

# BIKE ACROSS THE ANDES



*“Discover South America; this route passes huge lakes, volcanoes with snowy summits, rainforest, waterfalls, hot-springs, and an imposing Andes crossing, from Argentina to Chile, reaching the Pacific Ocean”*

## CHALLENGE HIGHLIGHTS!

- Cycle through some of South America's premier national parks
- Sense of achievement as you cross the border between Argentina and Chile
- Enjoy panoramic mountain views of the Andes
- Ride along the shores of sparkling glacial lakes
- Discover Bariloche, Argentina's adventure capital
- Visit the incredible Petrohué Waterfalls

## FACT FILE!

- **Best Time to Go:** November - March
- **Cycle Days:** 5 days (10 day event)
- **Distance:** 415km
- **Level:** Challenging
- **Accommodation:** Hotels, mountain cabins

# DETAILED ITINERARY

## Day 1

Overnight flight from London to Buenos Aires

## Day 2

### Buenos Aires – Bariloche

Morning arrival in Buenos Aires, the vibrant capital of Argentina. It's a fascinating city with a dual heritage—part European, part Latin American. We stop for lunch (not included) in one of its colourful neighbourhoods, packed with colonial Spanish squares, leafy avenues and brightly-painted houses. Early afternoon transfer (1½ hours approx.) to the domestic airport for our onward flight to Bariloche in heart of the Patagonian Lake District. Overnight at a centrally located hotel in Bariloche.

## Day 3

### Bariloche



After doing bike fitting this morning, the rest of the day is free to acclimatise in the alpine town of Bariloche. It is nestled on the southern shores of Nahuel Huapi, a large glacial lake surrounded by the snow-capped Andes. Bariloche is one of the country's top destinations for outdoor activities. Choose from hiking, windsurfing, horse riding, river rafting, kayaking, fishing, paragliding or even cycling (at your own cost). Otherwise you may prefer to take a chairlift to the top of Cerro Campanario hill, relax by the lake or shop for souvenirs and chocolate - Bariloche is the chocolate capital of Argentina! This evening after dinner we hear more about the challenge ahead. Overnight in Bariloche.

## Day 4

### Bariloche – Villa La Angostura

**87km approx. (7km off-road)**

Saddle up for a spectacular first day of cycling. We set off into the Nahuel Huapi National Park, which is dominated by the dramatic Andes mountain chain. Much of today's route is along the shores of sparkling Lake Nahuel Huapi. The scenery is simply stunning with panoramic views of snow-clad peaks, evergreen forests and raging waterfalls. Our destination is the charming village of Villa La Angostura, with its Alpine-style wooden buildings. It is one of the most beautiful locations in the Lake District, known as the 'Garden of Patagonia'. Overnight in Villa La Angostura.

## Day 5

### Villa La Angostura – Aguas Calientes

**94km approx.**



It's an action-packed day as we cross the border from Argentina into Chile. This morning's route skirts the northern edge of Lake Nahuel Huapi. We then climb through the southern Andes to Cardenal Antonio Samoré Pass at 1,314 metres, one of the main mountain crossings between Argentina and Chile. The scenery changes to a lunar landscape, the closer we get to the summit. Border formalities may take some time so we have lunch at the pass before continuing the challenge.

This afternoon's ride is through Puyehue National Park, a paradise of thermal springs, mighty volcanoes, and endless

forests. Late afternoon, we tackle a tough 4km climb to reach Aguas Calientes hot springs resort in the heart of the national park. There will be the opportunity to soak in the natural hot springs to ease those aching limbs. We stay overnight in cabin accommodation.

## Day 6

### Aguas Calientes – Puerto Octay

**104km approx. (25km off-road)**

It's the longest day of the challenge but an easier ride today. We are now in the heart of the spectacular Chilean Lake District in the foothills of the Andes. This morning we cycle around the southern shores of glacial Lake Puyehue and then along the west coast of pristine Lake Rupanco. We enjoy incredible views of two of the most picturesque volcanoes in Chile: Osorno and Puntiaquedo. The ride finishes in the pretty town of Puerto Octay on the north shore of Lake Llanquihue.

## Day 7

### Puerto Octay – Ensenada

**59km approx. (22km off-road)**



Much of today's route is along the picturesque eastern shore of Lake Llanquihue, the third largest lake in South America. There is a 22km stretch of off-road with two very steep hills. As the day progresses, we draw ever-closer to the majestic Osorno volcano which provides a stunning backdrop to our ride. En-route, we stop for a short trek through lush rainforest to a beautiful 45 metre waterfall. Then it's back on our bikes for the final push to the lakeside village of Ensenada, which offers panoramic views of three mighty volcanoes: Osorno, Calbuco and Puntiaquedo. Overnight in Ensenada.

## Day 8

### Ensenada – Puerto Varas

**70km approx.**

The highlight of this morning's ride is a visit to the incredible Petrohué Waterfalls, in the Vicente Perez Rosales National Park. The icy turquoise waters cascade across lava rocks formed from the nearby Osorno volcano. We return to Lake Llanquihue and follow the shoreline all the way to Puerto Varas, with some challenging climbs en-route. After finishing the ride amid much fanfare at our hotel, the rest of the day is free to explore Puerto Varas, known as 'the City of Roses' for its beautiful flower-lined streets. It is also the main port on the shores of Lake Llanquihue. This evening we enjoy a celebratory meal to mark our fantastic achievement.

## Day 9

### Puerto Varas - Puerto Montt - Santiago de Chile

Transfer from Puerto Varas to Puerto Montt airport (approx. 45 minutes) for a lunchtime flight to Santiago de Chile. Connect to the international overnight flight to London.

## Day 10

Morning arrival back in the UK.

***Please note this is a complex itinerary which is subject to change.***