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Magic Waters Patagonia Lodge

Chile

In the heart of Chilean Patagonia, southwest of the town of Coyhaique, Magic Waters offers one of the best locations and one of the most professional fishing programs.

At not more than 1 hour from the Lodge, we mix fishing in spring creeks in the pampas near Balmaceda, with fishing in some of the most famous rivers, like Paloma, Simpson, Blanco, Guillermo, Huemules, and many lakes and lagoons, everything at not more than 1 hour from our Lodge

At Magic Waters we fish more water than you can imagine. Almost just private and exclusive access. The dry fly fishing for big wild aggressive brown and rainbow trout is our main goal. Our beautiful small rustic Lodge can accommodate just 8 anglers per week, favoring a familiar, intimate and relaxed atmosphere.

Our chef blends the finest ingredients with our selected red wines to deliver a unique Chilean-Patagonian dining experience.

If you are looking for a home style experience and fish the best fly water in Chilean Patagonia, Magic Waters Lodge is your place....

Fishing Magic Waters Quick Facts:

Species:

Mainly rainbow and brown trout with an occasional catch of king and silver salmon

Season:

Mid October to mid may

Capacity:

12 anglers

Included:

meet at Balmaceda airport, accommodations and meals at the lodge, 1 guide per 2 anglers, all beverages, including alcohol, all ground transportation between the Lodge and fishing destinations, drift or jet boats if we required, fishing license.

Not Included:

Airfares, personal and travel insurance, staff and guide gratuities

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Location:

Magic Water Patagonia Lodge is located in Patagonia, Chile, near the city of Coyhaique. The airport is Balmaceda (BBA) and the Lodge is located at 50 minutes from the airport.

Fishing Program:

Magic Waters Lodge is located at the Outlet of the Barroso Lake, in front of 2 beautiful small lakes. In a wonderful setting, the lakes hold fat, aggressive and large brown trout with some fish caught up to 28". The Lodge has a strategic location, near to the best fisheries of Aysén's region. At 20 minutes from the best Canyon at the famous Simpson River, 35 minutes from the Cowboy's spring creeks in Balmaceda area, 35 from the Huemules, 45 to the Upper Blanco and 50 from the first float at Paloma river, we can truly say that we have a big variety of options to make come true your Patagonia Dream.

We fish more water than you can imagine

We fish in rivers, spring creeks, lagunas, and lakes. Available to you are meandering spring creeks of the pampas, to freestone rivers, crystal clear waters of the western rainforest, lagunas, and lakes. Our goal is to combine an assortment of these waters for your fishing pleasure. With Magic Waters you will have the opportunity to choose which type of fishing and places to fish. We do custom trips.

Magic Waters Patagonia has 3 other bases in strategic locations of Aysén's Area, so you always will be fishing the right spot at the right time of the season.

The big variety of landscapes from our area will give the opportunity to fish in front of wonderful mountains and peaks, virgin rainforest, the most beautiful pampas and their meandering spring creeks, hanging glaciers, crystal clear rivers, and the most important thing, you will not see any other fishermen in our waters. We just fish private Estancias.

In our waters the principal stars are resident brown and rainbow trout. During the summer months (December to April) we mostly do sight fishing for big trout. We "hunt" for big fish and help you deliver the fly to the right location.

Mostly of the time is all just about big, ugly dry flies. Most of these resemble the wide variety of large beetles found in Chilean Patagonia. Here, there are 7 different kinds of beetles – some of which are 2-3 inches long! Trout take these big flies with a vengeance! Sometimes the weather dictates that we fish streamers, which are also very productive in rivers, lakes and lagunas. At dusk, some of these waters produce very large mayfly and caddis hatches and we respond accordingly.

At the beginning of our season we fish for migratory rainbow trout and at the end of the season we fish for big migratory brown trout. We have special programs to fish for migratory trout.

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7 night/ 6 full days of fishing is our most classic program. We fish rivers staying at our main Lodge at Barroso Lake.

Our best seller program is the **11 night/ 10 full days** of fishing. We stay 7 nights at our main Lodge in Barroso Lake , and then you can visit our River of Dreams Camp and stay for 4 nights We have longer stays available, and also 4 night/ 3 days fishing trips, mostly depending on availability.

A typical day on the water...

Each morning after a very big and balanced breakfast, you and your fishing partner will get out from the Lodge by a comfortably 4x4 car to the river. You will take between 10 minutes to 1.5 hours to get from the Lodge to the river or lake. You will walk and wade or fish from a cataraft, just depending from your fishing preferences. You will be fishing all day long and after a good day of fishing we still have the best part of the day, the evenings. Right before dark if weather cooperates, we will have magic evening hatches and rises will be all over, and right in front of the Lodge.

After release a couple more fish, we will finish the day with a homemade gourmet dinner, combining Chilean and Patagonian dishes, with the best red wines from our selected cave.

Magic Waters Patagonia will customize each day the way YOU want to fish. We combine the experience and intimate knowledge of the area with your desires. You will drive to different areas, fishing every day different waters, with very different landscapes, going from the spring creeks in the eastern pampas to the western rainforest rivers that flow between wild impassable jungles. At not more than 1 hour from our Lodge we have 12 different rivers and more than 25 different lakes and lagunas.

Species

Brown Trout

Is the king of our rivers and lakes . If you head to fish in Patagonia, you have to catch a big brown trout. All the anglers before to fish in Patagonia thinks that brown trout don't jump... Browns are very aggressive and opportunistic hunters, so they love to take big dry flies. And when they do it, they do it so slow sometimes, that you will need to be very, very relaxed to be able to set thehook....

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Our brown trout came from Germany in 1904. They have colonized mostly of our rivers and waters. Today our fish are wild, and fight like crazy.

Brown trout size goes between 12" to 24". We have caught fish over 40".

Rainbow Trout

Rainbow Trout in Chile came from the McCloud River in California. They are the second numerous group in our waters after browns. Rainbow trout are most selective than browns, and they are just in a couple of rivers and lakes. We have some secret places where we have caught rainbows up to 35 inches. They are very aggressive, and the best time to fish for them is early and late in the season

King Salmon

We started to see Chinook in our rivers in 1996. The kings were planted in our rivers in the 80's, but the first important runs were seen in 1996.

They don't go very easily for flies but they take them. The best time to fish for them is between December to March, depending the rivers to fish. Our runs are not as big as the runs in Alaska, but we have some very decent quantity of fish in our rivers. We have caught Chinook in over 60 pounds.

Migratory Rainbow Trout

Some of the McCloud river steelhead colonized big lakes like General Carrera Lake and Cochrane Lake. Those fish get into the rivers to spawn in early September, and they stay in those rivers until November. The most beautiful crystal clear water rivers are the outlet and effluents of these big lakes.

In the most beautiful sceneries in spring time we sight fish for big migratory rainbow trout. We have caught fish very close to 20 pounds. Ask for special trips during the spring time

Migratory Brown Trout

General Carrera, Cochrane and other lakes holds very big brown trout. When the threes start to change the colors and you can feel fall in the air, big migratory browns start to get into the rivers. From March 15 to middle May is the best time to chase the run. Those browns are so hungry and aggressive that you can have the fight of your life. Some browns caught over 20 pounds. We will help you to release them. Ask for special trips during the fall time.

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Accommodations and Meals:

Magic Waters Patagonia Lodge, hand built by its owners, is a small family operated fly fishing lodge catering to a maximum of 12 guests per stay. Their unique wilderness location is at the end of the road to the Barroso Lake and gives its to their guest the best access to the prime waters of the area.

The lodge is built of native woods and stone and provides 4 bedrooms for 8 fishermen, kitchen, great room, and fly tying facility.

From the living room or from our deck, you can appreciate our beautiful lagoons, full of big brown trout.

6 Double and matrimonial bedrooms with private bathroom, give to the lodge an intimate, relaxed, familiar and friendly atmosphere.

The kitchen is one of our most famous parts. The meals at Magic Waters Lodge are prepared by one of the best chefs in the area, Miss Sandra Guarda. We specialize in regional dishes, using the finest ingredients available to create exciting Patagonian and Chilean cuisine. Of course, we accompany it with your choice from our excellent collection of Chilean wines. (If you desire a special diet menu, please notify us beforehand, and we will cater to your requirements).

Magic Waters Lodge also offers several activities for non-fishing spouses or partners. Bird-watching, horseback riding, hiking, shopping, and thermal baths are all available upon request.

We request you inform us of such interest with as much advanced notice as possible.

Your Host

Eduardo Barraeto and his wife Consuelo Balboa are dedicated to make your visit to Chilean Patagonia an unforgettable experience.

Eduardo has been fishing since he was a small kid. With his father guidance, he grew up hearing fishing stories and walking and fishing every stream, spring creek and river in Coyhaique area.

As a grown up, he passed 3 years at the best law school in Chile, but he realized that his dream was more related with outdoors life, and specifically fly fishing.

To get that dream, he studied International Cuisine. Then he meets Consuelo, his wife today, and started a family and a catering service during today. In 2008, they decide to go farther, and start their mayor project, today called Magic Waters Patagonia.

Actually, both work together, he with his fly fishing and culinary experience, and her, watching over every detail that can make your stay at Magic Waters Patagonia Lodge, an unique and lifetime experience

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Sample Itinerary for a 7 Night / 6 full days of fishing

Day 1:

Arrive to Balmaceda airport .Welcome at the Lodge and diy evening fishing at our lagoons.

Days 2-7:

Full days of fishing.

Day 8:

Depart lodge at time for your flight from Balmaceda to Santiago de Chile.

Typical Daily Schedule:

7:00 Coffe

8:00 Breakfast

8:30 guide will pick you up and take you to the river

13:00 river side lunch

18.00-19:00 back to the lodge for appetizers and cocktails

20:30 Gourmet Dinner prepared by our Chef

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Rates and Reservations

Rates

The ***Magic Waters Patagonia*** is open throughout the season to provide the angler an opportunity to taste all aspects of fishing Patagonia. With **limited space available**, we recommend booking early for specific dates. We also offer *special group rates* and customized itineraries. Please contact us with your special requests.

We offer you the *best service* as we can... The best *fishing* in the area, great meals, beautiful spots, the best Chilean wines and very good company.... **Join us!**

Magic Waters Patagonia package prices include: fishing, guide service, fishing licences, ground transportation, lodge accommodations and gourmet meals, beer, wine, Pisco Sours (Chilean national cocktail) and mixes.

4 nights/ 3 full days fishing U\$ 3,750

7 nights/ 6 full days fishing U\$ 5,500

11 nights/ 10 full days fishing U\$ 9,000

Reservations are accepted as follows:

- 50% deposit is required at the time of booking.
- Payment in full is due 30 days prior to departure.

**All Rates are in US dollars and based on double occupancy, gratuities, travel insurance and airfares are not included. Ask for single angler rates.*

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Travel Logistics:

Arrival Information:

To get to Magic Waters Patagonia Lodge you will need to make travel arrangements to Balmaceda, Chile (BBA). You will need to be in Balmaceda in the day 1 of your fishing trip. You can fly from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, Miami, New York, etc.

Getting to the Lodge:

A representative of the Lodge will wait for you at the airport. You will take around an hour to get to the Lodge. We suggest you to get to the airport in the afternoon, or late morning

Departure Information:

On the morning of day 8 you will fly out from Balmaceda airport to Santiago de Chile, to take your flight back home.

Documentation Requirements:

To get to Chile you don't need any special document, just a valid passport.

Travel Cash:

You will need cash for staff and guide gratuities. We recommend the 15 to 20% in gratuities for our staff

Fishing Licenses:

We will provide the fishing licenses. All information necessary to obtain your license will be taken from your pre-trip questionnaire. Carry your fishing license with you at all times on the river, but very occasionally fisheries inspectors may ask to see it.

Climate:

The weather in Southern Patagonia is **highly variable**. Anglers should always come prepared for cold rainy conditions, especially early and late in the season. The trout season in Chile runs from mid-October to early May. Chile's 11th region is similar to Pacific Northwest in the United States (such as Oregon and Washington) in terms of weather and climate. Temperatures can reach as high as mid 70's (F) during the day, but will fall sharply at night. Here, rain can be a factor in any month, so good quality waterproof gear is a must. If you have fished in Montana in the US prepare for similar weather although a bit more rain and not quite as hot during summer months. Good rain gear and waders are a must. So are some warm layers such as a stocking cap, gloves, and fleece layers in case of wet weather.

Medical Facilities and health concerns:

The nearest hospital is in Coyhaique, 20 miles far from the Lodge. Coyhaique's hospital it's a very modern and well attended facility. No inoculations are required to visit Chile. The city of Coyhaique has a first class clinic and Santiago has excellent hospital care should it be required. Southern Chile is affected by harmful U.V. rays. Be sure to pack heavy duty sunscreen (with Zinc

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oxide recommended). Drinking water at the lodge is perfectly safe. Please notify the lodge of any health conditions you have, before your arrival. You can do this with the pre-trip questionnaire provided. The lodge has a basic first aid supply, but be sure to pack all the medication you will require for the duration of your stay. As with all destination travel you should be covered with a general health and travel insurance policy before you fly.

Power and Communications:

The Lodge is connected to the electrical system, and we have a power generator just in case. There is a week cell service at the lodge and strong cell service when travelling to and from fishing locations. The lodge cell service is good enough to send texts and emails and occasionally face time (or use voice if you choose). The lodge also has limited WIFI that often can get maxed out if too many users are accessing it. We recommend contacting your wireless provider and upgraded to an international data plan before arrival. On carriers like Verizon this is just \$25 per month and you can cancel upon return. This allows you to use plenty of data to text and email.

Water:

Water is great to drink out of the tap.

Clothing:

The summer climate of this southern region of South America is extremely variable, and a wide range of temperatures and weather conditions should be expected. We recommend layering clothing, enabling you to add or remove garments during the day. Pack polar fleece jackets, thermal underwear, polar neck covers, wool socks, and a wool cap in order to be prepared for the extreme weather. Flannel or chamois clothe, and polar-tec shirts are ideal for the stream, but you'll inevitably change to something lighter while in the lodge. Also take a reliable windstopper/rain jacket. Gore Tex an excellent choice of material. Its waterproof yet breathes and thus comfortable on sunny, windy afternoons. Simms Gore-Tex and Patagonia SST wading jackets are popular choices as well.

Most first-time visitors are surprised at how wet this region is. Attire in the lodge is casual. Casual, but neat, is also the dress style in Buenos Aires and Santiago.

Laundry service is available at the lodge.

Beverages/Alcohol:

Magic Waters provides limited bottles of wine (red and white) for dinner. The lodge will supply beer and wine in limited quantities. We encourage guests to bring their own favorite hard drinks. All non-alcoholic beverages are provided.

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Tackle/Equipment List

Rods

A 9 foot 6 weight is the most commonly used rod. A five weight is a nice option on the smaller spring creeks. Since the size of the flies are so large a four weight is not often used even when fishing a spring creek. Wind can be a factor in Patagonia so a 7 weight is also a nice option for throwing large dry flies in the wind or streamer fishing. So in an ideal world plan on bringing a 5,6, and 7 weight rod. A six weight is a must and the other two are nice luxuries. Rod rentals are available at the lodge but let us know in advance if you need a rental rod.

Reels

The average size of fish in the waters near Magic Waters are in the 16-20" range, however there are much larger fish present and you never know when you might encounter one of them! Therefore, it is recommended that you bring a reel and drag system that is capable of handling at least 150yds. of 20 lb. backing. We recommend Bozeman Reel, Ross, Orvis, Abel, etc.

Lines

To be well prepared for Chilean Patagonia, anglers should include at least three lines to accommodate variance in water levels and wind conditions. Floating lines are most commonly used (weight forward recommended) that are matched with their rods. Sinking lines (the longer sink tips with 20' or longer sinking heads that transition to a floating running line are ideal) are useful for streamer fishing if rains bring water levels up. We recommend 200-250 grain lines for sinking lines. Floating lines can also work for streamer fishing if you do not have a sinking line.

Leaders

Trout in Patagonia are not particularly leader shy. Heavier tippet and leaders are also helpful for turning over large dry flies. Leaders of 9 feet in length are the most common with a few shorter 7.5 foot leaders for windier days. Tippet sizes are mostly 2x and 3x for dry flies and 0x-2x for streamers. Fluorocarbon is not needed for dry flies but is a nice option for streamers.

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Flies

Flies are included at the lodge and guides will provide them on fishing days. It is nice to have a few with you however if you like to fish your own bugs or if you are away from the guide on a wading day. Chile is also a long way from fly order companies and sometimes the lodge runs low on a popular pattern so bring a few along is never a bad thing. In general plan on fishing very big dry flies or big streamers 95% of the time.

Streamers

Sparkle Minnows (sculpin color) (size 6 and 4)

Autumn Splendor (size 4-6)

Wooly buggers (conehead or bead head variety in black and olive) (size 8 and 6)

Galloup style articulated patterns such as a Sex Dungeon or Peanut Envy

Nymphs

Nymphs are rarely used at Magic Waters but occasionally a copper john, prince nymph or pheasant tail can be dropped below a dry fly. (Sizes 10 to 16)

Dry Flies

Large Fat Albert foam dry flies (size 6 most common but a few smaller – tan most common color but some large black ones for beetles too) (size 4-10)

Other large foam attractors such as chubby Chernobyl and Chernobyl ants (size 8,6)

Mouse patterns (size 6-2)

Parachute Adams sizes 10-18

Elk air Caddis sizes 12-16

Goddard caddis size 10-14

Humpy's and Stimulators sizes 10-18

Parachute ants sizes 12 to 16

Waders

Waders are a very important part of a successful trip to Chile. Make sure you have good waders that do not leak. We recommend breathable gore-tex waders like those sold by Orvis, Simms and Patagonia. Combine these with good wading boots. Make sure to also have layers such as long johns and fleece pants for under your waders. Pant waders or chest waders are both fine but we do not recommend hip waders. Wader rentals are available at the lodge but let us know in advance if you need them.

Guides

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One of the great aspects of a trip to Magic Waters Patagonia is the incredible guide staff that Eduardo has assembled. You can expect highly trained guides that have years of experience fishing in the region. All guides speak excellent English.

Additional Tips

1. If you have questions, ask your guide. They know the river well and can usually give you the best recommendation on how to approach a particular fishing situation.
2. Fishing days are long, and the climate can be difficult. Concentrate your fishing during periods when trout are taking, and don't hesitate to rest at midday. If you find that you tire as the week progresses, talk with your guide about departing for the river a bit later; they will be happy to accommodate you.
3. As a rule, the more time flies spend in the water, the more trout you'll catch. With that being said – you will catch plenty of trout in a week so taking a break to enjoy the spectacular Patagonian landscape periodically is a must.

Electric Current

A standard two pronged (round) plug should work fine throughout Chile. The lodge has 220 volts but most appliances such as laptops, phones and cameras operate just fine on 220 so you do not need a converter. You do, however, need a plug adapter. The photos below show both a typical Chilean outlet and the adapter plug you want to get. NOTE – you do not need the three prongs – that is a ground. The two round prongs are all you need.



Safety Equipment

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For eye protection, sunglasses should be worn while fishing. Polarized lenses and a fishing hat with a brim that will protect your eyes and ears make an ideal combination. Anglers who wear prescription glasses should pack prescription polarized lenses as well as back-ups.

Guides are well-prepared to handle emergency medical situations, but you can take a few Band-Aids for cuts, scrapes, and blisters. Many anglers like to tape their stripping finger with electrical tape, which will avoid nasty cuts. Casting gloves can also protect fingers and add sun protection.

We strongly recommend considering Global Evacuation insurance offered by Global Rescue (<https://globalrescue.com>) as a precaution.

Medications

Travelers should always pack medication for such common ailments as diarrhea, upset stomach, motion sickness, headache and nausea, along with any necessary prescriptions. Most visitors to Chile don't experience stomach problems associated, for instance, with Mexico, but it pays to have treatment available just in case. You'll find food to be outstanding and bottled water available everywhere in Chile.

Miscellaneous

Insects are not a problem at the Lodge, but if you are going to the River of Dreams Camp, make sure to bring a few bottles of repellent just in case. Be sure to bring and use sun block (45-60 spf) even on cloudy days. Also plan to use lip balm, depending on your sensitivity. (The sun is very strong!)

A small dry bag can come in handing. When float fishing rafts and catarafts are used since drift boats are not practical for many put ins and take outs. A waterproof or resistant boat bag for small personal items and clothing comes in handy.

Note: To protect your valuable reels whilst they're in the boat, bring neoprene or some type of close-fitting reel cover that can be easily removed.

Gratuities

The guides and staff at Magic Waters work hard to provide you with the best experience during your trip. Gratuities are discretionary and show your appreciation with the standard of the services provided. They are much appreciated by all. Typically gratuities for guides and staff range from US \$100-150 per person, per day. The tip pool will be divided by managers amongst ALL the staff at Magic Waters Patagonia Lodge. We recommend cash.

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Currency

The dollar is widely accepted, and you can change dollars for pesos at your hotel or any bank. When paying in dollars, most merchants give change in pesos. This can be a good way to get small bills for cabs, tips for porters, etc. It is difficult to exchange traveler's checks of any kind outside of Santiago. American Express, Visa, and MasterCard are widely accepted. Your lodge package is prepaid before arrival. We recommend cash for gratuities at the lodge.

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