

## ANTARCTICA - PLANCIUS | FALKLAND ISLANDS, SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTIC PENINSULA



### TRIP CODE

ACTSFSAP

### DEPARTURE

14/01/2023, 23/11/2023,  
16/01/2024

### DURATION

19 Days

### LOCATIONS

Antarctic Peninsula, Falkland Islands, South Georgia



## INTRODUCTION

This ultimate journey takes us to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula over 19 days. Embarking in Ushuaia, the world's most southerly city, we will spend some time on the open ocean before arriving at our first destination - the Falkland Islands. Hiking, history and wildlife encounters await. South Georgia is our second destination and we will cross the chilly Antarctic Convergence en route. Wild and teeming with nature, South Georgia is a truly adventurous destination. The finale of this voyage takes us to the Antarctic Peninsula where we will hopefully have the chance to set foot on the White Continent.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1:** We embark our vessel in Ushuaia

In the afternoon, we embark in Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, the southernmost city in the world located at the Beagle Channel and sail through this scenic waterway for the rest of the evening.

**DAY 2:** At sea, en-route to the Falkland Islands

Entering the westerlies the ship is followed by several species of albatrosses, storm petrels, shearwaters and diving petrels.

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## DAY 3: On the Falkland Islands

In the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) we plan to spend the whole day on the fascinating western side of the archipelago. A hike along the Shore of Carcass Island will give us views of Magellanic and Gentoo-Penguins, as well as close encounters with water fowl and Night herons and passerines. On Saunders we will be able to observe four species of breeding penguins (Gentoo, King, Magellanic and Rockhopper), Black-browed Albatrosses and King Cormorants.

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## DAY 4: Stanley, Falkland Islands


Visiting Stanley, the capital of the Falklands, we can experience Falkland culture, which has some South American characteristics as well as Victorian charm. In Stanley and the surrounding area we can see quite an important number of stranded clippers from a century ago. All passengers are free to wander around on their own. We recommend a visit to the local church and museum (admission fees not included).

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## DAY 5: On our way to South Georgia - Day 5 & 6

On our way to South Georgia we will cross the Antarctic Convergence. Entering Antarctic waters, the temperature may drop significantly in the time span of only a few hours. Near the Convergence we will see a multitude of southern seabirds near the ship; several species of Albatrosses, Shearwaters, Petrels, Prions and Skuas.

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### DAY 7: South Georgia - Day 7 to 10

In the early afternoon of day 7 we arrive at our first activity site in South Georgia. Weather conditions on South Georgia can be challenging and will largely dictate the program. Sites that may be visited include: Prion Island, where we will witness the breeding efforts of the huge Wandering albatross and enjoy watching their displays (the island is closed for visitors during the early part of the breeding season from 20 Nov - 07 January). In Fortuna Bay, penguins and seals inhabit the beaches. We may follow the final section of Shackleton's route to Stromness, the abandoned whaling village. The route leads us across the mountain pass past the "Shackleton Waterfall". The terrain is partly swampy and some small streams may have to be crossed along the way. At Grytviken, we will also see an abandoned whaling station, where King penguins now walk in the streets and Elephant seals have taken residency. Here we will also offer a visit to the Whaling History Museum as well as to Shackleton's grave nearby. Salisbury Plain, St Andrews Bay and Gold Harbour house the three largest King penguin colonies in South Georgia but are also home to a substantial number of Antarctic fur seals during the breeding season (December - January). We will depart from South Georgia in the afternoon of day 10.

### DAY 11: At sea

A multitude of seabirds will again follow the ship southwards. At some point, we might encounter sea-ice, and it is at the ice-edge where we might have a chance to see some high-Antarctic species like the South Polar Skua and Snow Petrel.

### DAY 12: South Orkney Islands

Weather and ice depending we hope to visit to Orcadas station, an Argentinean base located on Laurie Island in the South Orkney Island archipelago. The friendly base personnel will show us their facilities and we can enjoy the wonderful views of the surrounding glaciers. Alternatively, we may attempt a landing in Shingle Cove on Signy Island.

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## DAY 13: At sea towards Antarctica

We will pass large icebergs and have a good chance of Fin whales on the way south. In addition, we have the best chances on the trip to see Antarctic Petrels around the ship.

## DAY 14: Antarctic Peninsula - Day 14 to 16

If the ice permits us, we will sail into the Weddell Sea. Huge tabular icebergs will announce our arrival to the eastern side of the Antarctic Peninsula. We hope to visit Paulet Island with a huge number of Adélie penguins and Brown Bluff located in the ice clogged Antarctic Sound, where we may set foot on the Continent. If sea ice conditions are not favourable to enter the Weddell Sea from the east, we set course for Elephant Island and head into the Bransfield Strait between South Shetland Island and the Antarctic Peninsula and attempt to gain access to the Antarctic Sound from the northwest.

## DAY 17: At sea - Day 17 & 18

On our way north a great selection of seabirds will follow the ship while crossing the Drake Passage.

## DAY 19: We disembark our vessel in Ushuaia

We arrive in the morning in Ushuaia and disembark.

## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

<b>Accommodation</b>	Standard
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<b>Inclusions</b>	<p>Voyage aboard the indicated vessel as indicated in the itinerary</p> <p>All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.</p> <p>All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.</p> <p>Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.</p> <p>Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes</p> <p>Pre-scheduled group transfer from the vessel to the airport in Ushuaia (directly after disembarkation).</p> <p>All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.</p> <p>Comprehensive pre-departure material</p> <p><b>Exclusions</b></p> <p>Airfares to/from disembarkation city</p> <p>Visa fees (if applicable)</p> <p>Travel insurance</p> <p>Beverages (other than tea &amp; coffee)</p> <p>Personal expenses such as laundry, on-board communication (telephone, faxes, email service)</p> <p>Gratuities for the crew (recommend US\$15 per person per day)</p> <p>Pre and post land arrangements</p> <p>Government arrival or departure taxes (if applicable)</p>
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	2 (light adventure)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	Available upon request
<b>Notes</b>	Contact us for more details
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	Season and availability

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## SUSTAINABILITY

### GUIDANCE FOR VISITORS TO THE ANTARCTIC

RECOMMENDATION XVIII-1, ADOPTED AT THE ANTARCTIC TREATY MEETING, KYOTO, 1994

Activities in the Antarctic are governed by the Antarctic Treaty of 1959 and associated agreements, referred to collectively as the Antarctic Treaty System. The Treaty established Antarctica as a zone of peace and science.

In 1991, the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties adopted the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, which designates the Antarctic as a natural reserve. The Protocol sets out environmental principles, procedures and obligations for the comprehensive protection of the Antarctic environment, and its dependent and associated ecosystems. The Consultative Parties have agreed that as far as possible and in accordance with their legal system, the provisions of the Protocol

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should be applied as appropriate. The Environmental Protocol was ratified in January 1998.

The Environmental Protocol applies to tourism and non-governmental activities, as well as governmental activities in the Antarctic Treaty Area. It is intended to ensure that these activities, do not have adverse impacts on the Antarctic environment, or on its scientific and aesthetic values.

This Guidance for Visitors to the Antarctic is intended to ensure that all visitors are aware of, and are therefore able to comply with, the Treaty and the Protocol. Visitors are, of course, bound by national laws and regulations applicable to activities in the Antarctic.

### PROTECT ANTARCTIC WILDLIFE

Taking or harmful interference with Antarctic wildlife is prohibited except in accordance with a permit issued by a national authority.

Do not use aircraft, vessels, small boats, or other means of transport in ways that disturb wildlife, either at sea or on land.

Do not feed, touch, or handle birds or seals, or approach or photograph them in ways that cause them to alter their behavior. Special care is needed when animals are breeding or molting.

Do not damage plants, for example by walking, driving, or landing on extensive moss beds or lichen-covered scree slopes.

Do not use guns or explosives. Keep noise to the minimum to avoid frightening wildlife.

Do not bring non-native plants or animals into the Antarctic, such as live poultry, pet dogs and cats, or house plants.

### RESPECT PROTECTED AREAS

A variety of areas in the Antarctic have been afforded special protection because of their particular ecological, scientific, historic, or other values. Entry into certain areas may be prohibited except in accordance with a permit issued by an appropriate national authority.

Activities in and near designated Historic Sites and Monuments and certain other areas may be subject to special restrictions.

Know the locations of areas that have been afforded special protection and any restrictions regarding entry and activities that can be carried out in and near them.

Observe applicable restrictions.

Do not damage, remove, or destroy Historic Sites or Monuments or any artifacts associated with them.

### RESPECT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Do not interfere with scientific research, facilities or equipment.

Obtain permission before visiting Antarctic science and support facilities; reconfirm arrangements 24-72 hours before arrival; and comply with the rules regarding such visits.

Do not interfere with, or remove, scientific equipment or marker posts, and do not

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disturb experimental study sites, field camps, or supplies.  
**BE SAFE**

Be prepared for severe and changeable weather and ensure that your equipment and clothing meet Antarctic standards. Remember that the Antarctic environment is inhospitable, unpredictable, and potentially dangerous.

Know your capabilities and the dangers posed by the Antarctic environment, and act accordingly. Plan activities with safety in mind at all times.

Keep a safe distance from all wildlife, both on land and at sea.

Take note of, and act on, the advice and instructions from your leaders; do not stray from your group.

Do not walk onto glaciers or large snow fields without the proper equipment and experience; there is a real danger of falling into hidden crevasses.

Do not expect a rescue service. Self-sufficiency is increased and risks reduced by sound planning, quality equipment, and trained personnel.

Do not enter emergency refuges (except in emergencies). If you use equipment or food from a refuge, inform the nearest research station or national authority once the emergency is over.

Respect any smoking restrictions, particularly around buildings, and take great care to safeguard against the danger of fire. This is a real hazard in the dry environment of Antarctica.

## KEEP ANTARCTICA PRISTINE

Antarctica remains relatively pristine, the largest wilderness area on Earth. It has not yet been subjected to large-scale human perturbations. Please keep it that way.

Do not dispose of litter or garbage on land. Open burning is prohibited.

Do not disturb or pollute lakes or streams. Any materials discarded at sea must be disposed of properly.

Do not paint or engrave names or graffiti on rocks or buildings.

Do not collect or take away biological or geological specimens or man-made artifacts as a souvenir, including rocks, bones, eggs, fossils, and parts or contents of buildings.

Do not deface or vandalize buildings or emergency refuges, whether occupied, abandoned, or unoccupied.

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