

## HONDIUS | FALKLANDS, SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA INCL ELEPHANT ISLAND



### INTRODUCTION

Retrace the scenic and isolated routes of historic Antarctic Explorers on this incredible 14 day voyage to Antarctica. You will visit the unique sites of Elephant Island and the Falklands where you will tour the route of legendary polar explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton. Encounter unique wildlife, from humpback whales to Weddell seals and Rockhopper penguins to unique landing sites like Elephant Island and Neko Harbour.

### ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: Embarkation in Ushuaia

Your voyage begins where the world drops off. Ushuaia, Argentina, reputed to be the southernmost city on the planet, is located on the far southern tip of South America. Starting in the afternoon, you embark from this small resort town on Tierra del Fuego, nicknamed "The End of the World," and sail the mountain-fringed Beagle Channel for the remainder of the evening.



#### TRIP CODE

ACOWHEI

#### DEPARTURE

13/03/2022

#### DURATION

14 Days

#### LOCATIONS

Antarctica and Falkland Islands



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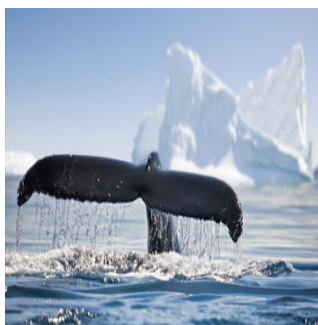
### DAY 2: Crossing The Drake - Day 2 to 3

Over the next two days on the Drake Passage, you enjoy some of the same experiences encountered by the great polar explorers who first charted these regions: cool salt breezes, rolling seas, maybe even a fin whale spouting up sea spray. After passing the Antarctic Convergence - Antarctica's natural boundary, formed when north-flowing cold waters collide with warmer sub-Antarctic seas - you are in the circum-Antarctic upwelling zone. Not only does the marine life change, the avian life changes too. Wandering albatrosses, grey-headed albatrosses, black-browed albatrosses, light-mantled sooty albatrosses, cape pigeons, southern fulmars, Wilson's storm petrels, blue petrels, and Antarctic petrels are a few of the birds you might see.



### DAY 4: Entering Antarctica - Day 4 to 6

Gray stone peaks sketched with snow, towers of broken blue-white ice, and dramatically different wildlife below and above. You first pass the snow-capped Melchior Islands and Schollaert Channel, sailing between Brabant and Anvers Islands. Sites you may visit include: Cuverville Island - Stabbing up between Rongé Island and the Antarctic Peninsula, Cuverville houses a massive colony of gentoo penguins as well as pairs of breeding brown skuas. Neko Harbour - An epic landscape of mammoth glaciers and endless wind-carved snow. Opportunities for Zodiac cruising provide you the closest possible view of the ice-crusted alpine peaks. You may sail into the Weddell Sea via the Antarctic Sound. Here huge tabular icebergs herald your arrival to the eastern side of the Antarctic Peninsula.



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### DAY 7: Legendary Elephant Island

You've now completed roughly the same route (albeit in the opposite direction) as Sir Ernest Shackleton did using only a small life boat, the James Caird, in spring of 1916. Watching Elephant Island materialize on the horizon after crossing all that water, it's hard not to marvel at how he and his five-man crew accomplished that feat. The purpose of Shackleton's crossing was to rescue 22 shipwrecked members of his Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, also known as the Endurance Expedition, who were stranded on Elephant Island. For four and a half months, Shackleton undertook this legendary rescue. Conditions on Elephant Island are severe. The coastline is mostly made up of vertical rock and ice cliffs highly exposed to the elements. If possible you will take the Zodiacs to Point Wild, where the marooned members of Shackleton's expedition miraculously managed to survive.



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### DAY 8: Sea Life and Sea Birds - Day 8 to 9

Though you're now at sea, en-route to the Falkland Islands, there's rarely a lonesome moment here: Several species of bird follow the vessel southeast, such as albatrosses, storm petrels, shearwaters, and diving petrels.



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### DAY 10: Finding The Falklands - Day 10 to 11

The Falkland (Malvinas) Islands offer an abundance of wildlife, easily approachable - with caution. These islands are largely unknown gems, primarily remembered for the war between the UK and Argentina in 1982. Not only do various species of bird live here, but chances are great you'll see both Peale's dolphins and Commerson's dolphins in the surrounding waters. You may visit the following sites: New Island, Coffin's Harbour - This location is a reasonable walk from the landing site at the New Island South Wildlife Reserve, providing views of nesting black-browed albatrosses and rockhopper penguins. A more strenuous hike to Landsend Bluff may also show you some South American fur seals. The site of the only land-based whaling station on the Falkland Islands is south of the landing beach. Saunders Island - Here you can see the black-browed albatross and its sometimes-clumsy landings, along with breeding imperial shags and rockhopper penguins. King penguins, Magellanic penguins, and gentoo penguins are also found here. Steeple Jason - Home to the world's largest black-browed albatross colony (roughly 113,000), Steeple Jason is a wild and rarely visited island buffeted by the wind and waves. Weather and swell conditions dictate the journey here.



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### DAY 12: Crossing The Drake - Day 12 to 13

Your return voyage is far from lonely. While sailing to Puerto Madryn, you're again greeted by the vast array of seabirds remembered from the passage south. But they seem a little more familiar to you now, and you to them.



### DAY 14: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. It's now time to disembark in Puerto Madryn, but with memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.





## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Accommodation        | Cabin on board ship  |
| Inclusions           | <p>Cabin accommodation on board ship<br/> All meals<br/> All scheduled landings and excursions by zodiac<br/> Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition staff<br/> Comprehensive pre departure material<br/> Complimentary use of rubber boots for duration of voyage</p> <p><b>Exclusions</b><br/> International flights<br/> Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)<br/> Gratuities for staff and crew<br/> Any items not mentioned as included<br/> Personal expenses</p> |
| Difficulty Rating    | 2 (light adventure)  |
| Single Surcharge     | Available upon request. Contact us for more details  |
| Notes                | Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions  |
| Price Dependent upon | Departure date, seasonality and availability   |

## SUSTAINABILITY

We appreciate that voyages to the Antarctic to have an impact on this pristine environment. In light of this, all our voyages are double carbon offset. In addition, we strive to eliminate as many single use plastics as possible from our supply chain. In choosing this voyage you are also supporting the fantastic work done by the Antarctic Science Foundation (ASF) and their work in understanding and protecting this unique destination. In addition all voyages support the Mawsons Huts Foundation (MHF). The MHF support the legacy of Sir Douglas Mawson, the legendary Antarctic explorer and scientist. As a member of IAATO we follow strict guidelines appointed by the Antarctic Treaty System to go above and beyond in support of minimizing negative impacts on this pristine landscape. We also encourage clients to look to book pre-and post-accommodation with us, where local businesses will be supported. Our clients also receive restaurant recommendations which support locally owned restaurants.

We carefully select all ships we work with and choose smaller sized vessels to create less impact. We use a highly regulated, licensed vessel which is well equipped to operate in the Antarctic's delicate ecosystem. We view the voyage to the Antarctic as an expedition, not a sightseeing trip. Smaller ships such as ours can navigate narrow waterways and

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are far less polluting than the larger ships in Antarctic waters. By carrying less passengers, we have far less waste. The waste is carried back to the home port to allow for environmentally conscious waste management and disposal.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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