

# RUTAS NEWS

## Rewarding & Unique Travel Adventures in South America

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- First Patagonian Marathon
- New Superior Rooms at RE are now available
- Ecoventura goes gourmet!

### Happy End of Financial Year!

I hope everyone is busily enjoying the end of financial year without the usual stress of the TCF audit!. It has been quite a busy few months here at RUTAS, with some great visits to some of you, product training and keeping up with the latest from South America! The “back end” of the year promises to be a busy one also, with the upcoming **Chile, Argentina, Colombia & Venezuela Roadshow** (We will be present with Las Torres Hotel) as well as **Travel Mart** in September in Quito. I hope to see you all there!

Warm regards, Bec

### Las Torres Hotel

#### Marathon in Torres del Paine

Did you know that the first ever marathon in Patagonia was ran last year? And guess what? An Australian won it!

More than 370 athletes from 20 different countries participated in this first edition of the Patagonian International Marathon. Runners enjoyed the twisting route that took them to different heights and spectacular views of the Cuernos (The Horns) and the famous Torres del Paine. This year, the Patagonian International Marathon will be held on **28 September 2013**. The finishing line is located just outside **Hotel Las Torres** which also provides the runners and hotel guests with a traditional Patagonian style BBQ.

Places book really fast for this event, so if you know of anyone (or a group) who might be interested in running this marathon in this unique location, please contact your local DMC to secure spaces in **Hotel Las Torres**. We are currently offering a special promotion for a 4 day/3 nights program from the 26-29 September. Prices start at \$1,230 for a double room. All inclusive program includes transfers, all meals, 1 full day excursion before the marathon and enrolment in the competition.

For more information about the marathon, go to [www.patagonianinternationalmarathon.com](http://www.patagonianinternationalmarathon.com)

### Ecoventura

**Ecoventura** has transformed the culinary offerings on their fleet and now offer locally-sourced, healthy and gourmet-style menus.

New Menus were designed by the culinary talent of Chef Francisco Ventimilla, Director of the top Gastronomy School in Guayaquil, who trains our on-board chefs in his technique and use of local ingredients. There are also child-friendly menu items as well as foods accommodating vegetarian, vegan, gluten free and low sodium/ low fat requirements.

The new menus are now on line: [http://www.ecoventura.com/trip\\_details/sample\\_menus.aspx](http://www.ecoventura.com/trip_details/sample_menus.aspx)

Read recent articles about our menus: <http://centroysur.com/2013/06/03/galapagos-goes-gourmet/>



### Rainforest Expeditions

**New Superior rooms now available!** - After a substantial investment RE have upgraded some rooms to Superior standard in both **Refugio** and **Posada Amazonas**. With new doors, lighting and soft furnishings, the rooms take on a more comfortable feel than the traditional rooms, without losing any of the famous character, or openness of other rooms in the lodge.

In addition to the new rooms, RE have opened a brand new spa on the top floor of **Refugio Amazonas**.

