



Chile: Puma Photography Special with Mark Carwardine and Chris Breen
Tour Code CHIL5b

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WILDLIFE
WORLDWIDE

TRAVEL | EXPERIENCE | CONSERVE

At Wildlife Worldwide we have been creating outstanding wildlife holidays for over 25 years. Established in 1992, our first tours were in Africa, due to founder Chris Breen's love of Zambia's Luangwa Valley where he managed bush camps and guided safaris.

Our main wildlife-watching collection has grown over the years and now covers all corners of the globe from Africa, Asia and the Americas, to Europe and the Polar regions. From safaris and whale-watching to bear watching and wildlife cruising we have something for all wildlife enthusiasts.

Our holidays with Mark Carwardine offer the opportunity to join a renowned wildlife expert, award winning writer, photographer and BBC broadcaster, on a trip of a lifetime to some of the world's best wildlife destinations.

Here are a few great reasons to choose a Mark Carwardine Wildlife Holiday with Wildlife Worldwide...

Expert and award-winning photographer

Mark is an award-winning writer, magazine columnist, widely published wildlife photographer, TV and radio broadcaster and zoologist. He has an extensive collection of wildlife and landscape images taken on all seven continents and in more than 100 countries.

We have a knowledgeable and passionate team of wildlife experts

Our office-based team has travelled the world, managed safari lodges, worked as tour leaders and safari guides, and have years of experience in the travel industry. We continually research, explore and photograph wildlife and wilderness areas around the world to keep our knowledge up to date and consistently arrange outstanding trips.

Our personal service

We provide a high level of personal service, built on the foundations of quality, knowledge, expertise, reliability and professionalism. A dedicated Personal Travel Consultant is available to discuss your holiday at any point.

Dedicated group departures

We have our own series of dedicated departures with Mark worldwide.

Expert local naturalist guides

Our accompanying naturalist guides offer an exceptional level of expertise, knowledge and passion, and always go the extra mile.

Committed to conservation and responsible tourism

Since its inception, Wildlife Worldwide has placed a special emphasis on sustainable travel – focussing on the environment, the wildlife, and the communities that live in close proximity. We are independent

We are a privately owned independent company – something that is increasingly rare these days! –so the advice we give you is completely impartial.

Peace of mind

In addition to offering you 100% financial protection through our Air Tour Organisers License (ATOL 10544) and our membership of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (5199) we have a 24 hour emergency line should anything happen whilst you are away.

Flexible tailor-made holidays

We offer flexibility, so whether you wish to upgrade your flights, change your accommodation, add in some extra days, or plan something special to coincide with an anniversary or birthday, please contact us, so we can perfect your holiday.

We hope you find the enclosed information inspirational and look forward to welcoming you on your next Mark Carwardine Wildlife Holiday.

INTRODUCTION

Join Mark Carwardine and Chris Breen on an unforgettable wildlife photography adventure through the spectacular landscapes of Torres del Paine in southern Chile, with a particular emphasis on photographing puma. The tour is based on a private ranch bordering Laguna Amarga, one of the very best locations in the world for close, unobstructed and beautifully lit puma photography. With expert local trackers monitoring activity and sharing updates by radio, we maximise our chances of locating these magnificent cats and positioning ourselves for the best photographic opportunities. Access to private estancia land also allows us to move freely, avoiding the restrictions of the National Park and giving us far greater flexibility in following behaviour, choosing angles, backgrounds and light.

Multiple morning and afternoon outings provide ample time to work with different individuals, adapt to the often-changing Patagonian weather and make the most of shifting light conditions.

Our aim is to build a varied portfolio of intimate portraits, dynamic action images, and atmospheric wide-angle compositions that place these majestic cats within their vast mountain environment. With abundant guanaco, the puma's principal prey, we may even be fortunate enough to witness a hunt, while guanaco themselves offer superb photographic subjects, often standing boldly against the dramatic skyline of Torres del Paine.

In addition to puma photography, we also explore the spectacular scenery of the National Park. Towering granite peaks, turquoise lakes and ever-changing Patagonian skies provide an ideal backdrop for landscape photography. Additional wildlife may include guanaco, Patagonian grey foxes, Austral parakeets, a variety of waterfowl and, with luck, soaring Andean condors.

With award-winning wildlife photographer Mark Carwardine offering guidance throughout, this tour is designed to help you make the most of every sighting, creating a memorable and diverse photographic portfolio in one of the world's great wildernesses.

Planned Departure Dates

DATE	FLIGHT INCLUSIVE	LAND ONLY	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	LED BY
06/09/2028	£17995.00	£16995.00	£1495.00	Mark Carwardine & Chris Breen

OUTLINE ITINERARY

- Day 1** Depart UK arriving the next day.
Santiago de Chile (2 nights).
- Day 3** Torres del Paine National Park (8 nights).
- Day 11** Santiago de Chile (1 night).
- Day 12** Fly back to UK arriving the next day.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 🐾 Outstanding puma watching and photographic opportunities
- 🐾 Excellent photographic opportunities with other Andean wildlife
- 🐾 Andean condor, guanaco, Patagonian grey fox, torrent duck, Darwin's rhea and Austral parakeet all possible.
- 🐾 Breathtaking wilderness and landscape photography
- 🐾 Extended time in key locations to maximise puma viewing and photography
- 🐾 Services of expert local puma trackers

TOUR LEADERS

Mark Carwardine

Mark is a respected and widely travelled zoologist and environmentalist ('Mark Carwardine has seen more of the world than anyone else I know' - Lyn Hughes, Founding Editor of Wanderlust Magazine). He presented the weekly BBC Radio 4 programme Nature for many years, and his TV series include Last Chance to See, co-presenting with actor and comedian Stephen Fry, in which the unlikely duo criss-cross the globe in search of some of a motley collection of endangered species.



A bestselling author of nearly 60 books about wildlife and conservation, his work includes the original Last Chance to See, co-written with Douglas Adams (author of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy). Since 2000, he has written a provocative monthly conservation column for BBC Wildlife magazine. Considered one of The World's 40 Most Influential Nature Photographers, he chaired the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition for many years.

Chris Breen

Chris studied Geographical Sciences in Plymouth, however his first encounter with the wider world was in 1983, when he headed off to Zambia. Under the tutelage of the late Norman Carr, the pioneer of walking safaris, he worked as a wildlife guide and managed two wilderness camps in the Luangwa Valley. On his return to the UK, he had a spell at a major travel agency in London before setting up Wildlife Worldwide in 1992. Since then, he has travelled the world in search of first-class wildlife experiences. Chris devised the Festival of Wildlife concept and, in addition to running the increasingly busy travel company, he takes great pleasure in leading trips to far-flung destinations including (but not only!) to Africa, Baja California, Dominican Republic, the Galapagos and the polar regions.



Chris is an ardent conservationist, enthusiastic photographer and birder, and lover of all things wild!

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1

Depart from London Heathrow to Santiago Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport.

Day 2

On arrival in Santiago, we transfer to our comfortable hotel in the city, where we have a free afternoon to explore the city or relax after our journey.

Please note that no meals are included today.

Santiago de Chile

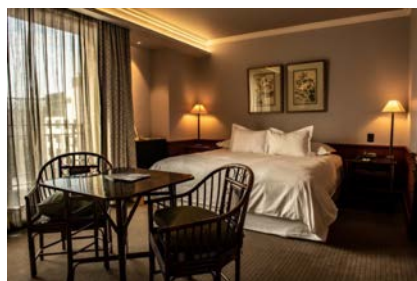
Santiago, Chile's vibrant capital, sits against the backdrop of the Andes, blending historic charm with modern city buildings. In its heart, Plaza de Armas, brims with colonial architecture, boasting the Metropolitan Cathedral and National History Museum. The towering Gran Torre Santiago offers panoramic views, while colourful neighbourhoods, such as Bellavista, are full of artistic energy. Modern skyscrapers contrast with Baroque churches, offering striking architectural diversity. From world-class museums to lively street markets, Santiago offers a fusion of history, culture, and urban delights.



Overnight at The Singular Hotel Santiago

Centrally located, this stylish hotel combines traditional architecture with contemporary design. The hotel offers excellent service, elegant lounges, friendly outside terraces and a smart restaurant and bar.

Rooms are light, spacious and thoughtfully designed with traditional décor and furniture. There are a variety of rooms and one suite, but all feature a large desk and seating area, LCD TV, WiFi, safe, air-conditioning, minibar and tea and coffee facilities. One of the property's highlights is its rooftop pool and bar, providing a special location to relax and swim while taking in the city views. There is also a wellness spa with three treatment rooms, a patisserie and coffee shop, and the main Singular Restaurant, which serves an excellent range of international dishes. The hotel's central location in the Bohemian centre of the city overlooking San Cristobal Hill makes it ideal for visiting the many museums, shops, cafés, and restaurants nearby.



Day 3

We begin today by transferring a short distance back to Santiago Airport, from where we catch our flights south to Punta Arenas

Fly from Santiago Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport to Punta Arenas Presidente Carlos Ibáñez International Airport.

Today, we begin driving northward to Cerro Castillo, just outside the Torres del Paine National Park. As we pass through spectacular mountainous landscape en route, we hope to see some of our first wildlife as we look

out for guanaco and South American grey fox.

Torres del Paine National Park

Torres del Paine National Park is a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve located 115 kilometres north of Puerto Natales, in the Magellanic region of southern Chile. It is rated as one of the top ten national parks in the world. The Cordillera del Paine forms the centrepiece of the park, where three iconic peaks of granite, known as 'the towers' create an imposing and distinctive rugged skyline rising above the surrounding Patagonian steppe. Beneath the snow-capped peaks are ancient glaciers and several stunning meltwater lakes that augment the scenic splendour.

The southern extent of the great Patagonian ice field dominates the north-west of the park, restricting visitors mainly to the south and east of the massif. The views at first sight are simply breathtaking and on approach, just become more and more spectacular and awe-inspiring. Celebrated wildlife here includes guanaco, puma, South Andean deer (huemul), Patagonian hog-nosed skunk, and a host of birds such as Andean condor, Chilean flamingo, black-faced ibis, black-necked swan and great grebe.



Begin your stay at Hosteria El Pionero (8 nights)

Located in Cerro Castillo, just outside Torres del Paine National Park, Hostería El Pionero provides an excellent base for dedicated wildlife expeditions in the park and the private ranch of Estancia Armaga. Its position offers convenient access to Estancia Armaga and other key wildlife habitats both inside and around the park, while providing a quiet and practical setting for early starts and long days in the field.

The hostería although simple offers comfortable rooms and all the essential facilities needed after a full day of wildlife tracking, including a restaurant, lounge and bar, Wi-Fi and parking. With its welcoming atmosphere and excellent location, El Pionero is particularly well suited to naturalists, wildlife photographers and small groups seeking a comfortable and reliable base between outings.



Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included.

Days 4 to 9

Excursion: Puma tracking and photography on Laguna Amarga

We have six exciting days dedicated to tracking pumas, with a full schedule of morning, afternoon and occasional full-day outings. Our focus will largely be on Estancia Laguna Amarga, an impressively sized private estancia just outside the boundary of Torres del Paine National Park. This area is widely regarded as the best location in the world to watch and photograph pumas and within its thoughtful restrictions on group

sizes and distribution across the land, designed to minimise disturbance on the pumas, generally allows us to explore the property in its entirety. This is a significant advantage compared with the nearby national park, where movement and without a dedicated puma tracker is restricted to designated tracks.

Laguna Amarga is thought to support one of the densest populations of puma in Patagonia, making it one of the finest locations for both viewing and photography of the charismatic species. The combination of open terrain, expansive vistas and flexible access provides outstanding opportunities to position ourselves effectively, adapt to changing light and weather, and capture a diverse range of images.



Though sightings of these magnificent big cats are common here, we still require patience and persistence to find them. However, with the help of expert local trackers who head out each day and report any sightings back via radio, we optimise our chances of finding and photographing pumas each day. While some individuals may be shy and skittish, others are more tolerant and may offer closer encounters as we approach, on foot, to a safe distance as judged by our local guides.



Over the course of our time here, we hope to capture a range of images showcasing a variety of behaviours, close-up portraits and wide shots of pumas in their environment. With so much time spent searching for pumas and other wildlife, we should be able to enjoy some varied and memorable sightings, each providing different photographic potential and a chance to refine our skills as we adapt to each new sighting. Throughout our time here, Mark will be on-hand to offer expert photographic advice, ensuring we make the most of every photographic opportunity as it presents itself.



With plenty of guanaco, the favourite prey of the puma here, on offer, we may be lucky enough to witness a hunt in action. Hunts are most likely to occur at dawn or dusk so we plan to be out in the park during these periods to improve our chances of what would be a very exciting photographic opportunity. Guanaco also make excellent photography subjects themselves, and we can enjoy photographing this unique species in between puma sightings.



For the tracking days, the group will be split across four 4x4 vehicles (3 people per vehicle), each driven by a local guide. Two dedicated puma trackers will be in separate vehicles, maintaining constant radio communication with the guides to locate the pumas. Since local regulations limit the maximum group size at a single puma sighting to 10 people, we will rotate groups between tracking sites to ensure equal opportunities for all clients. Depending on weather and wildlife sightings, activities will be structured as either two 3.5-hour sessions or a single 7-hour extended session per day. If we do two daily sessions, we will explore the surrounding areas for other wildlife during the midday break.

Stay at Hosteria El Pionero

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included.

Day 10

Excursion: Exploring and photography in Torres del Paine

Our final day in Torres del Paine offers a chance to immerse ourselves in the spectacular landscape and enjoy some more general photography. With our guides, we explore the park, scanning for some of the region's iconic wildlife, including guanaco, South American grey fox, Austral pygmy owl and, if we're lucky, perhaps even the immense Andean condor, among a range of other wildlife.



As we explore, the park also offers endless potential to capture some extraordinary landscape photos, and we can enjoy photographing the rugged landscape, towering mountains and turquoise lakes today. We aim to head out in the early morning to catch the golden light of sunrise that beautifully reflects of the cliffs, and the sunsets here can also create some stunning and atmospheric shots.



Stay at Hosteria El Pionero

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included.

Day 11

This morning, we make our way back to Punta Arenas. We allow plenty of time for this transfer as, passing through such a beautiful and wildlife rich region, we may enjoy some final wildlife encounters and photographic opportunities en route.

Arriving back in Punta Arenas in the late afternoon, we visit a local restaurant for dinner, before transferring to the airport and flying to Santiago for an overnight stay.

Please note that dinner isn't included today.

Fly from Punta Arenas Presidente Carlos Ibáñez International Airport to Santiago Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport.

Overnight at Holiday Inn Santiago Airport Terminal

This contemporary hotel, just 300 metres from Santiago's Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport, makes a convenient place to stay between flights. The quiet and comfortable guest rooms are spread over six floors and feature a workspace, complimentary Wi-Fi access, cable TV and a room safe. Onsite facilities include a restaurant, bar, small indoor pool, sauna, fitness centre and business centre - all of which are open to hotel guests only. Public transport is available from the airport to the city centre, around a 45-minute drive away.



Breakfast and lunch are included.

Day 12

Today, we walk the short distance back to the airport in Santiago, ready for our flights back to the UK.

Breakfast is included.

Depart from Santiago Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport to London Heathrow.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

1. +1 = Arriving the following day
2. Dates and times are 'local time' and subject to alteration at the carrier's discretion

DAY	FLIGHT	FROM	TO	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	AIRLINE
Day 1	BA251	London Heathrow - LHR	Santiago - SCL	21:55	08:35 +1	British Airways
Day 3	LA83	Santiago - SCL	Punta Arenas - PUQ	08:45	12:13	LATAM
Day 11	LA82	Punta Arenas - PUQ	Santiago - SCL	18:30	21:57	LATAM
Day 12	BA250	Santiago - SCL	London Heathrow - LHR	15:00	10:10 +1	British Airways

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
• International and domestic flights as shown • Accommodation as shown • Meals as indicated in the itinerary • Transfers • Guided excursions and photography sessions • Services of photographic leader Mark Carwardine • Services of expert local puma tracker and guide(s) • Conservation fund contribution	• Drinks (unless otherwise stated) • Tips • Insurance • Items of a personal nature (e.g. photographic equipment) • Any item not listed in the Inclusions

ITINERARY NOTES

Grading

Please note that this trip requires participants to have a reasonable level of fitness, as we will be searching and following pumas on foot, sometimes for a couple of hours at a time and covering up 2 or 3 miles and potentially longer on rare occasions. There is no significant altitude, but the terrain is undulating with some short inclines and low thorny vegetation. All walks will be taken at a steady pace, and often we will be able to find pumas close to a track and a vehicle. It is important to be aware that conditions here can vary from one day to the next and in some years, there can be heavy snowfall. There will also be times where we will need to wait out in the field for activity, so sturdy walking boots and thermal layers are essential.

Groups

During our time tracking puma, our group will be split across four 4x4 vehicles. Since local regulations limit the maximum group size at a single puma sighting to 10 people, we will rotate groups between tracking sites to ensure equal opportunities to enjoy puma sightings and photography.

FOLLOWING TRAVEL ADVICE

Please ensure that you fulfil all entry requirements for your final destination and any transit destinations that you may be travelling through. The Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office website offers destination advice on their [Foreign Travel Advice](#) webpage including local customs and laws.

BOOKING INFORMATION

The itinerary is perfect - I want to book.

Great! If you wish to go ahead, booking is easy. To secure your holiday, we simply require you to:

1. Read our booking terms and conditions prior to paying your deposit. These are available for you to read on our [website](#) and you will be agreeing to these terms and conditions by confirming your holiday booking with us. If you would like us to post or email you a copy, please just ask.

2. Pay a deposit, which will confirm your holiday booking with us. Your travel consultant can process this over the phone or, if you prefer, you may pay by bank transfer into the account details provided below.

🐾 Account No: 13777049

🐾 Sort Code: 20-97-19

🐾 Account Name: The Natural Travel Collection Ltd (we recommend abbreviating to "TNTC Ltd")

🐾 Bank Name: Barclays

🐾 **Please include your surname and booking number (0) as a payment reference.**

🐾 *If you are an overseas client, we accept major foreign currency payments via Wise. Please contact your travel consultant for the correct Wise account details for your preferred currency payment.*

The deposit we require is **£200 per person** or **20% of the total** value of the trip – whichever is the greater. There may be instances when we have to ask for a higher deposit – but we will advise you if this is the case.

Flight instalment if your holiday includes instant purchase flights, we will also require the full payment for these at the time you book your holiday. For example, this would be required if your holiday includes flights with a low cost carrier, or if you are booking a last-minute holiday.

3. Complete your departure lounge. Once we receive your deposit we will set about getting all the arrangements confirmed for your holiday. We will confirm receipt of your payment and you will receive an email requiring you to submit full details of everyone travelling on your booking in your 'Departure Lounge', our secure online passenger portal.

4. We'll re-confirm your holiday once you have completed your 'Departure Lounge'. We'll send you a confirmation pack that clarifies the details of your booking and the reservations we have made for you, along with your ATOL certificate, the invoice for your holiday, and practical travel advice for your chosen destination.

If any changes to the proposed itinerary are necessary at any stage, your consultant will inform you and suggest a suitable alternative.

What about the final balance?

We require you to make full payment 8 weeks before departure (16 weeks in the case of wildlife cruises and 12 weeks for trips to the Falkland Islands). If you book within 8 weeks of departure (or 16 in the case of a wildlife cruise, or 12 in the case of a trip to the Falklands), you must make full payment when you book.

Is my money 100% secure?

In a nutshell, yes.

We are a fully bonded tour operator and hold an **Air Travel Organiser's Licence** (ATOL) issued by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), which regulates the travel industry. This provides you with complete financial protection and a guarantee on all money we receive from you.

Every holiday we sell that includes a flight element is protected under our ATOL (licence number 10544). In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad or will arrange to refund any money you have paid to us for an advance booking.

And our membership of the **Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited** (ABTOT) provides full financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for packages that exclude flights.

There is more information about your financial protection here: www.wildlifeworldwide.com/financial-security

How about travel insurance?

We strongly recommend that you take out travel insurance at the time of booking your trip as cover will commence for pre-departure cancellation from the date you purchase the insurance. This will therefore

provide cover should you have to cancel your trip for an insured reason such as illness or serious accident preventing you from travelling.

The [Campbell Irvine Direct](#) insurance includes cover in the event of you having to cancel or curtail your holiday.

Important Details

Please refer to the policy wording for full details of the cover available.

Full details of cover provided are shown on the policy document, a copy of which is available to download online. Read it carefully to ensure you are happy with the cover provided. The policy contains a 21 day cooling off period and details of how to make a claim and who to contact in the event of a medical emergency. The policy also includes certain terms and conditions, exclusions and excesses. Please note cover is excluded for any defined pre-existing medical condition from which you or any person upon whom travel depends are suffering. For any queries, please contact the insurer's medical helpline on 01702 242 7237 or visit their [website](#) as additional cover may be purchased directly from the insurer's medical screening helpline for certain conditions.

The Natural Travel Collection Ltd is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd. which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Contact [Campbell Irvine Direct](#) for your travel insurance quote.

Tel: 01702 427 236

Email: info@campbellirvine.com

Following travel advice

Please ensure that you fulfil all entry requirements for your final destination and any transit destinations that you may be travelling through. The Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office website offers destination advice on their [Foreign Travel Advice](#) webpage including local customs and laws.