

ANTARCTICA - IN SHACKLETON'S WAKE



INTRODUCTION

Visiting the Falklands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula, in this exclusive charter, unique to Chimu Adventures, we will be trailing in the wake of the legendary polar explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, who led three expeditions to the Antarctic and has become well known for his formidable rescue effort of his crew, who were stranded on Elephant island after losing their ship to the wrath of the Antarctic sea ice, back in 1917.

As we journey to the white continent, our planet's last frontier, we'll explore the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, the place for both the final stages of Shackleton's quest to find help back in 1917 and his the final resting place in 1922.

Set amidst awe-inspiring scenery of imposing mountain ranges, beautifully carved icebergs, ice-filled channels and spectacular glaciers, you will be greeted by vst penguin colonies, seals, whales and an abundance of seabirds. Join us on the trip of a lifetime!

*[Terms and conditions](#) apply.

TRIP CODE

ACTSSHA

DEPARTURE

01/03/2020

DURATION

21 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica



ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival in Ushuaia, Argentina

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. There will be an evening a briefing at 7:30pm to run through details of embarkation the following day. Ushuaia is the most southerly city in the world and the capital of Tierra del Fuego, with a dramatic setting overlooking the Beagle Channel, surrounded by mountains. It is a major port for Antarctic bound vessels and an interesting city to explore.



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DAY 2: Embarkation

This morning is free for you to explore Ushuaia and pick up any essential supplies before boarding the ship in the mid-afternoon. Highlights of Ushuaia include the award-winning Museo Marítimo y del Presidio de Ushuaia, (Maritime & Prison of Ushuaia Museum), located in Ushuaia's former prison, in buildings dating back to 1906, and nearby Tierra del Fuego National Park that can be reached by the "End of the World Train". Stroll along the main street of Avenida San Martin with its many cafes, shops and restaurants, explore the Argentinean leather markets and maybe taste a succulent lamb dish for which Patagonia is famous. This afternoon, you will be transferred together with your fellow expeditioners to the pier to board your vessel. On embarkation you will meet the expedition crew and be shown to your suite. In the early evening we sail down the majestic Beagle Channel past magellanic penguin, rock cormorant and sea lion colonies as we head towards Antarctica. We will enter the legendary Drake Passage just after midnight.



DAY 3: At Sea: Drake Passage - Days 3 & 4

We cross this famous stretch of water which sits between the Antarctic continent and South America and which takes its name from the 16th century English explorer Sir Francis Drake. Our on board lecture program will commence today with our Antarctic experts giving you a fascinating insight into the continent with presentations on the wildlife, history and geology of Antarctica, preparing us for what lies ahead. On the second day we cross the Antarctic Convergence, a meeting of cold polar water flowing north and warmer equatorial water moving in the opposite direction. This mixing pushes nutrient rich waters to the surface, attracting a variety of seabirds, whales and other species. You will notice a distinct drop in temperature as we enter the icy waters of the Antarctic Ocean. If weather permits, head out on deck to look for whales, dolphins and trailing sea birds such as albatrosses, prions and petrels. Depending on sea conditions we may reach the South Shetland Islands by nightfall of day 4.



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DAY 5: Antarctic Peninsula - Days 5 to 8

Experience some of the most unique wildlife viewing and awe-inspiring scenery in the world as you set foot on the Antarctic continent. Over the next four days we will explore the islands and waterways of the Antarctic Peninsula. Making use of our on board Zodiacs, we will cruise amongst ice-filled bays, looking out for wildlife as well as making shore landings. Here we will be greeted by a host of animals and may encounter Weddell, crabeater and leopard seals; gentoo, Adelle and chinstrap penguins as well as elephant seals. The scenery will take your breath away as you gaze at majestic mountains, incredible glaciers and vast beautifully sculptured icebergs.



DAY 9: At Sea - Days 9 & 10

We set sail again for the open seas and retrace Shackleton's path to South Georgia. Spend time looking out for seabirds, whales and other wildlife, listening to expedition lectures from our on board Antarctic experts and soaking up the ice-swept seascape. Enroute we head towards Elephant Island, where weather permitting we will attempt to make a landing. Elephant Island is the desolate island where Sir Ernest Shackleton left 24 of his men for months while he embarked on one of the greatest survival stories of all time, on a mission to South Georgia in the hope of returning and saving them all.



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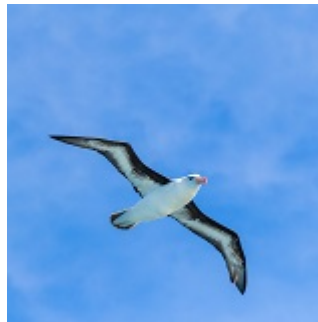
DAY 11: South Georgia - Days 11 to 14

South Georgia has been a British Overseas Territory since 1775. At 3,755 square kilometres, it is the largest island in the territory and one of the wildest and most remote places on earth with dramatic scenery of snow-capped mountains and huge glaciers. The island is home to tens of millions of breeding penguins, seals and seabirds. In the 19th century South Georgia was a prominent whaling base, but whaling ceased in the 1960's and the only remnants are museums and well-preserved buildings. South Georgia teems with wildlife due to the currents that bring nutrients to the island from the Atlantic. Huge numbers of penguins and seals breed here and it is also home to many fascinating sites, including Shackleton's Grave. Over the next few days we will explore the wonderful island of South Georgia and see why the island is known as the "Galapagos of the South". With enormous quantities of sea birds, penguin colonies numbering in the hundreds of thousands, sea lion pups and a wealth of history, this promises to be the highlight of any trip. We will visit the old whaling settlement of Gritviken and pay a visit to the grave of the legend himself - Sir Ernest Shackleton.



DAY 15: At Sea - Days 15 & 16

We leave South Georgia and chart a course for the Falkland Islands. Spend time out on deck scanning the horizon for seabirds and other wildlife and maybe take in an expedition lecture on the dramatic history and rich wildlife of the Falkland Islands.



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DAY 17: Falkland Islands

The Falkland Islands, a British Overseas Territory, is an archipelago that lies 490kms east of Patagonia in the South Atlantic Ocean. Surrounded by decades of controversy, the Falkland Islands (or Islas Malvinas as they are known in Argentina) have been settled and claimed by France, Spain, Britain and Argentina. The two main islands (East Falkland and West Falkland) have much to offer and provide a rare opportunity to witness the biological diversity, extraordinary scenery and history of the southern islands. The Falklands have the largest black-browed albatross colony in the world and five species of penguin breed on the islands (gentoo, king, macaroni, magellanic and rockhopper). Port Stanley, the capital and located on East Falkland Island, offers an opportunity to meet the hardy local inhabitants whose colourful houses provide contrast to the long dark winters. Today we explore Stanley, chosen as the capital for its sheltered harbour and access to abundant fresh water and peat for fuel. Take a historical walking tour of the town to learn more about Stanley's rich and colourful history. If time permits we will also visit nearby bird and penguin colonies.



DAY 18: Falkland Islands

Set sail to West Falkland Islands where you may visit two of the most popular islands - West Point Island and Carcass Island. West Point Island is famous for its spectacular scenery and impressive wildlife. Home to a vast colony of Rockhopper Penguins and Black-browed Albatrosses, nesting together in close vicinity. Carcass Island is renowned for exceptional birdlife due to it being a rodent-free island. Gentoo and Magellanic Penguins also nest here.



DAY 19: At Sea - Days 19 & 20

As we sail towards Puerto Madryn, there is time to reflect on the spectacular scenery and prolific wildlife encountered during the voyage, and the endeavours of explorers such as the legendary Shackleton.



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DAY 21: Disembark in Puerto Madryn

We disembark the ship in Puerto Madryn and you will be transferred to Trelew airport or a centrally located hotel in Puerto Madryn. Please note it is very important to book flights from Trelew to depart after 1:30 pm today. Why not consider adding on a couple of days at the end of the tour to explore the Valdés Peninsula, one of the best places on the planet to spot orcas hunting their prey on the beaches. Puerto Madryn is the gateway to Península Valdés. It is the second largest fishing port in Argentina and home to the country's first aluminium plant, built in 1974. Puerto Madryn was founded by Welsh settlers in 1886, and along the shoreline statues of immigrants and Tehuelche pay tribute to the history of the town. Please note that the timings in each location are only a guide. Depending on weather conditions and opportunities during the journey we may spend more or less time on the Antarctica Peninsula, South Georgia and/ or the Falkland Islands. Being an expedition trip, we will try to make the most of the conditions to provide the best experience possible and this may mean operating a slightly different itinerary to that shown.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard

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Inclusions

- Semi Private arrival transfer from airport to Hotel (Day 1)
- One-night hotel accommodation in Ushuaia with breakfast
- Shipboard accommodation onboard Ocean Atlantic
- All meals onboard
- Tea and coffee station 24 hours
- Welcome & Farewell cocktails
- Pair of rubber boots on loan for shore landings
- All scheduled landings/shore excursions
- Guiding and lectures by expedition leader and team
- Chimu Tour Escort
- All port fees
- All landing fees
- Group transfer from hotel to ship on day 2 in Ushuaia and ship to airport or central city point upon disembarkation in Puerto Madryn

Exclusions:

- Airfares to/from embarkation and disembarkation cities
- Soft drinks alcoholic beverages
- Laundry and personal expenses incurred on board
- Gratuities for the crew (recommended US\$15.00 per person per day)
- Personal expenses
- Fuel Surcharge
- Emergency Evacuation Insurance to a minimum benefit of USD 150,000
- Pre- or post-cruise arrangements

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

Single Surcharge

Available upon request

Notes

Please note that itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.

The following activities are available on this voyage, please contact us for more details:

Kayaking (US\$1,150 per person) and Snow Shoeing (US\$350 per person)

Previous kayaking experience is required.

Minimum age for children for this cruise is 12 years accompanied by a responsible guardian.

Price Dependent upon

Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

A trip to the Antarctic is a completely different experience and quite unlike any other trip you have probably been on. We use a highly regulated, licensed vessel which is well equipped to operate in this vulnerable ecosystem. We are fully compliant with all rules set down by the IAATO and all activities are governed by the Antarctic Treaty System. We carefully select all ships we work with and choose them for their small size as this creates far less impact on shore landings with wildlife. We view the voyage to the Antarctic as an expedition, not a sightseeing trip. Smaller boats such as ours can navigate narrow waterways and are far less polluting than the larger ships in Antarctic waters. By carrying less passengers, we have far less waste, and all waste is carried back to the home port to allow for environmentally conscious waste management and disposal, unlike some of the larger ships which do not facilitate this. This trip begins in Ushuaia where you will have time to sample local food and shop at local boutiques which we encourage individuals to take part in for experience and in supporting of the local community. We also encourage people to explore Stanley located on the Falkland Islands and even spend a couple of extra days in Valdes Peninsula upon disembarkment. We discourage the buying of souvenirs made from endangered species or wrongfully taken from the environment i.e. shells. Our pre-departure pack provides you with all the information required for your tour, from what to take with you to practical advice about how to minimise your impact on the Antarctic environment. This pack highlights initiatives such as waste reduction, and how to appropriately engage with wildlife and the environment around you.

For more information visit our [sustainability page](#).

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