

### What else is there to see and do?

If birdwatching is something that interests you, then Patagonia is a great holiday venue. There are eagles, rheas, ibises, vultures (including the Andean Condor) and around 250 other species within the area covered by our fishing trip. (You could always stay on for just that purpose after the fishing).

Other wildlife includes red deer, guanacos (wild llamas), hares, foxes, armadillo and pumas.



There are also great opportunities for guided horse rides in spectacular landscapes – plenty to see and do for any non-fishing members of your party...



### Where could I fish if I extended my visit?

Patagonia has plenty of wonderful rivers, and our guides have access to some of the very best. For a chance of a real monster trout (our best was a 32-inch brown trout weighing an estimated 15 to 16 lbs) the Limay River is one of the world's very best. For big trout in awe-inspiring surroundings, the rivers Hua Hum and Trafal would be very hard to beat. Subject to sufficient people wanting to extend their stay for three or four days it would be possible to arrange guided fishing on some of these rivers.

### Where can I learn more about the rivers and the accommodation

On our website [www.first-nature.com](http://www.first-nature.com) you will find a lot more information and pictures of the rivers and the fishing lodges. Follow the **Patagonia Hosted Trip** link from the home page or look through our Great Rivers section at [www.first-nature.com/dreamstreams/greatrivers.htm](http://www.first-nature.com/dreamstreams/greatrivers.htm)

### How can I provisionally secure places on this Hosted Fishing Trip?

A Provisional Booking Form is attached to this e-brochure. Alternatively ring us on **01239 851952** or email [enquiries@first-nature.com](mailto:enquiries@first-nature.com)



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SA44 5RE**

Tel: 01239 851952

Email: [enquiries@first-nature.com](mailto:enquiries@first-nature.com)

Website: [www.first-nature.com/dreamstreams](http://www.first-nature.com/dreamstreams)

### Hosted Trips to Patagonia (example only)

Having been truly inspired by our own fishing experiences in Argentina, we are now offering places on two hosted trips to fish for wild trout on private waters on some of the very best rivers in northern Patagonia. The first is in March 2009 and again in 2010. The fishing is amazing, and for the fishing holiday of a lifetime it really isn't anything like as costly as you might have thought.

#### Your Hosts for the Patagonia Trip



Pat O'Reilly APGAI has fished rivers and streams for more than 50 years. He is a well-known flyfishing author and a radio and TV broadcaster. His ten flyfishing books include the bestselling *Matching the Hatch*. With Sue he co-authored the Salmon & Trout Association's national guidebooks to *Flyfishing for Trout and Grayling* and *Flyfishing for Salmon and Sea Trout*.



Sue Parker STANIC has presented flyfishing courses and provided personal casting tuition in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland for several years. Sue also appears in flyfishing instructional video films and is often called upon to give presentations and casting demonstrations to angling clubs and, along with Pat, at the national CLA Game Fair.

#### The Leading Guiding Outfitter in Patagonia



We weren't prepared to accept just 'a guide outfitter' for our trips; we wanted the best, and after making many enquiries in Europe and the USA we found him. Ron Sorensen is the best. He is much in demand, having guided for many years both in the USA and in Patagonia, where he and his family have a home in San Martin de los Andes. Ron and his team are well equipped and they really know these rivers and how to fish them to best effect.

## Travel from Europe to San Martin de los Andes

From the UK, Ireland and mainland Europe there are several options for flights to Buenos Aires. You will need an overnight stop in Buenos Aires before your final flight to San Martin.

We use a locally-based travel consultant, who will help you find the best deal in international flights. This Agency will be able to arrange your internal flights and transfers to/from airports. (It's great for peace of mind to know that you are going to be met and returned to the airport when you are travelling such distances!)



### Itinerary for March 2009 (and corresponding dates in 2010)

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| Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>                       | Depart for Argentina   |
| Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>                       | Arrive Buenos Aires. Overnight stay in Buenos Aires hotel  |
| Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>                       | Flight to Chapelco Airport, San Martin de los Andes. Pick up and transfer to estancia San Huberto (fishing lodge)<br>Lunch<br>Afternoon guided fishing on Malleo River<br>Dinner and night at Estancia San Huberto |
| Mon/Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup> | All-day guided fishing on upper, middle and lower Malleo River within private estate of estancia San Huberto. All meals and nights at estancia San Huberto   |
| Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>                       | Morning guided fishing on Malleo River.<br>Transfer to Estancia Quemquentreu for lunch<br>Afternoon guided fishing on Collon Cura River<br>Dinner and night at estancia Quemquentreu                               |
| Thu/Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> | All-day floating, with fishing guides, on Collon Cura<br>Dinners and nights at estancia Quemquentreu   |

### What will it cost?

Price for the package detailed above (inclusive of guiding, licences, accommodation and internal transfers) in 2009 based on double occupancy and one guide per two anglers will be **US \$3,975 (approx. £2000)**. (The 2010 price is not yet available.)

### Booking deposit

A 50% non-returnable deposit is required at time of confirmation of booking (you will receive guidance on the range of payment methods available). This payment is used to secure the guiding and the fishing lodge reservations. We strongly advise anyone undertaking such a trip to take out separate holiday insurance.

### What is included and what is not included?

The quoted price includes all meals, accommodation, and drinks (beer, wine, spirits), flyfishing guiding, flies, local transfers, and fishing licences while at the estancias.

Not included are the costs of optional excursions (e.g. horse riding), transfers or hotel costs in Buenos Aires, airfare, gratuities, fishing gear (rod, boots, waders, etc), laundry services (if used) at the estancias, and any purchases of a personal nature.

### Air fares

Scheduled economy flights from London to San Martin de los Andes via Buenos Aires currently (April 2008) cost around £650 plus airport taxes (total cost around £850). Depending on where you are flying to/from, better deals may be available via the local travel agent, so please use this figure as just a rough guide.

### Guidance on gratuities

US\$60 to \$100 per guide per day. Based on two anglers sharing one guide, that amounts to \$30 to \$50 (currently around £15 to £25) per angler per day.

### Optional fishing or non-fishing Holiday Extensions

An additional three days (28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> March) of guided fishing on the Limay River (bring an AFTM #7 rod – there are trout to 15 lbs and more in this river!) based at Piedra del Aguila (Eagle Rock), would cost an additional \$1075 (the 2009 price) based on two sharing a room and a fishing guide. This includes all ground transfers in Patagonia, guiding, all meals, drinks (wine and beer but *not* spirits) while in Piedra del Aguila, hotels, fishing licence, and flies. Not included are the costs of optional excursions, transfers or hotel costs in Buenos Aires, airfare, gratuities, dinner in San Martin, fishing gear (rod, boots, waders, etc), laundry services, and purchases of a personal nature.

### Tackle and clothing recommendations

you should bring a light fly rod (9 to 9.5 ft AFTM #4 or #5) and one capable of handling large flies (an AFTM #6 would be ideal). Dry flies and small nymphs to match the seasonal hatches are supplemented by chunky hopper patterns and, occasionally, streamer lures. The fishing guides provide flies at no extra charge, but we also like to have some of our own favourite patterns that we have tied ourselves. For the heavier rod bring a floating line with a separate sink tip and, if you have one, a fast-sink line.

Lightweight breathable waders are invaluable. We recommend a wading staff and life preserver. The weather is generally warmer by day than spring and summer in the UK, but in the Andes even summer evenings can be cool. Typical daytime temperature is 18 to 28 degrees C with lots of sunshine (factor 40 sun-block cream and a hat are essential!). At night it falls to typically 5 degrees C and sometimes close to freezing.

Smart casual clothes are ideal for evenings, with a warm jumper to put on if we have an outdoors barbecue. A lightweight rain jacket is a good insurance policy, of course!



### The Rivers we will be fishing



Widely considered one of the world's best dry-fly rivers, the **Malleo River** runs out from the Tromen lake, beneath the spectacular Lanin Volcano (now extinct and snow-capped throughout the year) in the Andes mountain range.

In its upper reaches the river is slow and meandering, providing a challenging dry-fly experience quite similar to that of North America's spring creeks or the chalk rivers of southern England. The middle reaches are faster with more difficult wading and higher banks, making access difficult in places, but it has a remote 'explorer' feel to it. The lower Malleo offers very varied fishing with good pools, riffles and glides between willow-lined banks. Fishing throughout the river is from the bank or by wading; there is no boat fishing.

Malleo brown trout and rainbows range from one to three pounds with an occasional bigger fish. The fly hatches are prolific in spring and in autumn, but even in summer there is plenty of surface food for the fish to rise to.

The **Collón Cura** is an amazing big-fish river, offering opportunities for a wide range of gamefishing styles and tactics. Although in places deep and very fast flowing, there are also many spots where big trout can be caught in the shallow riffles. Fishing from the bank or by wading is practicable over most of the river, but to cover the water effectively, especially beside the islands formed by fallen willow trees, a good float boat and a professional guide are essential. The rainbows range from 15 to 23 inches (to 5 lbs) with an occasional bigger fish, while brown trout to 30 inches are not uncommon on this fast-flowing river. The fly hatches are good in spring and in autumn as there is plenty of surface food for the fish to rise to, and on breezy days hoppers and crickets get blown in to the margins and are warmly welcomed - particularly by big brown trout lurking in the bank-side shallows.



### Added Value Guiding

The guides on our hosted trips are the very best, and they can offer expert fishing advice as well as flies suited to the river and the particular time of year. But there is another outstanding added value element to the guiding package. It is the tactical advice and practical help you get: how you need to move a surface lure differently in fast water, slow water, deep and shallow areas, for example; how to set up the nymphing gear for different locations and flow conditions; which areas are likely to hold the quality fish in particular light and water conditions through the day. This kind of expertise is not acquired easily; it's the result of detailed surveys and hundreds of days of effort on prime stretches of the river. We cannot commend it highly enough.