2025/2026

RIO MANSO
LODGE

Fly fishing in the heart of Patagonia is a unique experience. Imagine casting to big, healthy trout in crystal clear water without seeing another person all day. There are miles of still and moving waters throughout Nahuel Huapi National Park with very little fishing pressure. Our waters offer a complete variety of different types of fishing, from big dry flies and weighted streamers to tiny emergers, nymphs and spinners.

RIO MANSO

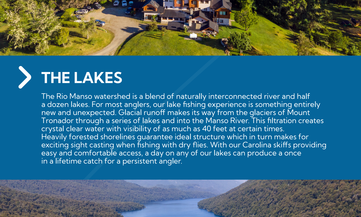
Unlike most rivers in the region, the Rio Manso flows west of the continental divide, draining into the Pacific Ocean. This rare geography creates a distinct ecosystem and geology, offering anglers an entirely different experience. With a network of lakes feeding the river—and the Manso weaving through several of them—the water varies from calm, deep stretches to fast, tumbling whitewater.

One standout section is the Channels below Lago Hess—a must for any Rio Manso angler. Known for technical dry fly fishing and large, cruising trout, the Channels offer smooth, spring creek–like currents where precision and patience are rewarded. Some guests call this their favorite stretch of water.

Early in the season, streamer fishing with sinking lines is the go-to approach, drawing out the river's largest fish. While hatches can be sporadic, nymphs also prove effective in several key spots. And for those who enjoy sight fishing, a small spring creek offers a quiet, rewarding change of pace.

THE LAKES

The Rio Manso watershed is a blend of naturally interconnected river and half a dozen lakes. For most anglers, our lake fishing experience is something entirely new and unexpected. Glacial runoff makes its way from the glaciers of Mount Tronador through a series of lakes and into the Manso River. This filtration creates crystal clear water with visibility of as much as 40 feet at certain times. Heavily forested shorelines guarantee ideal structure which in turn makes for exciting sight casting when fishing with dry flies. With our Carolina skiffs providing easy and comfortable access, a day on any of our lakes can produce a once in a lifetime catch for a persistent angler.



Why choose Rio Manso?

Secret spots

We fish many other waters in our area that we prefer not to talk about too much; secret streams, hidden lakes, hard to find honey holes. These are singular experiences that we'll share only with our guests. Come and visit and we'll happily take you to some very special parts of Patagonia – our Patagonia – places that most people never ever get to see.

Meals by the water

Midday on the river isn't just a break—it's an experience. Our guides prepare delicious, freshly cooked meals right by the water's edge, often over an open fire. Picture yourself savoring grilled meats, crisp salads, and homemade desserts, all paired with a glass of Argentine wine.

The Lodge

Tucked into the heart of Patagonia, Rio Manso Lodge offers comfort, style, and stunning views to match world-class fishing. Our guest rooms feature either a King bed or two Full beds, all with private bathrooms—some even include a jacuzzi for the perfect post-fishing unwind.

Lodge Amenities

- High-speed WiFi access
- Full wader room for gear and tackle
- Cozy, well-stocked bar
- Spacious lounge with a river stone fireplace
- Sauna & massage room to relax and soothe tired muscles
- Fly shop

Our Fly Fishing Season

The fishing season in Argentina runs from the beginning of November until the end of April. It is the exact opposite of the North American season, with our longest day of the year falling on December 21. Rio Manso Lodge is open for the entire season. Here's an idea of what to expect:

EARLY

Season: November

High water levels have made conditions ideal for fishing with weighted streamers on sinking lines. Dragon nymph patterns are also producing great results. The trout are very aggressive right now, likely due to the super low water temperatures. We're also starting to see some mayfly and caddis hatches coming off.

PEAK

Season: December – Mid January

Dragonfly hatches begin at the end of November, reaching their peak in December. These hatches attract the largest fish and offer some of the most exciting dry fly action of the season. Effective patterns include dragonfly imitations and big dries. Strikes can be explosive—almost like fishing with mouse patterns.

LATE

Season: Early February – Early March

Great time for both anglers and non-anglers. Perfect to pair with our Rio Manso Camps on the Collon Curá River and El Atravesado Lodge in Chubut. At the lodge, nearby channels see strong mayfly and caddis hatches, especially early and late in the day. As February warms up, midday fishing slows, and terrestrials become key in the trout's diet.

FALL

Season: Late March – End of April

As Fall approaches, water temperatures begin to cool and the fish become more active. Evening fishing is characterized by a brief flurry of activity right before dark while most daytime fishing is with streamers or large attractor dry flies. Big rubber legged dries work well in the lakes.

THE RIO MANSO DAY

Whether you're here to fish from sunrise to sunset or simply soak in the Patagonia experience, our daily schedule is designed with flexibility and comfort in mind.

Your day begins with a hearty breakfast at 8am (7:30am for longer adventures), followed by a quick meet-up with your guide. Most of our waters are just 20–25 minutes from the lodge, giving you more time to fish and less time on the road.

You'll enjoy 9–10 hours on the water, including a scenic streamside lunch—anything from grilled steaks to fresh salads and homemade bread. After a restful siesta or a quick cast, the fishing continues into the evening.

Back at the lodge, unwind with a sauna or massage before gathering by the fire for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Dinner is served between 8 and 9pm, unless the evening rise keeps you out a bit longer.

We're happy to tailor each day to your preferences—just let us know what kind of adventure you're looking for.

Experience the Spirit of Patagonia

Discover the magic of Rio Manso Lodge in this short video that captures the stunning beauty of Patagonia, the thrill of world-class fly fishing, and the warm hospitality that makes every stay unforgettable.

Imagine yourself here—and visit riomansolodge.com/media to dive deeper into the full experience.

Combination Trips

Please refer to the chart to see our recommended operations based on the prime fishing times at each location. No matter which lodge you choose—Rio Manso Lodge, El Atravesado Lodge, or our float trips—you can expect unparalleled service and quality throughout your experience. We also provide seamless transfers between locations and assist in crafting the best itinerary tailored to your preferences, ensuring an unforgettable fishing adventure.

Prime fishing times for each operation

	Rio Manso Lodge	El Atravesado Lodge	Float Trips
November	++	++	+
December	+++	+++	+++
January	+++	+++	+++
February	+	+++	++
March	++	+++	+++
April	++	++	+++

LAGO HESS 8400, R8400 BARILOCHE, RIO NEGRO

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