

# ABOARD&ASHORE NOBLE CALEDONIA

## PATAGONIAN ODYSSEY

PUERTO NATALES, CHILE

Overnight

MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024

Sunrise: 0738

Sunset: 2022

### YOUR DINING

**Self-service Tea & Coffee** 24 hrs  
The Club

**Early Risers' Breakfast** 0600-0630  
Pastries available in the Club

**Breakfast** 0630-0800  
Restaurant & Lido (*weather permitting*)

**Late Risers' Breakfast** 0800-0830  
Restaurant only

**Club Bar Menu** 1100-1600  
The Club

**Lunch** Ashore

**Cocktail Hour** 1830-1930  
The Club

**Dinner** 1930  
Restaurant & Lido (*weather permitting*)

### OPENING HOURS

**Reception:** Tel: 301 0600-2300

**Hospital:** 24 hours  
*Contact Reception for an appointment.*

**Emergency:** 24 hours – dial 500 (Bridge)

**The Club** 1000-Late  
*Cocktail of the Day: Fuzzy Naval*

**Beauty Salon** 0900-1900  
Please book with **Teresa** via Reception or ask to view the range of treatments, including massage, hairdressing and beauty treatments.

### Contact Numbers:

Reception: +1 954 672 6785

### TIME ZONE:

GMT – 3

### CURRENCY: CHILEAN PESO

£1 = 1,200 CLP

USD = 968 CLP

### WEATHER:

5°C - 12°C Mostly cloudy with a light breeze

Please note: It is forbidden to take any fresh produce ashore in Chile. Sealed chocolate or cereal bars are allowed. Bags will be inspected on arrival ashore.

*Torres del Paine National Park, in Chile's Patagonia region, is known for its soaring mountains, bright blue icebergs that cleave from glaciers and golden pampas (grasslands) that shelter rare wildlife such as llama-like guanacos. Some of its most iconic sites are the 3 granite towers from which the park takes its name and the horn-shaped peaks called Cuernos del Paine*

### Zodiac Disembarkation for TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK TOUR.

**0730 STARBOARD** side cabins (even numbers)

**0745 PORT** side cabins (odd numbers)

One of Chile's most attractive parks, Torres del Paine National Park was declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 1978 and was voted the 8<sup>th</sup> Wonder of the World in 2014 in a worldwide poll. Well worth the 1½ hour journey by coach from Puerto Natales. We will make a photo stop at one of the lookouts towards Grey Lake. Our drive will then take us to the beach of Largo Grey, where we will be able to walk towards a viewpoint of the Glacier located in a small peninsula, on the other side of the beach (about 3km there and back). After a nice walk, we proceed for lunch at Hosteria Grey from where there is an impressive view. After lunch, we continue to Salto Grande for an invigorating 1km walk towards the waterfall area. Afterwards, our next stops will be at the lookouts of Lake Nordenskjold and Lake Sarmiento. As we head out of the park, a short stop will be made at Cerro Castillo for souvenirs and very good maps and books, before returning to the pier at about **1900** for our zodiac transfer back to the ship.

**Nice to know:** Toilet facilities are available at the park entrance, the lunch venue and Cerro Castillo, with 'emergency' toilets on the coaches. The lunch venue is aware of all dietary requirements, but please make yourself known to the staff on arrival. If you do not wish to do the long walk at Largo Grey, one of the buses will shuttle to the lunch venue where you can rest comfortably until lunch.

**Bring/wear:** Zodiac lifejacket, mesh bag, ship's ID, water, waterproof outer layer, sun protection, hiking poles if you have them, credit card for any purchases. You may leave possessions on the bus if you don't need them with you.

**2100** After dinner music with **Florante** in the Club until late.

## Parque Nacional Torres del Paine

Chile's most dazzling national park, **Torres del Paine** (Towers of Blue) is a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. The park is named for the Paine massif, a cluster of metamorphic ridges and needles between the Southern Patagonian Ice Field and the Patagonian steppe. The name itself is a mix of Spanish and indigenous Patagonian words: *paine* being the Tehuelche term for blue, a colour frequently seen throughout the area in the form of turquoise glaciers, icebergs, rivers and lakes. The park is Chile's trekking mecca, with numerous day hikes.

The national park is dominated by the Paine massif which includes the Cuernos formation of mountains, the Torres del Paine peaks, and the park's highest summit – the 10,006ft (3,050m) high Cerro Paine Grande. Apart from these rugged peaks, there are a number of other microclimates and geological features that form part of the park. These include glaciers, granite spires, beech forests, lakes and steppe, and can be explored by foot or by coach. The southern road from Puerto Natales is the most beautiful of all routes into the park.

**Los Cuernos** – The park's centrepiece, Los Cuernos is made up of three metamorphic peaks: Cuerno Norte, Principal and Este. These are part of the 120-million-year-old Paine massif and have been formed as a result of erosion by glaciers, wind and rain.

**Salto Grande** – This waterfall connects Lago Nordenskjold with Lago Pehoé, which drains water from glacier melt-off in the northern sector.

**Glacier Grey** – The two mile wide Glacier Grey descends from the Southern Ice Field. Although the rate at which it is receding has increased, Glacier Grey is one of the largest and most easily accessed glaciers in Patagonia. The icebergs that break off from the glacier float to the end of Lago Grey. These can be seen along a short walk on flat beach from the Grey sector's ranger station, near Refugio Grey. At the end of the beach, reached by about a half-hour walk, a peninsula offers vistas of Glacier Grey in the distance.

## Landscape and Wildlife of Chile

Hemmed in by the towering Andes mountain range in the east, the Pacific Ocean in the west, a vast desert in the north, and thousands of islands and glaciers in the south, Chile incorporates a range of landscapes, from farmlands and forests to lakes and ice fields. A total of 25% of Chile's land mass is made up of 49 national reserves, 16 national monuments and 36 national parks. An additional eleven million acres was set aside for new national parks in 2017. A part of the geothermally active Pacific "Ring of Fire", Chile is also home to a total of 90 live volcanoes and plenty of thermal hot springs. Stretching over 2,670 miles, the environs, flora and fauna of the country can change dramatically in the space of a single day of travelling.

**Plateau and Coastal Desert** – Chile's desert is the driest in the world. It is composed largely of sand, salt basins, mineral-rich peaks and volcanoes, interspersed with oases that are fed by aquifers. Near the coast, a Pacific fog known as *camanchaca* provides enough moisture for cacti, shrubs and lichen.

**Central Valley** – The flat, green valleys of central Chile are divided by the Andes and coastal mountains, and watered by rivers that descend from the Andes. The Mediterranean-like climate here is conducive to agriculture – mostly fruits and vegetables – and to wine production.

**Lake District and Chiloé** – The lush Lake District is characterised by snow-capped volcanoes, crystalline lakes and river, emerald farmland, and dense Valdivian rainforest. It is home to the alerce, the second-oldest tree on the planet, and the nalca, whose leaves can reach 7ft in diameter.

**Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego** – The windswept pampa grassland of Patagonia forms part of a region packed with granite peaks, glacier fields, fjords and sheep ranches known as *estancias*. Adventure-seekers come here for trekking, fly-fishing, and mountain climbing in dramatic, untamed wilderness.