

Tierra Patagonia Torres del Paine, Chile

## A WELLNESS SPA IN WHICH GUESTS FOSTER AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND

Whether bathing in their room, relaxing in the pool, or trekking across the landscape beyond, guests at this spa resort become immersed in their NATURAL SURROUNDINGS from the moment they arrive. The Tierra Patagonia eco-luxury lodge overlooks Torres del Paine National Park, a raw landscape on Chile's southernmost tip, famous for its three sculptural peaks (the torres, or towers, for which the park is named) pine and lenga beech forests, and mirror-surfaced glacial lakes. Open from October to Aprilthe warmest months of the year-the lodge offers an all-inclusive retreat that allows guests to explore the natural environment on the one hand while relaxing and unwinding in the hotel spa on the other. The hotel's aim is to "offer an integrated and balanced travel experience that encourages guests to discover the area and its people's inherent beauty." With architecture inspired inside and out by the local terrain, the hotel feels like a natural part of the Patagonian landscape. The lodge itself is an organic, curvaceous building clad entirely in washed lenga beech wood-a common choice among the vernacular buildings of the region.

Inside, the rooms combine wood finishes with whitewashed walls and huge picture windows that look out across the dynamic landscape. The lodge has 40 guest rooms and suites, all simply furnished and with sheepskin rugs and handmade throws for comfort, plus an in-room luxe bath from which guests can contemplate the great outdoors while taking an herbal soak.

At the heart of the complex is the Uma Spa. *Uma* means water in the Aymara language and here guests can while away the hours relaxing in a heated indoor pool, complete with hydro-massage and water jets. They also have an outdoor hot tub, a steam room, and a dry sauna at their disposal. The spa has floorto-ceiling windows ensuring that guests feel a constant connection to the natural world.

OPPOSITE The organic design of the lodge has the least possible impact on the natural landscape. The lenga wood cladding will take on silver hues as it ages.