SOUTH GEORGIA - PENGUIN SAFARI: SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA | OCEAN DIAMOND

TRIP CODE
ACQEPS
DEPARTURE
20/11/2023
DURATION
16 Days
LOCATIONS
South Georgia & Antarctic Peninsula

INTRODUCTION

Embark on this incredible 16 day expedition to the incredible sights of the Frozen White continent. Isolated and pristine, Antarctica offers the perfect expedition experience. Discover fabled islands teeming with king penguins and elephant seals, zodiac cruise near massive icebergs and undertake hikes on one of the most rarely visited continents on Earth; a true final frontier.

**Any offers below are correct at the time of publishing and are subject to change, availability will be confirmed at time of booking. Not combinable with any other promotion. Prices are subject to change based on currency fluctuations, fuel surcharges, and other external factors. No discount applies to any transfer packages. The below prices may also include a 'Pay in full within 30 days from time of booking' which is a 5-10% early payment bonus. Further conditions may apply, contact us for more information.*

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival in Ushuaia

You will begin your journey in Ushuaia, a small but bustling port at the tip of South America. It's the ideal gateway for you to explore the southern extent of Patagonia while preparing for your adventure ahead. Get active in the mountains or enjoy handcrafted chocolate at a café in town.

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DAY 2: Embarkation in Ushuaia

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!

DAY 3: At Sea - Day 3 to 6

There are many activities to keep you engaged while you are at sea. Learn to identify seabirds that glide alongside the ship, or attend dynamic presentations by your Expedition Team. You will be prepped on safety procedures for Zodiac cruises and shore landings, and also be given instructions for getting the most out of your optional sea kayaking adventures (extra cost), a truly intimate way to experience Antarctica. If conditions are right, the first indication that you are approaching South Georgia is the sight of birds around a group of rocky spires called Shag Rocks. Have your binoculars and cameras ready to capture these rocks rising out of the icy ocean waters. Shags and prions often rest here, and due to nutrient rich upwellings around the rocks it can be a good place to keep a lookout for whales.

DAY 7: South Georgia - Day 7 to 8

After enjoying South Georgia from a distance, we'll head toward its numerable beaches to find a bay for your first land excursion. Landing sites are varied, largely determined by the weather conditions of your voyage. Whichever sites we visit, they'll provide you with wildlife encounters unrivalled anywhere else on earth. You'll find that South Georgia, once a popular base for whalers and sealers, is also scattered with abandoned relics and evidence of human activity from centuries gone by. Your Expedition Team will help bring those days to life while you visit old whaling stations and enjoy presentations on the South Georgia of then and now. One of the most significant sites you will visit on the island is Grytviken. This settlement is one of the first whaling stations established in sub-Antarctic waters. Many travelers find that this place has a special appeal, as it is home to the remains of Sir Ernest Shackleton, one of the most famous Antarctic explorers.

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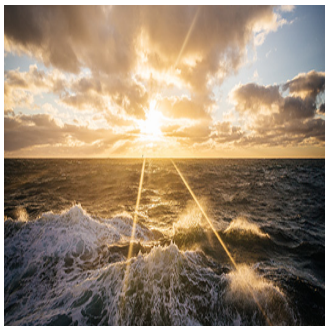
DAY 9: At Sea - Day 9 to 10

Say goodbye to the king penguins, as your next destination is Antarctica! Your days at sea are filled with presentations and workshops led by your Expedition Team, who will prepare you for the wildlife and landscapes that will surround you upon your arrival.



DAY 11: Antarctic Peninsula - Day 11 to 13

The most common reaction upon reaching the White Continent is a sense of reverence and awe. The experience is hard to put into words, since few places are as untouched and enduring as Antarctica. You will discover that Antarctica is a land of extremes. At one moment you'll be overcome with a feeling of complete isolation and silence, and at the next moment you'll be inspired by nature as a calving glacier crashes into a brilliant blue sea or a penguin waddles by to inspect your footwear. Your Expedition Team will take care of you at each excursion, whether you are Zodiac cruising, visiting a historical site or consorting with penguin colonies. Chinstrap, Adélie and gentoo penguins are found here, along with Weddell, fur, crabeater and leopard seals. Keep a lookout for Antarctic whales, such as minkes, while on a Zodiac cruise. Each day and each excursion will present a new collection of creatures to delight you and keep your camera busy. As exciting as the Zodiac excursions and landings are, perhaps you'll treat yourself to an extra-special Antarctic experience by partaking in an optional paddling excursion (at an extra cost) or cast reason aside and jump into Antarctic waters for the polar plunge!

DAY 14: Crossing The Drake - Day 14 to 15

After more than a dozen days of unique wildlife encounters and remarkable landscapes, your journey home begins. Crossing the Drake is your unofficial rite of passage. Spend time on deck watching for seabirds and whales, enjoy presentations by your Expedition Team, or simply relax and reminisce about your experiences.

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DAY 16: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

You will arrive in Ushuaia in the morning and disembark after breakfast. The mandatory transfer package includes a little taste of Patagonia with a Tierra del Fuego National Park tour before transferring to the airport for the return group charter flight to Buenos Aires.

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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	Cabin accommodation on board ship All meals whilst on board All scheduled landings and excursions Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition team Guiding and leadership by experienced expedition staff Complimentary use of rubber boots during course of voyage Expedition parka (yours to keep) One night pre-expedition in Ushuaia Group transfer hotel-ship on embarkation day **EXCLUSIONS** International flights Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Activities not mentioned as included Personal expenses such as laundry and telecommunications Gratuities for staff/crew
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

Chimu Adventures is passionate and dedicated to sustainbility measures and

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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 support of the local community. We also try to create opportunity to see research and historical sites including the former research station/now museum of Port Lockroy and engage with local history. 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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