

ko'kayak Sports & Culture in Chiloé

Programa : Outdoors and Culture in Chiloe island.

Nido de Aguilas' week without walls provide to students some unique teaching sessions in the great outdoor.

Chiloe is a land of traditions, as often when we talk about island they remain on a different rhythm than the main land.

This is what we will discover on these days but also get immerged in the incredible nature and specific ecosystem of this northern Patagonia island.

We will be practicing new activities and get confident in: Hiking, kayaking, Biking, Horse riding and at the same time get to discover what makes Chiloe so special : the people who live here from the native Huiliche to settlers who arrived during 20th century but also people from different areas of Chile who have come here for the salmon farming rush.

There is a lot ot learn about this beautiful island and you can be sure you will be in the best hands for such a purpose.



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November 3rd : Puerto Montt- Puñihuil.

Penguins colony

Arrival to Puerto Montt's airport and shuttle to Chiloé Island.

Once we cross Chacao Channel our experience will begin. Our first destination a local tourism project where the members of the family invite us to participate in a country-common- working- day helping them with different labors depending of the season: from collecting the harvest to prepare the soils for planting or participating in the kitchen even helping with cattle.

This is a way to get a real and deep knowledge about what it means to live from farming in Chiloé.

We will learn about the importance of an organic production and the environmental care and conscientious and healthy food.

Lunch with our host family before we get to visit to the penguin colony at Bahía Puñihuil where we'll get on board to navigate around the Humboldt and Magellan Penguin nesting grounds of this large colony located in three different islets.

Back on the beach we take the short way to our accommodation place tonight with stunning views to the ocean and where we'll have the chance to try the emblematic dish of the Island: "Curanto al hoyo" and besides each of us will be participate in its preparation.

*Accommodation at Puñihuil (cabañas Pingüinland) in front of the Pacific.

Day achievements : Discovering the Island and the way people live in rural places. Getting to know about penguins in their habitat.



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November 4th : Chepu – Castro

After breakfast we continue exploring this amazing Island in our way to the south.

5 kms from Ancud we take the detour to Chepu River to the kayak base. Here we'll get familiar with the basics of handling our kayak and try out our equipment.



Kayaking and Hiking.

With that we're ready to spend 3 hours kayaking through submerged temperate rain forests that boast an abundance of bird life, among other flora and fauna thanks to this wet temperate ecosystem.

Lunch back at the base with the group of "Los Senderos de Chepu" and help of the students.

Best way to get energy before we start the 2 hours hike in the heart of old native forest where we will have plenty of chances to observe, or at least listen birds as Chucao tapaculo (*Scerolchilus rubecula*) or the black-throated Huet Huet (*Pteroptochos tarnii*).

In the afternoon, we reach Castro for overnight.

Dinner in a local restaurant (restaurante Travesía)

*Accommodation in Castro (Cabañas Palafito Los Pascadores)

Day achievements : A new activity to have a specific point of view on a specific ecosystem.

Discovering the birds of Chiloe.

November 5th : San Pedro valley -

We have time in the morning to have a walk in Castro and check out the Cathedral and discuss about the shopping mall building which has been a world known shame for the town. Chiloe churches are part of the World Heritage of the Unesco.

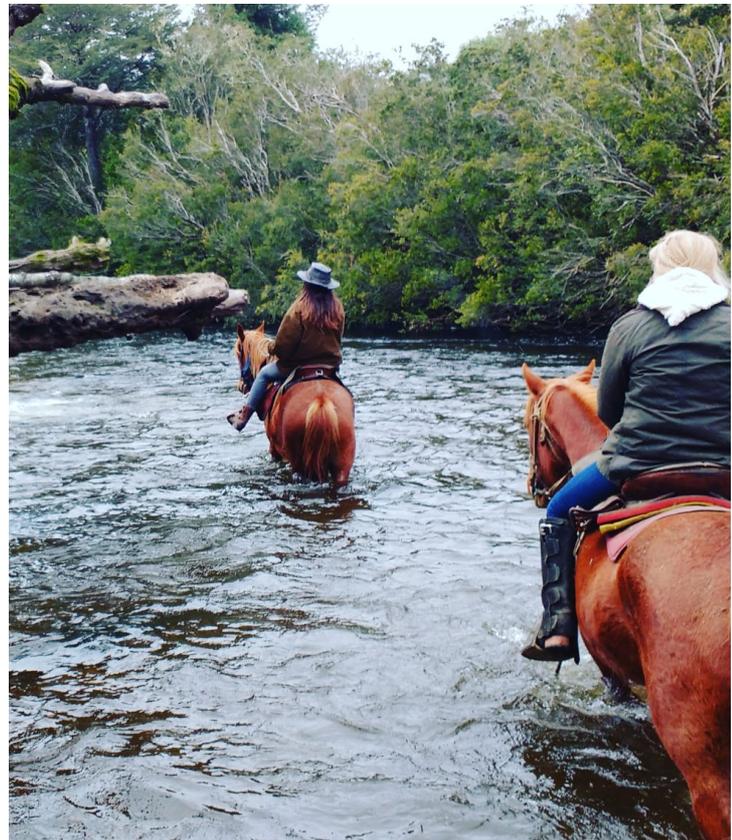
After a short drive to San Pedro we get to see in details what will go on today, we will have a complete briefing about horse riding and will train on riding in the circular corral of the ranch. The group will be divided in smaller fractions to have a more personalized training.

Lunch will be a lamb or beef barbecue and salads based on local harvest .

In the afternoon it is time to get to serious stuff and go for a 3 hours ride in the heart of the Chilote forest and along the San Pedro river. It is important to note that horses are used to this work and are well trained for it.

In the evening we are back in Castro for dinner and overnight.

Horse riding



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November 6th : Chiloé National Park -

After breakfast we head to Chonchi and start our day adjusting our bikes and checking out “Nuestra Señora Del Rosario” church from the XIXth century.

Pedaling today will get us after 38 k of rolling hills to Chiloé National Park.

Little traffic and beauty of the landscape turn this trip into a perfect option where most of the route runs along the Huillinco and Cucao lakes and small farms. Five miles before the National Park, we'll stop in the indigenous community of Quilque for a light-lunch and enjoy the local gastronomy made of organic products.

At the park trail head we drop the bikes and follow the sendero “El Tepual” to get to know about the Chiloé's NP biodiversity and specific ecosystem of coast range and rain forest.

Dinner and lodging in Cucao

Day achievements : 38 kilometers riding a bike in stunning landscape will teach us about endurance.

Biking



November 7th : Parque Tantauco (Yaldad – Chaiguata). Hiking

Today drive takes us South to Tantauco Park. With more than 110.000 hectares the park offers to visitors different trails alternatives.

At the gates of the park, Sendero Rio Yaldad leads us to the visitors center on shores of Laguna Yaldad through native forest. Sendero Bosque Hundido takes us along two kilometers for different ecosystems such as peat bogs, Tepual forests and wetlands. After these trails we have a last visit to the garden center, where the restoration program was born. Here, we'll learn about the process and stages of the cultivation of native forest species that are later transplanted in different parts of the park.

Back in Chaiguata, team work to build up the tents for the campsite.

A group work to cook dinner in Chaiguata .

Day achievements : Getting to know and understand the private park concept. This project started in 2006 and the crew have been working since then to conserve and protect this specific ecosystem.

November 8th : Parque Tantauco

Kayak and birding.

This early morning we spend two hours paddling and birding in the lake and might be able to observe the river otter, el “Huillin”.

We will finish our activities with a great 30 minutes sensorial hike to get to connect to nature and share these sensations with the group.

A perfect way to end our Chiloé experience before driving back North and reach Puerto Montt airport.

Day achievements : understanding the outdoor activities to get closer to nature and flora/fauna.

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Packing list per activity :

	What do we provide	What to bring 
Boat ride	- Life jackets	
Kayaking	- Sit on top kayaks - Life jackets	- Swim suit - Base layer that can get wet - Snickers that can get wet
Horse riding	- Helmets	-
Mountain biking	- Helmets	- Clothing for the activity - gloves
Camping	- Tents - Sleeping bags and pads - Collective gear	- Rain jacket - Outdoor clothing
Hiking	- Collective gear	- Hiking shoes - Backpack

Any comment or question about what to pack; throw us a line at info@kokayak.cl



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Frequently asked questions

- Do I need experience on any activity?

NO, you just need to know how to swim and we will begin every day with a complete safety briefing and a comprehensive practice during which we insist on your safety, skills learning and enjoyment.

- What about the instructors?

We are all dedicated outdoor people and have been working (in Chile and abroad) as raft guides and rafting instructors for at least 10 years (more for some of us:). We make sure we will share more than just techniques but the experience of outdoor leaders.

We are trained and certified in wilderness first aid and in swift water rescue techniques (www.iria.org).

At the beginning of every season we realize a training workshop in safety and rescue in the stretches of water where we work.

Ko'KayaK has been operating trips and courses in these specialties and in this area since 1999.



Our priority after the group safety is making your trip with us the experience of a lifetime and to develop a long term relationship between us and our fellow paddlers.

Most of the Nido students (and teachers) come and pay a visit during summer with friends and family, this makes us proud of running such programs.

Ko'KayaK has been working as a Week Without Walls supplier since 2014.

Head Instructor :

Juan Pablo Mansilla, Chile born 1968.

Agronomist engineer

Hiking, biking and trekking guide from the Altiplano to Carretera austral.

Speaks English and German.

Wilderness Advanced First Aid June 2018.