

VILLA O'HIGGINS EXPEDICIONES

Carretera Austral km 1.240. Villa O'Higgins. Región de Aysén. Chile
Fono 56-67-431821 & Movil +56-9-82103191

www.villaohiggins.com



BORDER CROSSING EL CHALTEN – VILLA O'HIGGINS.

SEASON 2015-2016

An adventurous travel through the Heart of the Andes Patagonian, crossing from Los Glaciares National Park (Argentinian) to Carretera Austral (Chile) between native forests, lakes, lagoons and rivers.

The trip is designed for you to make the trip from El Chaltén (Argentina) to Villa O'Higgins (Chile), connecting all necessary services on the route. We take care of all the details, including logistics and reservation of all the services.



THE TRAVEL

The crossing consists of five segments.

The first 40 kms, corresponding to **segment 1** El Chaltén to Desierto Lake, are fit for bus or cycling. The **segment 2**, Crossing Desierto Lake for 13 kilometers, corresponding to only fit for navigation or trekking. The next 22 kilometers correspond to **segment 3** Border Crossing Desierto lake to Candelario Mancilla, which are fit for horse riding, cycling and walking.

The following 51 kilometers corresponding to **segment 4** Crossing O'Higgins Lake, only fit for navigation, ending with **segment 5** Bahamondez Port to Villa O'Higgins, of 7 kilometers, is fit for any kind of land of transportation.

- **NOTE: There is not option for crossing from Villa O'Higgins to El Chaltén with vehicles.**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

- **Duration:** 2 days. Strong wind or storms mandate cancellations of this passage. If you really want to experience, to accommodate for this the possibility). Starting point: El Chaltén, day 1 in the morning.. Ending point: Villa O'Higgins, day 2 in the afternoon.
- **Distance:** 133 kilometers.
- **Difficulty:** Moderate.
- **Transport:** bus, boat, bike & walk or horse riding.

DEPARTURES:

- November: Friday
- 1 - 20 December: Tuesday and Friday.
- 20 December 2015 - 29 February 2016: Tuesday, Friday and Sunday.
- 1 - 14 March 2016: Tuesday and Friday.
- 15 March - 1 April 2016: Friday

BOOKING: reservas@villaohiggins.com

①.- EL CHALTEN TO DESIERTO LAKE

Distance: 40 kms; **Drop:** 105 mt; **Condition:** OK gravel road, a bit hilly in places but relatively flat approaching Desierto Lake.

Schedule: Bus 8:00 hs.

Journey Time: Bus 1:30 hr. / Bike 3:00 hr.

Fare Bus: AR\$ 325; CL\$20.000.

Food: Not available, beverage only at Desierto Campground

②.- FERRY ACROSS DESIERTO LAKE.

Boat "Huemul" / "Tehuelche".

Schedule Shore South to Shore North:

- November: Friday 10 hs.
- 1 - 20 December 2015: Tuesday and Friday 10 hr.
- 20 December 2015 - 29 February 2015: Tuesday, Friday and Sunday, 10 hs.
- 1 - 14 March 2016: Tuesday and Friday, 10 hs.
- 15 March - 1 April 2016: Friday 10 hs.

Journey Time: 45 minutes.

Fare: AR\$ 480 USD 30. CL\$21.000.

Alternative route: Trail of 16 kms, span of Lake, offering a more active and economical alternative for crossing Desierto lake.

VILLA O'HIGGINS EXPEDICIONES

Carretera Austral km 1.240. Villa O'Higgins. Región de Aysén. Chile
Fono 56-67-431821 & Movil +56-9-82103191

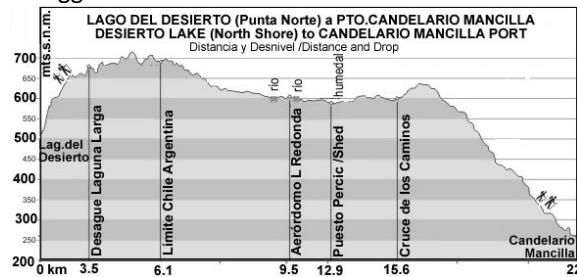
www.villaohiggins.com



⑤.-ARGENTINIA/ CHILE BORDER.

DESIERTO LAKE to O'HIGGINS LAKE.

Distance: 22 kms. Drop: 430 mt.- Meters above sea level: Desierto L. 505 m. / Town Border 685 mts / O'Higgins Lake 255 mt.



In Argentina: 6.1 Kms. Drop 180 mt ascent. Trekking 2 HR. Horse Riding 1 Hr, Bike 2 at 4 Hr **Condition:** First 2km are narrow and very steep - pushing only. The rest is undulating with lots of mud, tree roots and several streams to cross.

In Chile: 15.9 Kms. Drop: 430 mt descent. Trekking 4 hr, Horse Riding 2,5 hr, Bike 3 hr; **Condition:** Regular gravel road. Easy for trekking, moderate for bikes. Last 6 km huge downhill; use caution near cliffs.

Customs:

- **Argentinian Border Control:** Gendarmeria Argentina, in Desierto Lake north shore
- **Chilean Border Control:** Carabineros de Chile at 900 meters of C. Mancilla Port.

Transfer Desierto Lake / C.Mancilla:

-Stage 1 with Horses: Desierto.Lake (km 0). To Laguna Redonda (km 10). NOTE: Departure with minimum of two horses.

Horse for persons: Fare CH\$ 20.000;

Horse for bags -60 kgs. Fare CH\$ 20.000; You can share horses.

-Stage 2 with Van (pickup): Laguna Redonda (km 10) to Candelario Mancilla (km 22). CH\$10.000 for person and CH\$5000 each backpacker. Departure with minimum of two passengers.

Schedule: Horses for riding for bags only booking for days Tuesday and Friday and sunday: 01:00 p.m., from Desierto lake North Shore.

Estancia Candelario Mancilla:

250 meters from Candelario Mancilla Port.

- **Lodging** CH\$10.000/night and **Camping** CH\$4.000.
- **Food:** breakfast: ch\$ 4.000,lunch/dinner ch\$ 8.000.

Maps for border Crossing:

- Patagonian South Icefield. Trekking & Mountainnering Escala 1:50.000. Zagier-Urruty;

- Chalten Trekking Maps. Zona Lago O'Higgins, Escala 1:100.000. Chalten Outdoors

④.- BOAT ACROSS O'HIGGINS LAKE.

Schedule Boat "Quetru" (58 passengers capacity):

- November 2015: Saturday
- December 2015: Wednesday and Saturday
- January / February 2016: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. *The boat don't sail on New Years Day (1st Jan).
- March 2016: Saturday.

11:30 A.M. Departure by boat C.Mancilla to Glaciar O'Higgins, passing in front of the glacier calving area en route.

16:30 P.M. Arrival at Candelario Mancilla Port.

17:00 AM. Departure by boat to Villa O'Higgins, passing La Florida Peninsula in route.

20:15 A.M. Arrival at Bahamondez Port.

Journey Time: Crossing O'Higgins Lake 2:40 hr. O'Higgins Glacier Trip: 5:00 hr.

Fare:

- Lago O'Higgins Crossing: CH\$ 44.000; Bike free.
- O'Higgins Glacier Trip: CH\$28.000.

Considerations: If you are prone to sea-sickness, bring medication.

⑥.BAHAMONDEZ PORT TO VILLA O'HIGGINS

Distance: 7 KM Drop: 15 mt ;

Condition: Good gravel road. Great scenery.

For Bikes: First 4k are hilly with many bends..

From rio Mayer bridge to Villa are flat. Easy

Schedule: 20:30 Bus from dock to Villa O'Higgins.

Journey Time: bus / 15 minutes; bikes / 35 minutes.

Fare Bus CH\$ 2.500.

*** TIPS ***

Food: Supermarket, hostels, restaurant only El Chalten and Villa O'Higgins.

Clothing: Take warm and water-proof garments.

Lodging in Villa O'Higgins: Hospedajes B&B from ch\$9.000 and camping ch\$5.000.

Money Exchange: In Villa O'Higgins and El Chaltén accepted US\$, Euro, Argentinian and Chilean pesos.

For exchange, reference

Bank / ATM in Cochrane, 230 km nort V.O'Higgins..

Carretera Austral Transfer:

- Bus Villa O'Higgins to Cochrane. Monday and Friday. Departure 8:00 a.m. ch\$ 13.000
- Bus Cochrane to Coyhaique. Every day.

Cycling Carretera Austral: Stock-up on supplies in Villa O'Higgins because there is very little available until Tortel or Cochrane.