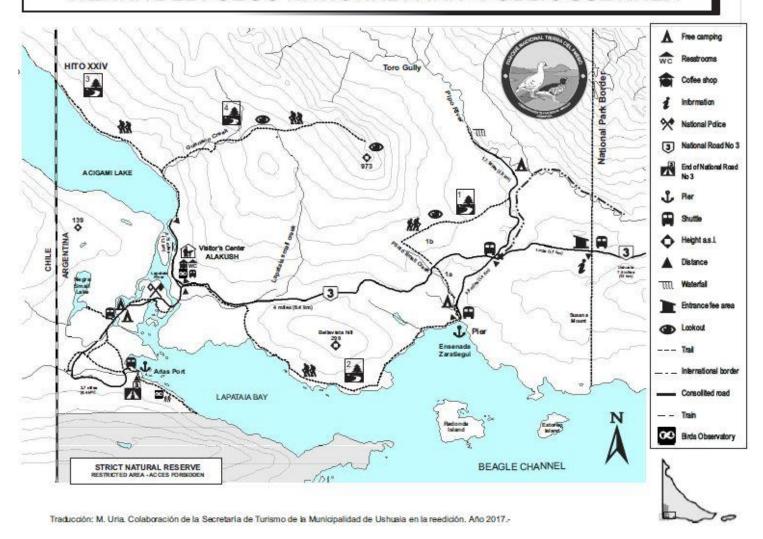
The predominant vegetation is the sub-antarctic forest (or *andino patagónico*). The different types of vegetation in this region are *forests* (its main species are Nothofagus Pumilio and Betuloides (or Magellan's beech) that cover from sea level up to 600 masl approximately); *altoandinas* steppe (above forest level -600 masl-, summit of the mountain) and the *peatbog* (a wetland that accumulates peat, a deposit of dead plant material)

This is the only place in the country where the forest reaches the sea.

VISITING

THE INFORMATION BELOW IS TO VISIT THE SOUTHERN AREA OF THE PARK, WHERE YOU HAVE ACCESS TO LAPATAIA BAY AND ACIGAMI (FORMER ROCA) LAKE'S CIRCUITS

TIERRA DEL FUEGO NATIONAL PARK - PUBLIC USE AREA



ACCESS & DISTANCES

Park's access

National Route № 3: the entrance of the park is 12 Km from Ushuaia's city. You must go through the ticket office to gain access. You can go by car, on an organized tour (hiring the service at official travel agencies) or by Regular Bus Line that depart on specific schedules from downtown (Fadul and Maipú intersection); there are 6 bus stops inside the park: Ticket office, "Austral Fueguino" Train Station, Zaratiegui



Bay, Alakush Visitor's Center, Entre Rios Island Free Camping, Lapataia Bay Parking Area.

Austral Fueguino Train: Austral Fueguino Train Station is located 2 kilometres before the Park's access. If you hire its service, you'll make a 7 Km trip up to the station inside the park (Park Station). You can continue your visit on your own hiking the trails, driving a car, taking the regular bus or hiring a tour service beforehand at an official travel agency).

https://www.trendelfindelmundo.com.ar/en

VISITOR'S CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE

Information Office: the area has an information office open all year round from 8 am to 8 pm. During the summer, there are informants at the ALAKUSH center. At the Entrance Fee area you pay the ticket to get access to the Park.

Alakush Visitor's Center (VC): toilet services an interpretation room named Maia-kú. Open all year round. Ask for timetables.

Interpretation Room Maia-kú: It is located inside the VC. You'll find information related with the environment, fauna, flora, local native communities and history.

Free Camping: Camping areas are 3 (Pipo River, Ensenada Bay e Entre Ríos Island) which count with chemical toilets available between October and April. Apart from the previously mentioned trails, Andorra- Oveja (starting and ending in the park) there's the Hiker Lagoon camping area.

Electric energy and connectivity: We have no electricity or connectivity network for communications.

VISITOR'S ENTRANCE TIMETABLES

- The park is open from 8:30 am to 9 pm including holidays and weekends.
- · Due to safety reasons we do not recommend access during night time.
- · The administrative office is located in the centre of Ushuaia opens Monday to Friday from 9 to 15 hs.

TICKET FEES FOR VISITORS

Access fee per person:

- General \$2100.00
- National Residents \$ 260.00
- Children aged 6 to 16 \$ 140.00
- National students \$ 130.00
- Province Residents \$ 120.00
- Retired and pensioned (from Argentina) Free of charge.
- 5 year-old minors Free of charge
- People with disabilities: Free of charge (Law 22.431)

Tickets are valid for one day, except for campers. During winter, access fees aren't charged.

Students (high school or university from public or private schools or universities in Argentina), retired and pensioned people (registered in SIPA), or people with disabilities, must credit their situation with the correct documents.

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/parquesnacionales/tarifas

ACTIVITIES

There are many types of activities in the Park, some of them can be done individually or by hiring tours which are services provided by official tourist companies.

- Conventional Land Excursions (provided by official tourist companies) with different modalities: vehicles touring the park and stopping in spots of tourist interest, which are usually combined with hiking the trails in the park. We suggest contacting the chosen tourist company to inquire which are the provided services and if these are adapted to everyone's characteristics and abilities.
- Austral Fueguino Train: This is a 7 Km circuit in total which starts outside the National Park at its Central Station. Half way tour the train enters the National Park and arrives in the Park Station. The circuit commemorates the old prisoners train. For more information: https://www.trendelfindelmundo.com.ar/es/
- Hiking: There's a wide range of foot trails that vary on length and difficulty and the time it takes to do them. It is possible to hike 2 or 3 trails per day. Some of them make a "round" hike (start and end on a same point) and some others are lineal, for instance, if you go by car, you must take into consideration the characteristics of each trail and the time it'll take you to do them.
- Camping: According with what was previously mentioned, there are 3 intensive public camping areas (Pipo River, Ensenada Bay e Entre Ríos



Island) and Hiker's Lagoon (on the extensive public area)

• Canoeing: There are 4 companies offering inflatable canoeing excursions navigations on the southern area of the National Park. This is usually combined with hiking and touring the most relevant parts of the Park-

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE VISITOR

- Appropriate hiking shoes (you walk on forest ground), anti-slip soles preferably.
- Light, warm and waterproof clothes in winter and summer since the weather conditions vary constantly per day regarding temperatures and rainfall.
- Sun block and sun glasses. During certain seasons, especially Spring, UV radiation is particularly high and during winter, snow and ice reflection can produce eye and skin damage.
- Cameras, binoculars, leaflets and hiking maps.
- Water and light food.
- Bags to bring back your garbage.
- Cash (there are no ATMs in the park).
- Snow chains and studded tires: in case you visit the park in winter, the road tends to be covered with ice or snow, for it is mandatory the use of chains or studded tires to circulate.
- Pull over cars in permitted areas only.

You can observe the local fauna on Route N°3 and excursions circuits. This is the reason we ask you abide by speed limits to avoid running over or disturbing animals. By doing this you'll allow other visitors to observe them without getting them away by human presence. *Maximum speed is 40 Km/h since it's a sinuous, narrow and gavel route.*

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USERS IN CAMPING AREAS (DAY AND OVERNIGHT USE)

In order to live a great experience take into account the recommendations for the visitor mentioned above and the ones that follow. These will make the most agreeable visit and help you generate less impact on the natural environment.

- Tent (that supports strong winds) and sleeping bags (temperatures in winter reach -10° C).
- Heater. Easy-to-make food.
- In order to make a fire: only in <u>permitted areas</u> of the camping sites as long as the fire danger index allows it (ask the staff in the park since it may vary during the day) and bring <u>firewood from outside the park</u>. At the entrance of the park you'll find a sign with the fire danger index (it is daily updated).
- **Firewood:** collecting firewood in the park is not allowed. If you're going to make a fire, bring the firewood with you and show it at the entrance of the park. We recommend the use of heaters. Lantern and batteries due to the lack of electric power to charge cameras and cellphones batteries.
- Return with your residues: Garbage should not stay in the protected area. Besides contaminating it attracts local and exotic fauna (ex: yellow jacket wasp) risking the life and modifying the behavior of some species. This is why you won't find many garbage bins in the park, sometimes there are none like in Laguna Verde camping area. On the other hand, residues collection is done manually by the park's staff. Collaborate generating little amounts of residues and taking them back with you.

Make sure your tent is installed away from big trees or underneath branches. Due to the dynamics of these forests, the wind or snow can break a tree or its ranches causing accidents to people or vehicles. In order to avoid this, we recommend good thinking before setting the tent and be alert to the surroundings. Lift and move your campsite in case of strong winds. If you have doubts, ask the forest ranger. The access ticket is per day, nonetheless, within camping areas inside the National Park, tickets are valid for FORTY EIGHT (48) hours when visitors show these together with the correspondent camping permits given by APN's (Administración de Parques Nacionales) staff.

Although camping permits are for free, APN staff must see and control access tickets.

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/parquesnacionales/recomendaciones/visitantes-responsables

MOST IMPORTANT RESTRICTIONS



- Camping in areas where's not officially permitted.
- Circulating with vehicles or driving through trails or tracks outside the National Route Nº 3 not marked as official ones.
- · Leaving residues.
- Using bycicles on trails.
- Disturbing and feeding animals.
- Making fire, except for permitted areas to do such (bonfires beyond camping area limits), as long as the fire danger index allows it and it is made with firewood brought from outside the park.
- Entering with pets.
- · Washing utensils or bathing.
- Extracting any type of plants, animal species or any other elements that belong to the place.

Overflying the National Park's jurisdiction (including drones).

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/parquesnacionales/preguntas-frecuentes

GUIDES

In order to access the park as a guide or service supplier in the jurisdiction of Administración de Parques Nacionales it is mandatory to present a previously managed authorization before the Intendancy of Tierra del Fuego National Park.

EXCURSIONS

It is not possible to hire tours inside the National Park. If you have the intention to visit the park with organized excursions, you must hire services in an official company beforehand.

We recommend previous contact using the list made by the Tourism Secretariat, Municipalidad de Ushuaia.

http://turismoushuaia.com/contenidos/agencias-de-viaje/?lang=

HOSPEDAJES

Accommodation places near the National Park are in Ushuaia's city. THERE ARE NO ACCOMMODATION PLACES INSIDE THE PARK.

More information:

Central Tourist Information Office: Prefectura Naval Argentina 470 (9410) Ushuaia Tel: (+54 2901) 432000 / 432001 / 437666 – Airport Office: Open during operating flights Tel: (+54 2901) 423970. E-mail: muniush@gmail.com - https://ushuaia.turismosmart.com/es/

EDUCATIONAL VISITS OR ORGANIZED GROUPS (Schools, scouts, study groups, associations)

The park constitutes a favorable place for educational visits and to learn about history, geologic formations, native cultures that lived in these zones, and the southernmost portion of sub-antarctic forest plus its greatest water reservoir.

In order to initiate the authorization to visit the protected area, the institution must get in contact with the Intendancy of Tierra del Fuego, which will inform about the procedure by email: tierradelfuego@apn.gob.ar.

VISITORS RESPONSABILITY

NATIONAL PARKS AND NATURAL RESERVES ARE WILD AREAS. BEFORE VISITING A NATIONAL PARK, READ THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.

SAFETY ALSO DEPENDS ON YOU.



FAQ's

How and when should I pay the access ticket to the National Park?

You must pay your access ticket at the entrance of the park on National Route N°3 during the seasonal time from October to April. The rest of the year is free of charge for every category. It is not possible to pay in advance in any other place is not the entrance of the park unless you take the End of the World Train excursion. Payment options with VISA and MASTERCARD credit, VISA ELECTRÓN debit though we recommend paying cash in Argentinean pesos.

Can I access excursions circuits with my car?

You can drive on National Route Nº 3, internal roads and access park your vehicle to go walking the trail circuits.

Can I do the circuits without a guide?

It is possible though guides will enhance information that will give you a different learning experience on the area. The guide must be authorized by the National Park.

Where can I make fire?

Only in permitted sites as long as the fire danger index allows it and using firewood from the outsides of the park, since collecting firewood in the area is not allowed. Beware the fire danger index can change in the course of the day for it is probable the forest ranger visit the permitted fire sites asking to put our fires. We recommend using heaters.

Can I transit on bikes?

Yes, but only on the main route for vehicles with discretion since there aren't specific roads for bikes and traffic can be very intense. Access to trails is not allowed.

Can I take any pets?

No, you cannot access with pets. Native fauna and flora is adapted to live in natural balance. Pets can alter this balance. Cats and dogs can run, chase or hunt wild fauna which is a threat for the communities, not only for its possible decrease on the number (if hunted) of individuals but also for changes in their behavior (if feel in danger, they might abandon nests or their babies). On the other hand, feces also generate problems for recreation areas would be dirty and even aggressive behavior from pets would result uncomfortable to other visitors.

Although we control our pets, there's a high chance they transmit diseases to the local, native fauna that cannot defend from or, on the contrary, be infected with diseases from the native fauna.

Can I drink water from rivers and lakes in the Park?

No. Though lakes, rivers and creeks in the park are not polluted, we must remember the wild animals make use of them and we cannot ensure its quality, microbiologically speaking. It may also contain sediments or be colored. We suggest you bring water to avoid any kind of physical discomfort.

Are there any dangerous animals?

Tierra del Fuego's diversity and fauna isn't as considerable as it can be in other places, there are few big mammals such as the Andean fox or Guanaco which are not dangerous species but we still recommend keeping distance or disturbing them to avoid impacting in their behavior.

We recommend being specially careful with the exotic wasp known as Yellow Jacket. This species feeds from meat and fruits and can be really annoying, mostly by the end of summer. If it feels threaten, it can sting and bite given it has a very strong jaw and result in different degrees of allergy depending on each people sensibility. We suggest to be careful when eating, check there are no wasps in the food before chewing it, keep your nourish in sealed recipients and see your shoes and tents' interiors before using them.

Can I navigate rivers and lakes in the Park?

Navigations along rivers and lakes are allowed only through organized excursions which are hired in official travel agencies. It is not allowed to navigate privately. This is not an arbitrary decision but necessary to prevent the dispersion of an exotic species of seaweed known as Didymo and avoid contaminating other environments. In order to do so, official agencies are required control and total disinfection in their equipment.

Can I fish in rivers and lakes of the Park?

Since November 2021, sport fishing is allowed in the Lapataia and Ovando rivers inside the National Park. You must have the corresponding fishing permit that can be paid in cash at the Park's Intendancy. You must take into account the corresponding regulations, which can be downloaded at <a href="http://www.reglamentodepesca.org.ar/reglamentode

Where do I the Park's staff?

You'll find forest rangers, wildland firefighters going round and over the area, or the administrative technical staff in the mentioned offices. You'll also come across forest rangers house (headquarters' branches) that are not open to public of provide information. They are 3 in total and function as housing.



THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO PLAN YOUR VISIT WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU