



diseño & restauración de paisaje

## Volcanic Ecosystem Experience

**Intensity:** Moderate

**Location:** Ensenada and the slopes of Volcán Calbuco

**Dates:** November 5 – November 11

**Experience required:** None

**Min. students required:** 12

**Max. students required:** 18

Nido de Aguilas's Week without Walls seeks to provide students with physically and intellectually challenging learning experiences in the great outdoors. Our program, Volcanic Ecosystem Experience, offers a unique perspective on a dynamic landscape, and introduces students to a variety of outdoor experiences and environmental studies disciplines.

This program will be hosted at Parque Valle Los Ulmos. This private conservation park is situated in the midst of volcanic landscape and on the slopes of Volcán Calbuco, whose April of 2015 eruption profoundly impacted the park and the surrounding landscape. The age-old relationship between volcanic activity and the ecological and social landscape, which has been highlighted since Calbuco's recent eruption, will serve as the focus of the program.

Each day, students will be guided in an exploration of a different aspect of this dynamic landscape and will be called upon to process and present their learning. Students will work throughout the week in teams whose task is to develop a narrative of the value of this landscape and develop a product that can express that value to future visitors. The work of these teams will be framed as a service to the landscape,



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and will include participation in on-going projects in conservation, sustainability, and community development.

The program will be guided by a group of Chilean and foreign educators with backgrounds in backcountry guiding, conservation, ecological restoration, volcano ecology, environmental education, coaching, and sustainable community development.

### **Day 1, Sunday Nov. 5: Welcome to southern Chile**

- Pick-up at Puerto Montt airport and transport to Parque Valle Los Ulmos on the slopes of the recently-erupted Volcán Calbuco
- Settle in to accommodations at the park's "Casona," a German colonial house
- Orientation to the park, the week's schedule, and emergency protocol related to backcountry activity and residence on an active volcano
- Welcome dinner served at the Casona

### **Day 2, Monday Nov. 6: Introducing conservation and the volcanic landscape**

- Hearty breakfast at the Casona
- Photo presentation of pre- and post-eruption landscape, and an introduction to volcanic disturbance and the challenges to conservation
- Hike up through mixed-use land to native forest and park trail head, set up camp with views of Lago Llanquihue, volcanoes Osorno, Punitagudo, and Calbuco
- Sack lunch in the field
- Hands-on introduction to native plant botany and forest ecology
- Service work in invasive species control along the ecologically important and sensitive native forest boundary
- Dinner at camp
- Evening campfire and stargazing, weather depending
- Journaling on days activities
- Overnight in tents



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### **Day 3, Tuesday Nov. 7: Exploring the native forest and volcano ecology**

- Sunrise breakfast at camp
- Set up gear and packs for the day's hike
- Hike through disturbed native forest to tree line, guided by an ecologist and volcano scientist who will facilitate field observations of ecological and volcanic processes and discuss ongoing scientific investigations in the park
- Lunch in field with high elevation view of volcanic landscape
- Return to Casona for dinner
- Evening to process learning from previous days and begin work on group projects

### **Day 4, Wednesday Nov. 8: Birdwatching and rafting**

- Early wakeup for bird-watching walkabout at sunrise, when bird activity is at its peak
- Breakfast at the Casona
- Theoretical introduction to geology and the forces forming of the volcanic landscape
- Prepare personal gear for rafting
- Lunch at La Casona
- Transport to Kokayak for introduction to whitewater safety and equipment
- Expert-guided raft descent of the crystalline waters of the Río Petrohue, located in the midst of the volcanic landscape and offering views to volcanoes Osorno, Calbuco, Puntiagudo, and Yates
- Transport back to Parque Valle Los Ulmos for dinner at the Casona
- Evening to continue work on group projects and journaling

### **Day 5, Thursday Nov. 9: The social impacts of the eruption**

- Breakfast at the Casona
- Introduction to local social impacts of volcanic disturbance and group meetings to design interviews of local residents that will explore their experience of the 2015 Calbuco eruption



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- Field trip to Ensenada to visit and interview local residents, including schoolchildren, farmers, guides, and businesspeople who were present for the 2015 eruption
- Lunch in Ensenada
- Return to Parque Valle Los Ulmos to process interviews and share findings
- Dinner in the Casona
- Continued work on group projects, discussion of next days' art activity

### **Day 6 Friday Nov. 10: Arts and volcano ecology**

- Breakfast at Casona
- Introduction to artistic contributions and collaborations in ecological study
- Hike through the Tepú river with an eye toward artistic expression, looking for art materials and subjects.
- Return to Casona for lunch
- Afternoon to develop creative projects in drawing, collage, photography, sculpture, poetry, or other forms of artistic expression
- Out to eat in Ensenada for final dinner
- Preparations for final presentations in the morning

### **Day 7 Saturday Nov. 11: What comes next?**

- Breakfast followed by an extended meeting over coffee and tea
- Brief student reflections on the weeks activities and presentations of group work followed by a facilitated discussion of students' visions for the future of the volcanic landscape
- Pack up gear, say goodbyes, and depart the park for Puerto Varas
- Afternoon in Puerto Varas, lunch on your own
- Transfer to Puerto Montt airport for departure
- Program ends

### **What's included :**

- Bilingual leadership by professional guides, educators, and experts in diverse fields
- All meals, with vegetarian and gluten free options are available on request. Without advance notice we will not be able to accommodate these dietary restrictions.



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- Lodging in Casona and camping equipment (described below)
- Private transportation to and from airport and to all scheduled activities
- Complete technical gear for rafting (described below)
- Guides equipped with safety / communication equipment.

#### **What's not included :**

- Flights from and to Santiago
- Personal insurance
- Personal equipment
- All other services NOT mentioned in the program

#### **Equipment:**

Activities	What we provide
<b>Rafting and Camping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Wet suits</li><li>- Homologated uscg pfds - Spray skirts - Dry bags</li><li>- Collective cooking gear</li><li>- Collective FA kit</li><li>- Radio or Sat Phone</li></ul>

#### **What to pack :**

On the water :	Camping :	At Camp :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- sneakers that can get wet and keep you warm</li><li>- swim suit</li><li>- neoprene or wool hat and wool or thermal buff</li><li>- sun cap or hat</li><li>- sun glasses – sun</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- sleeping bag</li><li>- sleeping pad</li><li>- head lamp</li><li>- personal first aid</li><li>- silverware</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- low cuts hiking shoes</li><li>- 1 hiking pants</li><li>- 1 rain pants</li><li>- 2 long leg thermal underwear</li><li>- 2 long sleeves thermal T Shirts</li><li>- 1 fleece/polar</li></ul>



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blocker	jacket
- heavyweight thermal underwear (2 torsos and 1 legs) - thermal socks - lightweight thermal gloves - water bottle	- 1 rain jacket - warm wool or thermal beanie - gloves – underwear – socks – t shirts - towel

### Instructors:

**Pablo Saumann:** Chilean, born in 1968

Economist, personal and organizational Coach

CEO, founder partner Parque Valle los Ulmos

CEO Parques Australes SPA

**Barbara Corrales:** Chilean, born in 1974

Ecologist and Landscape designer

Has run her own enterprise for landscape design, focusing on native species and landscape restoration. Currently developing new models linking real state and conservation.

**Leif Castren:** American, born in 1991.

Ecologist and educator

Studies forest ecology, volcano ecology, environmental education, mindfulness education, and interdisciplinary collaboration in ecological research

B.A. in Biology from Middlebury College

Joint Masters Candidate in Religion & Ecology at Yale University

2017 Fulbright Chile U.S. Student Program grantee in ecology

Wilderness First Responder: January 2011 and February 2014

**Michelle Blackwell:** Australian, born in 1974

Has guided multi days sea kayaking and rafting trips in Australia, Nepal, Italy, Chile,



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and USA

Wilderness Advanced First Aid: April 2015

Swift water rescue technician Level 3

**Richard Carrier:** French, born in 1974.

Has guided multi-day sea kayaking and rafting in Italy, Chile, USA (Grand Canyon), France, Switzerland, Austria.

Wilderness Advanced First Aid: April 2015

Swift water rescue technician Level 3

Nido's week without walls class III / IV rafting head instructor October 2014 & November 2015

### **About Parques Australes**

Parques Australes is a company dedicated to creating, strengthening, and managing natural parks, with the ultimate goal of promoting a conservation based in sustainable relationships between humans and their environment. Among other projects, Parques Australes is currently involved in the development of a variety of educational programs at Parque Valle Los Ulmos in the town of Ensenada in the Lakes Region of southern Chile.

### **About Parque Valle los Ulmos**

Parque Valle los Ulmos is a private conservation park that was profoundly impacted by the April 2015 eruption of Volcán Calbuco. In response to this event, the park has invited scientists from many disciplines to study the interactions between volcanic activity and ecosystem processes. The park also seeks to provide a space for environmental education related to those scientific studies and for intimate human connection to the natural world.

### **About Ko'kayak**

Ko'kayak is a Puerto Varas -based company dedicated to outfitting and guiding safe and high-quality outdoor experiences, especially kayak and rafting trips on the waters of the Región de los Lagos in southern Chile.