

Taith Tachwedd 2025
PATAGONIA
November 2025 Trek



160
PATAGONIA
1865 * 2025



ITINERARY



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2025 will see the 160th anniversary celebrations of Welsh pioneers who left Wales for Patagonia in 1865, establishing a Welsh colony which has flourished to this day, with the Welsh language being spoken in ever increasing numbers.

On 24th November 1865 Craig Goch was climbed to the point from where “Cwm Hyfryd”, or “Beautiful Valley” was seen by our Welsh ancestors and members of the Rifleros expedition.

160 years to the exact day our Velindre trek will celebrate the unique culture, history and heritage of the Welsh connection with our friends in South America, walking with Rifleros over the same ground as our ancestors.

A ceremony will be held on top of Craig Goch on 24 November as together with members of the Rifleros the Argentinian flag is lowered and replaced by the Welsh flag; both anthems will then be sung.

Our trek then continues for another 5-days through stunning Patagonian countryside.

Day 1: 22 November
London to Buenos Aires

Overnight flight from London to Argentina.

Day 2: 23 November
Buenos Aires to Esquel

Met on arrival at Buenos Aires International Airport where we are then transferred to the Domestic Airport for our onward flight. On arrival into Esquel we are met by our guides, and then transferred to our accommodation. This evening we will have a trek briefing and hear more about this amazing challenge. Lunch not included.

Day 3: 24 November
Craig Goch climb (approx. 5hrs)

Trek up to Craig Goch, the point from where Cwm Hyfryd was seen by members of the Rifleros expedition 160 years ago today. We will join today’s Rifleros, many of whom are descendants of the original riders, and chat with them about the history of their Society. They, and many others, will ride up to Craig Goch. Overnight in Esquel.

Day 4: 25 November (4-5hrs trekking)
Esquel to Frey Hut

After a hearty breakfast we have an early 5hr transfer to Cerro Cathedral where we begin this once in a lifetime trek! Today we will hike for approximately four to five hours through the Nahuel Huapi National Park to Refugio Frey. The first part of the trail traverses along the mountain and there are excellent views of the large Lake Gutierrez and the surrounding mountains. Then, we reach the Van Titter Valley and hike through a lush forest along a beautiful stream until the last climb up to Frey Hut and Laguna Toncek.





g Craig Goch



Through the Andean forest



The end of a tough trek

Day 5: 26 November (6-7hrs trekking)

Frey Hut to Jakob Hut

We leave from Frey Hut early in the morning, and hike up the rocky flanks of Cerro Catedral all the way to the ridge. Views of Volcanos Osorno (2652m), Tronador (3354m), and Lanin (3776m). From here we hike down to the bottom of the Rucaco Valley, and then climb Cerro Brecha Negra Mountain (1900 metres) to enjoy the view from the second summit of the day. After experiencing some of the most stunning views of the area, we hike down the mountain to Jakob Hut, where we spend the night.

Day 6: 27 November (9-11hrs trekking)

Jakob Hut to Casalata Valley

After we depart Jakob Hut we have one of the longest days on this challenge. We make our way to the Casalata Valley. The trail passes through mountain ridges, impressive valleys, rocky terrain, Andean forest with amazing views on the Andes. Once we reach the valley floor, we have a short 45-minute transfer to the Pampa Linda (77 miles from Bariloche) area of the Parque Nacional Nahuel Huapi for the next part of this trekking adventure.

Day 7: 28 November (5-7hrs trekking)

Pampa Linda to Roca Hut

We follow a track from Pampa Linda for approx. 1hr before following an ancient road to meet the Rio Alerce. The route takes a gradual uphill crossing small stream, grassy alpine meadows to reach Paso de las Nubes. Here you get some incredible viewpoints, before descending through glacially formed valleys, having amazing views of the Glacier Frias, an amazing icefall. From here we have an undulations to the Roca Hut, our destination for the night.

Day 8: 29 November (4-5hrs trekking)

Roca Hut to Lago Frias

We pick up the trail from the hut and go further into the valley. We follow a well-maintained path, with glimpses through the trees of the snow-capped mountains of the region. Before we reach the Lago Frias, we pass a memorial to members of the Argentine Gendarmeria who died here in a plane crash in 1952. We reach a small jetty where we board a boat for a trip along Nahuel Huapi Lake to connect with our vehicles to take us to Bariloche. We have a chance to celebrate our achievements in Argentinean style, maybe with a 'Tango' or two.

Day 9: 30 November

Bariloche to Buenos Aires

This morning we depart Bariloche on a flight to Buenos Aires to connect with the overnight flight back to London.

Day 10: 1 December

Arrive London

© Ultimate Challenges
This itinerary is complex and subject to change (please note, some flight schedules may change so the itinerary may need to be reversed to accommodate this).





The Mimosa Landing

On 28 May 1865 the Mimosa carrying 162 men, women and children left Liverpool. The cost of a ticket was £12 and passengers were bound for a new life in South America. The ship landed at New Bay on 28 July and the date is still celebrated each year as the anniversary of the Mimosa landing.

Despite many hardships more settlers arrived in the 1870s and 1880s. Today the population of Patagonia is around 150,000 with an estimated 20,000 people descended from Welsh settlers. The Welsh language is still spoken and Eisteddfod's held each year.

Velindre is Wales' premier Cancer Centre, providing care, support and treatment to cancer patients and their families for over 60 years.

Velindre is the major provider of radiotherapy and other specialised anti-cancer treatments in Wales. Access to radiotherapy is critical to improving patient outcomes for cancer.

We all know of family, friends and loved ones who have been touched by cancer.

The incidence of cancer is rising by 2% each year in Wales with nearly 20,000 people diagnosed with this illness each year. One in two of us will develop cancer and 150,000 people will be living with a current or previous diagnosis of this disease.

Support our campaign and help us to achieve Victory Over Cancer



However as Velindre staff strive every day to deliver the best cancer services through exceptional care, more people than ever are living with cancer – survival rates have doubled in the last 40 years through better treatments and earlier detection.

We want to lead in the delivery and development of compassionate, individualised and effective cancer care to achieve outcomes comparable with the best in the world.

Donations to Velindre are used to fund things over and above what the NHS provide, so fundraising really does make a huge difference to our patients and their families.

We aim to provide the best care, when people need us most.



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