

Huaso Trail, Chile

The Huaso Trail starts and finishes in Puerto Varas. We can book your hotel accommodation for the nights before and after the ride, if you wish.

Day One – Arrival

You will be collected from your hotel in Puerto Varas at 9am.

Please note that the itineraries may change depending on local weather conditions and the riding ability of your group, but always with your best interests in mind.

Load the minibus and from Puerto Varas drive for around 4 hours towards the Andes. Along the way you can admire the Llanquihue Lake and the volcanoes of Calbuco and Osorno that are part of the Vicente Perez Rosales National Park.

On arrival at the edge of the Reloncavi estuary, there will be a short stop to appreciate the local gastronomy of the village of Cochamó, well known for its agricultural and fishing industries.

Arriving at Tagua Tagua Lake, there is time to have lunch before crossing the lake by ferry.



After another hour or so by vehicle, near Puerto Urrutia you meet the baqueanos and the horses. At the river's edge you cross by boat and the horses swim alongside.

Pack all the bags and off you go. Ride along the banks of the Puelo River and cross farmland. Late in the

afternoon, arrive at your overnight stop which is close to the Puelo River.

Dinner and overnight at a local farm.

Hours in the saddle: c. 2 hours.

Day Two – Las Rosas to Ventisqueros

Set off on a full day riding expedition to enjoy this fantastic landscape. Ancient woodland, open spaces and rivers feature highly today. Cross the large Ventisquero River just as the locals do.



Lunch will be a picnic next to the river. Later, ride along the valley to a remote farm where you stay for 2 nights.

Dinner and overnight at a local farm.

Hours in the saddle: c. 6 hours.

Day Three – Day ride to El Toro

After breakfast set off on a gentle ride, crossing the river once more to join the other valley and approach its glacier. This little valley turns wild and remote, with incredible flora. You ride close to the Alerces forest.



Enjoy a saddle bag lunch near El Toro River before riding back to the farmhouse.

Later there is a chance to go for a walk around the area or simply relax.

Dinner and overnight at a local farm.

Hours in the saddle: c. 4 hours.

Day Four - Ventisqueros to Bandurrias Island

After breakfast set off on a full-day ride featuring forests, river crossings, mountains and waterfalls. Lunch will be a picnic near the Ventisqueros River.

In the afternoon, make your way across the Puelo River using an important hanging bridge, crucial for communication between the local inhabitants and the outside world. This area is particularly spectacular due to its huge waterfalls and rapids.

Continue riding across the wild ancient forest until reaching Las Rocas Lake. Leave the horses on the shore and take a 10 minute boat trip to Bandurrias Island where you spend two nights.



Dinner and overnight on Bandurrias Island.

Hours in the saddle: c. 7 hours.

Day Five - Day ride from Bandurrias Island

Today's ride is to the Blue Lake "Lago Azul" with its crystal clear waters and abundant fish life, surrounded by majestic peaks and a stunning landscape. After about two hours in the saddle, enjoy a picnic lunch relaxing on the shores of the lake.



After lunch, continue riding towards Las Rocas Lake. Pass through typical cold jungle or Valdivian-type rainforest with its very diverse vegetation. You should see ancient trees and majestic mountains.

Leave the horses and transfer by boat back to the Island.



Dinner and overnight on Bandurrias Island.

Riding time c. 5 to 6 hours.

Day Six - Bandurrias Island to Las Rosas

After breakfast a motor boat will take you back to the other side of the lake where the horses will be waiting. After a short ride of around an hour, you reach the source of the Puelo River.

The river is deep and wide so a boatman will help you cross. The horses will swim across, guided by the motorboat.



Continue along woodland paths and beside the Puelo River until you reach the Ventisqueros Valley to the west.

You might break for lunch near to the Las Mellizas (twin) lagoons which are surrounded by mountains.

In the afternoon, cross the river on horseback to arrive at your overnight lodging.

Dinner and overnight at a cosy house.

Riding time c. 7-8 hours.

Day Seven – Las Rosas to Llanada Grande and on to Puerto Varas

Your last riding day and it could be a long day of travelling towards the village of Llanada Grande.

You will cross again the properties along the Puelo River to Puerto Urrutia. The horses will swim one last time across the river before returning to the mountain path. The last stretch of the ride crosses huge forests on a path with beautiful views over the Puelo River.

Arrival into the hamlet of Llanada Grande marks the end of your ride. Here you say a farewell to your horses and the baqueanos.

After a last lunch in the valley you are reunited with your luggage and commence the journey back to civilisation.



It is a one hour drive to the ferry which takes about 45 minutes to take you to the other side of the Tagua-Tagua Lake. Then you continue by vehicle to Puerto Varas (c. 4 hours). This long journey is along the beautiful Reloncavi Fjord. You will see Lake Llanquihue and have views of the Osorno and Calbuco volcanoes and the Vicente Perez Rosales National Park.

Arrival into Puerto Varas can be as late as 8:30-9pm.

Riding time c. 4 hours.

In case of delays it is generally advised to plan to overnight in Puerto Varas rather than to have an onward flight booked. We can book this accommodation for you if you wish.