



History

Pali Aike national Park was created by degree-law number 378 on October 23rd 1970. It had a total surface of 7,4a and later the covered area was expanded to 12,4a by degree-law number 36.

Location and access

For administrative purposes it is located on the XII region and in the province of Magallanes

within the San Gregorio County some 121 mi north from Punta Arenas. The access is through international route number 255 and then 17 mi from Punta Delgada Village, county capital.

Geomorphology

Geological History
Most of the park is a vast volcanic field which gives birth to a landscape dominated by cones and basaltic lavas, building up a 200 m.a.s.l plateau with a few hills that do not exceed 250 m.a.s.l. There have been three eruptive periods in Pali Aike. The eldest took place between 3 and 1 million years ago. The second happened 170000 years ago and formed the Pali Aike crater. The last one occurred between 16000 and 10000 years ago forming the Morada del Diablo crater.

Climate

The climate is defined as Cold steppe with a high influence of the continental land. The seasons with the best conditions are spring and summer, holding an annual average temperature of 40° F, the annual downpour is between 200 and 300 mm.

Hydrology

The only source of water in this park is Ana lagoon with a total surface of 360a. It has salty water. This lagoon has a volcanic origin and is the only place where birds can find shelter, food and a suitable place for breeding.

Flora

The vegetation is represented by Patagonian steppe, shrubs and lichens. The dominant species in the steppe is a perennial grass known as Coirón, among which several other plants can develop. The shrubs are represented by murtilla, romerillo, mata gris, paramela, mata



negra, *mata amarilla* and *calafate*. The Lichens are represented by *Ramalina terebrata*, *Cetraria islandica*, *Thamnolia vernicularis*, *Protousnea magallanica* and *Usnea* sp.

Fauna

The fauna is adapted to live in a cold steppe environment. Among the big mammals are the guanacos, grey and red fox, skunk, puma and armadillo.

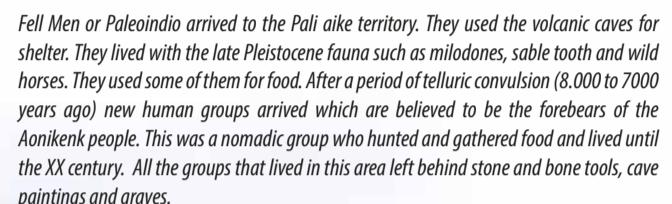
The birds that the visitors can see are crested caracara, southern lapwing, Upland goose, Black faced Ibis, red backed hawk, Cinereous Harrier, Black chested buzzard eagle, peregrine hawk and rhea. Among the water related birds: flamingos, Coscoroba swan, Speckled teal, yellow billed pintail and rufous- chested dotterel.

*In the volcanic area it is also possible to observe lizards of the Liolaemus type, where
outstands the Liolaemus magellanicus.*

Public use

Pali aike National Park has road infrastructure, paths and lookout points that allow the visitor to wander and observe the most important sites within 4 hours. Some of them are: Pali aike cave, Morada del Diablo path and the devil's wells.

There is a permanent park ranger within the Unit. All visitors must register at the visitor center. Here they will find displays about the Pali Aike Park



Zapatito de la Virgen (*Calceolaria uniflora*)

SIMBOLOGÍA

- | | |
|--|---|
| | Guardería
<i>Ranger station</i> |
| | Centro de Informaciones
<i>Information center</i> |
| | Baños públicos
<i>Toilet</i> |
| | Sendero de excursión
<i>Excursion trail</i> |
| | Área de merienda
<i>Picnic area</i> |
| | Mirador
<i>View Point</i> |
| | Peligro de derrumbe
<i> Rocks Fall</i> |
| | Estacionamiento
<i>Parking</i> |
| | Límite del parque
<i>National park boundary</i> |
| | Límite internacional
<i>International boundary</i> |
| | Sendero para caminantes
<i>Hiking trail</i> |
| | Camino
<i>Road</i> |
| | Camino secundario
<i>Secondary road</i> |

