

ANTARCTICA - CROSSING THE CIRCLE: SOUTHERN EXPEDITION



TRIP CODE

ACTSOECC

DEPARTURE

16/01/2020

DURATION

14 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctic Peninsula, Antarctic Circle



INTRODUCTION

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive Buenos Aires

You may arrive in Buenos Aires at any time during Day 1 of your itinerary. Upon arriving in this splendid city, known for its soaring architecture and rich European heritage, you will independently transfer to the group hotel (pre-night hotel included).



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DAY 2: Fly to Ushuaia and Embarkation

After breakfast at the hotel, the group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Ushuaia, Argentina. Upon arrival, you will have a little time to explore this quaint port town before heading to the pier. Embarkation will occur in the late afternoon, after which your vessel will sail down the historic Beagle Channel, which transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America. Expect an air of anticipation as you depart—the next time you see land, you'll be in the world's most southern continent!



DAY 3: Crossing the Drake Passage - Days 3 & 4

The waters of the Drake Passage are unpredictable, so hope for clear skies and a calm ocean. You'll have plenty of time to gaze out at the sea, get to know your fellow shipmates and chat with your Expedition Team. You will spend this time preparing for the exciting days ahead, with numerous educational and informative lectures presented by your Expedition Team. You'll learn about everything from safety procedures to the history of whaling in Antarctica.



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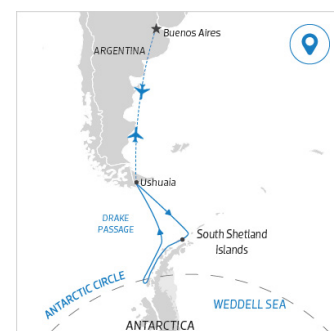
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DAY 5: Antarctic Peninsula & South Shetland - Days 5 to 7

With the Drake Passage left in our wake, we make our approach to Antarctica. Get your cameras ready as the continent's coastline will make its first appearance, signaling the start of your adventure in the realm of the Antarctic. You'll see plentiful icebergs floating by and be fixated on the surface of the ocean as curious whales spout and breach before your eyes. As exciting as it can be from on board the ship, your true exploration occurs when you disembark and set foot on the great continent. There are several potential landing sites we may visit, including Neko Harbour, Orne Harbour or Paradise Harbour. While weather dictates which specific landing sites we can visit, each one presents a new collection of wildlife and natural attractions. Your days will be busy spotting wildlife and being mesmerized by the beauty of Antarctica. Watching penguins waddling on the beach and listening to the crackling and crumbling sounds of icebergs and glaciers will become your daily entertainment, while kayaking with whales and camping in Antarctica are a couple of optional activities available on selected voyages (at an extra cost).



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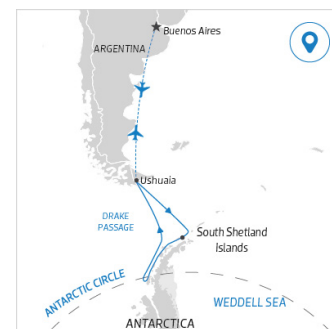
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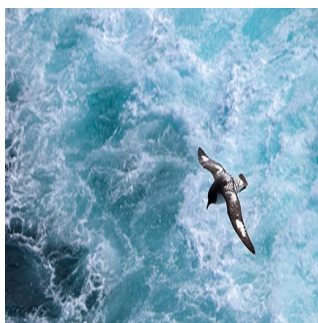
DAY 8: Antarctic Circle - Days 8 & 9

Crossing the Antarctic Circle is an impressive achievement, as most expeditions to the Antarctic Peninsula do not reach this far south, which is officially noted at 66°33' S. If conditions allow us to cross this famed line, you and your shipmates will celebrate in style with a well-earned glass of champagne! Make a toast and take pride in knowing you've made it to a part of the world visited by very few people.



DAY 10: Northbound Along the Peninsula - Days 10 to 11

By now, your knowledge of Adélie, chinstrap and gentoo penguins will be matched by your ability to differentiate between a leopard, fur or Weddell seal. Terms like bergy bits and pancake ice will seem normal, yet there are still many tales to be told. As you head north, Zodiac excursions will fill your days, and your Expedition Team will continue offering presentations while giving you time to reflect on everything you've experienced.



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DAY 12: Crossing the Drake Passage - Days 12 & 13

As you recross the Drake, Antarctica fades away, leaving you with a collection of memories to last a lifetime. Excited conversations with your newfound friends will make the crossing fly by, regardless of weather and sea conditions. Your Expedition Team will round up its series of lectures as well, perhaps with a slideshow of the great landing sites and wildlife you've witnessed over the course of your voyage.



DAY 14: Disembark in Ushuaia & Fly to Buenos Aires

Today you'll say goodbye to your Expedition Team and fellow travelers, disembarking in the morning to catch your homeward flights.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard

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Inclusions

Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
 All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board
 Beer and wine during dinner
 All shore landings per the daily program
 Leadership throughout the voyage by experienced Expedition Leader
 All Zodiac transfers and cruising per the daily program
 Formal and informal presentation by Expedition Team and special guests as scheduled
 A photographic journey documenting the expedition
 Waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings
 Parka to keep
 Coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock
 A hairdryer and bathrobes in every cabin
 Comprehensive predeparture materials, including a map and an informative Antarctica Reader
 All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
 All luggage handling aboard the ship
 All gratuities
 Emergency evacuation insurance to a maximum benefit of US\$500,000.00 per person
 Group charter flight Buenos Aires - Ushuaia - Buenos Aires
 One night's pre-expedition hotel accommodation in Buenos Aires, with breakfast
 Group transfer from the hotel to the airport in Buenos Aires and airport to ship on embarkation day
 Group transfer upon disembarkation in Ushuaia from the ship to the local airport

EXCLUSIONS:

International airfare
 Passport and visa expenses
 Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above
 Meals ashore unless otherwise specified
 Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance
 Excess baggage fees on international flights
 Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned above
 Laundry, bar, beverage and other personal charges unless specified
 Phone and internet charges
 Additional overnight accommodation
 Optional adventure activities

Difficulty Rating

1 (easy)

Single Surcharge

Available upon request

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Notes

Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.

Price Dependent upon

Season and availability

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 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

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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 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.

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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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