

COASTAL GEOMORPHOLOGY

The Comau Fjord lies between the eastern side of the Huequi Peninsula and the western continental coast, constituting a 46 kilometer-long stretch of the ocean that varies in width from 1 to 3 kilometers. It runs primarily from south to north, veering towards the west at the Comau Channel where it connects with the Gulf of Ancud.

The average depth of the fjord is over 250 meters, with a maximum depth of 490 meters at its center. The depth decreases at the mouth of the fjord and becomes similar to that of the neighboring Gulf of Ancud.

There are no islands found on the inside of the fjord, except for those that are located at the mouth of the Comau Channel. There are not any reefs or banks either on the inside of the fjord, nor close to the coast. Generally speaking, the coastline above the sea of this estuary quickly increases in altitude to more than 1,900 meters. This bathymetry continues under the water, exhibiting steep walls that quickly increase in depth. The continuous cliffs that border the fjord are occasionally interrupted by gullies or valleys with a small bay produced by the flow of a stream or a rushing river.

The Huinay Scientific Field Station is located close to the tributary of the Lloncochaigua and Huinay Rivers that come together 1 kilometer away from the coast to then flow into the small cove across from Huinay.

