

ECOTOURISM "PALM TREE WOODS"
(La Campana National Park)

EXPEDITION TO SEE CHILEAN PALM TREE WOODS AND FAUNA

La Campana National Park is in the Central Coastal mountain range in Quillota Province, approximately 1 ½ hours from Santiago and 45 minutes from Viña del Mar. This attractive Park is well worth a visit.

The views of beautiful scenery from the Campana (1,828 m. above sea level) and Roble mountains, profoundly surprised Charles Darwin when he climbed them in 1836. On cloudless days there is an impressive view across the width of Chile, from the Andes mountain range to the sea. Local Flora is mainly composed of woods containing Chilean Oak, Peumo, Quillay, Boldo, Litre and Chilean Palm trees. It is possible to find evidence of Chilean foxes, skunks, vizcachas etc. that can occasionally be spotted. The birds, such as partridges, small eagles, eagles, hawks, and quails are easier to see.

ITINERARY

We leave Viña del Mar, for the Campana National Park, Ocoa sector, in the Province of Quillota. The walk will start from the camping area, passing through a pretty valley full of footpaths and native woods amongst refreshing and humid streams. It should be possible to observe several different birds as we walk along in silence and in harmony with the natural surroundings. Slowly gaining height, it is possible to see the Aconcagua valley, the Melón mountain range, the whole chain of surrounding summits such as: Robles, Coqui, Caquicito, Punta Imán and the valley below covered in palm trees. At the top of the Ocoa valley the walk goes through ancient palm woods. It has been found that some of the species are more than 500 years old and can live up to 1,000 years. This expedition is an unusual experience of nature in our country as this is only one of two places where these trees are to be found protected and in any quantity. Finally, we'll enjoy a Barbecue in the camping area and then return to the point of departure.

DURATION: 3 hours walking (Including rests)

OPERATIONAL: All year.

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: Reasonable physical condition, no previous trekking experience necessary.

INCLUDED: Transportation from point of departure to the Campana National Park and return. Park entrance. Barbecue. Guide.

SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT: shorts, sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, plenty of water, good walking shoes, warm clothing and windbreaker for later in the day and a small back-pack.

PRICE: US\$ 80

Minimum 4 Pax

AGROTURISM IN LIMACHE

VISIT TO WINEYARDS, CHILEAN TRADITIONS AND TYPICAL CHILEAN CULTURE

Limache and Olmué are two rustic cities in Chile with beautiful landscape and privileged weather. Limache and its surroundings represent the most beautiful landscape of the central zone of our country. Limache is surrounded by the highest mountains of our Coastal Mountain Range, like "La Campana" hill with 1.850 Mts. (This mountain was visited in 1834 by the naturalist Charles Darwin and "El Roble" Hill with 2.250 Mts. Both mountains give to this zone a special magic touch.

Limache and Olmué offer various alternatives of tourism in which you can find different kinds of fun. You can visit vineyards where even today it is possible to see the making of wine in a rustic manner. You can also visit the typical Chilean man and learn his ability and skill on horses.

Our intention is that the foreign visitor can enjoy this zone and for this reason we can offer you the following program: visit to a vineyard, where you will know more about the elaboration of wines, starting from the cultivation of vines to the cup served on your table; visit to a typical "huaso chileno"; close look at horses and watching typical Chilean dances.

DEVELOPMENT

09:00 Hrs. Departure from Viña Del Mar to Limache.
11:00 Hrs. Arrival to the vineyard in Limache. Reception by typical Chilean dancers. Beginning of the visit to the yards with explanations, and a taste of different wines produced in this yard.
13:00 Hrs. Lunch with typical Chilean barbecue.
14:00 Hrs. Exhibition of horses with typical Chilean games on/with horses.
16:30 Hrs. Return to Viña Del Mar.

COST: USD 56
MINIMUM: 15 Pax.
INCLUDED: Visit to the vineyards, drinks, lunch, games on horses, bilingual guide.

ANDEAN HORSE TREK
(1 day in the mountains at Río Blanco)

DETAILS

The excursion starts from Viña del Mar, where one travels by road to the city of Los Andes. The journey continues along the international highway that goes to Mendoza. We quickly start the ascent of the mountains and the road takes us by a serpentine route above the upper reaches of the Aconcagua River. This is a dramatic, at times vertiginous road, with landscapes of overwhelming precipitousness, orchards and vineyards, spectacularly dominated by mountains and rivers. We pass by the Soldier's Leap, where legend relates that a patriot soldier jumped this enormous precipice whilst fleeing on horseback from the royalist forces. Further on we arrive at Río Blanco (1.200 m.) where we start our horse trek accompanied by the muleteers in charge of organizing and preparing the barbecue in the midst of the mountains.

From this point the mountain will show us its most hidden secrets as we ascend through scenery not unlike the state of California in the United States. Big cactuses adapted to these heights, in the midst of native woods, alongside streams, accompany our trek. After traveling through the mountain valleys for 2 hours we come to Potrero Alto (2,300 m.) where we will prepare the barbecue. The view from this point of the snow capped mountains is spectacular.

INCLUDED

Return transport, Muleteers, horses and pack mules, riding equipment, mountain guide, and mountain barbecue.

DEPARTURE TIME: 08.00 hrs.

RETURN TIME: 17.00 hrs.

SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT: Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, plenty of water, good walking shoes, warm clothing, parka and windbreaker. Small backpack.

COST PER PERSON: US\$ 70-
MINIMUM 4 Pax.

VEGAS DE NACIMIENTO & JUNCAL GLACIER EXPEDITION
03 days / 02 nights

TREKKING OR HORSE TREKKING IN THE ANDES

Following the ravine formed by the River Aconcagua, along the international highway towards Portillo, we arrive at the Hermanos Clark train station. From here we go up to the end of the valley where we find two prominent mountains that rise up to an altitude of 6.000 m. above sea level. These are called Alto de los Leones (Lion Heights) and Nevado Juncal, and they can be distinguished from any point in the central mountain range by their singular shape.

We cross rivers, go through enormous and extensive natural meadows and discover Vegas de Nacimiento, the beginning of the River Aconcagua; we will visit glaciers thousands of years old, where the peace and silence go hand in hand with the beautiful scenery.

DAY 01 VIÑA DEL MAR - LOS ANDES - JUNCAL AREA - VEGAS DE NACIMIENTO

Departure from Viña del Mar at 08.00 am by private minibus towards Los Andes. From here we take the international highway that goes to Mendoza and finally arrive at the Juncal area (km. 55). From this point we start the expedition to Los Hornos, ancient stone refuge used by muleteers, cowherds and miners. After a light lunch we continue the horse trek to arrive early at Las Vegas de Nacimiento, where we put up our base camp and enjoy a meal.

DIA 02 VEGAS DE NACIMIENTO - JUNCAL GLACIAR

After a strengthening breakfast we will start our ride to the foot of the North Juncal Glacier, where the River Aconcagua begins. We will dismount to walk up the glacier, whose crevices and mysterious springs flow in amongst great lumps of ice to a height of 3.500 m. Return to base camp for a convivial meal around the campfire.

DIA 03 VEGAS DE NACIMIENTO - JUNCAL - VIÑA DEL MAR

After a good breakfast, the remainder of morning is left for resting. Then we take a short look around the area, lunch and return to Juncal. At this point we will find our vehicle for the return journey to Santiago/Viña del Mar. Estimated time of arrival in Viña del Mar: 18:30 hrs.

INCLUDED

- Transport from and back to Viña del Mar
- Equipped horses and luggage mules.
- Specialized guides and expert muleteers.
- Breakfast, light lunch and dinner
- Camping and cooking equipment

NOT INCLUDED

- Any kind of insurance. Please consult us.
- Alcoholic drinks and any kind of extras not mentioned in the program.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Andes Trek reserve the right to cancel any expedition or alter the program if the weather conditions so require it.
- Every terrain and camping program is subject to climatic conditions.
- Degree of difficulty and skills: good physical condition and a positive mental attitude are the principal requirements for the enjoyment of this expedition.
Previous experience of horse riding is important, but not essential to be able to take part.

SUGGESTED PERSONAL EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING

- Sleeping bag and small backpack to carry rations during the walk.
- Binoculars, torch.
- Heavy shoes or trekking boots.
- Warm sports clothes.
- Jockey cap or light colored hat for the sun.
- Woolen hat, scarf, silk neckerchief and gloves.
- Sun glasses, sun filter, protection for lips.
- Prescription medicines, if appropriate.

IMPORTANT

The participants must act on the instructions of our guides and take their part in the protection of the environment.

COST PER PERSON US\$ 320 (Minimum 4 pax)
TREKKING OPTION US\$ 250 (Minimum 4 pax)

PRIVATE SERVICES

BASE 2 PAX HORSE RIDING: US\$ 650

TREKKING OPTION: US\$ 480

"LA CAMPANA" NATIONAL PARK
(Charles Darwin Route, 1-day hike)

MODERATE ASCENT TAKING IN WILD FLORA AND FAUNA

The Campana National Park is situated in the Central Coastal Range in the Quillota Province, approximately 1 ½ hours from Santiago and 45 minutes from Viña del Mar. This is a very attractive Park and is well worth a visit.

To admire these surroundings dominated by the Campana (1.828 m.) and Roble mountains, with great scenic beauty which profoundly surprised Charles Darwin when he ascended the Campana in 1836. On clear days there is an impressive view over the whole width of Chile, from the Andes mountain range to the sea. The Flora is represented mainly by the Esclerophile woods (Peumo, Quillay, Boldo, Litre, etc.). Chilean foxes, skunks, vizcachas, among other animals, are known to live in the Park and can occasionally be spotted. On the other hand, birds, such as partridges, hawks, buzzards and quails can easily be seen.

ITINERARY

Set off early from Viña del Mar for Olmué in the Province of Quillota. Arrival at the Campana National Park where there will be a guided walk to retrace the steps of the celebrated English naturalist and observe the flora and fauna. The walk will take us as near as possible to the top of the Campana, depending on weather conditions, to be able to enjoy an impressive panoramic view. Lunch. Descent and return to Viña del Mar in the afternoon.

Note: Optional ascent by vehicle to the mine sector (1250 mts.) to continue on foot to the summit.

DURATION: approximately 10 hours.

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: Only difficult part is to reach the summit from near the top. Good physical condition and basic experience of steep hill walking needed to climb La Campana. No children less than 12 years old. Otherwise, no previous experience necessary.

INCLUDED: Transport from the point of departure to the Campana National Park and return, entrance fee to the Park, guide, barbecue lunch.

SUGGESTIONS: For the walk take shorts, sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, plenty of water, good walking shoes, warm clothes and windbreaker for the later afternoon and a small back pack for the day.

COST: US\$ 70 (Minimum 4 pax)

TREKKING GRANIZO - OCOA
(Ocoa Palm Grove and Oak Woods)

MODERATE TREKKING TAKING IN WILD FLORA AND FAUNA

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The beautiful view over the Andes mountain range is the main characteristic of this ride.

TRIP

Set off early from Olmué in the Province of Quillota, arrival at the Campana National Park, Granizo sector. The trek will start with an ascent of the Cajón Grande, enjoying the exuberant flora and fauna alongside the oak woods which are part of these high slopes surrounded by small streams and abundant vegetation. We go up in a northerly direction towards the Portezuelo de Ocoa and an impressive view of the Andes mountain range. After a rest we go down in the direction of the Ocoa valley, observing the beautiful palm groves that make this countryside unique in the area. After a rest we got down in the direction of El Almácigo canyon, observing the exuberant flora and fauna along side the Palm Grove which are found here surrounded by small streams and abundant vegetation.

DURATION : Approximately 10 hours.
SEASON : All the year..
DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY : Reasonable physical condition.
INCLUDING : Transport from the point of departure to the Campana National Park and return, entrance free to the Park, guide, barbecue lunch.
SUGGESTIONS : For the trek take shorts, sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, plenty of water, good walking shoes, warm clothes and windbreaker for the later afternoon and a small back pack for the day. Binoculars.

COST PER PERSON : **US\$ 70. (Minimun 4 pax)**
TWO DAYS OPTION : **US\$ 150**
INCLUDING : **FULL SERVICE**
NOT INCLUDING : **SLEEP BAG**