



EQUUS Journeys

HORSEBACK TRAVEL & EQUESTRIAN TRADITIONS SINCE 1972

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Wild Patagonia

ARGENTINA

On this **riding holiday in Argentina**, you will experience some of the most beautiful landscapes of **Patagonia**. With a local team of Gauchos and Criollo horses you will explore the remote mountains of Argentinian Patagonia, on a real **off-the-beaten track horseback adventure**. Below the dramatic peaks of the Andes, discover the Patagonian steppe with its crystal clear streams and hardwood forests that are home to a unique fauna. This holiday is ideal for riders with **a zest for adventure** looking for a unique and immersive experience.

Pack Trip	 9 days (7 days riding)	 From £2,721	
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ITINERARY

Highlights

- Experience a variety of landscapes from rugged peaks to rolling steppe, crystal-clear rivers and verdant forests.
- Explore the heart of the Andes on a real horseback expedition, whilst staying in the (relative!) comfort of refuges most nights.
- Ride the local Argentine Criollos alongside a team of local Gauchos.

Day 1 — 1: BUENOS AIRES - SAN CARLOS DE BARILOCHE

 Hotel Milan

Arrive in San Carlos de Bariloche, via Buenos Aires. Please note: International and domestic flights are not operated by the same airports. Riders can transfer between airports via a shuttle or taxi (check the "Dates and Prices" tab to know more).

On arrival, you will be met and taken to your hotel, located in the centre of the city and surrounded by lakes and mountains, in the heart of the Patagonian Andes.

Depending on your arrival time, you may get to do some sightseeing or last-minute shopping. In the afternoon, you will meet the guide and the rest of the group for an initial briefing. You will also be given a special expedition bag to use on the ride (weight limit is 10kg). You can leave the rest of your belongings at the hotel and pick them up when you return.

Dinner at a local restaurant and overnight at the hotel.

Day 2 — 2: BARILOCHE - EL SAPUCAI - 4-hour transfer, 1 hour riding

GLAMPING - EL SAPUCAI

At around 10am, after breakfast, you will be transferred to "El Sapucaí" along the famous route 40, where you can enjoy some wonderful mountain views. After around 4 hours, you will arrive at the glamping site. Here you will be introduced to the horses and enjoy a short ride before dinner.

Overnight glamping.

Day 3 — 3: EL SAPUCAI - VERANADA MIRANDA - 4-5 hours riding

PATAGONIA CAMP

Today you will leave the mountain refuge behind and make your way to the Chubut river, where you will find the house of a local family. After meeting the family and learning about their way of life, you will continue the route up to Veranada. You will set up camp on the banks of the Cerrucho, protected by a forest of Nire trees. In the afternoon, you will visit the only waterfall of the Chubut river.

Overnight camping.

Day 4 — 4: VERANADA MIRANDA - FOYEL ARRIBA - 4-5 hours riding

MOUNTAIN REFUGE

After breakfast you will continue your way up the mountain. The terrain becomes more technical and the landscape wilder and more imposing. You will cross an old Lengua forest, and at around midday, stop for lunch near the source of the Chubut river. In the afternoon, you will cross the "Paso Sin Nombre" at 1700 m above sea level. You will then continue riding until you arrive at a mountain refuge at the foot of Cerro Carreras.

Overnight at the mountain refuge.

Day 5 — 5: FOYEL ARRIBA - LAGUNAS - ARROYO PANTANOSO - 4 hours riding

PATAGONIA CAMP

You will begin your ride today by descending for an hour and a half beside the waters of the Foyel river. As you continue the descent, you will pass two high altitude lagoons. You will continue to follow the stream and arrive at the junction with the Chubut river.

Overnight camping.

Day 6 — 6: ARROYO PANTANOSO - EL SAPUCAI - 4-5 hours riding

GLAMPING - EL SAPUCAI

Today you will continue heading down and along the Chubut river, between the lengua forests. You will ride for around 4 or 5 hours and then finally reach El Sapucaí, where will be time to rest and enjoy a delicious dinner.

Overnight glamping.

Day 7 — 7: EL SAPUCAI - LAS LAGUNAS - EL SAPUCAI - 6-8 hours riding

GLAMPING - EL SAPUCAI

You will head up the mountain today to enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding landscapes. You will have lunch at the top nearby a lagoon and enjoy fabulous 360 views. In the afternoon, you will ride back to El Sapucaí along another trail that winds through forests of stunted ñire trees and old lengua.

Overnight at Glamping El Sapucaí.

Day 8 — 8: EL SAPUCAI - ESCUELA VIEJA - BARILOCHE - 2-3 hours riding

Hotel Milan

Today is your last day on horseback. You will follow the course of the Chubut River to Escuela Vieja, and enjoy a quiet, farewell ride with some unique landscapes, before slowly returning to civilization. You'll share a picnic lunch with the gauchos, say your goodbyes and then be transferred back to Bariloche (approximately a 4-hour journey).

In the evening, you'll have dinner at a local restaurant (to your own account) and then stay overnight at the hotel.

Day 9 — 9: BARILOCHE - HOME

After breakfast you will be transferred to San Carlos de Bariloche airport for your flight to Buenos Aires, and then continue your journey home.

Note: International and domestic flights are not operated by the same airports. You can transfer between airports by shuttle or taxi (please check the “Dates and Prices” tab to know more).

DATES & PRICES

DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	STATUS
16/11/2026	24/11/2026	£2,721	Open
09/12/2026	17/12/2026	£2,721	Open
20/02/2027	28/02/2027	£2,721	Open
03/03/2027	11/03/2027	£2,721	Open

Price details

- Flights or transportation to your destination (international/domestic) are not included (but can be booked upon request). Please note that international and domestic flights are not always operated by the same airports. Transit is possible between the two airports by shuttle bus for a small fee (approx. \$15 per person) or by taxi (approx. \$20 per car). Depending on traffic conditions, the journey can take up to 1.5 hours. Please allow enough time for the journey and boarding formalities between your two flights.

- Rates are per person, based on two or more riders sharing a yurt or tent.

- Groups are composed of a minimum of 4 international riders and a maximum of 8 riders plus guides.

- There is no single supplement if you are willing to share a room, yurt or tent with another rider of the same sex. It may be possible to guarantee a single room in hotels and/or a single tent during the ride for an extra fee, please contact us for rates. (Yurts are always shared).

- Transfers to and from the airport in San Carlos de Bariloche are included.

- It is possible to rent a sleeping bag for an extra US\$40. Please let us know in advance.

- Accompanied minors are welcome from 12 years old, provided they meet the riding requirements. There is a 30% discount for riders under 15 years of age.

- These rates are not applicable to Argentine nationals.

Please Note

The itinerary may be modified at anytime for security reasons, meteorological or events beyond our control such as blocked roads, rivers in flood, drought, strikes and local holidays. Equus Journeys, our local partners and their local guides will always strive to find the best solution and will alter the itinerary as needed.

The names of the hotels and accommodation are given for information only and depending on availability, they may be modified without notice and replaced by another of a similar standard.

Price includes

SUPPORT TEAM

—
1 English-speaking horse guide

INLAND TRANSPORT

—
Transfers from/to San Carlos de Bariloche airport

ACCOMMODATION

—
Double or twin room in hotels at the beginning and end of the trip. Shared yurt, tent and mountain refuge during the ride.

MEALS

Full board from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 9 (excluding dinner on day 8)

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

Saddle bags

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Personal extras

Dinner on day 8

TRANSPORT

International flights

INSURANCE

Visas and personal purchase

Cancellation and travel insurance are not included in the above listed price. Please note that insurance is mandatory. We recommend taking out an insurance policy as soon as your trip is booked to cover you in case of cancellation

Optional

ACCOMMODATION

Single room supplement

LOGISTICS

Sleeping bag rental

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

Overtime, the Argentine Criollo has acquired resistance and a great ability to adapt to the different environment. Furthermore, they are known for being sure-footed and agile which makes them the ideal companion for this mountain ride.

Their average height is around 14.3hh.

Guide & local team

Your guide is an experienced professional; he will be able to answer all your questions about the area and its inhabitants. A team of baqueanos is also there to take care of the horses, the camp and the safety of the group, as they are very knowledgeable about the natural environment.

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

To participate in this holiday, you must be comfortable in all three gaits across varied terrain.

The weight limit is 95kg / 210 lbs / 15 st. For heavier riders, we may be able to provide an additional horse for an extra fee (please check with your travel advisor).

PACE

On this riding holiday, there are a few trots and canters but the predominant pace is the walk. There are days where you could be spending up to 8 hours in the saddle, depending on local conditions.

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

The team of Baqueanos will help you saddle and groom your horse.

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

You might need to dismount and lead your horse on some parts of this ride. The ride is not overly technical but the terrain can be somewhat tricky with river crossings and some elevation. You should be in good physical condition to tolerate the altitude and the long hours in the saddle. Riders who do not ride regularly are requested to get riding fit before they join this horseback holiday. This is best suited to riders with a sense of adventure.

Please note that it is not possible to recharge your electronic devices during the ride. Your belongings will be carried by pack horses in special expedition bags and are limited to 10 kg per person.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

Gaucha tack, comfortable saddles with a sheepskin cover. Saddlebags and expedition bags are provided. Helmets are strongly recommended.

TRAVEL INFO

COMFORT

2 nights in a hotel in San Carlos de Bariloche. (Double or twin room).

3 nights glamping in El Sapucaí. (Yurts for two, three or four people, bathroom facilities).

1 night in a lodge / mountain refuge, basic accommodation. (Rooms are shared, dormitory-style. No sanitary facilities).

2 nights camping. (2-man tent). Sleeping bag rental is possible (check the "Dates & Prices" tab on our website).

Note: Sanitary facilities throughout the ride may vary between the river, mountain huts, and wild camping. Please bring biodegradable products. It is not possible to charge your devices during the ride.

MEALS

On this trip, you can expect a special blend of flavours and ingredients from the Patagonian Creole gastronomy. The main dishes vary between traditional "asados", rainbow trout, with salads and potatoes. There are also a variety of fruits and vegetables available.

Lunches are picnic lunch boxes prepared in the morning and carried in your saddlebag: sandwiches, fruit, chocolate or cereal bars.

Please note that the meat is a very important element in the local cuisine.

Vegan and gluten-free diets cannot be accommodated due to the remote nature of the ride and difficulties to source suitable produce. Food allergies can be catered for to some extent, please contact us before booking.

CLIMATE

The climate in Patagonia is quite unpredictable, so you have to be prepared. Very early in the mornings or at nightfall it can get very cold at 0°C, and can reach 30°C in the middle of the day. It is also likely to rain at some point, although the rainy season usually starts in late autumn. To deal with these temperature changes, it is a good idea to wear layers in your clothing, which you can remove as the sun begins to warm up.

From mid-December to the end of January, horse flies are very common in this area. They are very attracted to dark coloured clothes such as blue or black and less attracted to light coloured clothes such as white or yellow. Please keep this in mind when choosing your clothes for the trip.

Nights can be cold and in the mountains temperatures can drop sharply and frosts are not uncommon. Rain is unlikely in June and July, but possible in September.

TIPS

Our suggestion is around \$10/day which will be distributed to the team at the end of your stay.

PACKING LIST

IMPORTANT NOTE: During the month of January, horseflies are present. These are harmless but troublesome and are especially attracted to dark colours. It may be wise to choose your clothes accordingly and dress in light colours.

After the horsefly season, a species of wasp appears. If you are allergic to the stings, it is imperative that you bring appropriate treatment.

LUGGAGE - WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS:

On arrival in Bariloche on day 1, you will be given a bag to carry your belongings during the ride. The weight limit is 10kg. You will be able to leave the excess luggage at the hotel, which you can pick up when you return on day 8.

2 full riding outfits are sufficient for the whole trip.

Head

- A riding helmet: this is highly recommended.
- Manufacturers (GPA, HKM, LAS Helmets, Lamicell, Troxel, Equithème...) now offer ventilated, solid and light riding helmets that are pleasant in all latitudes. There are also protective shells to put under your hat (Ranch & Rider, Lexington Safety Products) or western helmet hats (Troxel).
- Cap or hat for the sun (essential) with strap
- A bandana, scarf or shawl to protect your neck or face from dust and sun
- A pair of high protection sunglasses (with a strap)
- A warm hat

Body

- Thermal underwear (short or long sleeve shirts).
- Cotton T-shirts + long-sleeved shirts (for protection against the sun) or T-shirts made of fast-drying materials.
- 1 light fleece or equivalent
- 2 warm fleeces or equivalent
- 1 warm Goretex jacket (waterproof, breathable and windproof)
- 1 jumper to wear around the camp fire in the evenings

Legs

- 2 riding jodhpurs
- 1 pair of Goretex trousers (waterproof and breathable)
- 2 pairs of spare trousers (hiking or jeans or equivalent) for the evenings
- 1 swimming costume, which may be useful (swimming in lakes, washing in rivers)
- Non-irritating cotton or synthetic underwear

Feet and Hands

- 1 pair of waterproof riding/hiking boots with half or full chaps
- 1 pair of waterproof shoes or boots (much appreciated in case of rain and also in the morning at the camp, dew is often abundant)
- 1 pair of trainers or equivalent light shoes for the evening
- Several pairs of thick socks
- 2x pairs of gloves to protect you from the sun, cold and rubbing

Nightwear

- Pyjamas
- Sleeping bag - this can also be rented locally if necessary.

Various / camping

- 1 water bottle of 1.5 litres
- Headlamp (with spare batteries)
- Toiletries with biodegradable hygiene products
- Earplugs and an eye mask may be useful
- Camera (with spare battery)
- Camping pillow
- Camping mat
- Book / notepad and pen
- Alarm clock
- Small bag/bumbag for personal belongings

Pharmacy

As a precaution, please indicate any allergies to medication in your pharmacy.

- Any medication you take regularly
- Aspirin or ibuprofen
- Anti-diarrhoea medication
- Sunscreen with strong protection for lips and skin
- Eye drops and glasses/contact lenses
- Moisturising cream
- Plasters/bandages
- Strong mosquito spray
- Wet wipes
- Eco-friendly soap/products to wash with (you will wash in rivers)
- Water purification tablets (optional)

Our Recommendations

- We recommend travelling in your riding boots and carrying your hat and some riding clothes in your hand luggage - then if your luggage goes astray you are still able to ride!

- You should also bring a copy of your passport/insurance in case you lose your documents. You can also save a copy into your mobile phone.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

1. **Travel light.** It's a little known fact, but the lighter you pack, the better for the environment as heavy bags will produce higher emissions (when flying a plane or driving a car!).
2. **Reduce plastic waste.** Take your favorite reusable bottle with you. Avoid single-use bags, cups, or straws.
3. **Preserve nature.** Always take your rubbish with you during the ride and recycle them. Leave all the flowers or plants as you found them, and never get too close when observing wildlife. Make sure to use eco-friendly products such as body wash or laundry detergent (if camping) to protect both your skin and the environment.
4. **Choose your experiences carefully.** Respect animal life by not participating in any activities that abuse wild animals (shows, elephant rides, etc.).
5. **Support local populations.** Buy local handicrafts, be respectful of customs, and learn about the culture of local communities.
6. **Share!** Raise awareness among your family and friends about sustainable tourism.

For more information please [see this page](#) .