

ANTARCTICA - ANTARCTICA & PATAGONIA EXPEDITION SOUTHBOUND | ROALD AMUNDSEN



INTRODUCTION

This 18 day expedition offers Patagonia and Antarctica in one exciting voyage. Start your journey in the vibrant port city of Valparaíso in Chile before sailing south towards Cape Horn in Chilean Patagonia. En route, you will witness the beauty of the Chilean fjords. Cross the Drake Passage to reach the pristine wilderness that is the Antarctic Peninsula. Here there will be the chance to do ice cruising and landings, encountering incredible wildlife such as penguin, whale and seal species. The journey ends back in Chile, in the buzzing city of Santiago.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive & Embark in Valparaíso

This expedition cruise starts in colourful Valparaíso. One of the best ways of seeing this town is by riding its funiculars to sweeping views. Explore the port to get a feel for Chile's seafaring side. We also recommend a visit to the Historic Quarter or extend your cruise by exploring the amazing Atacama Desert with our optional Pre-programme before embarking on MS Roald Amundsen.



TRIP CODE

ACHUVDS

DEPARTURE

17/10/2023

DURATION

18 Days

LOCATIONS

Chilean Fjords, Patagonia, Antarctic Peninsula



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DAY 2: Sailing South - Day 2 & 3

As we make our way along the Pacific coast of Chile, the Expedition Team will start the 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

Castro, set among windswept hills and green vegetation, is known for its colourful 'palafitos', wooden houses mounted on stilts along the water's edge, as well as the UNESCO World Heritage Site Iglesia San Francisco.



DAY 5: Waters of Patagonia

We sail south through the fabled waters of Patagonia and to one of the world's most remote and beautiful places: the province of Ultima Esperanza, meaning Last Hope. We voyage through iconic Andean seascapes for views of a glorious expanse of undisturbed nature.



DAY 6: Isolated Beauty

The village of Puerto Edén in Bernardo O'Higgins National Park will enchant you. It is known for its geographical isolation, situated at the end of a deep fjord and surrounded by mountains. Its population of 250 includes the 15 remaining members of the Kawéskar people.



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

Puerto Natales is the gateway to the Torres del Paine National Park, world famous for the impressive “Torres del Paine” (Towers of Paine) rock formation. Explore the park on our optional excursion to discover a landscape of stunning variety, from the vast open steppe to rugged mountain terrain topped by looming peaks that host a wide variety of wildlife. Watch for llamas, pumas, and foxes in addition to more than 100 species of birds like the Andean condor.



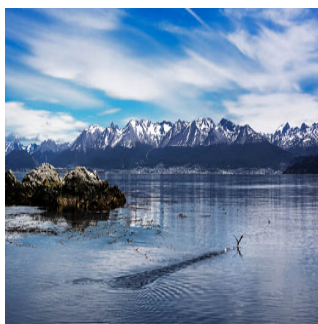
DAY 9: A Paradise for Nature Lovers

Deep fjords and tall mountains plunging into the icy water characterise this wild area that seems almost untouched by humans. Glacial ice has scoured its way between the mountains, creating the lovely isolated islands and hidden bays that form this unique fjord landscape.



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

In the morning we will sail through the scenic Beagle Channel before we continue into open waters, and if conditions allow, we will make an attempt to land on Cape Horn – the southernmost tip of South America. Next, we sail the legendary Drake Passage while our lecture series prepares you for Antarctica’s fantastic wildlife and history.



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DAY 12: Antarctica - Days 12-15

Antarctica never ceases to amaze and astound. Ninety per cent of the world's ice is here, and the continent virtually doubles in size due to sea ice in the winter. In summer, it is a cradle of life, a vital breeding ground for millions of penguins, whales and seals. As outlined in the Antarctic Treaty, this is a continent dedicated to peace, science and tourism that has evolved through millennia without human interference. Therefore, we adhere to very strict environmental guidelines. We want to leave nothing but footprints and take nothing but pictures! The elements rule in Antarctica, and our experienced captain will create the best itinerary possible for your adventure. We will attempt landings at several sites in the South Shetlands and on the Antarctic Peninsula and aim to show you the diversity of the region's wildlife and landscape. Our expert Expedition Team will take you out for ice-cruising and exciting landing activities. There may also be the chance to kayak in the company of whales and icebergs, hike in amazing scenery and perhaps camp on the world's most isolated continent. It's hard to put this wild beauty into words. As a well-known quote from a veteran Antarctic traveler put it: "If you can describe Antarctica with words, you have probably never been there."



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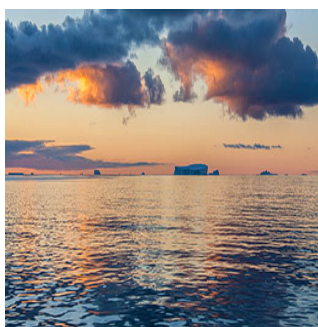
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DAY 16: Crossing the Drake Passage - Day 16-17

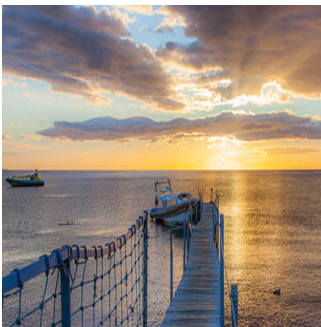
After four incredible days in Antarctica, we sail back across the Drake Passage towards warmer weather in Argentina, giving you two days to enjoy life onboard. There's plenty of things to do. Take part in art workshops or enjoy a treatment in the spa. Get active in the gym or admire the views from the panoramic sauna. Relax in the outdoor pool or soak in the on-deck hot tubs. Visit the Science Center and find out more about the things you've seen and log your Citizen Science observations. Or use the time to sort through your photos and get editing tips from our onboard photographer.



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DAY 18: Disembark in Ushuaia & Fly to Buenos Aires

Your expedition cruise ends in Ushuaia in Tierra del Fuego, Argentina’s southernmost province. From here, you’ll take a flight back to Buenos Aires, but it doesn’t have to be the end of your adventure. Why not join our popular Post-Programme to tour the legendary Iguazu Falls, an amazing way to wrap up your travels. Or you can stay on in Buenos Aires, enjoying the city sights, cosmopolitan culture and tango shows before heading home.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Standard
Inclusions	<p>Inclusions</p> <p>Economy flight from Ushuaia to Buenos Aires at end of voyage</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Professional English speaking Expedition Team, an international handpicked team of highly educated experts of various academic fields with profound knowledge of the region we sail in</p> <p>Complimentary wind and water-resistant jacket</p> <p>Loan of boots, trekking poles, and equipment needed for optional and included activities.</p> <p>All meals including beverages (house beer and wine, sodas and mineral water)</p> <p>Coffee and tea included throughout the day</p> <p>Early riser and afternoon treat offered in addition to breakfast, lunch and dinner</p> <p>Gym, hot tubs and panoramic sauna</p> <p>Free Wi-fi on board for all guests. Be aware that we sail in remote areas with limited connection.</p> <p>Use of the ships Science Centre</p> <p>Exclusions</p> <p>International flights</p> <p>Travel insurance</p> <p>Luggage handling</p> <p>Optional Excursions and Gratuities</p> <p>Visas if required</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)

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Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Please note this itinerary may be 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.

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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 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

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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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