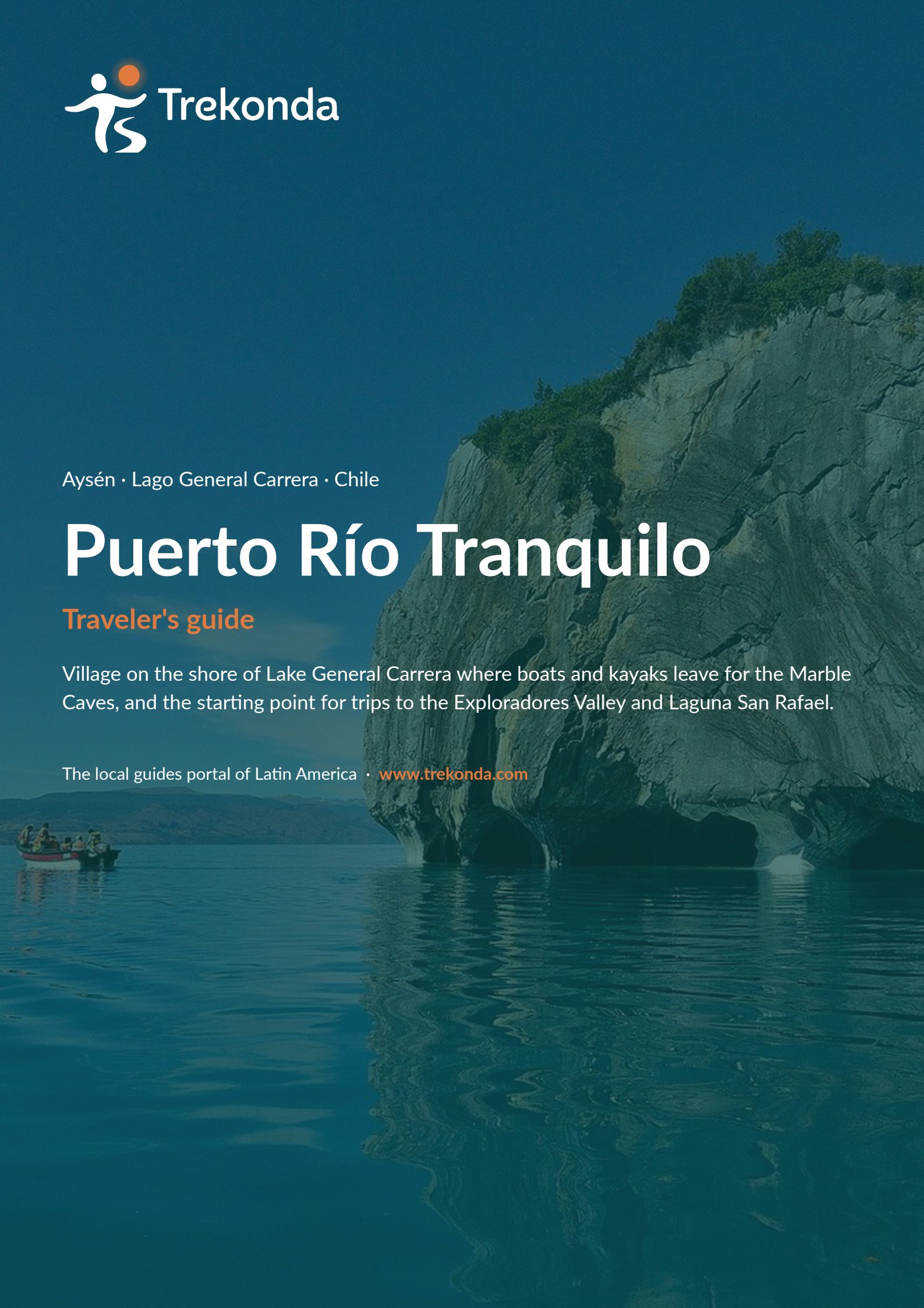
Trekonda



Aysén · Lago General Carrera · Chile

Puerto Río Tranquilo

Traveler's guide

Village on the shore of Lake General Carrera where boats and kayaks leave for the Marble Caves, and the starting point for trips to the Exploradores Valley and Laguna San Rafael.

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Nature

Puerto Río Tranquilo is a small village on the Carretera Austral, on the western shore of Lake General Carrera, Chile's largest lake, about 1,850 km² shared with Argentina, where it is called Lake Buenos Aires. Its glacial turquoise water has carved the nearby shore into the Marble Caves (Capillas de Mármol), caverns, arches and tunnels of veined rock declared a Nature Sanctuary in 1994. To the west, the Exploradores Valley runs through forests, lakes and waterfalls to the Northern Patagonian Ice Field, with the Exploradores Glacier and Mount San Valentín.



Activities

- Boat trips from the waterfront to the Marble Chapel, Cathedral and Caverns in 1 h 30, or a full tour of 2 h 30 to 3 h adding Puerto Sánchez and Panichini island; departures depend on the wind
- Guided kayaking to the Marble Caves from Bahía Mansa, about 5 km from the village, 2 h 30 to 3 h in total, easy level when the lake is calm
- Full day to Laguna San Rafael: about 2 hours on the gravel road through the Exploradores Valley to Bahía Exploradores, then a boat among icebergs in front of the San Rafael glacier, October to April
- Exploradores Valley: lakes Tranquilo and Bayo, the latter with packraft outings, La Nutria waterfall and views of the Exploradores Glacier; ice walks on the glacier are closed by CONAF because of collapse risk, a closure upheld in court in February 2026
- Horse riding in the nearby valleys and sport fishing, fly or trolling, on Lake General Carrera
- Road trips on the Carretera Austral north to Villa Cerro Castillo, or south to Puerto Bertrand and the Baker river, which drains the lake to the Pacific

When to go

High season runs from December to March, with long days and milder temperatures; in January and February it is worth booking boat trips in advance. Boats run most of the year, but wind can cancel them in any season. The Laguna San Rafael trips operate from October to late April. Winter is cold, with rain or snow and fewer departures.

How to get there

Nearest airport: Balmaceda (BBA), about 240 km away on the Carretera Austral (route 7), with gravel sections. From Coyhaique it is about 220 km, 4 to 5 hours by car and a little longer on the daily buses. From Argentina, cross at Los Antiguos to Chile Chico, about 3.5 to 4 hours by bus from the village, or take the ferry between

Puerto Ibáñez and Chile Chico across Lake General Carrera.

Activities in this destination

Hiking & trekking · Volcano · Rafting & hydrospeed · Boat trips, canoe & kayak · Hot springs · Zipline & tree climbing · Canyoning & rappelling · Paragliding · Horseback riding · Snow & snowshoeing · Local & indigenous culture · Nature & photography · Stargazing · Full-day excursions · Food & wine · Family & inclusive · Surfing & bodyboard · Sandboarding & dunes · Cycling & MTB · Climbing & mountaineering · Ice & glaciers · Kitesurfing & windsurfing · Diving & snorkelling · Wildlife & whale watching · City & walking tours · Birdwatching · Fly & sport fishing

Experiences

No experiences published in Puerto Río Tranquilo yet Are you a guide here? Create your free profile and be the first to appear.

Guides

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Photo gallery



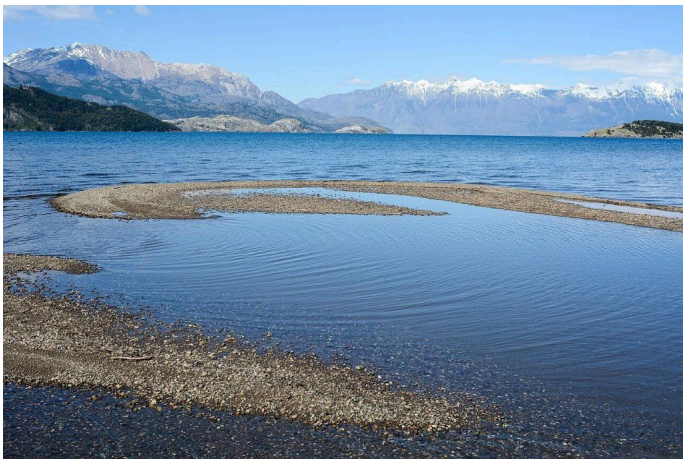
Interior de las cavernas de las Capillas de Mármol · javier (jvieras on Flickr) · CC BY 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons



Glaciar Exploradores y el monte San Valentín, Parque Nacional Laguna San Rafael · Natalia Reyes Escobar · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

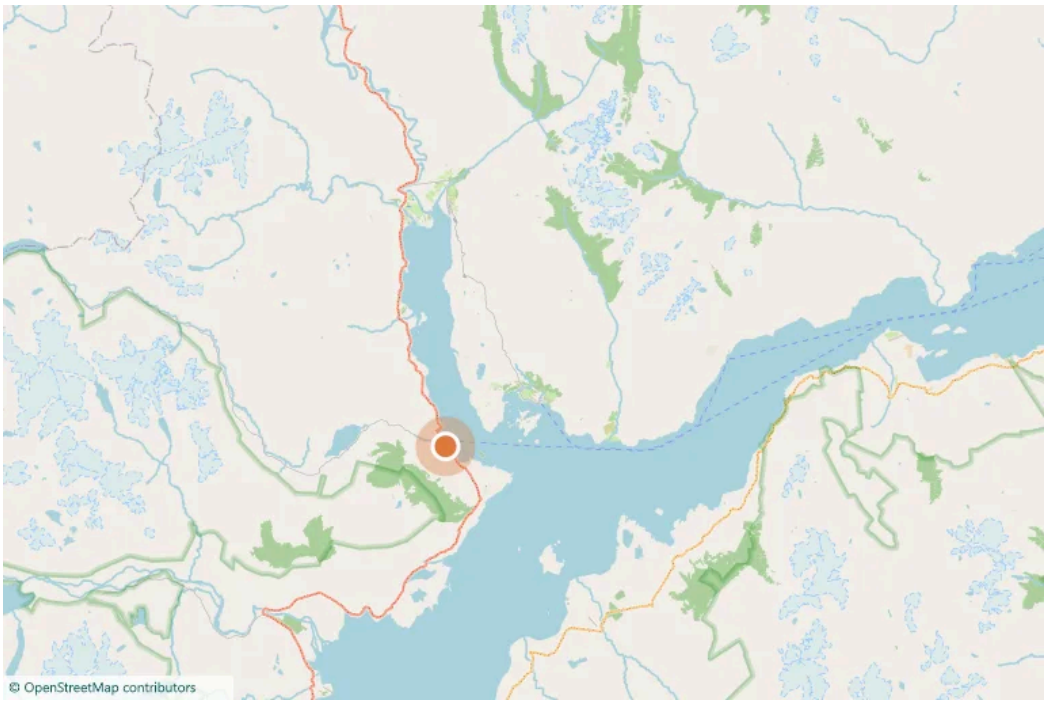


Puerto Río Tranquilo y el lago General Carrera desde la Carretera Austral · M M from Switzerland · CC BY-SA 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons



Orilla del lago General Carrera en Puerto Río Tranquilo · M M from Switzerland · CC BY-SA 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Map · Puerto Río Tranquilo



-46.6241, -72.6766 · Directions in Google Maps

How to book with a local guide

Choose your experience → Request your date → Experience Puerto Río Tranquilo

Send your request and the guide contacts you directly with availability and price.

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