

Cat-agonia: the pumas of Chile

Date: 10 – 18 April, 2027*

Location: Patagonia, Chile

Group size: 6

GBP 8,295

***inclusive of final departure day from hotel**

ANDY SKILLEN
PHOTOGRAPHY



A 9 DAY, 8 NIGHT ADVENTURE TO THE HEART OF PATAGONIA, AND THE CHANCE TO PHOTOGRAPH ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST ENIGMATIC BIG CATS...THE PUMA (MOUNTAIN LION/COUGAR...) IN ADDITION TO A WHOLE RANGE OF OTHER REGIONAL WILDLIFE. ACCOMPANIED BY ONE OF THE BEST GUIDES IN THE ENTIRE REGION, THIS PHOTO-FOCUSED GROUP OF SIX WILL BE SPLIT ACROSS TWO VEHICLES, ENABLING YOU TO EXIT QUICKLY WHEN NEEDED TO GRAB SHOTS, AND ALSO TO BE ABLE TO ACCESS REMOTE AREAS OF THE LANDSCAPE. BY OPERATING ON PRIVATE LAND, WE CAN OFF-ROAD WHEN REQUIRED AND GET YOU AS CLOSE TO THE ACTION AS POSSIBLE, WHILST UTILISING TWO SPOTTERS TO TARGET US TOWARDS YOUR INTENDED BIG CAT. AS SOMEONE WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE HABITUATION OF THESE CATS AROUND TEN YEARS AGO, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO CHASE THOSE SHOTS YOU HAVE DREAMED OF....BUT IN A BIT MORE COMFORT THAN I HAD TO ENDURE BACK THEN!

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- **GROUP SIZE OF 6**
- **EXCELLENT EXPOSURE TO THE PRODUCTIVE PRIVATE LAND SURROUNDING TORRES DEL PAINE**
- **DEDICATED SPOTTERS AND GUIDES**
- **ONLY THREE PEOPLE PER VEHICLE...NO CROWDED BUSES OR VANS**
- **A VISIT TO A SPECTACULAR CONDOR ROOST ON THE WAY TO OR FROM "PUMA-LAND", GIVING YOU EYE-LEVEL SHOTS OF THESE INCREDIBLY RARE BIRDS**

COSTS AND LOGISTICS

- **Group size: 6**
- **GBP 8,295**
- **Start point: Punta Arenas Airport, Chile**
- **End point: Punta Arenas Airport, Chile**

WHAT'S INCLUDED...

- Full board accommodation in Puma-land (no meals first night in Punta Arenas, and only breakfast/lunch on the last day)
- Two nights' accommodation in Punta Arenas (start and finish of trip)
- All domestic transfers
- Guides and spotter fees
- Access fees to the private ranches for puma-viewing
- Access to the condor roost en route to Puma-land
- 6 nights in the "puma-zone" giving 5 full days in the field for photography

WHAT'S NOT...

- International and/or any domestic flight to/from the itinerary start/end points
- Items of a personal nature
- Visa fees as appropriate (with your own local consulate/embassy)
- Any departure taxes not covered in your international flight
- Gratuities

YOUR ITINERARY....

Day 1: Arrive in Punta Arenas (1 night)

Arrive in the southern city of Punta Arenas where you will be met by our local "Faunavista" representative and transferred to your hotel for the night (no meals).

Day 2 Transfer to Puerto Natales (6 nights)

Early morning, check out from your hotel and a road transfer (two vehicles) to Puerto Natales, on the edge of Torres Del Paine National Park. Here is your base for exploring the private ranch lands on which the majority of pumas reside over the next 5 full days. You will stop on the way for lunch (and possibly the condor roost), and arrive in the afternoon, ready for the next day. You will be on full-board during your stay.

From Day 3 onwards, you will be up and out all day in search of these fantastic big cats, with cubs at this time of year a real possibility as mothers will have started to allow them more freedom and the chance to explore, rather than hide them away. The photography will all be on foot, and our guide will ensure you are in the best position at all times to maximise the opportunity. It's a life-changing experience. As well as pumas, other wildlife – guanaco, skunks, foxes, rheas etc – will also be on the hit-list.

Day 8 Transfer to Punta Arenas (1 night)

Today, sadly, you will have to say goodbye to this beautiful part of the world and make your way south back to Punta Arenas. You may do the condor roost today on your way back (if not done on the way up), as afternoons are usually better because of air currents and wind conditions. This is a chance to be photographing at eye-level with these almost mythical birds. Reaching Punta Arenas in the late afternoon/early evening, you will then be dropped at your hotel (dinner own arrangements).

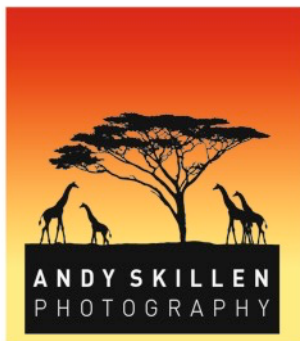
Day 9 Transfer to Punta Arenas airport

After a good night's rest, you will be collected and transferred to the airport today for your flight onwards to Santiago (if flying home) or elsewhere. Alternatively, we can arrange visits to penguin sites and other possibilities in the region if interested.

HOW DO I BOOK MY SPACE?

Send an email to Andy@faunavista.com to receive a booking form.

This trip will be done on a **first come, first served** basis. Please indicate if you wish to do one or both departures.



CHANGING THE IMAGE OF WILDLIFE TRAVEL...