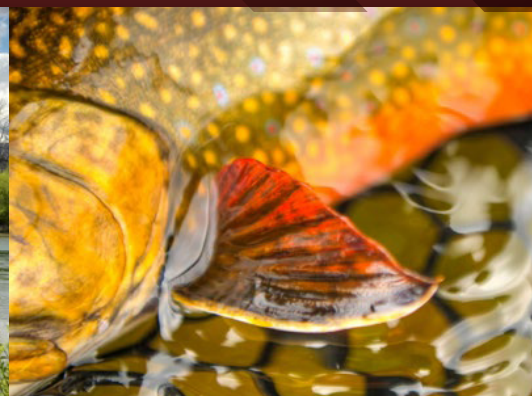


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SPRING FISHING SEASON



FISHING PATAGONIA'S SPRING EARLY NOVEMBER TO END OF DECEMBER

Patagonia... where snow-blanketed mountain peaks feed impossibly clear blue rivers, all seeming to harbor an untold number of massive trout. It's where friendly faces light up the platter-laden dinner table, and stories of the day are heartily toasted well into the evening until sleep can wait no longer-because tomorrow is bound to be just as unforgettable as today.

As winter's dark, icy grip firmly takes hold in the north, our days are at their longest and brightest of the year. The landscape is vibrant and full of life. Wildflowers are blooming, and the hillsides are lush and green. It's a time of celebrations, and family gatherings, an ideal time to get away with your friends and family for an unforgettable group experience.

El Encuentro's Spring fishing program is an amazing adventure – come prepared for big and hungry trout, and fickle weather that can range from warm and dry to wet and chilly, but which is always beautiful and dramatic.

As the winter snowpack comes down from the towering Andes the rivers of Patagonia swell with spring runoff, but unlike famous rivers in North America, our waters remain clear offering an exciting opportunity to target large fish that are eager to feed after a long winter.

Streamer fishing is typical, but you can also find yourself fishing large dry flies as fish rise to the season's first hatches of March Browns. It's a very rewarding and dynamic time of year to fish with us. Opportunities abound in the Spring, from dragonfly hatches on small, private lakes, to drift fishing the larger rivers with streamers, and large dries, or even taking advantage of perfect water conditions on one of our many small streams and spring creeks.

Spring at El Encuentro is one of the most overlooked times in our season, and responsible for many of our fondest memories with family and friends over the years. We know that once you experience Spring in Patagonia it will become one of your favorites too.

SUMMER FISHING SEASON



FISHING PATAGONIA'S SUMMER JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH

OK, it's winter in the northern hemisphere and the fish are rising in Patagonia. What could be better? Warm days, plenty of hatches from early mornings into long evenings, crystal clear waters, and wild and active browns, rainbows and brookies.

Summer Season: Think of summer in Patagonia as running more or less from mid-January through the end of February.

During the month of January there is excellent evening dry fly action. Most of the rivers in the area of Esquel show a great variety of mayfly and caddis hatches that bring the fish up, especially early and late in the day.

As temperatures warm up in February, water levels are at their best, and it becomes the dry month, allowing terrestrials play the most important role in the trout diet, also mayfly's hatches decrease as summer progresses. Early January to mid February would be a great time of the season to wet wade small streams using dry flies and dry droppers as well.

At the beginning of March days are getting shorter faster and air temperature drops considerably, especially early and late in the day. At this time of the season we fish hardly the begging of the migration of a lake-run brook trout. You have to be ready for everything, from swinging and stripping big streamers, nymphing or even skating some dries!

FALL FISHING SEASON



FALL FISHING AT ITS BEST *MID MARCH TO END OF APRIL*

Patagonia's fishing and scenery only gets better as the season shifts into fall. The majestic Andes get their first coating of snow, and fall colors begin to paint the hillsides, the river valleys, and our magnificent trout.

Exciting things happen here in Patagonia every autumn when the days get shorter, and the temps get cooler. The area in which we operate is home to tremendous populations of brook trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout thriving in vast watersheds of inter-connected rivers, lakes and streams. As water temperatures cool in March these fish begin to migrate in anticipation of spawning season in late-fall and early-winter.

Colder water paired with shorter days and lower light levels produces some down right ornery behavior in these migratory fish. There is a noticeable change in activity when the migration begins as fish will aggressively eat streamers, or rash the surface for flights of flying ants.

With the changing season comes changing fishing conditions. Our days of wet-wading are numbered.

It's time to break out the waders, gore -tex jackets, and puffy layers. Much like September in the Northern Rockies, March in Patagonia is a transitional month in which we can see 70 degrees and sun one day, with 40 degrees and snow the next. April, like October in the north, is the heart of autumn with cool, crisp weather, and a greater chance of seeing snow, especially high in the Andes.

Fortunately, some of our best fishing days, especially for migratory fish, are the most inclement, and we are lucky to have a beautiful lodge and a warm fire to return to at the end of a long day out in the Patagonia elements.

While we strive to feature a great variety of fishing opportunities throughout our fall fishing program, it's the streamer fishing for migratory fish that gets us the most excited. We target these extraordinary fish with a wide range of tactics from floating lines to sink tips, on foot or in the boat. Trout Spey is a beautiful and effective technique on our waters, and our guides are skilled spey casters and instructors who's passion for sharing and teaching is unsurpassed.