



## UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

# Ross Sea and Subantarctic Islands

### **More than likely the only continent outside Australia that Australian's will be able to travel to this coming summer.**

Departures will run from November 2020 to March 2022 and depart from Hobart and Bluff (South Island of NZ). As Antarctica is COVID 19 free and passengers will not visit another continent, this is likely to be the only way Australian's can explore further afield than Australia and NZ without having to worry about COVID or having to quarantine on their return (TBC with government approvals).

### **Possibly one of the greatest wildlife destinations on the planet and one of the world's best kept travel secrets.**

Although Antarctica trips from Argentina are much more popular (approximately 50,000 people visit Antarctica from Argentina or Chile each year, whereas less than 1,000 people visit from Australia/ NZ), the wildlife in many ways is better. The New Zealand and Australian sub- Antarctica islands (Macquarie Island, Auckland Islands, Campbell Islands and the Snares) have more penguin species than the likes of South Georgia, the famed sub- Antarctica wildlife location departing from Argentina. And that's before you even get to the Ross Sea. The Ross Sea is almost certainly the most pristine marine environment in the planet and is teeming with wildlife. For example, it's near impossible to see an Emperor Penguin on a regular Antarctica trip from Argentina, whereas it's very, very likely on a Ross Sea trip.



Macquarie Island



Enderby Island

**For more information on itineraries, visit**  
**[www.chimuadventures.com/en-au/Ross-Sea\\_Sub-Antarctic](http://www.chimuadventures.com/en-au/Ross-Sea_Sub-Antarctic)**

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### Explore fascinating Human History.

These locations where some of the most famous men of the early twentieth century achieved their fame. Visit Scott and Shackleton's huts in the Ross Sea, which they built on their expeditions to reach the South Pole. See the Ross Ice Shelf, which Amundsen conquered on his way to the South Pole. Explore the history of the Australian Antarctica Division and Australia's own Antarctica Explorer, Douglas Mawson at Macquarie Island. Whilst on Macquarie island, also visit the current Australian Antarctica Division Base.

### See Impossibly Large Tabular Icebergs.

Unfortunately, the Antarctica Peninsula (where South American Antarctica trips depart from) do not have large ice shelves nearby, which produce the massive icebergs you may have seen on TV. I'm talking about icebergs so big that you can sail a ship past them for hours without reaching the end of them. These sorts of icebergs come from the Ice Shelves like the Ross Ice Shelf and you will see them in the Ross Sea. Very few tourists get to see these imposing giants.

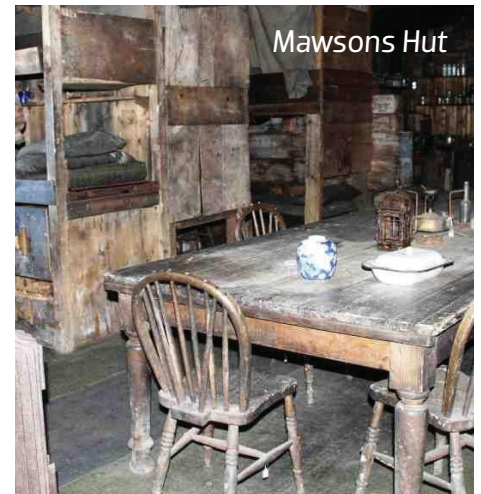
### What's so great about the Australian and New Zealand sub Antarctic islands?

There is so much wildlife in these islands that on some beaches it is almost hard to get ashore without having to push past the animals. They are really are some of most sort after wildlife viewing animals on the planet. In Macquarie Island (part of Tasmania essentially) there are majestic King penguins and mighty Elephant seals weighing up to eight tonnes. There are also fur seals, the prehistoric looking giant petrels and a huge list of other animals including the Royal Albatross (largest wingspan in the world), yellow eye penguins, royal penguins and snares penguins.

### What about COVID protocols onboard the ship?

There are a range of covid protocols being put in place on these ships to allow for safer practices. In any case, only Australians and New Zealanders will be allowed to book on the trips given that foreign nationals will not be allowed into Australia or New Zealand.

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Mawsons Hut



Tabular Iceberg



Snares Penguins

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### **How many days are there at sea? It seems like a long way to go.**

The itineraries are always weather dependent but because of the sub-Antarctic islands en route to Antarctica, the longest sea days journeys are generally only 3-4 days between destinations. There are also times when you're at a new island every day. If you're concerned about spending time at sea in the Southern Ocean the please watch this video here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x\\_MLhb2MNRE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_MLhb2MNRE)

### **So, what's the downside?**

Trips are a little more expensive than a regular Antarctica trip from Argentina, but not considerably more once you factor in the flights to get to get to South America and a layover costs in Argentina. Ross Sea trips start from 21 days in duration (but can be as long as 28 days). If you're short on time, please consider a trip to the Australia and New Zealand Sub Antarctica islands on their own. These trips are very similar to the duration and cost of an Antarctica departure from Argentina, and arguably have better wildlife.

### **What happens if the Australian/ NZ travel bubble doesn't eventuate, or if cruise ships are not allowed to operate this coming summer?**

We're working with four ships who are looking to operate this coming summer in this region and all operators are confident of receiving approvals to operate this coming season. All ships are offering fully refundable deposits between now and the end of August, at a minimum. Some ships will allow fully refundable deposits until January 2021. In short, you can book now with confidence that you won't be out of pocket, provided you cancel within the date range specified.

Even if the Australia/ NZ travel bubble opens in the coming months but excludes some locations (Melbourne for example) and if you don't cancel before the full refundable date specified, the operators will allow clients within these quarantined areas to transfer to future departure.

East Antarctica



Enderby Island



Macquarie Island

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