

Full Day Backcountry Skiing in the Crestón Valley Patagonia, Argentina

The Cerro Crestón, located south of Cerro Vespignani, is one of the best destinations for backcountry skiing in Patagonia. With varied terrain and multiple route options, this area offers slopes ranging from 20° to 50°, allowing the experience to be adapted to different skill levels and seasonal conditions.

From the southern face of Cerro Crestón, a glacier descends, creating an unparalleled environment where skiers can glide near crevasses and seracs, adding both a technical and visually stunning element to the tour.

If you have extra days, we recommend considering a two- or three-day ski touring program to fully enjoy this breathtaking valley.

Technical Details:

- Difficulty: Intermediate / Advanced
- Duration: 1 day (longer programs available upon request)
- Group size: 1 to 4 people
- Total ascent: 1000 to 1500 m
- Recommended season: June to October
- Total duration of the experience: 8 - 10 hours

Included:

- Certified IFMGA guide
- Satellite communication, VHF, and GPS
- Reception at Refugio Crestón
- Transfer from El Chaltén to the refuge and back to town

Not Included:

- Backcountry skiing equipment (skis, boots) – available for rent in town
- Safety gear (avalanche beacon, shovel, probe, and helmet) – available for rent in town

Itinerary of the Day

Pre-trip briefing:

The day before departure, we hold a meeting with the guide to finalize details and conduct an equipment check.



Day 1: From El Chaltén, we drive 1 hour towards Lago del Desierto. From there, we hike 200 meters of elevation gain (depending on snow conditions) to reach Refugio Crestón, where we organize our gear and prepare for the ski touring adventure.

Ski Touring Exploration in the Crestón Valley:

Once in the valley, the chosen route will depend on snow conditions and the group's skill level. Some options include:

- Northeast Slope: Slopes of 25° to 30°, ideal for intermediate skiers.
- Southern Aspect: Similar inclination but with deeper snow accumulation and colder conditions.
- Southern Couloir: For advanced skiers, with slopes of 35° to 40°.
- Crestón Summit: For expert skiers, with challenging descents of 40° to 50°.

Why Choose This Experience?

- Base at Refugio Crestón, optimizing time and providing a key support point in the mountains.
- Diverse routes, with options for different ski levels.
- Glacier ski touring, with spectacular views of Fitz Roy and the Southern Patagonian Ice Field
- Access to both technical lines and open terrain, adaptable based on conditions and group experience.

Backcountry skiing in the Crestón Valley is a one-of-a-kind experience in Patagonia, combining alpine exploration with the thrill of skiing in remote, breathtaking landscapes.

