



DESDE 1914

Located at the far end of the Cristina Channel on the northwest coast of Lake Argentino, Estancia Cristina is situated in the middle of the 3,000 square mile “Los Glaciares” National Park.

Founded in 1914 by Joseph Percival Masters and his wife Jessie, the Estancia still conserves its essence; maintaining alive the history of this pioneering family who through enormous effort and perseverance, turned this inhospitable and solitary place into a small piece of paradise.

Accessible only by boat, and built on a glacial valley formerly occupied by the nearby Upsala Glacier, one of the area’s most spectacular natural settings, the Estancia is surrounded by picturesque views of snow-capped mountains, lakes, rivers and hanging glaciers.

SUGGESTED ITINERARIES AT ESTANCIA CRISTINA





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TO ESTANCIA CRISTINA

	Depart Calafate	Puerto Bandera	Arrive Cristina
Day Trip Service	7:30am	9:00am	11:30am
Guest Service	10:00am	11:00am	2:30pm

FROM ESTANCIA CRISTINA

	Depart Cristina	Puerto Bandera	Arrive Calafate
Guest Service	3:00pm	5:00pm	6:00pm
Day Trip Service	5:30pm	6:45pm	7:45pm

*Overnight guests can arrive or depart via either service

**Overnight guests who take the day trip service are provided reserved VIP seating aboard.

TRANSPORT SCHEDULE BETWEEN EL CALAFATE AND ESTANCIA CRISTINA





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Land transfers are included between El Calafate town and Puerto Bandera where the boat is boarded and returns to.

These transfers only pick up at El Calafate area hotels, and from the Estancia Cristina office located at Avenida del Libertador 1037.

The transfers pick up guests during the half hour prior to El Calafate departure time in the transfer schedule table. For example if you are on the 10:00am departure from El Calafate, pick up will start at 9:30am from the office and then other hotels between 9:30am-10:00am.

Transfers do not run from/to the Calafate airport. If transport is needed from/to the airport, this needs to be arranged separately.

These transfers are a shared service, if you prefer private, this needs to be arranged separately.

LAND TRANSFERS BETWEEN CALAFATE AND PUERTO BANDERA





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ONE NIGHT STAY (EASY)

Well worth the boat trip out and back on different days, a one night stay allows guests to experience the highlights of viewing the Upsala Glacier via 4x4, learn of the fascinating history behind the Estancia, and opt for a horseback ride or a short walk to a waterfall.



DAY 1:

A dramatic three-hour navigation across Lake Argentina, skirting around massive icebergs, culminates with viewing the face of the Upsala glacier from the water. Upon arrival at the Estancia, staff will assist you with checking into your cozy room for the night and lunch will be served in the "Octogano" - our exclusive restaurant for overnight guests.

In the afternoon, enjoy a guided historical tour of the Estancia - first visiting the onsite museum to learn about the history of the Masters Family, and their awe-inspiring life pioneering a successful sheep ranch in this remote corner of wilderness some 100 years ago. There will also be a guided walk by the Caterina River, the well, the Chapel and the Estancia's colonial main house.

*Overnight guests can choose to arrive to Estancia Cristina via the shared day trip boat departure at 8:30am or take the private departure, exclusive for overnight guests at 12:00pm, if coming from Buenos Aires the same day, or just preferring a later start or a more exclusive experience.

DAY 2:

Accompanied by one of our professional guides, we will ascend in specialized 4x4 vehicles up the Feruglio Cordon. From the road's end, it is a short 20 minute walk up to the Upsala Glacier lookout point. One of the most impressive viewpoints in all of Patagonia, from here we can take in sweeping views of the Upsala glacier and her three feeder glaciers, the vast Southern Patagonia ice cap and the azure Lake Guillermo below. We will return to the Estancia via 4x4 vehicle for lunch.

This afternoon, join one of the Estancia's gauchos for a relaxing horseback ride up the Catarina river valley or opt for an easy hike up the valley to "Cascada de los Perros" (The Dog Waterfall)

*Guests can choose to depart at 3:00pm on the private boat for overnight guests, getting them back to El Calafate in time to catch a flight back to Buenos Aires - or opt to stay later and return on the shared boat departure at 5:30pm



Ascending to the Upsala Glacier viewpoint by 4x4



View sunset over Cerro Norte from your guest room



The Upsala Glacier and the Southern Patagonia Ice Cap.



Wonderful wine and cheese to enjoy after your activity



Horseback riding with an Estancia gaucho



Dramatic scenery on the boat trip to Estancia Cristina



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ONE NIGHT STAY (ACTIVE)

For more active travelers, this one night stay allows guests to experience the highlights of viewing the Upsala Glacier and hiking back to the lodge via Fossil Canyon, learn of the fascinating history behind the Estancia, and enjoy a horseback with our resident gauchos.



DAY 1:

A dramatic three-hour navigation across Lake Argentina, skirting around massive icebergs, culminates with viewing the face of the Upsala glacier from the water. Upon arrival at the Estancia, staff will assist you with checking into your cozy room for the night and lunch will be served in the "Octogano" - our exclusive restaurant for overnight guests.

In the afternoon, enjoy a horseback ride up the wild Caterina valley, fording the river on horseback various times to circle back around the "Laguna de Los Patos" (Duck Lagoon) with one of the Estancia's Gauchos. Upon return to the Estancia, enjoy a guided historical tour of onsite museum to learn about the history of the Masters Family, and their awe-inspiring life, pioneering a successful sheep ranch in this remote corner of wilderness some 100 years ago.

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DAY 2:

Accompanied by one of our professional guides, ascend in specialized 4x4 vehicles up to the Upsala Glacier lookout point. One of the most impressive viewpoints in all of Patagonia, from here we can take in sweeping views of the Upsala glacier, the vast Southern Patagonia ice cap and the azure Lake Guillermo below.

Return to the Estancia will be accomplished by hiking the 8 mile and 1,100 foot descent from the lookout point, down through "Canadon de los Fosiles" (Fossil Canyon), a splendid, red and black rock canyon, cutting through millions of years of seabed deposits where a dizzying array of marine Fossils reveal themselves as you descend. This is a hike you will remember for the rest of your life, and it is not uncommon to spot giant Andean Condors soaring overhead during the descent. A picnic lunch will be served during this almost full day, downhill hike.

*Guests can choose to depart at 3:00pm on the private boat for overnight guests, getting them back to El Calafate in time to catch a flight back to Buenos Aires - or opt to stay later and return on the shared boat departure at 5:30pm



The view of Lake Pearson and Cerro Norte



View sunset over Cerro Norte from your guest room



The Upsala Glacier and the Southern Patagonia Ice Cap.



Descending through the Canadian de los Fosiles



Fossils encountered during the descent



Gauchos and Glaciers - Estancia Cristina



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TWO NIGHT STAY (EASY)

For a less hurried, and more in-depth visit, a two night stay at Estancia Cristina is ideal for most travelers. Two nights allows you to not only see the highlights, but to explore more of Estancia Cristina. The serenity one feels in this remote setting only grows stronger the longer you stay.



DAY 1:

A dramatic three-hour navigation across Lake Argentina, skirting around massive icebergs, culminates with viewing the face of the Upsala glacier from the water. Upon arrival at the Estancia, staff will assist you with checking in, and lunch will be served.

In the afternoon, enjoy a guided historical tour of the Estancia - first visiting the onsite museum to learn about the history of the Masters Family, and their awe-inspiring life pioneering a successful sheep ranch in this remote corner of wilderness some 100 years ago. There will also be a guided walk by the Caterina River, the well, the Chapel and the Estancia's colonial main house.

DAY 2:

This morning, ascend in specialized 4x4 vehicles to the Upsala Glacier lookout point. One of the most impressive viewpoints in all of Patagonia, from here we can take in sweeping views of the Upsala glacier, the vast Southern Patagonia ice cap and the azure Lake Guillermo below.

This afternoon, join one of the Estancia's gauchos for a relaxing horseback ride up the Catarina river valley to one of the many fishing lagoons and lookout points.

DAY 3:

For your last morning, enjoy an easy walk up the east margin of the Cristina valley to the waterfalls on the Rio de los Perros (Dog River). This route crosses gentle grasslands and has a short ascent through groves of native southern birch trees. Even this short ascent rewards you with wondrous views of the Cristina valley and her various lakes.

This route is only about 3 miles total and involves a 700 ft ascent. Horses or 4x4 vehicles can also be arranged up to a point on this route for those unable to walk that distance.



Ascending to the Upsala viewpoint by 4x4



View sunset over Cerro Norte from your guest room



The Upsala Glacier and the Southern Patagonia Ice Cap.



Fantastic ranch food and wine await



Cascada de los Perros



A cozy bed after a good day of exploration.



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Return to the Estancia will be accomplished by hiking the 8 mile and 1,100 ft descent from the lookout point, down through "Canadon de los Fosiles" (Fossil Canyon), a splendid, red and black rock canyon, cutting through millions of years of seabed deposits where a dizzying array of marine Fossils reveal themselves as you descend.

DAY 3:

Saving one of the most dramatic hikes for last, set off with your guide towards the summit of "Cerro Carnero". The views from Cerro Carnero encompass the entire valley where Estancia Cristina sits, the ice cap, a panorama of no fewer than 8 glaciers and the entire Cristina channel of Lake Argentina.

This hike can be done as a 6.5 mile round trip with 1,500 ft of elevation gain, or for the more adventurous, reaching the very top requires a 8 mile round trip and 2,500 ft of elevation gain.



The view of Lake Pearson and Cerro Norte



View sunset over Cerro Norte from your guest room



The Upsala Glacier and the Southern Patagonia Ice Cap.



Descending through the Canadon de los Fosiles



On the summit of Cerro Carnero



A cozy bed after a long day of adventures



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THREE NIGHT STAY (ACTIVE)

For the active and adventurous, a three night stay at Estancia Cristina is a must. All three classic full day hikes can be accomplished, still with time to horseback ride and learn about the Estancia history. The urge to explore only grows stronger the more you discover at Estancia Cristina.



DAY 1:

After a dramatic navigation across Lake Argentina, culminating in viewing the face of the Upsala glacier from the water, arrive at Estancia Cristina to check in and have lunch.

In the afternoon, enjoy a horseback ride up the wild Caterina valley, and take a guided historical tour of onsite museum to learn about the history of the Masters Family who founded Estancia Cristina some 100 years ago.

DAY 2:

This morning, ascend in specialized 4x4 vehicles to the Upsala Glacier lookout point and return to the Estancia by hiking the 8 mile descent, down through "Canadon de los Fosiles", a splendid, red and black rock canyon, cutting through millions of years of seabed deposits where an array of Fossils reveal themselves as you descend.

DAY 3:

Today enjoy a hike along historic trails up into lush native forests of Southern Beech, past the impressive "Cascada de los Perros" to reach "Mirador Cristina" one of the best lookout points in the area to appreciate the glacial movements which carved out the valley where Estancia Cristina sits.

The full hike is 9 miles in total and ascends approximately 2,200 ft of elevation. Shorter variants are possible.

DAY 4:

Saving one of the most dramatic hikes for last, set off with your guide towards the summit of "Cerro Carnero". The views from Cerro Carnero encompass the entire valley where Estancia Cristina sits, the ice cap, a panorama of no fewer than 8 glaciers and the entire Cristina channel of Lake Argentina.

This hike can be done as a 6.5 mile round trip with 1,500 ft of elevation gain, or for the more adventurous, reaching the very top requires a 8 mile round trip and 2,500 ft of elevation gain.



The view of Lake Gutierrez from the Upsala viewpoint



View sunset over Cerro Norte from your guest room



The Upsala Glacier and the Southern Patagonia Ice Cap.



Descending through the Canadon de los Fosiles



On the summit of Cerro Carnero



A cozy bed after a long day of adventures



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Estancia Cristina boasts some of Patagonia's most incredible fishing waters.

The Caterina river which runs the length of the valley is famous for its run of King Salmon (Chinook).

Various lakes up and down the valley are brimming with rainbow trout for those not up to tackling the Chinook which frequently weigh up to 50 lbs.

Although we do not provide specialist fishing guides, our staff are able to transport those wishing to fish to the appropriate locations on property and we can arrange equipment rental and fishing permits.

Estancia Cristina is ideal for families or groups looking to combine a Patagonia adventure with the option of world class fishing in the same location.

FISHING OPTIONS AT ESTANCIA CRISTINA

