



Black-throated Huet-huet | Huet-huet Común | *Pterotochos tarnii*

# Patagonian forest tour

(4-day tour)

El Calafate, Santa Cruz, Argentina



Available anytime from October to March

Group size: 2-6

Tour category: birdwatching



## Trip overview

This tour combines scenic routes with wonderful views of the Andes, mountain villages, “wizarding” *Nothofagus* forests flourish on the “rain shadow” of those mountains and vast lakes that irrigate the Patagonian Steppe while they go to the Atlantic Sea. This corner of Patagonia captivates travelers, climbers, hikers and nature lovers from the entire world every year.

Iconic birds of the area are the Andean Condor, Magellanic Woodpecker, Black-throated Huet-huet, Magellanic Tapaculo and White-throated Treerunner, but also the Torrent Duck, Spectacled Duck and Rufous-legged Owl. In addition to this, there are several other fantastic creatures of this sub-Antarctic forest hiding and waiting to be discovered for example the enigmatic Patagonian deer locally known as Huemul, which is a seriously threatened species, or the Wolffsohn’s Mountain Chinchilla.

Join this birding tour and find out this “wizarding” forest and its fantastic creatures.

## Tour details

### Target birds for the area

Torrent Duck, Flying Steamer-Duck, Spectacled Duck, Chiloe Wigeon, Ruddy Duck, Lake Duck, Chilean Flamingo, Magellanic Plover, Magellanic Snipe, Least Seedsnipe, Andean Condor, Cinereous Harrier, Variable Hawk, Lesser Horned Owl, Austral Pygmy-Owl, Striped Woodpecker, Magellanic Woodpecker, Chilean Flicker, White-throated Caracara, Black-throated Huet-huet, Magellanic Tapaculo, White-throated Treerunner, Buff-winged Cinclodes, Gray-flanked Cinclodes, Thorn-tailed Rayadito, Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail, Rufous-tailed Plantcutter, Tufted Tit-Tyrant, Dark-faced Ground-Tyrant, Cinnamon-bellied Ground-Tyrant, Fire-eyed Diucon, Chilean Swallow, Grass Wren, Patagonian Mockingbird, Austral Blackbird, Patagonian Yellow-Finch, Gray-hooded Sierra Finch, Patagonian Sierra Finch, Diuca Finch and more.

### Number of expected species

75-80

### Mammal highlights

Guanaco, Huemul, South American Gray Fox, Humboldt’s Hog-nosed Skunk, Large Hairy Armadillo

## **Itinerary<sup>1</sup>**

### **Day 1: Arrival at FTE. Overnight in El Chaltén.**

Arrival at El Calafate Airport "Cte. Armando Tola" (IATA: FTE). Transfer to Laguna Nimez Natural Reserve and visit to Redonda Bay. Lunch. Transfer to El Chaltén with some birding stops. Check-in Hotel. Dinner. Night in El Chaltén.

### **Day 2: Full day birding in El Chaltén.**

AM transfer to Lago del Desierto with some birding stops along the way in the Patagonian forest. Lunch. Full day birding in the area. Dinner. Night in El Chalten.

### **Day 3: Full day birding in El Chaltén.**

Transfer to a natural park in search of birds and mammals. Lunch. Second full day birding in the forest area. Dinner. Night in El Chalten.

### **Day 4: Transfer back to FTE. End of the tour.**

Check-out Hotel. Morning birding in El Chaltén. Land transfer back to El Calafate with a box lunch service. Drop off. End of the tour.

## **More information**

### **What's included?**

This tour includes:

- ✓ All ground transportation in a private car
- ✓ Guided services: local birding guide and driver
- ✓ Spotting scope: Vortex Diamondback HD 65mm
- ✓ Accommodations: Comfortable lodges and 3-star hotels
- ✓ Three meals a day: Breakfast, box-lunch and dinner (3-course meal)
- ✓ Drinking water for refill private bottles (in order to avoid plastic and waste)
- ✓ Entrance fees to private areas, natural parks and all excursions during our trips
- ✓ Personal insurances

It does not include:

- ✗ Flight tickets
- ✗ Alcoholic drinks
- ✗ Tips
- ✗ Extra services or anything not mentioned in this brochure

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<sup>1</sup> Itinerary can be changed due to force majeure and accommodation availability.

**Category**

Birdwatching, with good opportunities to take photographs

**Habitats**

Forests, lakes, reedbeds, shrublands and grasslands  
(Patagonian Forest and Patagonian Steppe)

**Climate**

Cold, semi-arid

**Max group size**

6 + 1 local guide (ask for larger groups)

**Physical requirements**

The physical difficulty of this tour is low (easy to moderate terrain).

**Recommended equipment**

Woolly hat, cap, sunscreen (+30), polarized sunglasses, warm and waterproof clothing, trekking shoes.

**Departures**

This tour is available anytime from October to March. It requires prior reservation.

**Price**

If you want a quote for this tour, please send an email to:  
[info@southernpatagoniatours.com](mailto:info@southernpatagoniatours.com).

**Combined with**

This tour can be combined with:

- Hooded Grebe tour (4 days / 3 nights)
- Puma & wildlife safari (5 days / 4 nights)



# Map

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