



# RIDE WORLD WIDE

## ARGENTINA, TIERRA DEL FUEGO 2025-2026

### END OF THE WORLD RIDE BY JAKOTANGO

#### RIDE INFORMATION

This new ride was set up in 2024 by the Jakotango team whose aim is to showcase some of the highlights of rural Argentina, its incredible scenery, horses and people. Tierra del Fuego is certainly one of those highlights. The name still conjures images of exploration - of Darwin, Fitzroy and the Beagle, and of the Fuegian Indians who travelled with fires in their canoes and gave the island its name ('land of fires'). The rides are led by Marcos Villamil who has a wealth of experience having spent 18 months riding the length of Argentina assisted by an excellent support team. This is a tough, exciting ride in a remote area and those joining should expect the rigours and hardships that go with it. Escape, exhilaration, excitement; great horses, stunning scenery and a sense of style - these rides offer it all!



#### DATES

7 night rides are run between November and March from set dates. Please contact Ride World Wide to discuss dates and availability.

#### HORSES

The horses used, all owned by the Jakotango team, are locally bred Argentine Criollos and Criollos crossed with Noriker, Quarter Horse, or Thoroughbred. They average about 15.2 to 16hh, are a strong 'chunky' build and sensible, very sure footed and at ease on rough or steep mountainous terrain. They are also energetic, responsive and forward going to ride. The horses are ridden in the local style (which is similar to western riding) and are used to neck reining with a light contact and relaxed seat and there is an excellent choice for riders of different abilities.

## TACK

Argentine style tack is used with saddles similar to westerns but without the big pommel, topped with a comfortable sheepskin. Bridles are also local style, made from raw-hide and generally with 'shanked' bits so that only a loose contact with the mouth is required. Saddle-bags are provided.

## RIDING

The trips include riding on 7 days, usually a short ride on the afternoon of the first day to try the horses, and then between 4 and 8 hours in the saddle on most of the following days - although there is one long day of around 10 hours. On some days, riding is from estancia to estancia stopping for a long lunch and siesta on the way; on others you ride out from the night's base, stopping for lunch on the way, then returning by a different route to the base. Groups are limited to a maximum of 8 guests.

## WEIGHT LIMIT

90kgs / 14st 2lbs but please contact us if your weight is close to this so we can check suitable horses are available (some heavier experienced riders may be taken by prior arrangement).



## PACE

The pace varies with the route each day but there are plenty of open plains and lots of opportunities for long canters. In some places the terrain is rugged and the horses climb narrow, steep tracks, traverse peat bogs or cross thick forests of southern beech where the pace has to be slow - but overall these are faster paced rides with good chances to move on.

## RIDING EXPERIENCE

These rides are suitable for confident riders of an intermediate standard and above, who are comfortable, relaxed and secure in the saddle at a walk, trot and fast canter and looking for good quality, fun riding. The horses are of a calm, relaxed temperament and adept at covering the varied terrain - but the route is through rugged unspoilt country with some challenging going for both horses and riders. With forests, peat bogs, and river crossings to negotiate in a remote area, diversions are often necessary, and mean long riding hours. You need to be fit, relaxed and confident in the saddle with a reasonable amount of experience of this type of riding. You should also be comfortable with heights - one day includes a climb to a high viewpoint with some going on a scree slope; there's nothing particularly vertical, but those with serious vertigo can find it alarming. There are a few occasions when you will need to get off and lead your horse up or down steep hills, so as well as riding experience you should be happy handling a horse from the ground and mounting unassisted. As well as riding fitness it is also important to be generally fit to cope with walking up and down hills on uneven ground. If you don't ride regularly at home we strongly recommend plenty of practice before you go to get used to the hours in the saddle.





## TERRAIN

The southern part of the island of Tierra del Fuego is mountainous and covered with southern beech forest and peat bogs. By contrast, the north is mostly open grassland plains, grazed by herds of guanaco (wild llamas), and cut by broad river valleys. The rides start in the north then head south through the transition area ending in the mountains just north of the great Lago Fagnano which spans both Chile & Argentina. The island is split down the middle, with Argentina on the east and Chile on the west and on some days the route follows the border which is just a fence line.



## SAFETY AND GUIDING

Marcos, who is Argentinean, leads most rides personally and is both an experienced guide and charming, easy-going and thoughtful companion. His experience includes 18 months riding throughout Argentina as well as several seasons guiding for the Jakotango team in Patagonia - and before that he lived and worked in Buenos Aires. He is assisted by a super team of gauchos who look after the horses, a back up manager and fantastic cook! Guides are first aid trained and carry a medical kit and satellite phone for emergencies. As much of the riding is in remote, at times there will be limited or delayed access to professional medical support.





## ACCOMMODATION

Nights during the ride are at a variety of private estancias, with one night in a simple camp. The first 2 and last night are at Estancia San Jose, where one of the estancia buildings has been beautifully restored for guests. This has 4 double / twin rooms, with proper beds made up with cotton sheets, pillows and duvets, en-suite bathrooms and a woodburning stove. The estancia shearing shed has also been restored with an area renovated as a cozy sitting and dining room.



The third night, after a long ride, is at Rio Apen staying in caravans, which are traditionally used by shepherds and fencing crews in this remote area. These have all been carefully restored and each has 2 small bedrooms, one single and one double, (sleeping bag and liner supplied), a small bathroom with shower, and a cosy kitchen area. A wonderful dining area has been created in a neighbouring barn with amazing views over the river Apen and the picturesque shearing sheds and stables.



The next 2 nights are at Estancia Boqueron, in the yellow house of Ines Menedez-Behety (whose forbears were one of the great pioneering families of the region) where there are 4 simple but comfortable bedrooms, sharing a bathroom. The penultimate night is in a basic 'fly' camp, set up next to a shepherds hut, where you sleep in 2-man dome (igloo) tents, with camp beds, mattresses and sleeping bags provided. There are no showers at the fly camp - a little water will be heated for a morning wash (or you can have a quick dip in a cold stream) - and there is a shared long drop loo. The shepherds hut is used for meals - there is a long rough-hewn table and cozy woodburning stove which the team use to make fantastic meals. All rooms are twin / double share and single accommodation is not usually possible.



## MEALS

All meals are included and a fantastic effort is made with the food, which reflects local Argentine traditions. Full cooked breakfasts keep you going until lunch, which is either a picnic out riding, often carried by pack horse and eaten 'picnic style' along the way, or a traditional 'asado', a big part of gaucho culture and much more than simply Spanish for BBQ! Argentine beef is renowned for its excellence and is often served with chorizo as part of an 'asado' or there might be a whole lamb asado accompanied by salads, home-made bread, cheeses and plenty of carefully chosen Argentinian wine. Dinners at the estancias are three courses, eaten at a long table in a 'quincho' or around the campfire. Although meat is the mainstay of the Argentine diet, main courses also include fish (salmon & paella) and there are plenty of salads and vegetables. Vegetarians can be well catered for but please give us prior notice of any special dietary requirements.

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## MEALS Cont.

Drinks are included - the well-known Pisco Sour as well as other spirits, beer and good Argentine wines. Dinner is usually eaten quite late - at around 9 or 9.30pm most days - in tune with local custom (customarily in Argentina dinner is never before 9pm and sometimes not until 11pm).

## WEATHER

The season starts in November, with the arrival of spring and ends in March, late summer. Day time temperatures in the area between November and March average 10-15C but can vary and nights are generally cool, sometimes down to -2C. January and February are mid- summer and usually the warmest months but in the mountains, anything is possible and you should be prepared for weather that is best described as capricious - unpredictable and changeable, with strong winds, rain (and snow) possible at any time with little warning. One can at any time easily experience all 4 seasons in one day....



## WHAT TO BRING

We will send you list when your booking is confirmed.

## ITINERARY

The following is an example of the 7 night itinerary planned but **please note** it is *only* an example and day by day arrangements may be varied by your guiding team in their absolute discretion if the weather or other local conditions require. This is left to their discretion and experience

### End of the World by Jakotango (7 nights)

*[Own arrangements to arrive in Buenos Aires, we suggest **arriving 2 days before** the start date so that you have a night in Buenos Aires, then a full day to relax, before transferring to the domestic airport at around mid-night].*

**Day 1** - *[Make your way to the domestic airport for an internal / domestic flight to Rio Grande. Meeting arrangements will be confirmed before you depart - the recommended flight from Buenos Aires to Rio Grande normally depart Buenos Aires AEP around 02.00/ arrives Rio Grande 07:00 but please check with us **before** booking any internal flights].* Arrive Río Grande airport, where the team will be waiting for you. From here you will be driven about an hour and a half to Estancia San José, Jakotango's southern headquarters, where the first two nights are spent. A welcome breakfast on arrival and time to discuss the schedule for the next few days. Then settle into your rooms and time for showers and to relax and rest before lunch and, in true Argentinian tradition, a siesta. In the afternoon meet the horses for a first ride and chance to try the local tack and gaucho riding style. Return to the estancia for drinks, a candlelit dinner and the night. (B,L,D).





## ITINERARY cont.

**Day 2** - After a hearty breakfast, horse will be saddled and you set off riding across open plains and through stretches of beech forest. You might meet the border with Chile, before heading to the Río Grande, home to the largest sea trout in the world and where there will be a long break for a delicious picnic, followed by a siesta on the riverbank. In the afternoon, mount up again to ride back to the estancia crossing some wonderful open plains where you can try the horses over long distances at a gallop. Perhaps stop for a whiskey at the historic trenches dug during the Beagle Conflict of 1978 - a border dispute between Chile and Argentina that was finally settled by the Pope. Dinner and night Estancia San Jose. (B,L,D)



**Day 3** - A big breakfast to set you up for the longest riding day, covering around 30 miles in all and around 10 hours in the saddle. There will be some long canters across open grassland as you head closer and closer to the mountains. Stop for a picnic lunch, carried in saddlebags, at a beautiful spot just above the Río Menendez and after lunch and a rest continue riding across open plains. The route passes a couple of estancias, one abandoned and there is some challenging terrain as you cross beech forest and peat bogs, until you eventually reach the Apen river valley and your destination today, Estancia Río Apen. The night is in simple caravans at the estancia (cosy beds and sleeping bags), meeting for a delicious and very welcome dinner by the fire in the separate dining area. Dinner and night Estancia Río Apen. (B,L,D)



**Day 4** - A relaxed breakfast and later start after the long day yesterday. Today is a shorter riding day and you will change to new horses, with those ridden over the last few days sent back by truck to San José. Mount up on new horses, which have come from Estancia El Boquerón, the destination of today's ride. The route follows an estancia track along open valleys lined by forested hills and after about 4 hours takes you to the distinctive yellow house of El Boqueron, one of the most remote farms on the island. Lunch on arrival and time for a siesta before another ride if you wish, or take time out to relax and enjoy a stroll through the forest. Dinner and night Estancia El Boqueron. (B,L,D)

**Day 5** - Breakfast and set off with a picnic lunch in saddle bags. The first part of the route climbs through thick forest, passing several beaver dams and crossing stretches of open moorland and peat bogs where you might see some wild horses. The scenery is breathtaking and as you reach the treeline and continue across open shale at the top of the mountain you may well see condors soaring, both above and below you! Stop for lunch at the top of the hill, tying the horses to a stand of trees below the summit. After a short rest set off down the slopes, following another route through forest - looking forward to hot showers, dinner and a comfortable bed. Dinner and night Estancia El Boqueron. (B,L,D)



**Day 6** - Breakfast and set off into the wilderness. Leaving your main luggage behind, pack what you need for the night in saddle bags and head off, with pack horses carrying food, tents and all other equipment. The route heads towards the mountains, following a broad open valley, crossing the river a couple of times until, after about 2 ½ hours, it reaches the remote Puesto República, where the night will be spent. Only accessible by horse or on foot, there is one small shepherds hut at this remote outpost (with a long drop loo nearby!) After a short break to stretch legs and rest, mount up again to continue riding on towards the mountains, crossing a band of forest and riding into a secret valley that has seen almost no humans since days of the Ona Indians. Stop here for a picnic lunch before starting the slow climb through peat bogs, past a waterfall and along the hillside to reach the scree slope that takes you to a high pass, about 2 ½ hours from the Puesto. There is often snow at the top and on a clear day, fabulous views of Lake Fagnano to the south, as well as mountains and the huge wilderness that stretches out to Ushuaia. The descent is much easier for the horses and it's less than 2 hours back to Puesto República, where camp has been set up, Pisco Sours and a delicious asado dinner will be waiting. Night in camp at Puesto República. (B,L,D)

**Day 7** - Breakfast and set off riding downstream, heading back to El Boquerón, with some lovely long canters along the valleys. Arrive at the estancia in time for a good lunch before saying farewell to the horses and team at El Boqueron and setting off by vehicle back to Estancia San Jose (about 2 ½ hours drive). Final dinner and night at San Jose. (B,L,D)

**Day 8** - Breakfast and then you will be driven to Ushuaia airport (approx. 4 hours' drive) arriving in the afternoon for your onward journey. [If time allows an extra night in the world's southernmost city is highly recommended before onward travel] (B)





## DATES & RATES 2025-2026

The ride is priced in USD. The sterling price will be the equivalent sterling rate using the USD/sterling exchange rate in force when you book/pay. (Rates valid to March 2026)

**Tierra del Fuego, End of the World Ride - 7 nights - USD 5600 per person**

### 2025-2026 Dates

17th to 24th February 2026

Other dates also available on request and for private groups. Please ask us

Rate **INCLUDES** 7 nights twin / double accommodation, all riding, guiding and back up, meals (breakfast first day to breakfast last day), tea, coffee and bar bill (local wines, spirits, beer), camping equipment (including sleeping bags when camping), laundry service and all road transfers within itinerary.

Note - A service charge of USD 175 per week will be added to your invoice to cover staff tips.

Rate **EXCLUDES** International and domestic flights and taxes, any accommodation in Buenos Aires, Ushuaia or outside ride itinerary, personal medical / travel insurance (which you **must** have with cover to ride), any visa fees, optional activities such as fishing & fishing licences etc, personal items such as telephone calls.

**Single Accommodation** The rate assumes twin / double share accommodation. No supplement is charged for single travellers willing to share with another guest of the same sex if necessary. Accommodation is limited and unfortunately single accommodation **cannot** be guaranteed although we will do our best to accommodate preferences.





## FLIGHTS & TRAVEL INFORMATION

British Airways currently have daily flights from London to Buenos Aires (touching down in Rio de Janeiro), usually leaving London Heathrow at about 22.00 arriving Buenos Aires at about 11.00 the next day. Iberia and Aerolineas Argentinas also have daily flights from London to Buenos Aires with a change in Madrid. Other options include LATAM, Air France and Lufthansa, or via the USA. Fares start at about £900 per person economy return London to Buenos Aires although this will vary depending on the carrier, date required, availability and how far in advance you book. Please call us for more flight information or if you would like a fare quote. We would be happy to book flights for you (our ATOL number for flight sales is 6213).

Domestic flights are best booked in conjunction with international tickets. For the return flight Buenos Aires to Rio Grande and Ushuaia to Buenos Aires you need to budget around \$600 USD economy although you always need to confirm on booking. Meeting in Rio Grande is **usually** arranged to combine with the following Aerolineas Argentinas flight:

AR 1868 Depart Buenos Aires 02:45 / arrives Rio Grande RGA 06:15

NB Aerolineas change timings quite regularly!

After the ride we recommend a night in Ushuaia (you will arrive Ushuaia on the afternoon of Day 8) If you plan to fly out that day it should not be until after 16.00.

***IMPORTANT Please check with us before booking domestic flights as we try to co-ordinate so that everyone is on the same flight.***





## GENERAL VISA & HEALTH INFORMATION

(NB this is a brief outline - further information will be sent to you if you make a confirmed booking)

**Visas** If you hold a full British Passport and are visiting Argentina for less than 3 months, you do not need to arrange a visa in advance although visa requirements are always subject to change and you should always check up to date requirements before you travel

**Health** No inoculations are required as a condition of entry into Argentina from the UK and Europe. The TravelHealthPro website (NaTHNaC) recommends you ensure you are up to date with Tetanus. For some travelers (normally if traveling around or longer stay), inoculation against Typhoid, Hepatitis A and B and perhaps Rabies may also be suggested. You should take qualified medical advice and visit your GP or a travel clinic about 4 weeks before departure

(DRAFT 25/07/2025)

