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PATAGONIA · SOUTH ATLANTIC

Península Valdés, Argentina

Southern right whale and orca · June – December

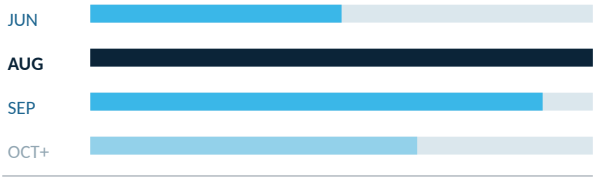


SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE



ORCA

SIGHTING PROBABILITY



BEST MONTH
August

SEASON
Jun – Dec

§ 01 INTRODUCTION

Península Valdés, on the Atlantic coast of Chubut (Argentine Patagonia), is one of the great sanctuaries of the southern right whale: every year around 2,000 whales arrive in its sheltered gulfs to mate and give birth.

The season runs from June to December, with the first boat trips from mid-June in Puerto Pirámides, the only port in Argentina licensed for boat-based whale watching. August and September bring the highest numbers and most of the births.

§ 02 ETHICS

Whale-watching ethics

Puerto Pirámides works under the "Patagonian whale-watching technique", a protocol for approach and time spent with the whales that all six licensed companies follow. Avoid any unlicensed operator, and remember that you can also watch for free from the shore at El Doradillo, with no impact at all on the animals.

§ 03 IN THE FIELD

Practical tips

01
Book ahead in high season (August–September): trips sell out days in advance.

02
Bring warm layers — the Patagonian wind is chilly even on sunny days.

03
Combine a boat trip with free shore-based watching at El Doradillo, especially at high tide.

04
A 100-400mm zoom or similar; also suitable for the wildlife at Punta Norte and Punta Tombo.

05
Choose one of the six licensed operators in Puerto Pirámides — they all follow the same regulated distance protocol.

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