

Strait of Magellan, Magallanes, Chile

Magellan's 350-mile passage linking two oceans carves through one of Earth's last great wildernesses — towering fjords, penguin colonies, and migrating whales visible from the rail. This is scenic cruising at its most dramatic.

- 🚢 Scenic passage (no port stop)
- 🕒 Transit: 20–36 hrs
- 🚤 Expedition tender stops possible
- 🦋 Wildlife: penguins, whales, sea lions
- 🇪🇨 Spanish (Chile)

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:	Arrive:	All aboard:
Excursion:	Notes:	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Scenic cruising — no pier. Some expedition ships tender to Magdalena Island or Fort Bulnes.

Best Season: Oct–Mar (austral summer); penguin colonies active, calmer seas

Best For: Wildlife spotting, photography, history, Patagonian landscapes

Don't Miss: Magdalena Island penguin colony (120,000+ birds); Francisco Coloane Marine Park for humpback whales

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 Taxi ✅ ~\$5–10 USD · 📱 Rideshare ✅ Uber · 🚌 Hop-on hop-off ✅ Amigos Patagonia

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Magdalena Island Penguin Colony** — Over 120,000 Magellanic penguins nest on this small island mid-strait.
- **Francisco Coloane Marine Park** — Chile's first marine park sits at the western end of the strait and is a prime summer feeding ground for humpback whales.
- **Fort Bulnes (Fuerte Bulnes)** — Chile's first permanent settlement on the strait, founded 1843.
- **Kayaking the Patagonian Channels** — Expedition operators offer guided kayak paddles in sheltered side channels branching off the strait — silent water...
- **Scenic Navigation: Cape Horn Approach** — Some itineraries combine Magellan Strait transit with a Cape Horn rounding — the world's most famous maritime passage.

BEST WALKS

- **Magdalena Island Penguin Boardwalk** Easy · 45 min · Oct–Mar only — A circular path through the penguin colony leads to the historic Magdalena Island Lighthouse at the island's summit.
- **Fort Bulnes Heritage Trail** Easy · 1 hr · Year-round — Wander reconstructed colonial-era buildings inside the fort walls, then follow the shoreline path for strait views.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌦️ **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	50°	38°	0d
Jun	41°	32°	0d
Aug	43°	33°	0d
Sep	47°	35°	0d
Oct	52°	37°	0d

🇪🇨 **DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY**

Apr 8:32AM–6:53PM · Jun 9:57AM–5:30PM · Aug 8:59AM–6:37PM · Sep 7:48AM–7:29PM · Oct 6:36AM–8:22PM

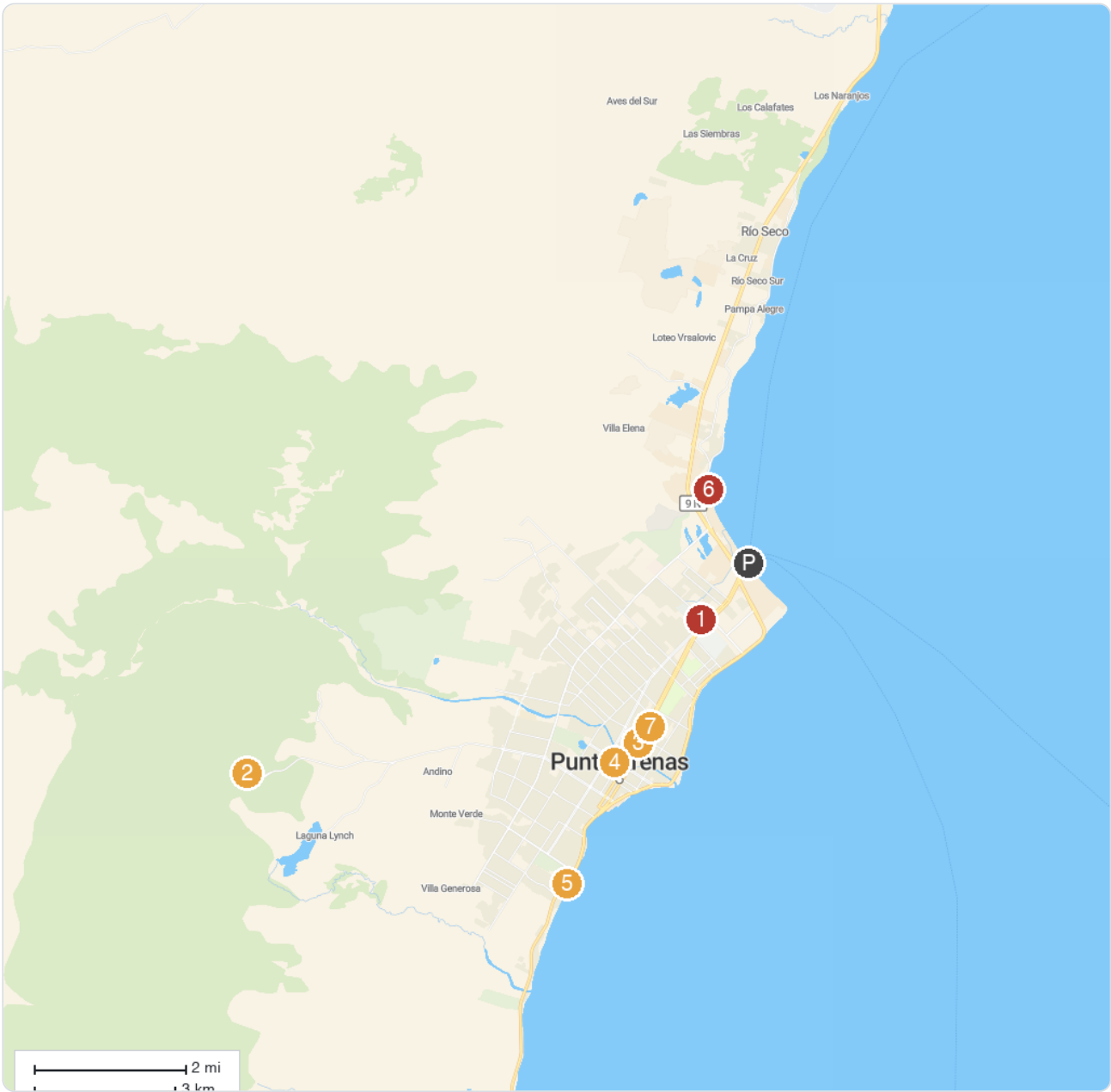
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Layer aggressively. Patagonian wind is relentless — 60 mph gusts are routine. Thermal base, fleece mid-layer, and a windproof shell are non-negotiable on deck. Even in summer...

Strait of Magellan, Magallanes, Chile — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|----------|------------------------------------|--|----------|--|---|
| 1 | Remembrance Museum | Museum showcasing regional history and culture. | 2 | Club Andino punta arenas | Ski resort and mountain club with stunning views. |
| 3 | Museo Maggiorino Borgatello | Salesian museum of natural history, ethnography, and regional culture. | 4 | La Galería, tienda de arte y diseño | Art and design shop featuring local and regional artists. |
| 5 | Lord Lonsdale | Historic shipwreck visible from the coast. | 6 | Museo Nao Victoria | Museum with full-scale replicas of historic Magellanic ships. |
| 7 | Cemetery of Punta Arenas | Historic cemetery with elaborate mausoleums and beautiful gardens. | P | Cruise port / terminal | |