



TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK



CHILE

Birds, Wine, and Craggy Peaks with KS Nature Photography

November 5 – 16, 2022

Embark on a journey with photography expert Krisztina Scheeff to capture compelling images of birds and other wildlife amid the dramatic landscapes of Chile's central and Patagonian regions. Your adventure begins in the cosmopolitan capital of Santiago; search for a variety of endemic avifauna in nearby natural areas, including marsh, reservoir, and dry forest habitats, and sample a few of the country's acclaimed wineries. Encounter pelagic species and waterfowl on the coast before making your way to the breathtaking vistas of Torres del Paine National Park, where rolling plains, waterfalls, lakes, and glaciers are framed by sky-scraping Andean peaks.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Take a pelagic trip into the Humboldt Current to look for albatrosses, petrels, shearwaters, and skuas, as well as whales and sea lions.
- Tour vineyards in the Aconcagua and Maipo Valleys, including one of the country's oldest wineries.
- Visit a protected breeding colony of Humboldt Penguins.
- Hike along the shores of Lake Grey in Torres del Paine National Park for the chance to see the Magellanic Woodpecker.
- Seek out the elusive Ticking Doradito at Sanctuary El Peral Nature Reserve.



ANDEAN CONDOR

holbrook.travel/ksphoto-ch22

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

NOVEMBER 5 - DEPART US

NOVEMBER 6 - SANTIAGO

Arrivals in Santiago. Check into hotel. Take the afternoon to rest and explore on your own. Welcome dinner and orientation. *Overnight at Pullman Santiago Vitacura Hotel or similar. (D)*

NOVEMBER 7 - SANTIAGO

After breakfast, go birding at Lampa and Batuco marshes, north of the airport. Target birds include South American Painted Snipe, Rosy-billed Pochard, White-cheeked Pintail, and Coccoi Heron. Afterward, have lunch at Flaherty Winery with a wine tasting and tour. Ed Flaherty and Jen Hoover are two Californians who came to Chile in 1993 to work a harvest and then never left. The winery is located in the estate house of an old hacienda (or fundo, as they are called in Chile) once known as Fundo El Magnolio, after the giant magnolia trees growing in the park. The post-colonial adobe house is over a hundred years old and retains much of its original architectural style. Return to the hotel to review the day and have dinner. *Overnight at Pullman Santiago Vitacura Hotel or similar. (BLD)*



NOVEMBER 8 - SANTIAGO

Spend the day exploring the area around El Yeso reservoir in the Andean foothills. Target birds include the endemic Crag Chilia, Andean Condors, Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, Black-winged Ground Dove, Grey-flanked Cinclodes, Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant, Yellow-rumped Siskin, and possibly the Diademed Sandpiper-Plover. Next, visit one of the oldest wineries in Chile: Viña Concha y Toro. The winery is located in the Maipo Valley, which is famous for its cabernet sauvignon and carménère. One of their most famous wines is Casillero del Diablo, or Devil's Cellar. It's named for an underground cellar where the landlord used to hide his best wines, telling his employees that the devil himself dwelled in this dark and mysterious place. Return to the hotel for daily review and dinner. *Overnight at Pullman Santiago Vitacura Hotel or similar. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 9 - VIÑA DEL MAR

After breakfast, head to the coast. On the way, visit Sanctuary El Peral Nature Reserve and look for Stripe-backed Bittern, Black-headed Duck, and Many-colored Rush Tyrant. The elusive



Ticking Doradito will also be a target at this location. Have lunch at Chez Gerald Restaurant, then check into your seaside hotel. Walk along the rocky coast to look for the endemic Seaside Cinclodes and a variety of Humboldt Current seabird specialties before returning to the hotel for the evening review meeting and dinner. *Overnight at Pullman San Martín Hotel or similar. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 10 - VIÑA DEL MAR

Today take a pelagic trip on the Humboldt Current. Targets include tubenoses such as Black-browed and Salvin's Albatrosses. Also possible are Buller's, Chatham, Wandering (Antipodean), and both Northern and Southern Royal Albatrosses. You should also find Southern and Northern Giant-Petrels, Pintado, Masatierra, Juan Fernandez, White-chinned, and Westland Petrels, Pink-footed, Buller's and Sooty Shearwaters, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, and Peruvian Diving-Petrel. Other seabirds you may encounter include Red (Grey) Phalarope, Sabine's Gull, and Chilean Skua. Marine mammals may include orca, sperm whale, and dusky and southern right-whale dolphins. South American sea lions are abundant here. During the afternoon, explore the coastal areas, visiting a protected breeding colony of Humboldt Penguin, with possible sightings of southern sea otter. Before ending the day, stop at a coastal marsh to see a variety of waterfowl including Red Shoveler, Yellow-billed Pintail, Speckled Teal, and Chiloé Wigeon, all three lowland coot species, Spot-flanked Gallinule, and Plumbeous Rail, which surprisingly for a rail is quite easy to spot as it often walks in the open. Daily review and dinner at hotel. *Overnight at Pullman San Martín Hotel or similar. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 11 - SANTIAGO

Have an early breakfast and then visit La Campana National Park, which is dominated by dry forest and groves of the endemic Chilean wine palm. Mount La Campana, after which



the park is named, is one of the most prominent peaks of the whole coastal range and was also one of the many interesting places that young Charles Darwin explored during his long stay in Chile in the 1830s. Targets include several endemic passerines, including Chilean Mockingbird, Dusky-tailed Canastero, Moustached Turca, Dusky Tapaculo, and White-throated Tapaculo. Chilean Pigeon, Striped Woodpecker, Austral Pygmy-Owl, Giant Hummingbird, and Green-backed Firecrown are also seen here. Also look for the endemic Chilean Tinamou. Check out and drive to Santiago, stopping to visit a winery en route. Check into Hotel Pullman Santiago Vitacura Hotel and enjoy dinner at the hotel restaurant. *Overnight at Pullman Santiago Vitacura Hotel or similar. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 12 - TORRES DEL PAINE

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight to Punta Arenas. Have a quick look around this traditional Patagonian city and then begin the drive to Torres del Paine, with a boxed lunch en route. Admire Patagonia's breathtaking vistas, snow-capped mountains, and rolling plains dotted with guanacos. Arrive at the hotel, located at the southern edge of the Torres del Paine National Park, and check in. Evening review, dinner, and orientation to this beautiful place. *Overnight at Hotel del Paine. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 13 - TORRES DEL PAINE

This morning, drive across Torres del Paine National Park with impressive views of Paine Grande and its snowy peaks as well as Los Cuernos, the famous mountain with black granite, horn-like spires. Bird along the shores of stunning Lake Pehoé and visit the churning Salto Grande Falls, which pour the waters of Lake Nordenskjöld into Pehoé. Continue over the gentle Nordenskjöld Trail until reaching its picture-perfect lookout point. After returning to the vehicle back at Lake Pehoé, drive south to a beach along the shores of glacial Lake Grey to have a boxed lunch. Continue birding around Lake Grey in search of Magellanic Woodpeckers and to get a better view of the glacier. Return to the hotel for dinner. *Overnight at Hotel del Paine. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 14 - TORRES DEL PAINE

After breakfast, explore the scenery along the route to Laguna Azul on the northeastern side of the park. Photograph the local flora and fauna and the picturesque landscapes, including the beautiful Paine Waterfall. Upon arrival at Laguna Azul, hike to a lookout point for a breathtaking view of the lagoon and the granite towers that give the park its name. Continue along the eastern side of Lago Sarmiento to the calcium formations on the shores where guanacos are often seen. Return to the hotel. Meet to review the day before dinner. *Overnight at Hotel del Paine. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 15 - SANTIAGO

Say farewell to Torres del Paine during a final breakfast at the camp. Check out and head to Puerto Natales, stopping for lunch and a visit to a massive prehistoric cave where remains of a giant ground sloth were discovered in the 1890s. The site is in a transition zone where forests and arid plains meet and is home to a large number of bird species. Continue to Puerto Natales, and this afternoon fly to Santiago in time for your international flight home. *(BL)*

NOVEMBER 16 - ARRIVE HOME

ABOUT YOUR LEADER



KRISZTINA SCHEEFF

*Photographer / Guide / Owner
KS Nature Photography*

Krisztina has been photographing the natural world, with an emphasis on wildlife, birds & landscapes, since the age of 18. She has been published in Wild Planet Photo Magazine, Audubon papers, won awards from National Audubon Society and local organizations. She had numerous art exhibits and she is a workshop leader every year at

the San Diego Bird Festival run by San Diego Audubon Society. Her enthusiasm and passion for wildlife photography rubs off on everyone who meets her.

Photography is an adventure, just like life itself. Come join me on this journey exploring the beautiful world of wildlife and landscapes!

ksnaturephotography.com





SALTO GRANDE



RUFIOUS-COLLARED SPARROW



PENGUIN COLONY

LAND PRICING

\$6,245 (based on minimum 8 participants)

Cost includes internal flights, meals, accommodations, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, private vehicle transportation, post-departure travel protection, full-time guide for duration of program, most tips/gratuities, bottled water on the bus, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, and carbon offset.

Does not include international airfare, tips and gratuities for main guide(s) and driver, or items of a personal nature.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/ Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

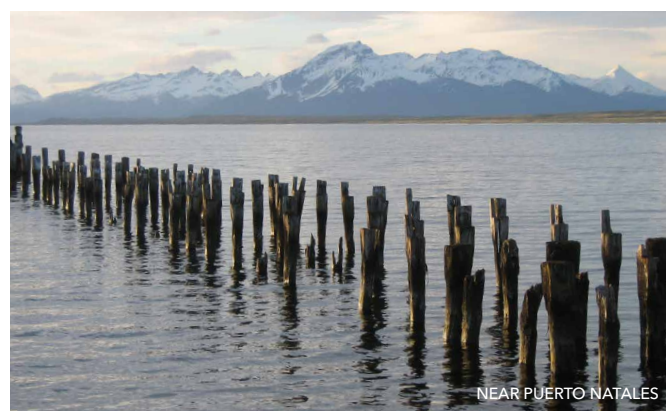
THE FINE PRINT

Cost is based on double occupancy. For a single room throughout the trip, add \$865 per person. A \$250 per person non-refundable deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. Non-refundable final payment is due August 2, 2022.

Please note: Itineraries may be subject to change due to protocols and adjustments related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the latest information regarding our COVID-19 policies, please visit holbrooktravel.com/covid19



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe



NEAR PUERTO NATALES

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL

Visit holbrooktravel.com/ksphoto-ch22 or contact Debbie Jordan at **866-748-6146** or email debbie@holbrooktravel.com