

World's Unique Species

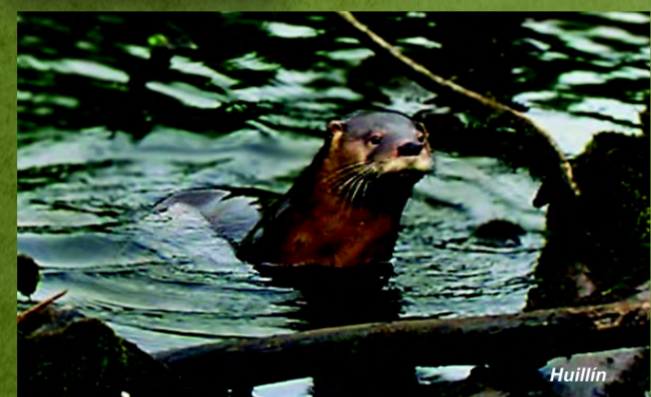
Nahuel Huapi National Park is home of many animals and plants that can only live and reproduce on this part of the planet. The rana del Challhuaco (a frog that is found in Challhuaco Mount) is one example. This short-legged, robust amphibian only inhabits the waters of Mount Challhuaco. This frog is herbivore while an aquatic tadpole and insectivore later as a terrestrial adult. The tuco tuco colonial (*Ctenomys sociabilis*) is another species that can only be found in this region in the North of the National Park in Cuyin Manzano range. It is a species of rodent that lives in colonies and has adapted to the life underground. Another special inhabitant is the Senecio carbonensis, a small bush from the High Andean mountains that lives in the most arid areas of the park at 1500 and 1750 m.a.s.l. These species are native and confined to a certain region, that is the reason why they are called "Micro-Endemic".

To ensure the conservation of the frog in Challhuaco and the Senecio carbonensis, the National Park Administration has declared the Challhuaco Mounts adjacent area "Critical Area Nirihuau and Challhuaco Watersheds".



The huillín Emblematic Species in the National Park

The huillín (*londra provocax*) is a species of otter of approximately 120 cm long that lives, exclusively, in the South of Argentina and Chile. This otter, which feeds on crustaceans, pancoras (*Aegla*) and prawns, inhabits freshwater environments such as lagoons, lakes and rivers. In the Mid-20th century, it was frequent to see this species in almost all Patagonia, however, its population has been declining considerably due to hunting as well as the presence of exotic species such as the trout, the salmon and the mink. It is the National Park Nahuel Huapi that holds the largest population of huillines in Argentina, thus the huillín is regarded as the most emblematic species in the park. This protected area aims to ensure its survival and so it protects its natural habitat, its coasts, lakes and vegetation. A conservation program to perform long-term investigations on the species was implemented in the year 2010.



Cerro Tronador (Tronador Mount) A Giant In The Andes

Thousands of years ago, a vast part of the territory of the National Park Nahuel Huapi was surrounded by glaciers. Climatic changes are considered to be responsible of the retreat and thinning of this huge mass of ice. As a result, large valleys, lakes and rivers were surrounded by abrupt slopes which were later populated by forests. Nowadays, the glaciers only occupy the mountain's summit and part of the flanks. The mount was named Tronador (Spanish for Thunderer) in reference to the continuous astounding sound of falling lumps of serac. Named Anon by indigenous peoples, Tronador stands with an altitude of 3,478 m making it one of the most important attractions in the National Park.



Nahuel Huapi National Park. A natural scenery. A cultural attraction.

The beginning of National Park Nahuel Huapi dates back to the year 1903, time in which Perito Francisco Pascasio Moreno (perito means "specialist, expert") donates to the Argentinian state an area of, approximately, nine miles (14,5 square kilometers, nearly 2 million acres) located in the far West of branch Blest in Nahuel Huapi Lake. As a result, this area became the heart of the first National Park in Argentina declared in 1922 "Parque Nacional del Sur" ("National Park of the South"). Many years later, in 1934, the Congress passed a law which enacted the creation of the National Park Nahuel Huapi adjoining a larger territory. Today this protected area comprises a surface of 717261 hectares situated in the West of Río Negro and Neuquén provinces. The park is bordered on the West

by the Andes mountain chain following the international limit between Argentina and Chile on the East, it follows the Villegas, Niriguau and Limay rivers on the South, the park is bordered by the river Manso Inferior and, finally, bordering the park to the North we reach Lanín National Park. Moreover, not only do we find municipal cities such as San Carlos de Bariloche and Villa La Angostura within the boundaries of the park but also the communities of Villa Triful and Villa Mascardi. The National Park's main objectives are to: preserve watersheds as well as archeological sites, promote research work, facilitate Environmental Education and offer countless opportunities for public recreation and enjoyment to explore nature.



First Inhabitants

At least 13,000 thousand years have passed since the first human inhabitants have been registered to have stepped on Patagonian soil. Such historical relevance provides us with the certainty that different groups have been moving over this land not only adapting themselves to the diversity of the resources of the region but also to the climatic changes that have occurred during such a long period of time. From the Pacific Ocean to the steppe, the Andes mountain range and its forests have been regarded as a crossing point, a gathering space and a way of life for past societies. Population growth has allowed peoples to gain knowledge as well as acquire vast experience in natural resources and its exploitation which, today, constitutes an important part of the patrimonial legacy of Nahuel Huapi National Park.



Protagonists of history

It is due to the complex history of European colonization in Nahuel Huapi (beginning in the 16th century) and the constitution of the National states of Chile and Argentina (towards the end of the 19th century) that today the Mapuche community and Criollo (Creole) settlers of different origins- mostly from Europe, Chile and other Argentinian provinces- have found themselves living together. Encouraged by various reasons, each and every inhabitant has left its mark on this landscape. Active engagement with the natural environment has enabled the population to learn about the local natural values of this protected area. The National Park's main objective is to make public this cultural diversity as well as work from an intercultural perspective with a view to integrating human well being and nature conservation.

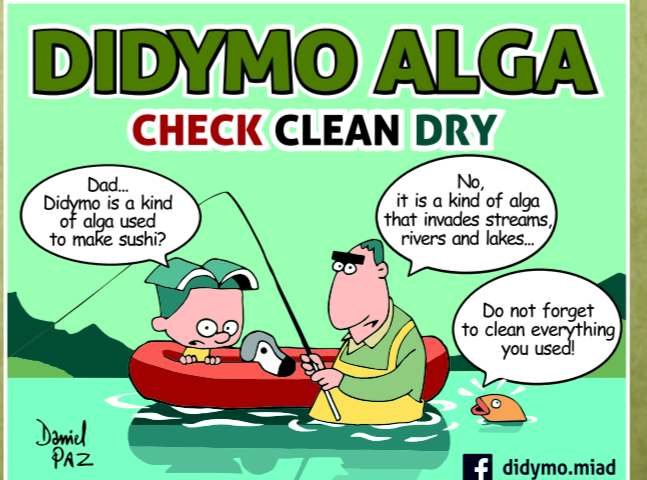


Various Mapuche communities (native inhabitants) are now living within National Park Nahuel Huapi. Recently Mapuches and the National Park authorities have signed an agreement which enables the Mapuche society to have both participation and direct influence on the administration and welfare of the territories we inhabit.



Advisories and Public Safety

- Research the route you plan to take. Please review the permitted activities and regulations.
- Complete the trekking form before you start the walk, it is mandatory and free. www.nahuelhuapi.gov.ar
- Remember you are in a wooded area and trees and branches fall is frequent.
- Keep in mind that rivers, streams and lakes are deep and cold. Their temperature range between 5° and 12° C degrees. Quick entering to water is dangerous for your health.
- Keep your food in closed and resistant containers, in places out of reach to rodents and other wild animals. In this area inhabit rodents. This animals can transmit diseases as hantavirus.
- Walk with precaution in stony areas, be aware of possible rockfall. Always walk on established trails and paths.
- Pets entry is prohibited.
- Make fire only in the authorized areas, which are signposted with this specific indication. Never leave the fire unattended and put it down with abundant water. Prioritize heater use.
- Ensure you have put out your cigarette.
- Remember the flora, fauna, archeological sites and cave paintings are protected by Law.
- Acquire your fishing licence.



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Intendencia del Parque Nacional Nahuel Huapi
San Martín 24 - R8400ALN - S. C. de Bariloche - Argentina
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APN
Administración de Parques Nacionales
Nahuel Huapi National Park
General Information

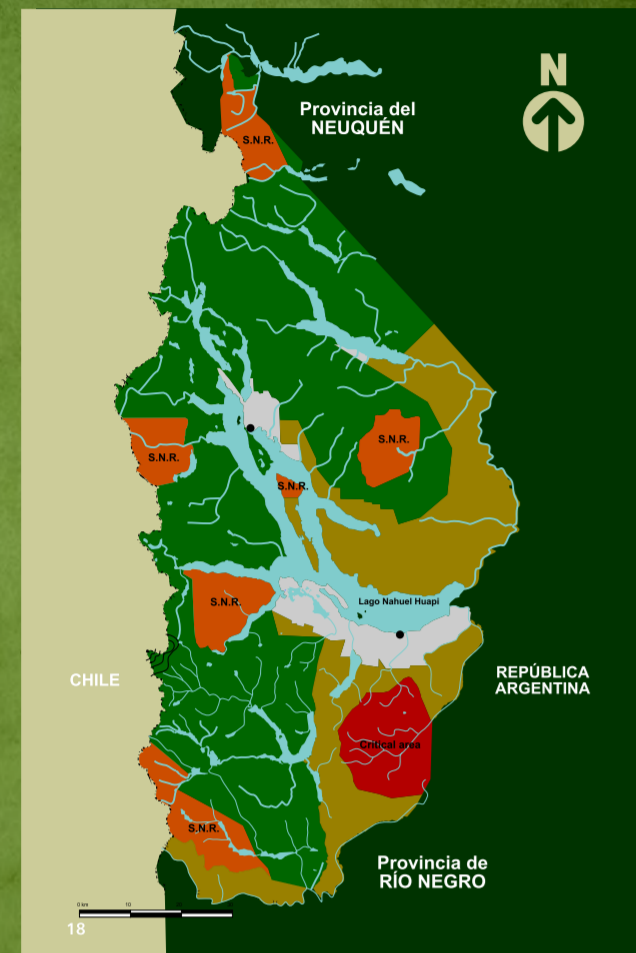


Protected Areas Categories System and Criteria

The Park is divided into conservation categories according to management objectives in order to organize the multiple activities available within the reserve. The categories serve to protect areas where human visitation, use and impacts are strictly controlled and limited to ensure protection of the conservation values. Such categories are: National Park, National Reserve, Natural Monument and Strict Nature Reserve, the latter was defined in 1990 as a result of the decree 2148/90 issued by the National Executive Power.

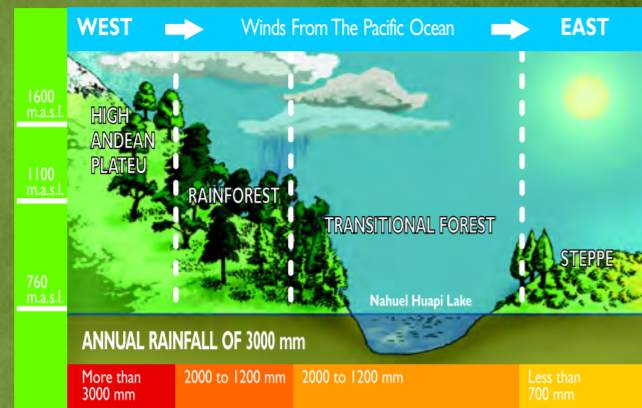
MAP KEY

	National Park		Municipal cities
	Strict Nature Reserve		International Border
	Natural Reserve		
	Critical area		



Landscapes

The Nahuel Huapi National Park holds landscapes of great altitude ranging from 3500 m.a.s.l. to less than 500 m.a.s.l. Climatic conditions, soil characteristics, flora and fauna define three very distinctive ecoregions and landscapes: High Andean Plateau, Forest and Steppe.



Lenga
Nothofagus pumilio

Coihue
Nothofagus dombeyi

Ñire
Nothofagus antarctica

High Andean Plateau

At an altitude of 1600 m, the forest, like an island in the ocean, emerges in a landscape surrounded by rocky mountains, icecaps and glaciers. The higher the altitude the more extreme the climate which allows for creeping plants, dense bushes and eye-catching flowers to grow such as the High Andean Cuye amarillo (*Oxalis erythrorhiza*).

Forest

Temperate forests grow covering mountain slopes and valleys densely. In the most humid areas a certain kind of tree better known as Nothofagus is predominant. The evergreen Coihue which grows from the banks of lakes to 900 m.a.s.l.; the Lenga, which can be found at an altitude of 1500 m, and the Ñire that lives in several climatic conditions.

Steppe

Surrounded by low mountains, the Patagonian Steppe has a dry climate, low seasonal rainfall with grasses and shrubby vegetation dominating the landscape. In this region, also known as Semidesert due to lack of rainfall, grows the Quilembai and the Neneo, both shrub species, and a kind of grass-like plant known as "the Coirones".

Parque Nacional Nahuel Huapi



MAP KEY

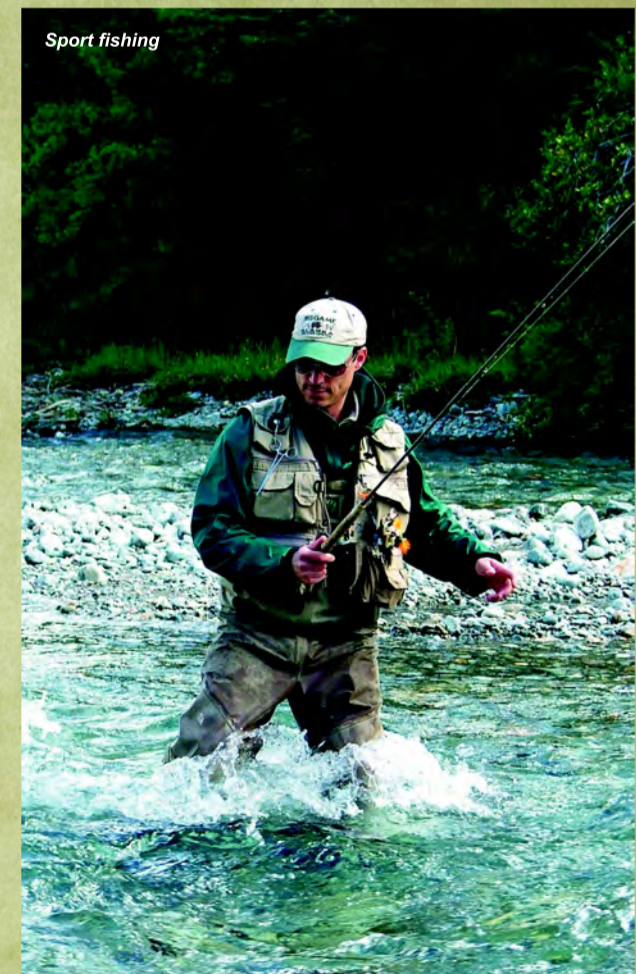
- Municipal Public Land
- Paved Road
- Gravel Road
- Cycling Path
- Fuel
- International Boundary
- Gendarmerie
- Cascade
- Biking
- Horse Riding
- Rafting / Kayak
- Climbing
- Windsurfing
- Hunting
- Diving
- Navigation
- Crosscountry Skiing
- Airport
- Park Ranger
- Entrance Fees
- Information Center
- Ranch Tourism
- Motordriven Navigation
- Navigation Excursions
- Groceries
- Restaurant / Café
- Shelter
- Customs
- Museum
- Visitor Center
- Viewpoint
- Hotel / Inn / Cabins
- Beach

Types of Camping at Nahuel Huapi National Park

- Organized Campsite:** All the services included: restrooms, showers, hot water, groceries, laundry facilities.
- Rural Campsite:** Minimal facilities: restrooms, campfires, cold water supplies.
- Free Camping Area:** no services.
- Camping:** No overnight.

Explore Nature

The National Park offers many alternatives for those who wish to experience the delighting natural charm of its surroundings. The most popular recreational activities and sports are: mountaineering, trekking, horse riding, mountain biking, sport hunting and fishing; rafting and kayaking. Navigation excursions are also available or simply enjoy the tranquility of this natural scenery.



EMERGENCIAS

Fires, communications and emergencies (ICE):
+54 (0294) 4422479 Tel: 105 / 911
VHF: 155675 / 150335.
 VHF coverage may suffer restrictions due to the area's topography.

Club Andino Villa La Angostura:
 Tel: +54 (0294) 4494954
 Club Andino Bariloche:
 VHF: 148.450
 Aid Commission:
 Tel: +54 (0294) 4422266 / 4424579
 Cel: +54 (0294) 154636960



Do not litter, this includes cigarette butts. Do not discard rubbish of any kind. Pack out all food waste and garbage and only discard it where it is permitted.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE

We want to know about your experience during your visit. Complete the different surveys, which include activities and services offered in the National Park (you can complete one or more forms). Each form will take you less than 5 minutes. Your opinion helps us to improve our services.

TREKKING REGISTRATION

A trekking/mountaineering permit, which is free and obligatory, is required for these activities. The aim of this permit is to avoid accidents as well as to be able to assist you in case you need to be rescued. The trekking/mountaineering permit can be obtained in the following offices: Intendencia Parque Nacional Nahuel Huapi (National Park Administration Department) and Park officer points or at

www.nahuelhuapi.gov.ar