



PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE

10th anniversary: February 14th - 22nd, 2012

THE LAST WILD RACE

10TH ANNIVERSARY

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE: MAKING IT POSSIBLE

- 10th Anniversary of The Last Wild Race begins Tuesday, February 14th
- International, National and Regional sponsors support the Patagonian Expedition Race mission
- Race to raise awareness of the endangered wilderness in Chilean Patagonia



PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE (February 15th, 2012) Nineteen teams of eco-adventurers head into the wilderness on Tuesday, February 14th, for the 10th edition of the Patagonian Expedition Race. This race, as has been the trend in the past, will supersede its predecessors in beauty, unique trail attributes and remote locations. These are the same characteristics that draw teams from Croatia, New Zealand, Great Britain, United States, Japan, Russia, Brazil, France, Denmark, Czech Republic, South Africa, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Finland, Canada, Spain, Australia, Colombia and Chile to accept the challenge to reach the finish line each year.

Each edition is made possible by the staff of NIGSA and by the sponsors who support the race and its mission. As the race will frequently cross straits, border channels, and navigate islands, it is crucial for NIGSA staff and press to access the route via water. The sponsors Transportadora Austral Boom and Cruceros Australis will support the Patagonian Expedition Race with fast and reliable transportation, allowing the race directors, media crews, and medics to document and manage all checkpoints and race logistics alongside and ahead of the racers.

To ensure the management of safety and constant communication between racers, checkpoints and staff during the race, VHF marine radios have been provided by Alan Electronics, a leading manufacturer of radio equipment from Germany. Event founder and director Stjepan Pavicic said: "This year is very important for the event and we have created a spectacular course that will certainly test the competitors to their limits," making it especially important that a viable form of communication between teams and the organization exist at all times, particularly when kayaking in volatile weather conditions.

www.patagonianexpeditionrace.com | fono: +56 (61) 613891 | info@patagonianexpeditionrace.com



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The 10th Anniversary race begins in Punta Arenas, making it important for all the staff and press to be situated and ready for work at any hour. Numerous local establishments are graciously opening their doors to Patagonian Expedition Race, including the hotels and hostels: Oro Fueguino, Fin del Mundo, Los Navegantes, Imago Mundi, Hain, Ayelen, La Estancia, Carpa Manzano, Barefoot Backpackers, Hotel Jose Nogueira and Hotel Patagonia. The sponsoring Restaurants include La Luna, Too Much, Jekus, Suspiro de Limeño, El Remezón and Sabores. The whole town, staff and locals alike, are also showcasing support with their official Patagonian Expedition Race athletic head wraps, provided by the Official Headwear Sponsor, Buff. As the teams make their way from Punta Arenas to the neighboring islands of Southern Patagonia, the Chilean Navy, Transportadora Austral Boom and Cruceros Australis ensure secure transportation.

Local support includes but also extends beyond the surrounding region, as numerous national organizations including Ejercito de Chile, Carabineros de Chile, Gobierno de Chile, Turismo Chile, Comité Olímpico de Chile, Porvenir, and Timaukel have shown various forms of support for the 2012 Patagonian Expedition Race, in ensuring its production, safety and public relations.

Across the Magellan Strait, the 10th Anniversary race showcases some stunning wilderness in need of protection. "This region is a great, and unique wilderness and it is great to see people from all around the world becoming more aware that it exists – but it is also important to understand that we must conserve it and protect it so we don't lose it for ourselves, and for future generations," states Pavicic. The course will pass through one of the last protected sub-Antarctic forest reserves on Earth, Karukinka National Park, along a trail constructed by NIGSA. Stihl, the Official Conservation Partner, supplies NIGSA with equipment needed to build and maintain the trail through Karukinka, making it possible for the public and racers to experience and enjoy Chilean Patagonia.

END

CONTACTS, INFORMATION AND UPDATES

HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES:

High-resolution images: www.patagonianexpeditionrace.com/en/pressGal.php

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MORE MEDIA INFORMATION:

www.patagonianexpeditionrace.com/en/pressList.php

LIVE RACE UPDATES (WHERE COMMUNICATIONS ALLOW)

Web Site: www.patagonianexpeditionrace.com

Facebook: PatagonianExpeditionRace

Twitter: PatagonianRace

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ABOUT THE PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE

The Patagonian Expedition Race is an annual eco-endurance adventure race that takes place in the southern-most region of the world. It aims to raise awareness of the environmental issues facing Chilean Patagonia and wilderness regions around the world as well as raising money for the Huemul Conservation Project.

It sees up to 20 international teams competing on bike, kayak and foot in spectacularly rugged and climatically diverse terrain in the Chilean Patagonia region located between southern latitudes 49° and 56°. The terrain includes plains, mountains, glaciers, native forests, swampland, rivers, lakes and channels.

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Past routes have incorporated the Southern Continental Ice Field, the Torres del Paine National Park, the Strait of Magellan, Tierra del Fuego, the Darwin Range, and the Beagle Channel.

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