

ANTARCTICA - ANTARCTICA, PATAGONIA, CHILEAN FJORDS: EXPLORATION OF THE SOUTHERN HIGHLIGHTS



INTRODUCTION

Journey from Chile's stunning fjords to Antarctica's wild peninsula. This cruise allows you to experience the remote regions of Patagonia and Antarctica in one expedition, with opportunities for ice cruising, shore landings and additional optional activities in Antarctica. In Chilean Patagonia, you will have the chance to visit the majestic Torres del Paine National Park and you will cruise right into the Chilean fjords to see Cape Horn. This exciting expedition starts in the colourful city of Valparaiso in Chile and ends in the most southerly city in the world of Ushuaia in Argentina.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Valparaiso, Chile

One of the best ways of getting around Valparaiso is to ride the charming funiculars for sweeping views. Explore the port and piers to get a feel for Chile's quirky seafaring side or explore the amazing Atacama Desert by adding it as a Pre-programme activity before embarking on MS Fram.



TRIP CODE

ACHUAPCS

DEPARTURE

31/10/2019,24/10/2020

DURATION

19 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Chile



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DAY 2: Sailing South - Day 2 & 3

As we make our way along the Pacific coast, the Expedition Team will start their lecture programme to prepare you for the experiences ahead. Make sure to spend some time on deck to look out for wildlife.



DAY 4: Cosmopolitan Castro

Located on Isla Grande de Chiloé, Castro is set among windswept hills and is known for its colourful `palafitos`; wooden houses mounted on stilts. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site Iglesia San Francisco and spot for dozens of seabird species, as well as penguins and sea lions.



DAY 5: Waters of Patagonia

We sail south through Patagonia to one of the world's most remote and beautiful places: the southern province of Ultima Esperanza, meaning Last Hope. We voyage through iconic Andean seascapes and you have plenty of time to gaze out on the glorious expanse of undisturbed nature.



DAY 6: Isolated Beauty

The isolated village of Puerto Edén in Bernardo O'Higgins National Park will enchant you, set at the end of a deep fjord and surrounded by high mountains. Its population of 250 includes the 15 remaining members of the Kawéskar tribe.



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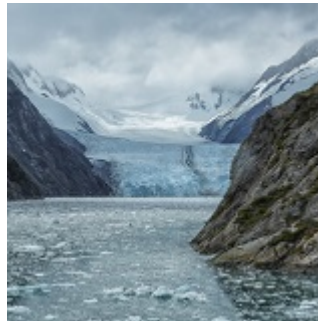
DAY 7: Torres del Paine National Park - Day 7 & 8

Puerto Natales is the gateway to the world-renowned Torres del Paine National Park, named for the famed rock formations of Torre Central, Sur and Norte. Explore the park on our optional excursion and get a taste of the stunning variety, from the vast open steppe to rugged mountain terrain topped by looming peaks. Keep an eye out for llamas, pumas, and chilla foxes in addition to more than 100 species of birds like the Andean condor.



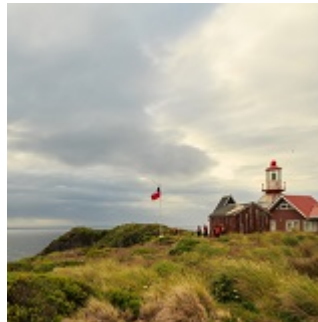
DAY 9: A Paradise for Nature Enthusiasts

This area's natural beauty features deep fjords and tall mountains plunging into the icy water in a landscape that seems almost untouched by humans. Bask in the beautiful stillness as we cruise past isolated islands and hidden bays that form the unique natural gem of the Chilean landscape.



DAY 10: Cape Horn & Drake Passage - Day 10 & 11

In the morning, we sail through the Beagle Channel, named after the ship that carried Charles Darwin on his voyage of discovery - HMS Beagle. If conditions allow, we attempt to land on Cape Horn - the southernmost tip of South America. Going ashore can be very difficult because of the sometimes-extreme weather in this area. Next, we cross the Drake Passage, where two oceans meet, on our way to the most remote continent on Earth. On our way, you can learn a great deal about Antarctica's fantastic wildlife and history from our Expedition Team.



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DAY 12: The White Wonder that is Antarctica - Day 12 to 16

This wilderness is full of overwhelming impressions on an impressive scale. Our expert captain and crew will work with the elements to create an itinerary designed to maximise your enjoyment of the amazing wildlife and landscape of Antarctica. We will attempt landings at several sites in the South Shetlands and on the Antarctic Peninsula with the aim of showing you the rich diversity of landscapes and wildlife on display in Antarctica. At every opportunity, our Expedition Team will take you out for landings or ice cruising to get close and truly explore Antarctic beauty, while being sure not to disturb the wildlife. You may also have the chance to kayak in untouched waters with icebergs floating by, take guided hikes to spectacular viewing points, or even spend the night in a tent. Every day will be different, and each carefully crafted by our Expedition Team to create lasting memories.



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DAY 17: Crossing the Drake Passage - Day 17 & 18

After five unforgettable days in Antarctica, MS Fram takes us safely back across the famous Drake Passage. The voyage from the Antarctic Peninsula to the southern tip of Argentina is roughly 950 km (600 mi) or 40 hours sailing time in good weather. During the voyage north, we will continue our lecture series and recap our experiences of Antarctica.



DAY 19: Disembark Ushuaia - Buenos Aires

Sadly, every expedition must come to an end. When we reach Ushuaia, it is time to say goodbye. Your journey home continues with your flight to Buenos Aires, where you have a chance to extend your stay and enjoy our optional Land Adventure programs.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard

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Inclusions

- Transfer in Ushuaia from ship to airport
- Economy flight from Ushuaia to Buenos Aires
- A rich program of included activities on all voyages designed to immerse you in the destinations you visit, including ice-cruising and onshore exploration with the Expedition Team.
- Professional Englishspeaking Expedition Team an international handpicked team of highly educated experts of various academic fields with profound knowledge of the region we sail in.
- Complimentary wind- and water-resistant jacket.
- Loan of boots, trekking poles, and equipment needed for optional and included activities.
- All meals including beverages (ship beer and wine, sodas and mineral water in all restaurants)
- Coffee and tea included throughout the day.
- Early riser and afternoon treat offered in addition to breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Gym, hot tubs and panoramic sauna
- Free Wi-fi on board for all guests. Be aware that we sail in remote areas with limited connection.

Exclusions

- International flights
- Travel insurance
- Luggage handling
- Optional Excursions and Gratuities

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| Difficulty Rating | 2 (light adventure) |
| Single Surcharge | Available upon request |
| Notes | Contact us for more details |
| Price Dependent upon | Season and availability |

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with

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Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.

4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.

5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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