PATAGONIA
A JOURNEY TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD
Personally hosted and escorted by Carlos Fida
Buenos Aires, El Calafate, El Chalten, Ushuaia, Cruise around Cape Horn and the Fueguia Fjords, Punta Arenas, Santiago and optional tour to the Easter Islands
March 26th – April 9th (extension to Easter Island April 8th – 13th, 2018)

During his voyage around the world, Charles Darwin described that Patagonia’s rugged landscape and majestic beauty created a desire to return to the land again and again. Those who journey with me may also find themselves enchanted and captivated by the mysticism of Patagonia. I lived in Patagonia for 17 years, I should know! Patagonia is a land of discoverers, adventurers and colonizers. Magellan, Sebastian el Cano, Sir Francis Drake, and even our own Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, roamed this vast region which covers two thirds of Argentina and one third of Chile. As we round Cape Horn, weather permitting, we will disembark on this magical island right at the tip of South America and climb to the top of its promontory. Here the warm waters of the Pacific collide with the cold waters of the Atlantic. As the two oceans meet, mist arises from the surface giving an eerie feeling difficult to describe.

To further this unbelievable experience, I am taking a group on an optional tour extension to the mysterious Rapa Nui, also known as Easter Island. We will have the opportunity to experience first-hand the ancient monolithic stone statues called Moai, which are scattered throughout the island like silent sentinels keeping watch over the land. We journey through this land where rituals were once celebrated by a mysterious civilization.

Tour Host Carlos Fida: I am a native of Argentina where I held teaching positions at the University of Patagonia and at the Military Academy. I have lectured for university groups on the rich history of pre-Colombian and modern Latin American history.

I immigrated to the United States and after working for five years in the travel industry, I earned my Certified Travel Agent degree in 1985. Since then, I have devoted 39 years of my life as a highly qualified specialist in Latin American travel.

I was instrumental in setting the Latin American programs for LAN Vacation and United Vacations and was nominated among the top specialists in Latin American Travel by Travel & Leisure Magazine starting in 2006. My travels have taken me to every corner of Central and South America and many other exotic countries.
ITINERARY

March 26: Los Angeles to Buenos Aires, Argentina
Depart from Los Angeles on LATAM Airlines 603 leaving at 3:15pm. After a stop in Santiago to change planes, we will arrive in Buenos Aires at approximately 10:20am.

March 27: Buenos Aires, Argentina (D)
Good morning Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina! Within its city center, the Plaza de Mayo is surrounded by stately 19th century buildings and the Casa Rosada, the government palace. Its neo-classical architecture, café culture and international vibe give the city a strikingly European feel, earning its nick name “the Paris of South America.” Buenos Aires is also decidedly Argentine, with its tango salons, creative boutiques and culinary focus on beef and international cuisine. According to experts, Argentine beef is the best in the world. After a full day of immersing ourselves in this beautiful city, we’ll feast at La Estancia, a famous steak house declared by the tourist board as one of the best dining places in the city.

March 28: Buenos Aires, Argentina (B, L)
Today we take a scenic drive through the Pampas to reach Estancia Don Silvano, where we will taste a delicious open pit barbecue lunch and immerse ourselves in the lifestyle of the Gauchos, the cowboys of Argentina. We can participate in several activities and enjoy folklore music. Horseback riding will be available.

March 29: Buenos Aires, Argentina (B, D)
A comprehensive city tour will show you the highlights of Buenos Aires. The city blends a distinctly European heritage and a fiery Latin charm. You will visit the Metropolitan Cathedral, once the seat of Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now Pope Francis. The Pink House, as opposed to the White House, is the government house and political center of Argentina. We will show you the balcony from which Eva Peron rallied the masses of workers, claiming equality for the rich and poor. We will drive by the Colon Opera House along 9th of July Avenue, one of the widest in the world. Our tour will make a stop at La Recoleta Cemetery where Eva Peron is buried. The cemetery is as famous as the Pere Lachaise in France or Highgate in London. Multimillion dollar mausoleums crowd this relic of the past. This evening we will attend a tango and dinner show – one of the best in all of Buenos Aires.

March 30: Buenos Aires to El Calafate, Argentina (B, D)
Today we fly to El Calafate, located in the heart of the Argentine Patagonia. El Calafate is the base from which to see the spectacular Perito Moreno Glacier. Thousands of visitors come for a chance to stand face-to-face with this tremendous wall of ice. This afternoon we will have the opportunity to walk along the leafy streets of downtown El Calafate. Excellent restaurants line the main avenue, including one of host Carlos’s favorite restaurants “Mi Viejo,” where they serve delectable barbecue lamb among other meats.
March 31: El Calafate, Argentina (B)
Not far from town, against the backdrop of the Andes rises the Perito Moreno Glacier. The aluminum catwalks or the elevator will take you from the upper platform of the glacier to the lake level. Following the sightseeing of the glacier we will sail Lake Perito Moreno and see the towering glacier from an extraordinary vantage point. The glacier advances 6.6 feet a day while many other glaciers around the world are receding. Patagonia is not just any place or a clothing brand. By looking at the awe-inspiring landscape you will feel a connection with the land, water, ice and air.

April 1: El Calafate to El Chalten, Argentina (B)
A three-and-a-half-hour drive will put us in El Chalten, a small city nestled in a valley at the foot of the majestic Fitz Roy peak. Carlos will share with you the historical facts about Oreille Antoine de Tounens, the first self-appointed Emperor of Araucania and Patagonia. He will also introduce you to the legend of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, who roamed the steps of Patagonia not so long ago. We will make a stop at La Leona, a landmark post where some of the daring adventurers like Captain Fitzroy and Perito Moreno visited. Then we’ll sail through icebergs floating in the emerald waters of Lago Viedma. The Viedma Glacier is the longest in the Andes and part of the ice fields of Patagonia. Afternoon return to El Calafate.

April 2: El Calafate, Argentina (B, L)
No visit to Patagonia is complete without an experience in a typical Patagonian ranch where an open pit barbecue lunch will be served at the NIBEPO AIKE estancia. We will enjoy the activities of a typical Patagonian ranch. The ranch-hands will go about their chores but will show you all there is to know about the lifestyle of the “arrieros,” who move sheep and horses from pasture to pasture.

April 3: El Calafate to Ushuaia, Argentina (B)
A short flight will take us to Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world and capital of Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. There will be time to stroll around the city. Ushuaia is the port city which serves as the departure point for most cruise lines sailing to Antarctica. Beginning in the late 1800s, Ushuaia served as a prison for political prisoners and criminals but was later closed in 1947 and turned into a naval base.

April 4: Ushuaia to Cape Horn Cruise (B, D)
Before sailing around Cape Horn and the Fueguian channels, we will enjoy a ride in the “Tren del Fin del Mundo” or “End of the World Train.” This train will take us to La Pataia Bay, the southernmost point in Tierra del Fuego, Argentina. A visit to the pristine Ushuaia National Park will give you the opportunity to familiarize yourself with a variety of Nothofagus, a specie of Magellanic subpolar forest that migrated from Antarctica millions of years ago. Following our excursion, we embark the M/V Stella Australis to experience the navigation of a lifetime. We will follow the routes of 15th and 16th century navigators and discoverers, like Ferdinand de Magellan, Sir Francis Drake, Christopher Columbus, Lewis Jones who established the Welsh colony in Patagonia, George Musters, and Julius Popper. Carlos will brief the group on the history of those early days in Patagonia.

April 5: Sailing around Cape Horn, Chile (B, L, D)
Sail around Cape Horn, a highlight for any traveler who navigates this route. Early explorers fantasized about sailing around Cape Horn, and facing the unknown while chasing the grandeur and isolation of the southern tip of Patagonia where the Atlantic and Pacific oceans collide. This is the place where the cold waters of the
Atlantic meet the warm waters of the Pacific creating roaring seas and fog. When the M/V Stella Australis stops, we will disembark and climb to the top of Cape Horn (as weather permits).

April 6: Sailing the Southern Seas (B, L, D)
We disembark on special zodiacs to see and touch firsthand millenary glaciers. This is an incomparable experience nowhere else seen in the world. The majestic landscape and ice formations will have a spiritual pull as it tests the limits of what it means to be human.

April 7: Punta Arenas to Santiago, Chile (B)
The M/V Stella Australis docks in Punta Arenas at 11am. After a short stroll around Punta Arenas, we board our flight to Santiago, Chile arriving at 8:20pm. Overnight at the Plaza San Francisco hotel

April 8: Santiago de Chile to Los Angeles (B)
Santiago is the capital of Chile. It sits in a valley surrounded by the snow-capped Andes and is only a couple hours away from the Pacific Ocean. Chile is the longest and narrowest country in South America, only 40 miles wide at its narrowest point. After breakfast, we start our city tour of Santiago which will take us through the downtown historical area. We visit the Government Palace, “La Moneda,” in the heart of the city. The tour will lead to a walkthrough of the Main Square and a visit to the Cathedral, which has been rebuilt three times after earthquakes destroyed it. Then we leave the city and drive to the top of the San Cristobal Hill. From this vantage point you will have a full view of Santiago and far beyond the peaks of the Andes, which serve as a backdrop to the city. A stop will be made at an arts and craft market called Los Dominicos. Evening transfer to the airport for our flight home.

April 9: Los Angeles
Arrive in Los Angeles at 6:20am and catch connecting flights to our final destination.

STELLA AUSTRALIS
Stella Australis spends September through April sailing exclusively around the Chilean fjords, the southernmost point of South America. The ship is the only cruise ship built in Chile and is specially designed to navigate the narrow fjords and shallow bays in this part of the world -- for a ship this size it has an extremely shallow draught of just 11.2 feet.

All the excursions are in Zodias (often in choppy waters) and there are no facilities for the less able or infirm. There is no dress code or official formal night. For the Captain’s Dinner, however, it is recommended to wear casual attire (men wear a jacket, women a dress). When you book, you will receive a list of suggested clothing items to bring such as waterproof pants, jacket, gloves, walking boots, sunglasses, and a hat.

Your cruise fare includes drinks onboard and all shore excursions by Zodiac boat. There are no shuttles into town and gratuities are not included. The suggested amount for tips is $15 per day, per person. You can pay by credit card or there will be an envelope left in your cabin on the final night for tips. The onboard currency is the U.S. dollar.
EXTENSION TO EASTER ISLAND

April 8: Santiago to Easter Island (B)
Soon after breakfast we have scheduled a transfer to the airport for an almost 5-hour flight on LATAM Airlines, departing at 9:30am and arriving at the island at 1:25pm. Our hotel is surrounded by gardens and close to the ocean. Easter Island could be described as fascinating, enigmatic and mysterious. These are just a few words to describe the beauty and allure of the island. Easter Island is an open-air museum isolated in the middle of the South Pacific. Friendly islanders will receive us. The bilingual, local guide will show us petroglyphs and Maori stones scattered around the volcanic landscape of the island.

April 9: Easter Island (B, L)
After breakfast we will enjoy a full day tour along the route of the Moai visiting archaeological sites dating back 1200 years BC. The Ranu Raraku volcano presents an amazing view of the island. We will have a box-lunch and picnic in a peaceful area by gigantic Moai statues.

April 10: Easter Island (B, D)
Enjoy your day by going on a tour of the Orongo village by the Rano Kao volcano. On top of the crater is Orongo, the center where the Mid Man ceremony is celebrated each year. There are hundreds of petroglyphs representing the god Make Make. The day will end with a farewell dinner and folk show.

April 11: Easter Island to Santiago (B)
Enjoy a half-day tour of Ahu Akivi. On a stone platform there are seven Moai facing the sea. This is a particularly unusual orientation since most of the Moai face inward to the island. Transfer to the airport and depart Hangaroa, the capital of the Easter Island. Upon arrival in Santiago, Chile, transfer to your hotel.

April 12: Santiago to Los Angeles (B)
Today we cross the city and drive through vineyards in the fertile Valleys of Curacavi and Casa Blanca. We will visit Vina del Mar, also called the “Garden City.” Parks and plazas dot the quaint streets of Vina del Mar. Vina is the summer resort of the santiaguinos. A few miles away is Valparaiso, a city designated a UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE. The unusual architecture dominates the city. It may remind you of San Francisco, but instead of cable cars, people move from the lower part of the city to the top in escalators. To cap a wonderful day of touring Chile, we visit La Sebastiana, a former residence of Pablo Neruda and poet laureate of Chile. Continue to Santiago and to the airport for the flight to Los Angeles with a stop in Lima, Peru.

April 13: Los Angeles
Arrive in Los Angeles at 8:56am.
### RESERVATION INFORMATION

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<th>Easter Island</th>
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**Tour program includes:**

- Round trip airfare from Los Angeles
- All meals as listed in the day-by-day itinerary
- All meals on board of the M/V Australis
- Transfers, sightseeing, entrance fees to national parks
- Tips to tour guides and drivers
- Tips to waiters for included meals (except on the Australis)
- Expert guide Carlos Fida

**Tour program does not include:**

- Alcoholic and soft drinks for included meals
- Tips to the Australis cruise personnel (suggested tip: $15 per day per person)
- Anything not specifically mentioned

**BOOK EARLY!**

*Space is very limited!!!
Sale ends September 26, 2017!!*

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**COLUMBUS TRAVEL**

563 West 500 South, Suite 180; Bountiful, UT 84010
801-295-9568 or 800-373-3328
info@columbusvacations.com

See full brochure for complete terms and conditions (on page 3)
Page 3 can be found on www.ColumbusVacations.com
RESERVATION INFORMATION CONTINUED

Rates are per person based on 2 sharing one room. Rates for only 1 person in a room are available upon request. Rates include all taxes and fuel surcharges current as of June 24, 2017. Taxes and fuel surcharges are subject to change.

DEPOSIT:
$600 per person for land/cruise.

FINAL PAYMENT:
Final payment for land/cruise is due November 16, 2017.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND:
In case of cancellation the following cancellation penalties apply:

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<td>Land/Cruise non-refundable</td>
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TRAVEL PROTECTION: Columbus Travel recommends that you purchase a Travelex travel protection plan to help protect you and your trip investment. Consider travel protection for:
- Trip Cancellation
- Trip Interruption
- Emergency Medical Expenses
- Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation of Remains
- Trip Delay
- Baggage & Personal Effects
- Baggage Delay and more

For a summary of plan details on benefits, coverage, limitations and exclusions, please refer to the applicable Description of Coverage. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Transamerica Casualty Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio; NAIC #10952. 1308333

INTERNATIONAL TRIPS:
For all tours and cruises that include international air, a valid passport is required. Columbus Travel must receive a copy of your passport information page at least 90 days before the departure date. Airlines have strict policies concerning name changes/corrections after tickets have been issued. If a name change/correction is required on your ticket, you will be required to cover the cost of the fees.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
Travel Services, Inc., d.b.a. Columbus Travel, ("Agent") gives notice that all services, reservations and arrangements for transportation, or cruise, or conveyance, or hotel or lodging, or meals or sightseeing services or any other activities made by Agent, are made by Agent as dual agent for the traveler, (Passenger) and for the air carriers, hotels, sightseeing companies, transportation companies, cruise lines and other companies (Suppliers) providing services for this program. As such, Agent shall not be liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reasons of defect in any vehicle or mode of transportation, through the acts, defaults, financial difficulty or bankruptcy or omissions of the Supplier or person engaged in carrying out the arrangements of the trip or otherwise in connection therewith. Agent is not liable for delays and/or cancellations of services and resultant expenses or loss caused by acts of God, sickness, quarantine, weather, strikes, war, terrorism, social or labor unrest, local laws, mechanical or construction difficulties, abnormal conditions or other situations, actions, omissions or conditions outside Agent's control. Agent is not liable for loss of, or damage to baggage or personal possessions. Agent and Supplier reserve the right to alter or cancel the itinerary or substitute services as conditions require or for the safety of Passenger.

As a matter of privacy, we do not disclose addresses or other personal information about other travelers in the group. We do all in our power to assure seats for passengers traveling together on aircraft are assigned together, but because airline seating assignments for groups are controlled by the air carrier, we cannot guarantee specific seat assignments. Passengers must be in good health and able to care for their own needs. Please contact us regarding any health concerns you may have or if you need to bring any specialized medical equipment such as wheelchairs, oxygen tanks, etc. so that we can determine if transportation services, hotels, and other suppliers can accommodate your equipment. If it is determined that your equipment can be accommodated, you or your traveling companion are fully responsible for it and must be able to lift, fold, push, and handle the equipment. Tour directors on the trip cannot be of assistance with such needs. We reserve the right to remove passengers from the group at their own expense if the care of or actions of a passenger become detrimental to the functioning of the tour. Payment of deposit(s) as outlined in this agreement shall be deemed consent to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

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