ARAUCANÍA

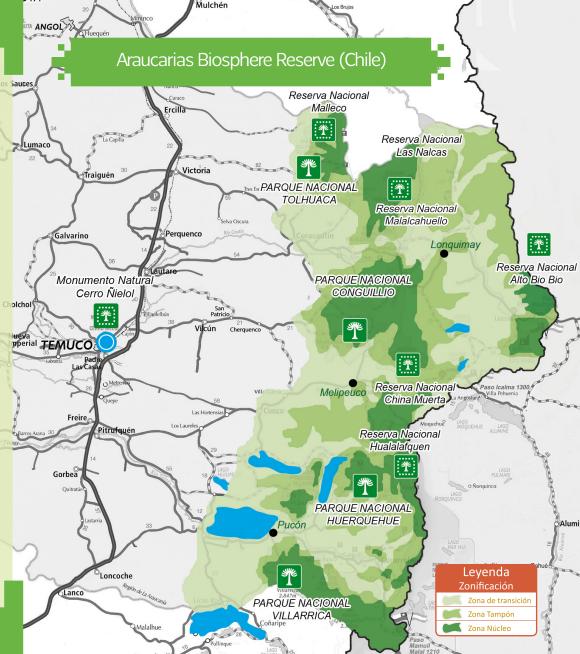
Biosphere Reserve National Parks and other Wild Protected Areas



Biosphere reserves consist of terrestrial or coastal ecosystems or a combination of both. They are acknowledged internationally such as in the Program on Man and Biosphere (MaB) by UNESCO. They must fullfil three complementary tasks: conservation, development and logistic support (UNESCO 1995), which are applied within the wild protected areas, transitional, and damping zones.

Araucarias Biosphere Reserve, located in the mountainrange of Araucania Region, was created in 1983 and enlarged in 2010 (UNESCO–MAB, 2010). It occupies a territory of 1,142,850 hectares, representing a 36% of the total Araucania Region surface, by covering nine mountain areas where a varied natural ecosystem and diverse mosaic of cultures are found. (Enlargement Report RBA, 2010)

The region has a vast natural and cultural heritage, particularly araucarias and warm rainforest, as being an important part of this heritage National Parks or Reserves managed by CONAF, the entity that declared 10 nucleus zones among the wild protected areas managed in Los Andes de la Araucania: NP Villarrica, NP Conguillío, NP Huerquehue, NP Tolhuaca, NR Malleco, NR Villarrica, NR China Muerta, NR Alto Biobío, NR Malalcahuello, NR Nalcas, with a surface of 271.623 ha.



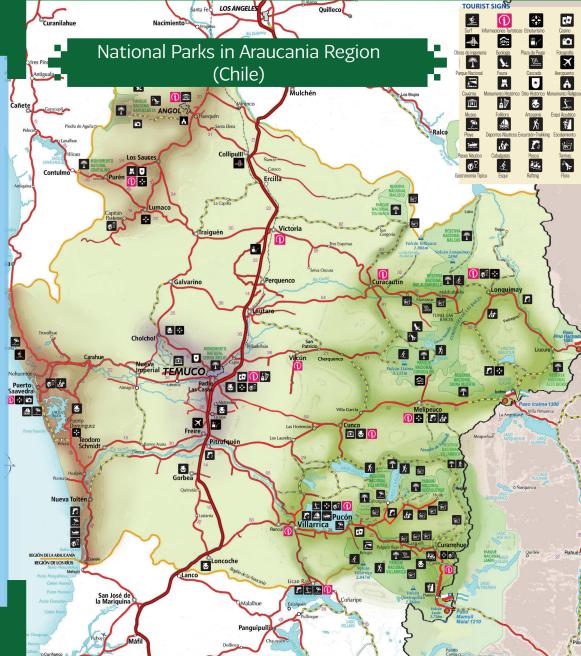
Araucania region is located 570 km south of Santiago, capital of Chile, it is surrounded byaraucaria trees, lakes and mountains. It has a surface of 31,842 km2 and its population is 957,224 inhabitants.(source: INE-Census 2017).

Its borders are to the north with Biobío Region, to the south with Los Ríos Region, to the west with Pacific Ocean, and to the east with Andes Mountainrange and with Neuquen Province, Argentina. It has 200 km from east to west and it is divided in 32 districts with its capital city, Temuco in the middle of the region.

Araucania is covered by a surface of 314,974 hectares, equivalent to 9.35% of the total regional surface. This region has 13 wild protected areas: 5 national parks, 6 national reserves and 2 natural monuments that offer a primitive nature encounter to visitors.

All units fulfill different tasks such as weather regulation, hydrographical basins protection, water catchment, flora and fauna habitat, tourist and visitor entertainment, nature protection, historic educative and scientific information.

Among the activities carried out by this unit are: recently volcanic and geologic phenomena, araucarias forests, rivers, lakes and banks for sportive fishing, flora and fauna observation, photography, swimming, sailing, canoeing, climbings, excursions and ski. The Forestry Corporation, CONAF, counts on rangers who inform and help visitors to protect these natural resources. There are important natural trails, excursion routes and paths that permit the access to these places.





Villarrica National Park (Chile)

(Viillarrica in Mapudungun language means House of Spirits)



Villarrica NP is located 130 km west of Temuco and it extends across the districts of Pucon, Villarrica, Curarrehue and Panguipulli (in Los Rios Region). It was created in 1940 and among its 63,000 ha. the main highlights are some volcanoes such as Villarrica, Quetrupillan and Lanin with plenty of vegetation on the surroundings.

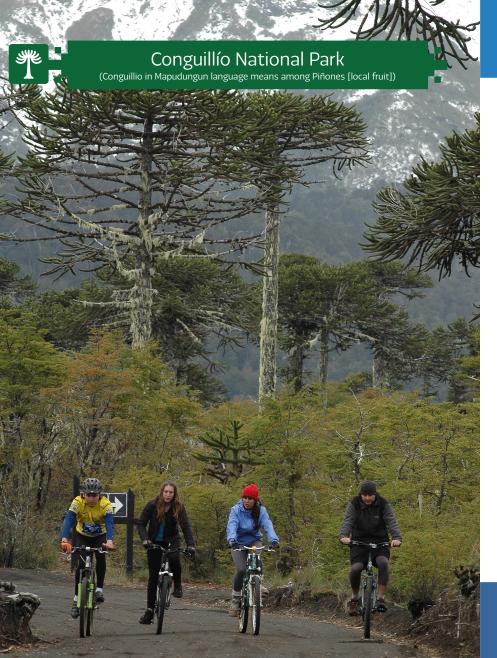
The weather is featured by rains between March and August. It ranges between 2,500 and 3,500 mm of rain and snow may reach up to 2 m high. It has three sectors: Rucapillan, Quetrupillan and Puesco. Rucapillan is the access to Villarrica and to its tourist-sportive activities.

The access to Rucapillan is through Pucon on the way to Villarrica volcano; Quetrupillan access by Pucon on the way to Palguin (Chinay area) and access to Puesco, Pucon – Curarrehue.

The landscape has a topography of the Andean Mountains featured by high peaks, territories with abrupt ravines. Altitude ranges from 600 to 3,747 m.a.s.l. The highest peaks correspond to some volcanoes such as Lanin (located in the border of Argentina) with outstanding topographic phenomena such as Las Peinetas, Colmillo del Diablo hills. Others elements that enhance the landscape of this park are Trancura and Palguín rivers, Blanca, Azul, Huinfiuca, Verde, Abutardas, Los Patos lagoons and Quillelhue lake. Flora has a great variety of araucarias, rauli, long leaf mañio, coigue and lenga trees. Concerning fauna, some coipos (similar to beaver), carpintero negro (black woodpecker), chilla fox, frogs and different types of ducks, are observed among others.

The National Parks headquartes are located in Pucon city though there are rangers all over the sectors. There is no public transport up to the park. There is only transfer service from Pucon to Puesco area.





It is located 125 km west of Temuco. This National Park was created in 1950. Along its 60,833 ha, it outstands Llaima volcano (3,125 m.a.s.l.), the main modifier of the environment together with Conguillio lake whose waters are frozen in very winter season. Weather is warm with high tempertures average. Rains range from 2,000 up to 2,500 mm annually and snow can reach up to 1 m in the low areas. Average temperature in summer is 15.1°C and 6°C in winter.

It counts on 4 areas: Truful-Truful, Conguillio, Captren and Los Paraguas. Headquarters are located in the center of unit, next to one of the main shores of Conguillio lake as well as other offices at the principal access areas:

Access Victoria – Curacautín (Captrén guard house); Access Temuco – Cunco – Melipeuco (Truful –Truful guard house); Access Temuco – Vilcún – Cherquenco (Los Paraguas – Llaima Ski center).

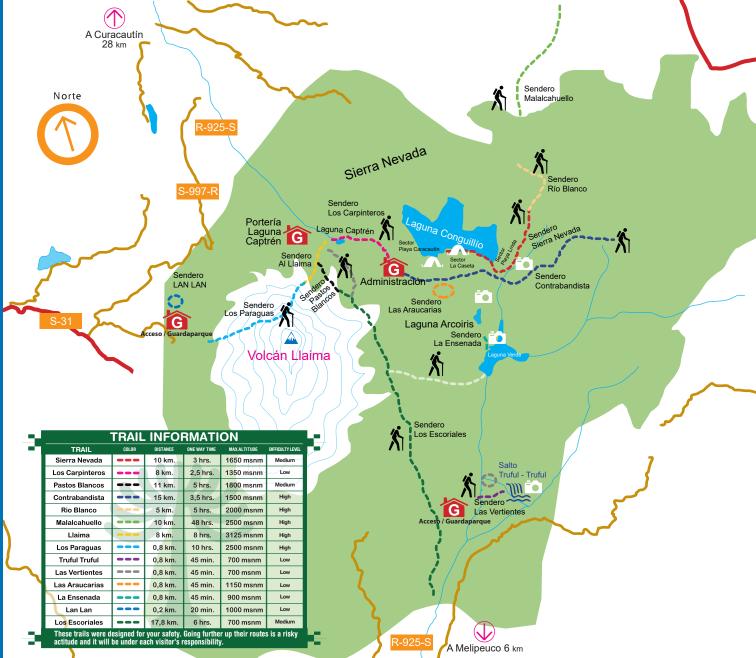
Its wild landscapes emerge big volcanic lava accumulations, wide araucarias forests together with other species such as mountains cypress, lleuque, Andean canelo, raulí and lenga trees which are easily identified as well as plenty of fauna with the presence of mountain monkey, a sort of marsupial, black woodpecker, condor, red tailed small eagle and acuatic birds.

In the environmental information center, located in the headquarters, some programs of environmental education and further information on the park are also provided.

Its highlights are Llaima volcano, Captrén, Conguillio, Verde and Arcoiris lagoons and trails with different difficulty levels. Additionally, there are some tourist services like accommodation (camping and cottages) and picnic areas which are under a concessionaire contract.

During January and February there is public transport up to the National Park with departures from the Terminal de Buses Rurales of Temuco (by Cunco-Melipeuco) from Mondays through Sundays.

There are also buses as transfer service from Curacautín to Captrén; from Temuco to Melipeuco; from Melipeuco to the park, and from Temuco to Cherquenco.





It is located almost 145 km south of Temuco, and 35 km from Pucon. This park is one of the oldest wild protected areas in the country and it was part of the Benjamin Vicuña Mackenna park created in 1912 with 265,000 ha. In 1967, this park was officially created with 12,500 ha.

The weather is wild with less than four months of dried time and ice weather because of altitude. Rainy months are from May to September, with 2,045 mm annually.

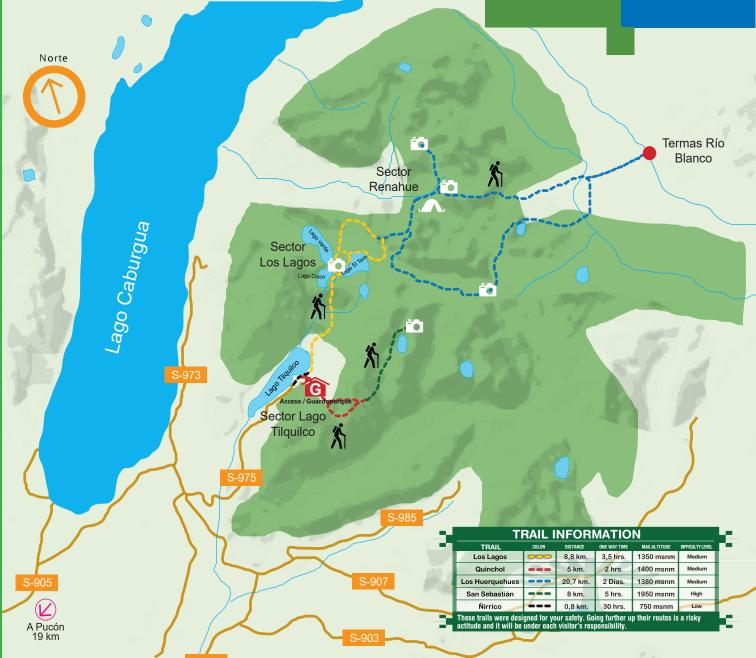
The park is featured by a great diversity of natural resources, hills, ravines and immense depths where over 20 lagoons have emerged by means of rivers, and estuaries that flow from the high peaks. Among its most frequent flora are species like araucaria, lenga, mañio and michay trees. Among its fauna are outstanding condor, culpeo fox, bufo variegatus frog, Darwin frog and chucao bird.

The highlights are Laguna Verde, Laguna Toro, Renahue canyon river; Quinchol and Araucano hills.

It counts on Environmental Information Center and service areas, both located at the shore of Tinquilco lake.

Additionally, this sector provides tourist services such as accommodation (camping and picnic) and there is one small beach.

There is public transport from Pucon up to the park entrance.

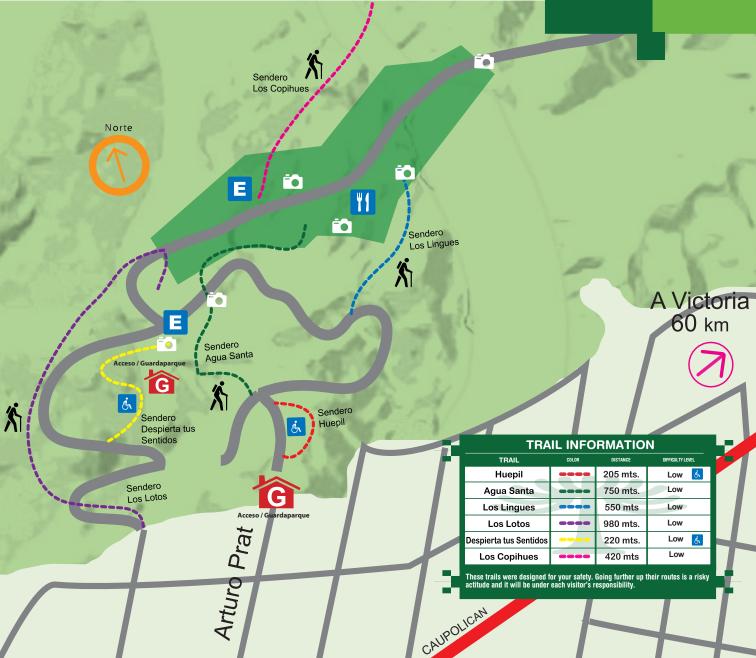


Cerro Ñielol Natural Monument

(Ñielol in Mapudungun language means holed hill)

This natural monument is located in Temuco city at 8 blocks from Anibal Pinto main square. It is the only protected area within the country that is located in the middle of a city. It conserves a unique forest with a combination of Valdivean jungle and central zones species. The unit has developed protection actions for species such as chilla fox, red tailed small eagle, short red tailed snake and small four eyed frog. Regarding flora, there are some tree species such as huillipatagua, lleuque and peumo.

Besides ethnic and Mapuche cultural aspects, this unit has a great significance since in this park is found a symbolic tree called "Patagua del Armisticio", whose symbol reminds the realization of a parlament between Chilean and Mapuche people to agree on peaceful integration to the Chilean Republic. Ñielol Natural Monument counts on the environmental center, as well as trails, paths and lookouts just in the middle of nature.





Nahuelbuta National Park

(Nahuelbuta in Mapudungun language means big jaguar)

It is located 165 km northeast of Temuco and 35 km from Angol, in the highest peak of Coastal Mountains, at this point is called Nahuelbuta. It was created in 1939 on a surface of 6,832 ha.

It has a mild weather with 6 rainy months. Rains range from 1,000 to 1,500 mm with snow between June and September.

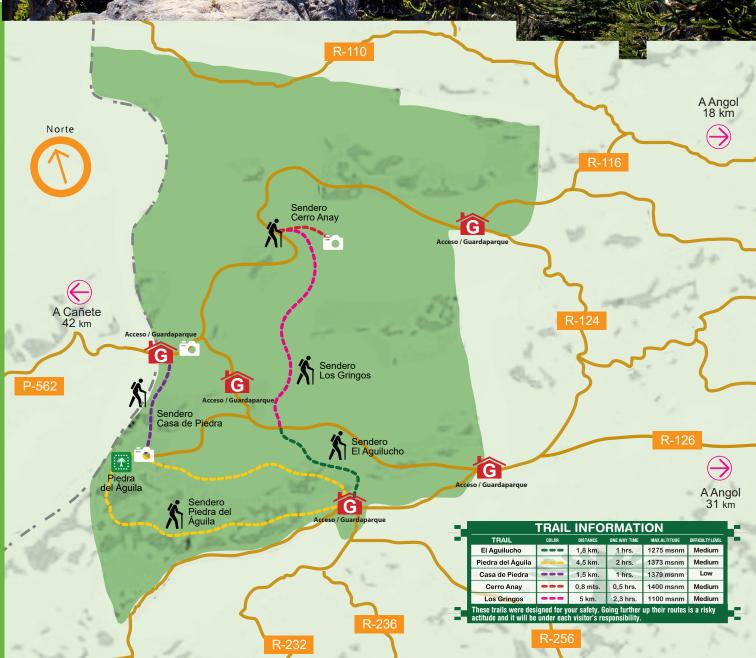
Access is from Angol city – Vegas Blancas (in this point is the headquarters) and from Cañete, within Biobío Region.

Altitude ranges from 800 to 1,500 m.a.s.l. Among its main attractions are: Piedra del Aguila, a natural lookout, where Pacific Ocean and Andes Moautain Range, Las Tuberas (only for scientific interest) can be observed, with

outstanding insectivorous vegetables, Pehuenco valley, Pichinahuel, Anay and Coimallín hills. This is the unique zone within coastal mountainrange where most araucarias, lenga, long leaf mañío, oak and coigue trees are found. Among other species, fauna is featured by fox of Chiloe pudu, churrin, chucao, quique and black woodpecker (in danger of extinction).

Nahuelbuta National Park has some natural lookouts for nature lovers, beasides it has some trails to practice medium and low difficulty level trekking. It also counts on a camping zone located in the border of the park. There are buses going next to Angol and Vegas Blancas, as a transfer service, during all year. Only in summer there are buses straight to the park.







It is located in the district of Curacautín 150 km from Temuco city, with access from Route 5 by Lautaro or Victoria to Curacautín and Malalcahuello, with a road in good conditions during all year. Malalcahuello was created in 1931. It counts on a surface of 12,789 ha. Las Nalcas National Reserve is close to Malalcahuello and it was created in 1967 with a surface of 17,530 ha. Both reserves are administered as a whole unit.

Natural symbols of this zone are Lonquimay and Tolhuaca volcanoes, Arenal, La Plancha and Las Raices hills. There are some recent lava remains from Navidad Crater eruption in 1988. Nalcas and Lolco are tributary of Biobío river but they are also the origin for the outstanding Cautín river. Vegetation consists mainly of high – Andean forests, where there is a combination of araucaria –lenga, together with coigue, oak and rauli trees. This vegetation houses a rich fauna with puma, chilla and culpeo foxes, choroy, black woodpecker and owls.

Weather is mild with less than four dried months and freezy ice weather that brings a period of rains between May and September with abundant snow. In the present time, there is a concessioned area in order to develop a tourist-sportive complex of the skiing sectors on Lonquimay volcano. This place can be visited at any season and some activities such as walkings, horseback ridings and ski can be practiced.

The main trails for trekking are: Piedra Santa that surrounds Lonquimay volcano, which can be climbed by the upper border,



it has some vegetation of volcanic soil, among araucarias and ñirres woods, sandy areas are mixed with lava remains (7.5 km 5 hours in a round journey with medium difficulty level); Laguna Blanca whose route is right after the end of Piedra Santa Trail, with a shared lookout where Longuimay, Llaima and Sierra Nevada volcanoes can be seen. Llaima and Sierra Nevada volcanoes are located south of the trail with araucaria-lenga forests and the presence of choroy (a sort of endemic parrot), black woodpecker, culpeo fox, among others (40 km in two days with a high difficulty level); Las Araucarias starts with araucaria trees and eucalyptus plantation and it crosses among coique, rauli and tepa forests. Most part of this journey has introduced tree species like Oregon pine and Lawson cypress. The last section is to facilitate the upper side access to administrative area and "Tres Arrovos" (1.5 km in 1.5 hours with a low difficulty level). Navidad crater is most representative along this path for its geologic activity, since during cold season it is possible to see the volcano steam as well as the lava route flowing from the crater up to the Lolco river valley. Longuimay and Tolhuaca volcanoes can also be observed (1.5 km in 2 hours with a high difficulty level).



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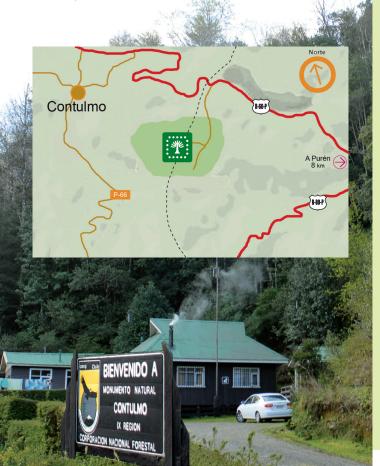


Contulmo Natural Monument (Contulmo in Mapudungun language means place of meeting)

Contulmo Natural Monument is located 12 km from Purén and 163 km north of Temuco.

This is undoubtedly a fern paradise with more than 26 species and a great variety of flora and Valdivean woods known as evergreen forests.

This monument also counts on marked trails that allow visitors to practice walkings, sightseeings, flora and fauna observation or enjoy a picnic within the authorized areas. The main trail for trekking is Selva Húmeda Lemu Mau, with a length of 3.2 km in a route of 2 hours.



# **Tolhuaca National Park**

(Tolhuaca in Mapudungun language means cow forehead)



It is located 125 km northeast of Temuco and 36 km north of Curacautín. This park was created in 1935 on a surface of 6,474 ha. It has a mild weather featured by dry periods with an annual average temperature of 14°C, with regular and abundant rains that range between 2,500 and 3,000 mm annually.

Administrative units are close to Malleco lagoon, one of the main natural attractions in the park. Due to its geographic location, around Malleco river and its topography, a great quantity and variety of vegetation consisting mainly of native forests such as araucarias, tepa, olivillo, rauli and coique trees. Among the animal species are pudú (a sort of small deer), grey and culpeo fox, quique, chingue (a sort of skunk), coypus, torcaza (a type of dove), cachaña (a type of parrot), big woodpecker, chucao bird and the majestic condor. Among its attractions are outstanding Malleco lagoon, Malleco river falls, Laguna Verde, Cascada La Culebra (49 m), Amarillo hill, where next to the peaks at 1,645 m.a.s.l. there are a group of lagoon and small lagoons; and Colomahuida hill. Outside the park is Tolhuaca volcano with 2,806 m.a.s.l. and a thermal center known by its famous fumaroles, which are unique in this zone.

Access Victoria – Inspector Fernández – San Gregorio – Malleco Lagoon; access Curacautín – thermal center – Malleco Lagoon. It counts on trails for trekking such as Salto de la Culebra – Laguna Verde (2.1 km in 1.3 hours, with a medium difficulty level), Chilpas Trail (1.5 km in 1.5 hours with a medium difficulty level), Laguna Verde Trail (4 km in 2 hours with a low difficulty level), Tolhuaca-Niblinto Trail (12 km in 4 hours, medium difficulty level), and Salto del Malleco Trail (1.7 km in 1 hour, low difficulty level).

Different activities such as trekking, climbing, fishing, photography and fauna-flora observation can be practiced in this National Park. There is no public transport until the park, but only transfer service from Victoria to San Gregorio.

### Malleco National Reserve (Malleco in Mapudungun language means clayey water)

Malleco National Reserve is located 154 km northeast of Temuco and 75 km from Collipulli. It is a unit featured by a Chilean native forest and by the historic relation between man and this natural resource, which is no less no more than the oldest wild protected area in Chile dating from over 100 years.

This unit is in the south border of Tolhuaca National Park and, together with Malleco reserve, forms the biggest reserve of native forest of Araucania. Species such as rauli, coigue, oak, ñirre, araucaria, tepa, radal, avellano and guindo santo trees are the outstanding among the existing vegetation. It also houses an abundant fauna consisting of puma, fox, pudu, guiña, queltehue, martin pescador, black woodpecker, torcaza, etc.

In Malleco National Reserve, visitors can enjoy excellent sportive fishing, and special landscapes for taking pictures. If you are lucky you may even see a condor flying.

At the west side of the area, Pemehue Thermal Waters are outstanding for its isothermal alkaline water that flows at 37°C.

In the sector, there are other hot springs with lower tempreratures and similar quality characteristics.



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# Alto Biobío National Reserve



It is located in Araucania region, Lonquimay commune (Malleco province). The unit highlight is the fauna protection for species such as guanaco, black woodpecker, short tailed snake and small four eyed frog. Regarding flora stands cypress of mountains and araucaria tree.

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# China Muerta National Reserve

It is located in Araucania region, Lonquimay comunes (Malleco province) and Melipeuco (Cautín province). It was opened on June 28th 1968 by Supreme Decree N° 330 of the Agriculture Ministry.





# Villarrica National Reserve

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Villarrica National Reserve, also known as Hualalafquén Reserve, is located in the communes of Melipeuco, Cunco, Pucon and Curarehue. The access is from Pucon (40 km) and from Temuco (162 km) or from Argentina by the border across Mamuil Malal. Its highlight is the starting point of the trekking trail into Nevados de Solipulli, an old volcanic boiler covered by a giant glacier whose access is by a 3 hours walking.

Among its trekking trails are Hualalafquén Lake Trail, Huesquefilo Lake Trail, Marillanca Trail, Miradores Trail and Panqui 2 Trail, all of them with a medium difficulty level.



UNESCO world geoparks are geographic, unique areas where sites and highlights of international geologic relevance are managed under holistic concepts of protection, education and sustainable development. These areas are based on a "bottom to top" focus by combining a sustainable development with local communities' involvement. Around 147 world geoparks from Unesco exist now in 41 countries. In November 2015 State Members of Unesco ratified the establishment of Program "Unesco World Geoparkrs" (IGGP) at the General Council of Unesco.

Kütralkura Geopark located in Araucanía region, has the aim to contribute to social, cultural, economic development of its territory as well as to its communes of Melipeuco, Vilcún, Curacautín and Lonquimay.

In the center of this first Geopark with a surface of 8.100 km2 is Conguillío National Park, with Llaima volcano, one of the most active volcanoes in South America. This territory has in total six protected areas, five volcanoes and a great biodiversity, with different kinds of landscapes and a geologic history of the last

250 million years. The territory is also part of Araucarias Biosphere Reserve with a well known world wide biodiversity. Among its inhabitants are Mapuche and Pehuenche cultures who have their own cosmovision with an outstanding divine character of volcanoes and a good knowledgement of medicinal plants.

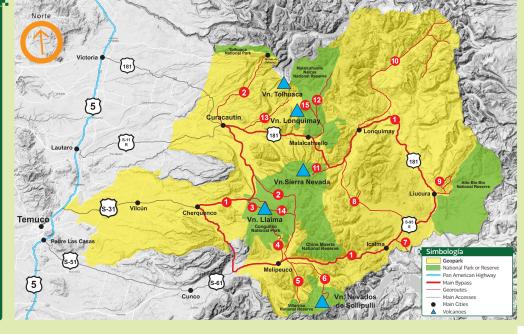
There are diverse designs of georoutes to enjoy fascinating landscapes and well conserved stories of communities, wild protected areas and geosites, some of them count on viewpoints and interpretative panels. These georoutes also take the existing infraestructure of territory and paths that can be experienced on foot, by riding bike or horse with different level of difficulty.

Among activities and tourist services that can be found in Kütralkura Geopark are:

Car tour, mountain bike, cycling, horse ridings, hiking, trekking, flora and fauna observation, skiing, snowboard, cat skiing, fishing, water sports, camping, spa and cultural activities; lodging, gastronomy and crafts products.

#### Georoutes

Georoute 1: Visit around Kütralkura Geopark Georoute 2: Kütralkura Geopark from North to South Georoute 3: Los Paraguas (the umbrellas) of Llaima Volcano Georoute 4: Lavas Cordadas de Pangueco, Llaima volcano Georoute 5: Thermal Waters and Vents of Oueipúe, Nevados de Sollipulli volcano Georoute 6: Caldera del volcán Nevados de Sollipulli volcano Georoute 7: Batea Mahuida plateau Georoute 8: Live the experience of Pewenche de Ouinauén Georoute 9: From ancient seas to white stone sculptures in Alto Biobío Georoute 10: Ránguil and Pulul valleys Georoute 11: Salto Longuimay waterfalls, Sierra Nevada volcano Georoute 12: Cono Navidad (cone), Longuimay volcano Georoute 13: Laguna Blanca, between Longuimay and Tolhuaca volcanoes Georoute 14: Winter climbing to Llaima volcano Georoute 15: Winter climbing to Longuimay volcano



#### **Useful data**

## WELCOME TO THE GOVERNMENTAL WILD PROTECTED AREAS

#### **CONAF: (NATIONAL FORESTRY CORPORATION)**

Protection of natural/cultural heritage of Chile depends on everybody awareness. Colaborate with us by respecting our norms and recommendations for the wild protected area

#### **HIKING:**

This list is essential whenever you go on excursions or hiking:

- Route Map (a brochure with routes, paths and trails available)
- Global Positioning Systems (GPS or anologous compass) Small backpack with support equipment for the journey a first aids kit
- · Suitable shoes to walk, that is ankle adjusted and firm sole. Avoid wearing sandals, slight sneakers or smooth shoe soles.
- Suitable clothing according to the place and weather conditions

 Sunglasses with UV protection, proper caps and protective lotions Enough water supply

The more difficult the activity is, the more risk associated. However, it is important to know that most of serious accidents occur in very crowded places, apparently rather easy to walk, but where a simple slipping may result in an accident.

#### **AVOID FOREST FIRES**

- Bonfires may not be made, except in authorized sites.
- When making fire, consider weather conditions, safety measurements. Try to do it in areas protected against wind and avoid making bonfire when park rangers warn it is a risk.
- Keep permanent watchtout on fire and be sure to be far from fuel.
- · When stop using fire, confirm carefully that this is

completely out.

· Bonfires are not permitted under any circumstance in non authorized places.

· Do not throw matches or lighted cigarettes. Put the cigarette out in a garbage can. In the case there is no can, put it in plastic bags and throw it in authorized place out of the unit.

- The wild protected areas are units free from tobacco.
- In the case of fire, follow the instructions given by park rangers.
- When you are next to a forest fire, never act on your own initiative. Move away and call the park rangers.
- Avoid food trash burning.
- · Keep always an emergency supply of earth, sand and water.
- · Candles use is absolutely forbidden.

# Norms and basic recomendations

- Be well informed by rangers or Information Centers on the zones you may visit.
- Read carefully the informative signs that you find during your visit.
- Do not abandon the paths, or take shortcuts.
- Whenever you take pictures, pay attention on the ground, so you may avoid accidents.
- Bonfires are prohibited under any circumstances (Law N° 20.653).
- You may cook and camp only at places particularly signposted and authorized.
- Drive carefully, at moderate speed

- with extreme attention.
- Follow only routes and trails available. Avoid walking lonely
- Respect the closing time at paths or trails.
- Do not over demand yourself, consider that the aim is to enjoy
- Avoid making annoying noise
- Do not take or damage. archaeological, paleontological or
- Register at all ranger stations when entering and leaving.
- Put all the garbage out the National Parks.

#### Avoid disturbing or damaging flora and fauna.

- Do not feed wild animals.
- It is advisable to consume liquids and food in small amounts at regular
- Always respect the instructions of rangers. They represent the authority in the park.
- Alert or denounce any risky condition or conduct.
- Avoid facing legal penalties or be evicted from the National Park

## In case of accidents

- Act immediately whenever an accident is confirmed and keep calm.
- Apply first aids and basical assistance you are trained to.
- Ask immediately for help to the park rangers or call to any emergency telephone number, whenever it is possible.
- Avoid leaving the injured person alone. If necessary, indicate the exact location to inform the rescue teams.
- Once you have called the rescue teams, you must keep near and available in case they need your help.

## **Contacts in Araucania Region**

Contacts	Telephone	e-mail
CONAF Araucania Region	45 2298114 - 45 2298210	temuco.oirs@conaf.cl - millaray.cerda@conaf.cl
SERNATUR Araucanía	45 2406200 - 45 2406214 - 45 2406215	infoaraucania@sernatur.cl
Conguillío National Park	2 28406818	parque.conguillio@conaf.cl
Villarrica National Park	45 2443781	parque.villarrica@conaf.cl
Huerquehue National Park	569 61574089	parque.huerquehue@conaf.cl
Nahuelbuta National Park	2 28406845 - 569 96436927	parque.nahuelbuta@conaf.cl
Tolhuaca National Park	2 28406830	parque.tolhuaca@conaf.
Malalcahuello national Reserve	569 96564455	reserva.malalcahuello@conaf.cl
Nalcas National Reserve	569 96564455	temuco.oirs@conaf.cl - reserva.malalcahuello@conaf.cl
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