



# TRAILING PENGUINS IN PATAGONIA



## DEAR EARTHWATCHER,

Welcome to a unique opportunity to be involved with research that aims to understand at-sea ecology of Magellanic Penguins with the ultimate goal of improving their conservation.

As part of this Earthwatch team, you will be involved in monitoring the Penguin colony at Cabo dos Bahias, as well as to help to study their movements and behavior at sea. Your help in this project is crucial to continue answering questions about this charismatic animal from Patagonia, which will lead to protecting them for future generations.

As volunteers you will be involved in many different aspects of the project survey work. You will also enjoy the beauty and remoteness of Patagonia and all its wildlife. You will have the opportunity to experience local culture and traditional activities.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Patagonia!!

Yours faithfully,

Gabriela Blanco, Ph.D. and

Flavio Quintana, Ph.D.



# Expedition Update



## All teams

---

June 16, 2016

Dear Earthwatch Participants,

We hope you are getting excited for your upcoming expedition, Trailing Penguins in Patagonia. We are writing with an update regarding the reciprocity fee described in your expedition briefing.

The reciprocity fee has been suspended for citizens of the United States who are travelling to Argentina under the 90-day tourist visa. You can find more information at the following link:

<http://www.embassyofargentina.us/en/consular-section/consulates-in-the-us.html>

The new rule does not alter Visa charges or Reciprocity Fees for other countries.

If you have any questions please contact us at 1.800.776.0188

Thank you,  
The Earthwatch Team

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION .....	2
TRIP PLANNER .....	3
THE RESEARCH .....	4
DAILY LIFE IN THE FIELD .....	6
ACCOMMODATIONS AND FOOD .....	8
PROJECT CONDITIONS .....	10
SAFETY .....	12
TRAVEL TIPS .....	14
EXPEDITION PACKING CHECKLIST .....	16
PROJECT STAFF .....	17
RECOMMENDED READING .....	18
LITERATURE CITED.....	19
EMERGENCY NUMBERS .....	20



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## TRAILING PENGUINS IN PATAGONIA



### EARTHWATCH SCIENTISTS

**Dr. Flavio Quintana**, Principal Researcher  
Laboratory of Ecology of Marine Top Predators (LEPTOMAR)  
Instituto de Biología de Organismos Marinos (IBIOMAR)  
CCT CENPAT-CONICET

**Dr. Gabriela Blanco**, Assistant Researcher,  
Laboratory of Ecology of Marine Top Predators (LEPTOMAR)  
Instituto de Biología de Organismos Marinos (IBIOMAR)  
CCT CENPAT-CONICET

### FIELD ASSISTANTS

**Romina Sardi**, Biology student at the  
Universidad Nacional de La Patagonia San Juan Bosco.  
Ministerio de Ambiente y Control del Desarrollo Sustentable,  
Chubut.

**Genoveva Molina**, Biology student at the Universidad del Mar,  
Campus Puerto Angel, Mexico

### RESEARCH SITE

Cabo Dos Bahías, Reserva Faunística Provincial.  
Parque Interjurisdiccional Marino Costero Patagonia Austral,  
PIMCPA, Golfo San Jorge, Chubut, Patagonia, Argentina.

### EXPEDITION DATE

**Team 1:** Oct. 15–21, 2017

**Team 2:** Oct. 25–31, 2017

**Team 3:** Nov. 5–11, 2017

**Team 4:** Nov. 17–23, 2017

**Team 5:** Nov. 24–30, 2017

**Team 6:** Dec. 3–9, 2017

**Team 7:** Dec. 13–19, 2017

**Complete travel information is not available in this version of the briefing.**

**Please contact Earthwatch with any questions.**



# TRIP PLANNER

## TRAILING PENGUINS IN PATAGONIA

### TRIP PLANNER

#### IMMEDIATELY

- Make sure you understand and agree to Earthwatch's [Terms and Conditions](#) and the [Participant Code of Conduct](#).
- If you plan to purchase additional travel insurance, note that some policies require purchase when your expedition is booked.
- Send Earthwatch your passport information (name, passport number and nationality) for the research permit to enter the Natural Reserve by August 1<sup>st</sup> (or submit your volunteer forms, which includes this information).

#### 90 DAYS PRIOR TO EXPEDITION

- Log in at [earthwatch.org](http://earthwatch.org) to complete your volunteer forms.
- Pay any outstanding balance for your expedition.
- Book travel arrangements (see the Travel Planning section for details).
- If traveling internationally, make sure your passport is current and, if necessary, obtain a visa for your destination country.
- Apply for your Argentina Reciprocity Fee online if required for your country of origin.

#### 60 DAYS PRIOR TO EXPEDITION

- Make sure you have all the necessary vaccinations for your project site.
- Review the Packing Checklist to make sure you have all the clothing, personal supplies and equipment needed.

#### 30 DAYS PRIOR TO EXPEDITION

- Leave the Earthwatch 24-hour helpline number with a relative or friend.
- Leave copies of your passport, visa, and airline tickets with a relative or friend.

**Read this expedition briefing thoroughly.** It provides the most accurate information available at the time of your Earthwatch scientist's project planning, and will likely answer any questions you have about the project. However, please also keep in mind that research requires improvisation, and you may need to be flexible. Research plans evolve in response to new findings, as well as to unpredictable factors such as weather, equipment failure, and travel challenges. To enjoy your expedition to the fullest, remember to expect the unexpected, be tolerant of repetitive tasks, and try to find humor in difficult situations. If there are any major changes in the research plan or field logistics, Earthwatch will make every effort to keep you well informed before you go into the field



# THE RESEARCH

## TRAILING PENGUINS IN PATAGONIA



### THE STORY

The Magellanic Penguin is one of the most charismatic marine birds in Patagonia, Argentina, and the main attraction for an increasing tourism industry along the coast. These seabirds are considered to be top predators that play a key role in their ecosystems. Studying their foraging behavior and movement patterns is critical to understanding the complex relationships between these species and their environments.

In Patagonia, Magellanic penguins are threatened by commercial and artisanal fishing activities, competition for food with the fisheries, oil pollution, and other contaminants such as lead and organochlorine pesticides. The project will be carried out in the Golfo San Jorge—home to one of the most important fishing industries in the Argentinean Sea. Although most penguin colonies are located within the boundaries of a national park, the park's protections do not extend to oceanic areas, where these seabirds spend their time foraging.

Researchers and volunteers will use cutting-edge technology (electronic devices that can record the position and behavior of these seabirds during foraging trips) to study how these birds hunt for food at sea, providing key data to understand their foraging behavior, this could help to establish regulations to protect these species and their marine habitats.



## RESEARCH AIMS

The key objectives for this project are as follows:

1. Determine how marine spaces are used by penguins during different stages of their life at the ocean.
2. Study the at-sea behavior of penguins to understand their foraging strategies.
3. Determine how much energy is consumed during foraging trips.
4. Measure the reproductive success throughout the years (as a measurement of population health).
5. Determine the reproductive population size and productivity of the colony.
6. Study if there is a relationship between the reproductive success and the foraging effort.
7. Study the marine environment used by the penguins to understand their distribution.
8. Assess how anthropogenic (human-induced) changes to the environment impact this species.
9. Measure how "high use areas" overlap with anthropogenic activities.

To achieve the research aims for this expedition, teams will carefully monitor penguin populations and deploy cutting-edge technology. Remote sensing technologies will be used, including GPS loggers that record time, latitude, longitude, and speed, as well as accelerometers to record detailed at-sea behavior and video cameras that will provide a detailed understanding of the seabirds' while foraging. These devices will be attached to the birds and the data and video footage will be collected and analyzed.

Teams will mostly monitor the nests and colonies of penguins to record the reproductive biology and population size of these birds.

## HOW YOU WILL HELP

For this project to be successful, we need your data collection support by carrying out a detailed monitoring of the colony. For this, we need to have a team working daily on site to first map the colony and mark individuals and nests. After that, daily checks of marked nests and breeding pairs must be carried out to monitor the reproductive status and reproductive success of adults, hatchling survival and growth, in addition to determine the duration of the foraging trips of adults. This exhaustive monitoring will allow us to precisely select the individuals that will be deployed, decreasing significantly the probability of losing devices at sea. The activities are very easy to learn and do not require previous knowledge on the topic. Volunteers will be directly involved in the following activities:

- Mapping the colony, high density areas within the colony, and the individual nests. Volunteers who participate in mapping will see varied terrain, wildlife and vistas in the beautiful Patagonian landscape.
- Marking nests selected to monitor throughout the breeding season.
- Collaborate in marking adults permanently through the use of PIT tags (i.e. notes of numbers, locations, etc.) .
- Perform daily checks on the presence/absence of ID adults in the nest to determine duration of foraging trips previous to deployment of individuals.
- Perform daily checks (direct observation) of every marked nest (number of eggs, hatchlings).
- Collaborate in the process of marking eggs from specific nests.
- Collaborate in the measuring and weighing of chicks from specific nests
- Collaborate in deployment of adults and recovery of devices.
- Monitoring the nests of deployed individuals (2 or 3 times a day) to ensure the recovery of devices.
- Data entry: specifically, data will be updated every day to have access to detailed information on the breeding status of every marked nest and breeding pair.



# DAILY LIFE IN THE FIELD

## PLANS FOR YOUR TEAM

You'll have one day of training in field and survey techniques, use of GPS and field equipment. Other educational opportunities will happen throughout the expedition, covering topics such as the history of the project; health and safety on site and during fieldwork; penguin ecology and conservation in Patagonia; methodological theory and practice; basic field skills, patagonian species identification, and more.

### ITINERARY

Weather and research needs can lead to changes in the daily schedule. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Project activities will also vary seasonally. Below is an outline of what is likely to happen on each team, but the exact schedule will depend on the project's current needs and will be set at the start of each expedition. The nesting season is also variable year to year, so some activities may shift forward or back based on when the egg laying season begins.



RESEARCH TASK:	OCT	OCT	NOV	NOV	NOV	DEC	DEC
Map Colony	x	x	x	x			
Map Individual Nests	x	x					
Mark adults	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Daily Nest Checks for eggs, or chicks	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Weigh, mark and measure eggs or chicks	x	x		x	x	x	x
Monitor presence/absence of ID adults	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Deployment and recovery of monitoring devices					x	x	x
Monitor nests of deployed individuals					x	x	x
Mark permanent nest for long term study							x
Data entry	x	x	x	x	x	x	x



## ITINERARY & DAILY SCHEDULE

Census of Colony

### TYPICAL ITINERARY

#### DAY 1

Meet and travel to field site, lunch, introduction and orientation, field training in methodology and safety while in the field

#### DAYS 2-5

On site-training and fieldwork: Depending on team, colony mapping, marking of nests, nests monitoring, chick monitoring and device deployment and recovery..

#### DAY 6

Fieldwork, final team dinner, pack

#### DAY 7

Breakfast, departure from field site to airport

### TYPICAL RESEARCH DAY

You'll typically have a midday break, during which we encourage you to rest in the shade. The team may have a short recreational activity in the middle of the expedition (since you are in a remote area and your expedition is only one week, this may be visiting a nearby lookout, a picnic, or visiting another area of the park for a few hours).

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:30 a.m.	Rise, get ready for field
8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Fieldwork
12:30 p.m.	Packed lunch in the field
1:30 p.m.	Continue fieldwork
4:00 or 5:00 p.m.	Return to accommodations for showers and rest
6:00 p.m.	Snack, research talk, social time, data entry
8:30 p.m.	Dinner



# ACCOMMODATIONS AND FOOD

## ABOUT YOUR HOME IN THE FIELD



### SLEEPING

During the expedition, your team will be based in the town of Camarones, and staying in rented cabins. Rooms will be shared by 2-5 people, depending on the number of team members and the total number of males and females on your team. Each cabin has a small kitchen, and a bathroom with flushable toilets, showers, and sinks. Beds, pillows, blankets, and sheets are provided. Single rooms are not possible and couples rooms can be difficult to accommodate, so are not guaranteed.

### BATHROOMS

Bathroom facilities include hot showers and flush toilets.

### ELECTRICITY

The cabins have electricity and plugs for charging camera batteries etc. Please bring the appropriate converters and adapters for Argentine electrical outlets (220-240v, 50 Hz.).

### PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

The cellphone reception in the town of Camarones is spotty and will vary depending on your cell phone service provider. There is cell phone service at the field site, which is mainly used for emergencies or coordinating the research teams. There is no internet at the accommodations.

We strongly recommend to make sure you communicate with relatives at home from Trelew upon arrival in the airport. The Airport has free internet you may use on arrival day. You may not be able to communicate via internet while in Camarones, which is very remote.

The research team recommends you and your relatives back home to download the application for cell phones "Whatsapp". This app allows you to send messages (to other phones with the app) with a very scattered internet connection and with no cell reception.



## FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

Each cabin has a small kitchen and eating area. One of the houses has a common area for presentations and social time. The town is very small, but it has some small grocers, restaurants and a bank.

## DISTANCE TO THE FIELD SITE

The field site is about a 30-minute drive from the town of Camarones. The journey is on a dirt road.

## SERVICES AND RESTAURANTS IN WALKING DISTANCE

There are some small grocers and two restaurants within walking distance of the cabins. People must always walk with a partner and never walk at night unless accompanied by the field staff.

## POLICIES

Alcohol consumption is not permitted by minors or on teen teams regardless of local law. It is permitted on adult teams, and available for purchase in Camarones. Wine is a common and traditional accompaniment to meals in Argentina.



## FOOD AND WATER

Volunteers will help themselves to a continental style breakfast in the cabins. A local cook will prepare local Argentinean food for packed lunches in the field, and a nearby restaurant will provide dinner. Argentine cuisine consists of a lot of meat and in the remote, small town of Camarones fresh fruits and vegetables can be hard to come by. Please note that dinner in Argentina is usually very late, between 8:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.. You will generally eat at 8:30 pm for Earthwatch teams. There will be opportunities to buy snacks in Camarones, and some will be provided to tide you over until the late dinner. Eating and drinking is an important cultural activity in Argentina, and the team will enjoy social, group meals.

Below are examples of the foods you might expect in the field. Please bear in mind that variety depends on availability. You may want to bring supplemental snacks if you have any particular food preferences. This list is intended to provide a general idea of food types, but it is very important that volunteers be flexible and keep in mind that vegetables in a remote area of Patagonia are very difficult to come by

## TYPICAL MEALS

<b>BREAKFAST</b>	Cereal, fruit, toast/bread, jam, tea, coffee, hot breakfast, such as eggs
<b>LUNCH</b>	Local cuisine, Empanadas, vegetable and meat tarts (tartas), salads, sandwiches
<b>DINNER</b>	Local cuisine, chicken, steaks, pasta, pizzas
<b>SNACKS</b>	Cookies, crackers, cereal bars, fruit
<b>BEVERAGES</b>	Clean drinking water available on site.

## SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Please alert Earthwatch to any special dietary requirements (e.g., diabetes, lactose intolerance, nut or other food allergies, vegetarian or vegan diets) as soon as possible, and note them in the space provided on your volunteer forms. The project staff can accommodate most diets with advanced notice; however, strict vegan diets are not possible to adhere to within local cuisine. Although the project can accommodate vegetarians, please keep in mind that food may not be very diverse.

Accommodating special diets is not guaranteed and can be very difficult due to availability of food, location of field sites, and other local conditions.

# PROJECT CONDITIONS

## THE FIELD ENVIRONMENT

The information that follows is as accurate as possible, but please keep in mind that conditions may change.

The climate of the area is dry; rain happens only very occasionally and a predominant characteristic of the area is the high winds and strong sun, special attention must be given to the sun, UV sun index is very high at high latitudes as Cabo dos Bahias. The weather here can be very cold, and is very variable, so come prepared for the different conditions described below.

### GENERAL CONDITIONS

This weather is expected to vary within the limits below:

**HUMIDITY:** 20%–50%

**TEMPERATURE RANGE:** 42° F–95° F (0° C–35° C)

**October temperature:** Average 44.6° F–68° F (7° C–20° C), but occasionally 39° F–86° F (4° C–30° C)

**November temperature:** Average 50° F–72° F (10° C–22° C), but occasionally 39° F–95° F (4° C–35° C)

**December temperature:** Average 52° F–75° F (11° C–24° C), but occasionally 41° F–99° F (5° C–37° C)

**AVERAGE WIND:** 42 km/h (26 mph), occasionally 90 km/h (56 mph)

**RAINFALL:** Less than 200 mm/7.9 in annually  
The weather in Patagonia is extremely variable



### ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

All participants must be able to:

- Follow verbal and/or visual instructions independently or with the assistance of a companion.
- Consistently comply with verbal instructions from all field staff.
- Provide passport details to Earthwatch before August 1, 2016 in order to be included in research permit to enter the natural reserve.
- See clearly (with or without corrective lenses) close up to read research instruments.
- Enjoy being outdoors all day in all types of weather, exposed to very strong sun, heat and high winds (and high wind chill) for long periods of time.
- Enjoy being outdoors in the potential presence of wild animals.
- Walk over rough, uneven terrain with areas of dense, thorny vegetation, animal holes that can be hard to spot, any sometimes rocky, hilly slopes for up to five kilometers (3.0 miles) per day and generally up to 7 hours per day an average rate of one kilometer (0.6 miles) in 15 minutes, with minimal fatigue.
- Carry personal daily supplies up to five kilograms (11 pounds), such as water, and some small field equipment (e.g. gps, nest checking pole).
- Without assistance, get up and down near the penguin nests. For most of the tasks volunteers are required to sit on the ground next to penguin nests.
- Without assistance, get up into and down out of project vehicles, which may include trucks.
- Sit or ride in project vehicles with seat belt fastened and in close proximity to other team members while traveling over dirt roads.
- Bend up and down; crouch comfortably for up to 5 hours per day while performing nest work.
- Keep quiet, stand respectful distances from animals while observing them and working in the colony.



# POTENTIAL HAZARDS

## TRAILING PENGUINS IN PATAGONIA

HAZARD TYPE	ASSOCIATED RISKS AND PRECAUTIONS
Transportation	The roads from Trelew to Camarones is paved and generally in very good condition at the time of printing of this briefing. At the study site, roads will be dirt, gravel, or corrugated and at times bumpy and/or dusty. Everyone will wear seat belts whenever the vehicle is in motion. Speeds will be kept to the posted limit traveling from Trelew and at 50-km/ hr. (30 mph) in the study site. Only authorized, insured, experienced staff will drive. Volunteers are not permitted to drive. We will avoid night transportation (some night drives are part of the research).
Terrain	The terrain in the colony is varied. There are hills, small shrubs, thorny vegetation and loose rocks. In a few areas there may be a steep slope. There are also many holes in the ground that volunteers can trip on and injure himself or herself or a penguin. Field staff will caution participants and instruct them how to traverse the colony. Participants must walk carefully, and wear hiking boots with ankle support. Inform a staff member if you do not feel well, or do not feel comfortable with certain terrain.
High winds and variable temperatures	You must bring clothing layers appropriate for mostly low and sometimes high temperatures. Wind resistant layers are very helpful to stop the wind-chill, and sun hats with a tie (so they do not blow off your head). Staff will monitor weather and wind conditions and plan field tasks accordingly. Use glasses and long sleeves if dust and or sand can be lifted by wind. Secure all gear while working at field site and be aware of any nearby loose debris. Seek shelter in extreme wind conditions.
Sun exposures, heat and dehydration	You must drink plenty of water throughout the day and to bring at least two liters of water into the field each day. You must wear high-factor sunscreen (40 spf or higher) and appropriate clothing, including sunglasses, a wide-brimmed hat and/ or scarf. A headband may be useful to cover your ears. This is especially important due to the proximity of the field site to the hole in the ozone layer. You shouldn't overwork when jetlagged or tired - inform a staff member when feeling tired or ill. Extra sunscreen will be available in the first aid kits. Take regular breaks as needed.
Insects and snakes	There are snakes and spiders in some areas of the field site. You must avoid any contact with snakes, and to not attempt to handle or disturb them if found. Use insect repellent and to bring personal medications in the event of a reaction to a bite or sting (at least two epi-pens if you have an epi-pen prescription for an allergy, antihistamines, etc.) as appropriate. Inform staff if you are allergic to anything and of where your medication is kept.
Animal Handling	You may participate in animal handling. Typically this is only with penguin chicks, so risks are minimal. Potential risks are bites or scratches. If you do participate, you'll receive instructions and a safety briefing, and be supervised or assisted at all times. You may not handle animals unless under the direct supervision of trained project staff. Protective equipment (e.g., gloves) will be provided. Always wash your hands after handling an animal.
Large and/or Dangerous animals	There are many wild animals in the study site. There are guanaco (a large, llama-like animal), several sea birds, and several small mammals. The guanaco often pass by closely and in large herds; do not disturb them. Puma live in the area of the field site. They are elusive and are seldom seen by people.



# SAFETY

## HEALTH INFORMATION

### EMERGENCIES IN THE FIELD

There will be first aid kits with the project staff. If medical advice is required, there is a small clinic in Camarones, just a few minutes from the accommodations. There are hospitals in Trelew and Puerto Madryn, which are 3 and 3.5 hours away respectively.

If there's an emergency at home for which a volunteer must leave the expedition early, he or she will be transported by hired vehicle to Trelew to catch a flight back to Buenos Aires. The transport costs approximately \$250 and will be at the expense of the volunteer.

For emergency assistance in the field, please contact Earthwatch's 24-hour emergency hotline number on the last page of this briefing. Earthwatch is available to assist you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; someone is always on call to respond to messages that come into our live answering service.

### IMMUNIZATIONS

Please be sure your routine immunizations are up-to-date (for example: diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella and varicella). Medical decisions are the responsibility of each volunteer and his or her doctor, and the following are recommendations only. Visit the Healix Travel Oracle website through the "Travel Assistance and Advice" page in your Earthwatch portal, [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov) or [who.int](http://who.int) for guidance on immunizations.

### PROJECT VACCINATIONS

**REQUIRED:** If traveling from countries or region where yellow fever is endemic, you must have a certificate of vaccination.

**RECOMMENDED FOR HEALTH REASONS:** Typhoid, Tetanus, Hepatitis A and Hepatitis

### ADVICE REGARDING DISEASES

Please see the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)) or the World Health Organization ([who.int](http://who.int)) websites for more information on the presence of disease in Argentina.

A few notes on vaccinations and treatment:

**MALARIA** is reported to be a low risk in the area of the research site; however, it is found elsewhere in the country, particularly the northern provinces. If you plan additional travel in Argentina, speak with your doctor about prophylactics. The risk can be greatly reduced by using malaria prophylactics and taking precautions against mosquito bites (using insect repellent and wearing long-sleeved shirts and trousers in the evening).

**RABIES:** A rabies vaccination is not compulsory for this expedition; you will not handle any rabies-carrying wildlife. However, you may wish to consult with your healthcare providers about the vaccine given that it is present in Argentina and Patagonia. Avoid stray dogs at all times. The rabies pre-exposure vaccination consists of three doses over a 28-day period. Please be sure to consult your physician or travel health clinic well before your expedition to ensure that you have time for the full vaccination series. If you have previously been vaccinated, a booster shot may be required. The pre-exposure vaccination does not eliminate the need for post-exposure medical attention and treatment, but it does provide additional protection against the disease in event of a delay in treatment. In addition, bites or scratches should be immediately and thoroughly washed with soap, clean water, and a topical povidone-iodine solution or ethanol.





# TRAVEL TIPS

## SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ROAD



### YOUR DESTINATION

**LANGUAGE:** Spanish is the national language of Argentina. All project activities and instruction will be conducted in English.

**TIME ZONE:** GMT -3 hours.

**CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS:** In general, you should not wear skimpy or revealing clothing.

**ELECTRICITY:** 220-240v, 50 Hz. You will find both "Type I" IRAM-2073 and "Type C" Euro plug type in Argentina.

### MONEY MATTERS

**LOCAL CURRENCY:** The national currency of Argentina is the Argentine Peso. Due to high inflation, the exchange rates for the Argentine peso to other currencies changes frequently—often daily. Look up the latest rate right before you travel. US dollars can be used in many places in Buenos Aires and some places in Camarones. Many establishments prefer dollars. There are very high banking fees, ATM or cash machine fees and money exchange fees. There is a large amount of counterfeit money in Argentina. Banks, ATM's, cash machines or hotels can exchange money. Hotels will often give a slightly better rate than the ATM's or cash machines. Since the exchange rate fluctuates so frequently, it is recommended small amounts of money be withdrawn at a time if you will be in Argentina for an extended period. Check that your bank card is accepted internationally before you travel. While in Buenos Aires never change money in the street.



**PERSONAL FUNDS:** You will need money to cover any additional snacks or drinks you wish to purchase, along with any souvenirs. Always be cautious when withdrawing money from an ATM or cash machine. Keep your cash out of sight and in a safe place.

**TIPPING:** It is customary to leave about a 10% tip for people who carry your luggage at hotels and restaurants.

## PASSPORTS, VISAS AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

**There is a reciprocity fee to enter Argentina for people travelling from certain countries. See information below.**

Passport and visa requirements are subject to change. Check with your travel advisor, embassy or consulate in your home country for requirements specific to your circumstances. Generally, passports must be valid for at least six months from the date of entry and a return ticket is required.

CITIZENSHIP	PASSPORT REQUIRED?	VISA REQUIRED?
United States	Yes	No
United Kingdom	Yes	No
Europe	Yes	No
Australia	Yes	No
Japan	Yes	No

## RECIPROCITY FEE TO ENTER ARGENTINA

These fees must be paid online prior to arrival. Cash payments will NOT be accepted at the airports.

Argentine law requires that, Canadian citizen and Australian tourist and business travelers pay a reciprocity fee by credit card online at the Provincia Pagos website PRIOR to entering Argentina.

Once paid, travelers must print out the receipt before traveling, and bring it with them to the airport to present it to the Argentine immigration officer at the time of entry. At the time of printing this briefing, the costs are as follows:

Australia \$100.	Validity 1 year
Canada \$75.	Validity 3 months US\$150.
Canada \$150.	Validity 5 years

<https://reciprocidad.provincianet.com.ar/>

As of March 2016, the reciprocity fee has been suspended for citizens of the United States who are traveling to Argentina under the 90-day tourist visa. You can find more information at the following link:

<http://www.embassyofargentina.us/en/consular-section/consulates-in-the-us.html>

The new rule does not alter Visa charges or Reciprocity Fees for other countries.

If a visa is required, participants should apply for a TOURIST visa. Please note that obtaining a visa can take weeks or even months. We strongly recommend using a visa agency, which can both expedite and simplify the process.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

You may be required to list the following contact information on your visa application and immigration form, or if your luggage does not make it to baggage claim at your destination:

Costanera entre Julio A. Roca y Urquiza  
Camarones (CP 9111), Chubut, Argentina

## RESEARCH PERMIT REQUIREMENT

This expedition takes place in the Natural Reserve Cabo dos Bahias, a protected natural reserve with highly restricted access. In order to participate in this expedition, your information will be included on the research permit that the scientist applies for in advance of fielding. **The following information is needed by August 1, 2017 in order to be included on the research permit:**

- Full name
- Passport country of issue
- Passport number

Earthwatch standard volunteer forms contain this information; so submitting your forms as early as possible will help us include you in the permit. Otherwise, your passport information must be sent separately.

**Failure to submit your passport information before August 1, 2017 will prohibit you from entering the reserve, and therefore, you will be cancelled from the expedition.**



# EXPEDITION PACKING LIST

## WHAT TO BRING

### EXPEDITION PACKING CHECKLIST

#### GENERAL

- This expedition briefing
- Your travel plans, rendezvous details, and Earthwatch's emergency contact information
- Photocopies of your passport, flight itinerary, and credit cards in case the originals are lost or stolen; the copies should be packed separately from the original documents
- Passport and/or visa (if necessary)
- Certification of vaccination (if necessary)
- Documentation for travel by minors (if necessary)

#### CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR FOR FIELDWORK

**NOTE:** Khaki, earth-toned, or dark colored field clothing is preferred.

- Earthwatch T-shirt
- Long-Sleeved shirts
- Lightweight field pants
- Fleece/jumper/sweater or other warm clothes for layering and wind protection
- Well broken-in hiking boots with ankle support
- Wide-brimmed hat to protect face, neck, and head from the strong sun. The hat must have a tie to keep it on your head in the wind.
- Warm windbreaker or jacket
- Scarf, warm headband and light gloves and hat
- Hiking socks

#### CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR FOR LEISURE

- At least one set of clothing to keep clean for end of expedition
- Shorts
- T-shirts
- Comfortable pants
- Lightweight long-sleeved shirts for sun protection
- Comfortable closed-toe shoes to wear around town

#### FIELD SUPPLIES

- Small daypack to keep your personal items together  
Two one-liter water bottles
- High factor sunscreen (40 spf or higher)
- Sunglasses

#### BEDDING AND BATHING

**NOTE:** Lines will be provided

- Bath towel

#### PERSONAL SUPPLIES

- Personal toiletries (biodegradable soaps and shampoos are encouraged)
- Antibacterial wipes or lotion (good for cleaning hands while in the field)
- Personal first aid kit (e.g., anti-diarrhea pills, antibiotics, antiseptic, itch-relief, pain reliever, bandages, blister covers, etc.) and medications
- Spending money

#### OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Camera, film or memory card(s), extra camera battery
- Hardware for sharing digital photographs at the end of the expedition
- Books, games, etc. for free time
- Earplugs for light sleepers
- Comfortable shoes to change into after conducting fieldwork
- Dry bag or plastic sealable bags (e.g. Ziploc) to protect equipment like cameras from dust, humidity, and water
- Travel guide
- Field guide(s) (i.e. Bird, Marine mammal, plants' guides)
- Binoculars
- Flashlight
- Money belt
- Flip-flops or sandals for the shower
- Favorite snacks, if you have specific dietary requirements
- Aloe in case of sunburn
- Ziploc bags and colored duct tape will be highly appreciated for the team

**NOTE:** Do not bring more luggage than you can carry and handle on your own. If traveling by air and checking your luggage, we advise you to pack an extra set of field clothing and personal essentials in your carry-on bag in case your luggage is lost or delayed.



# PROJECT STAFF

## YOUR RESOURCES IN THE FIELD

**EARTHWATCH SCIENTIST DR. GABRIELA BLANCO**, an Assistant Researcher at Instituto de Biología de Organismos Marinos, CENPAT-CONICET. She finished her undergraduate studies at Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia SJB. Gabriela finished her PhD. at Drexel University in Philadelphia, specialized in ecology and conservation of sea turtles. Actually she works at CONICET focusing on different aspects of seabirds ecology from Patagonia. **Schedule: All teams and will stay for full duration as schedule allows**

**EARTHWATCH SCIENTIST DR. FLAVIO QUINTANA**, a Principal Researcher at CONICET, finished his undergraduate and graduate studies at Universidad of Buenos Aires. His research focuses on at-sea behavior of several seabird species through the use of innovative technologies. More than 20 years of experience in the topic drove him to create and head the Lab of Ecology of Marine Top Predators (LEPTOMAR). **Schedule: Varied; will visit teams for a research talk as schedule allows.**

**EARTHWATCH SCIENTIST TEC. ROMINA SARDI**, serves as an environmental inspector in the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development Control of the Province of Chubut. She graduated from the University Biologist Technician career in the National University of Patagonia San Juan Bosco and is currently completing the Bachelor in Biological Sciences at the same university. **Schedule: All teams.**

**EARTHWATCH SCIENTIST GENOVEVA MOLINA**, actually finishing her Marine Biology Bachelor at Universidad del Mar, Campus Puerto Ángel, Oaxaca, México. Genoveva has carried out her professional practices as field assistant for the Universidad Nacional de Mexico carrying out activities related to coral reproduction. She also helped with environmental education programs for the WWF. **Schedule: All teams.**

**EARTHWATCH SCIENTIST Lic. MICAELA BARBIERI KENNEDY**, graduated from the University of Buenos Aires (UBA)- Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales. Her work was related to genetics and animal physiology. He acted as volunteer rescuing marine fauna in the coast of Buenos Aires province. **Schedule: All teams**



# RECOMMENDED READING

## YOUR RESOURCES AT HOME

### RESOURCES

#### ARTICLES

- BirdLife International. 2012. *Spheniscus magellanicus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2014.1. [www.redlist.org](http://www.redlist.org)
- Capurro, A., E. Frere, M. Gandini, P. Gandini, T. Holik, V. Lichtschein, and P. D. Boersma. 1988. Nest Density and Population Size of Magellanic Penguins (*Spheniscus magellanicus*) at Cabo Dos Bahias, Argentina. *The Auk* 105:585-588.
- Frere, E., P. Gandini, and P. D. Boersma. 1996a. Aspectos particulares de la biología reproductiva y tendencia poblacional del pingüino de Magallanes (*Spheniscus magellanicus*) en la colonia de Cabo Vírgenes, Santa Cruz, Argentina. *Hornero* 14:50-59.
- Frere, E., P. Gandini, and V. Lichtschein. 1996b. Variación latitudinal en la dieta del pingüino de magallanes (*Spheniscus magellanicus*) en la costa Patagónica, Argentina. *Ornitología Neotropical* 7.
- García-Borboroglu, P., P. D. Boersma, V. Ruoppolo, and L. Reyes. 2006. Chronic oil pollution harms Magellanic penguins in the Southwest Atlantic. *Marine pollution bulletin* 52:193-198.
- Gómez-Laich, A., R. Wilson, F. Quintana, and E. Shepard. 2008. Identification of imperial cormorant *Phalacrocorax atriceps* behaviour using accelerometers. *Endangered Species Research* 10:29-37.
- Gómez-Laich, A., Wilson, R. P., Sala, J. E., Luzenti, A. and Quintana, F. 2015. Moving northward: comparison of the foraging effort of Magellanic penguins from three colonies of Northern Patagonia. *Marine Biology*. DOI. 10.1007/s00227-015-2681-1.
- Lewis, S., T. N. Sherratt, K. C. Hamer, and S. Wanless. 2001. Evidence of intra-specific competition for food in a pelagic seabird. *Nature* 412:816-818.
- Pozzi, L.M., Borboroglu, P.G., Boersma, P.D., Pascual, M.A., 2015. Population Regulation in Magellanic Penguins: What Determines Changes in Colony Size? *PLoS ONE* 10, e0119002.
- Quintana, F., R. Wilson, P. Dell’Arciprete, E. Shepard, and A. Gómez-Laich. 2011. Women from Venus, men from Mars: inter-sex foraging differences in the imperial cormorant *Phalacrocorax atriceps* a colonial seabird. *Oikos*:350-358.
- Sala, J. E., R. P. Wilson, E. Frere, and F. Quintana. 2012. Foraging effort in Magellanic penguins in coastal Patagonia, Argentina. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 464:273-287.
- Sala, J. E., R. P. Wilson, and F. Quintana. 2012b. How Much Is Too Much? Assessment of Prey Consumption by Magellanic Penguins in Patagonian Colonies. *PLoS ONE* 7:e51487.
- Sala, J.E, Wilson, R.P, Frere, E. and Quintana, F. 2014. Flexible foraging for finding fish: variable diving patterns in Magellanic penguins from different colonies. *Journal of Ornithology* 155:801-817.
- Sala, J.E., Wilson, R.P. and Quintana, F. 2015. Foraging effort in Magellanic penguins: Balancing the energy books for survival? . *Marine Biology* 162: 501-514. DOI. 10.1007/s00227-014-2581-9
- Schiavini, A., P. Yorio, P. Gandini, A. Raya Rey, and P. Dee Boersma. 2005. Los pingüinos de las costas argentinas: estado poblacional y conservación. *El hornero* 20:5-23.
- Watanabe, Y. Y. and A. Takahashi. 2013. Linking animal-borne video to accelerometers reveals prey capture variability. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 110:2199-2204.
- Wilson, R.P., Sala, J.E., Gómez-Laich, A., Ciancio, J. y Quintana, F. 2015. Pushed to the limit: food abundance determines tag-induced harm in penguins. *Animal Welfare* 24:37-44. DOI. 10.7120/09627286.24.1037.
- Wilson, R.P., Sclaro, J.A., Grémillet, D., Kierspel, M. A.M., Laurenti, S., Upton, J., Gallelli, H., Quintana, F., Frere, E., Muller, G., Straten, M.T., Zimmer, I., 2005. How do magellanic penguins cope with variability in their access to prey? *Ecological Monographs* 75, 379–401.



# LITERATURE CITED

## RESOURCES

- Wilson, R.P., Liebsch, N., Davies, I.M., Quintana, F., Weimerskirch, H., Storch, S., Lucke, K., Siebert, U., Zankl, S., Müller, G., Zimmer, I., Scolaro, A., Campagna, C., Plötz, J., Bornemann, H., Teilmann, J., McMahon, C.R., 2007. All at sea with animal tracks; methodological and analytical solutions for the resolution of movement. *Deep Sea Research Part II: Topical Studies in Oceanography* 54, 193-210.
- Yorio, P., F. Quintana, P. Dell'arciprete, and D. González-Zevallos. 2010. Spatial overlap between foraging seabirds and trawl fisheries: implications for the effectiveness of a marine protected area at Golfo San Jorge, Argentina. *Bird Conservation International* 20:320-334.

## BOOKS

- Falabella, V., Campagna, C., Croxall, J., 2009. Atlas del Mar Patagónico. Especies y espacios., Buenos Aires, Wildlife Conservation Society y BirdLife International.
- Williams, T. D. The Penguins Spheniscidae. Bird Families of the World. Oxford University Press; First Edition edition (May 18, 1995).

## FIELD GUIDES

- Guía para la Identificación de las AVES de Argentina & Uruguay 2011 (1.ª 1987). Tito Narosky & Dario Yzurieta. Vazquez Mazini Editores. ISBN 978-987-9132-27-2
- Aves de Patagonia y Antártida. 2004. Tito Narosky & Dario Yzurieta. Vazquez Mazini Editores. ISBN 987-9132-09-2
- Mamíferos Marinos de Patagonia y Antártida. Ricardo Bastida y Diego Rodríguez. 2003. Vázquez Manzini Editores, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 208 pp.

## EARTHWATCH SOCIAL MEDIA

- **FACEBOOK:** [facebook.com/Earthwatch](https://facebook.com/Earthwatch)
- **TWITTER:** [twitter.com/earthwatch\\_org](https://twitter.com/earthwatch_org)
- **INSTAGRAM:** [instagram.com/earthwatch](https://instagram.com/earthwatch)
- **BLOG:** [earthwatchunlocked.wordpress.com](https://earthwatchunlocked.wordpress.com)
- **YOUTUBE:** [youtube.com/earthwatchinstitute](https://youtube.com/earthwatchinstitute)

## LITERATURE

- Croxall, J. P., J. R. D. Silk, et al. 2005. Global circumnavigations: tracking year-round ranges of nonbreeding albatrosses. *Science* 307: 249-250.
- Frere, E., P. Gandini, and P.D. Boersma. 1996. Aspectos particulares de la biología reproductiva y tendencia poblacional del pingüino de Magallanes en la colonia de Cabo Virgenes, Santa Cruz, Argentina. *Hornero* 14: 50-59.
- Garcia-Boboroglu, P., P. D. Boersma, et al. 2006. Chronic oil pollution harms Magellanic penguins in the Southwest Atlantic. *Marine pollution bulletin* 52: 193-198.
- Yorio, P. and G. Caille. 1999. Seabird Interactions with Coastal Fisheries in Northern Patagonia: use of Discards and Incidental Captures in Nets. *Waterbirds* 22:207-216.
- Yorio, P., F. Quintana, et al. 2010. Spatial overlap between foraging seabirds and trawl fisheries: implications for the effectiveness of a marine protected area at Golfo San Jorge, Argentina. *Bird Conservation International* 20: 320-334.



# EMERGENCY NUMBERS

## AROUND-THE-CLOCK SUPPORT



### EARTHWATCH'S 24-HOUR EMERGENCY HOTLINE

---

Call Earthwatch's 24-hour on-call duty officer in the U.S.:

+1 (978) 461.0081

+1 (800) 776.0188 (toll-free for calls placed from within the U.S.)

After business hours, leave a message with our living answering service. State that you have an emergency and give the name of your expedition, your name, the location from which you are calling, and if possible, a phone number where you can be reached. An Earthwatch staff member will respond to your call within one hour.

### TRAVEL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER: HEALIX INTERNATIONAL

---

+44.20.3667.8991 (collect calls and reverse charges accepted)

**U.S. TOLL FREE:** +1.877.759.3917

**U.K. FREE PHONE:** 0.800.19.5180

**E-MAIL:** [earthwatch@healix.com](mailto:earthwatch@healix.com)

You may contact Healix International at any time. They can assist in the event of a medical or evacuation emergency or for routine medical and travel advice, such as advice on visas and vaccine requirements.

### FOR VOLUNTEERS BOOKED THROUGH THE EARTHWATCH AUSTRALIA OFFICE:

---

### Earthwatch Australia 24-Hour Emergency Helpline

+61.0.3.8508.5537







# MESSAGE FROM EARTHWATCH

DEAR EARTHWATCHER,

Thank you for joining this expedition! We greatly appreciate your decision to contribute to hands-on environmental science and conservation. It is volunteers like you who fuel our mission and inspire our work.

While at Earthwatch, I've had the opportunity to field on a few expeditions, most recently in Kenya with one of my daughters. Each expedition has touched me deeply, and made me proud to be able to roll up my sleeves alongside my fellow volunteers and contribute to such meaningful work.

As an Earthwatch volunteer, you have the opportunity to create positive change. And while you're out in the field working toward that change, we are committed to caring for your safety. Although risk is an inherent part of the environments in which we work, we've been providing volunteer field experiences with careful risk management and diligent planning for nearly 45 years. You're in good hands.

If you have questions as you prepare for your expedition, we encourage you to contact your Earthwatch office. Thank you for your support, and enjoy your expedition!

Sincerely,



Scott Kania  
President and CEO, Earthwatch



Earthwatch U.S.  
114 Western Ave.  
Boston, MA 02134  
United States

[info@earthwatch.org](mailto:info@earthwatch.org)  
[earthwatch.org](http://earthwatch.org)

Phone: 1-978-461-0081  
Toll-Free: 1-800-776-0188  
Fax: 1-978-461-2332

Earthwatch Europe  
Mayfield House  
256 Banbury Rd.  
Oxford, OX2 7DE  
United Kingdom

[info@earthwatch.org.uk](mailto:info@earthwatch.org.uk)  
[earthwatch.org](http://earthwatch.org)

Phone: 44-0-1865-318-838  
Fax: 44-0-1865-311-383

Earthwatch Australia  
126 Bank St.  
South Melbourne,  
VIC 3205  
Australia

[earth@earthwatch.org.au](mailto:earth@earthwatch.org.au)  
[earthwatch.org](http://earthwatch.org)

Phone: 61-0-3-9016-7590  
Fax: 61-0-3-9686-3652

Earthwatch Japan  
Food Science Bldg. 4F  
The University of Tokyo  
1-1-1, Yayoi, Bunkyo-ku  
Tokyo 113-8657, Japan

[info@earthwatch.jp](mailto:info@earthwatch.jp)  
[earthwatch.org](http://earthwatch.org)

Phone: 81-0-3-6686-0300  
Fax: 81-0-3-6686-0477