



INTRODUCTION

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Experience the beauty of the fabled white continent and Falkland Islands on this incredible 16 day expedition. Beginning your journey in the eccentric Argentine capital of Buenos Aires you will fly to Ushuaia where you will embark your incredible vessel. From the rolling green hills of the Falklands, with its quaint town of Port Stanley to the unforgettable vistas of the Antarctic peninsula - This voyage is an unforgettable expedition to one of the worlds final frontiers.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival and Overnight in Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires moves to a rhythm that is unmistakably unique to the Argentinian capital. Just ask a local and they'll tell you straight away: It's the diverse melting-pot of people who inject vibrancy into the city. These porteños (port people) have roots from all across the globe, bringing their diverse cultures with them. The result is an intoxicating blend of romantic music, tango dancing around every corner, Maradona soccer fans, Old World colonial architecture, and flavorful food. You'll spend one night at a hotel in the city before catching an early flight the next morning. Depending on when you arrive, you could fit in some time to explore a slice of this bustling capital. Visit Teatro Colón, a beautiful opera house dating back to 1908. Then pop into the historic Café Tortoni for Parisian-inspired coffees and chocolate-dipped churros. Caminito is a multi-colored street museum in the La Boca neighborhood, filled with lively markets and restaurants hosting live folk dancing and tango shows. The party doesn't stop there, though. Late into the night, the upscale Palermo district is filled with bars and boliche clubs.



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DURATION

16 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctic Peninsula and
Falkland Islands



DAY 2: Buenos Aires to Ushuaia

Today you'll have an early start. We meet in the hotel lobby in the morning to head to the airport for our flight to Ushuaia. The capital of Argentina's Tierra del Fuego province sits on a bay backed by the snow-capped mountains of Martial Glacier, to the north. Although Ushuaia claims to be the world's southernmost city, two other Chilean cities also lay claim to this dubious title. Your vessel will be waiting here at the port. Once on board, you'll meet the Expedition Team, who will conduct a mandatory health and safety briefing. Afterward, you will have time to tour the ship and settle into your cabin before we enjoy a welcome dinner together.



DAY 3: Crossing The Drake - Day 3 to 4

To make sure you are ready for the days of exploration ahead of you, the Expedition Team will launch a series of insightful lectures at the Science Center. Each member of the Expedition Team specializes in a different subject. You'll see that they are walking, talking, treasure troves of fascinating stories and information. Listen and learn as they share information about the local wildlife and the IAATO-approved sustainability protocol you must follow if curious penguins or seals come too close to you. The IAATO guidelines include learning the importance of wearing sterilized rubber boots during all Antarctica landings and why we thoroughly vacuum any foreign particles from our clothes beforehand. You'll also appreciate how the ship is equipped with all services and facilities added for your comfort. Work out in the gym and or run along the outdoor track circuit. Steam away the soreness from your workout in the sauna, or let masterful hands relax you during a massage in the Wellness Spa. Three different onboard restaurants will delight your palate, while the Explorer Lounge & Bar is always the perfect place to relax with a glass of wine or champagne.



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DAY 5: Antarctica - Day 5 to 9

Antarctic landscapes stretch as far as your eyes can see—a gorgeous world sealed by pristine snow and ice. Tabular icebergs, parts of the great shelves, tower above the waters, while ancient glaciers break off or ‘calve’ into blue-hued icebergs, sculpted magnificently by the wind and the sun. We have entered another world, one devoid of human influence. It is a haven for wildlife like whales, penguins, and seals. Just as the Antarctic icescapes change throughout its seasons, so does the wildlife. For example, whale populations begin to steadily increase from October through to January, both in number and range of species, and reach their peak in February and March—this is the best whale-watching opportunity. Around this time, the large amount of krill in the waters attract the most whales, in which multiple species swim over for a veritable feeding frenzy. If you arrive here in November, you might spot thousands of penguins courting and building their nests. December arrivals may have their hearts melted by painfully cute penguin chicks, whereas March is usually filled with scenes of adolescent penguins maturing and finally learn how to swim. Other birds, which unlike penguins actually fly, vary throughout the summer months. Eager birdwatchers will be pleased to spot cormorants, shags, egrets, sheathbills, and many more. You have five days to take in every magical moment. Prepare for the unmatched scenery of Antarctica to leave you breathless. Gaze at distant white mountains during a stroll along the shore, or let a playful pair of Weddell seals delight you as they surface next to your small boat (RIB). They’re checking you out, too, with their large inquisitive eyes. Or hit the jackpot if the weather allows you to join optional activities such as kayaking, snowshoeing, or even camping. These are the kinds of experiences awaiting you in Antarctica. We make the most of each landing and choose the best sites from among numerous possible locations on the Antarctic Peninsula and its surrounding islands. The Expedition Team will provide ongoing lectures, be it on board the ship, ashore during landings, or even when navigating through icebergs and ice floes on cruises in small boats (RIBs). The topics range from glaciology and the impact of climate change on the Antarctic ice shelves to an explanation of the cold continent’s history, stemming from the whaling era to its present status, under an international peace treaty. The Expedition Team’s insights will prove invaluable throughout your journey, enhancing your sense of discovery a hundredfold. Think about having a chat with the Expedition Team’s professional wildlife and landscape photographer for a few tips and tricks to improve the quality of your images. These skills will definitely come in handy if you choose to participate in one of the numerous Citizen Science programs. One of these is the HappyWhale project. Any photos you take of whales you spot can be uploaded to a global database that helps researchers track the migration patterns and overall health of the population. That way, aside from being precious memories, your photos contribute to the greater good of scientific research.



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DAY 10: Return Along The Drake - Day 10 to 11

Saying goodbye to Antarctica is hard, but the time has come to point the ship northward once again. You can spend the two days crossing the Drake Passage sorting through your breathtaking photos of Antarctica, and putting in another memory card for what's about to come next. You might also have the option to join workshops where you can channel your memories of Antarctica into painting penguins or learning how to tie complicated sailor's knots. The Science Center will be brimming with activity. The Expedition Team will be offering presentations that are sure to whip up your enthusiasm for the final few days of your voyage in the Falkland Islands. These lectures would touch on the tense history of the islands, along with the birds species seen around their beautiful beaches. In between lectures, you can use the Science Center's advanced microscopes to examine water samples at a cellular level. You'll discover a plethora of microscopic lifeforms, including krill and phytoplankton, which also tie into an interesting and valuable Citizen Science initiative.



DAY 12: Falkland Islands - Day 12 to 14

The remote Falkland Islands archipelago is split between the two main islands: East and West Falkland, and nearly 800 smaller islands. For many years, both the United Kingdom and Argentina have claimed sovereignty over the islands. Your three days of exploration here, along with each day's landing sites, will be determined by local weather conditions at the time. After the barren, white scenery of Antarctica, it may be reassuring to see grassy hills, blooming wildflowers, stunning white-sand beaches and turquoise waters! It won't be too different, though, especially since several thousand penguins will be there for you to catch sight of, too! These few days will entail an attempt to view these penguin colonies, which often have families of fur seals sprinkled in among them. We will keep a safe distance, of course, in order not to disturb them or their tuxedoed neighbours. For the first time in more than a week, you'll spot signs of civilization in the family-owned farms scattered along the island, and in the capital of Stanley on East Falkland, where 80% of the islands' population live. When you visit, you'll find that the town is a slice of typical English life. Watch for the iconic red buses and phone booths, and of course the typical old pubs serving up British beer and friendly banter.



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DAY 15: At Sea

Your expedition is approaching its end. Make sure you enjoy your last day at sea. Head to the bar and share some drinks with the new friends you made during your journey. Swap adventure stories with the Expedition Team and learn more about these modern-day explorers. Treat yourself to a fine-dining experience at the à la carte restaurant or a refreshing massage treatment in the Wellness Spa. Or simply relax on deck. Watch the waves and relive fond memories of the voyage's many highlights.



DAY 16: Ushuaia to Buenos Aires

After two weeks enjoying exploring Antarctica and the Falklands, it's time to dock back in Ushuaia. The journey has been epic and perhaps even emotional; we have seen and learned so much together. You might even shed a few tears when it comes time to bid each other goodbye. Our hope is for your experience with us to leave a lasting impression on what is possible when expeditions are done in a sustainable way. We must do everything we can to protect these precious habitats and the wonderful wildlife that they harbor. After the transfer to Ushuaia airport, you'll fly back to Buenos Aires. From there, you can fly home or continue exploring. Since you're already in Argentina, you might as well make the most of it! Why not join a Post-Program to the magnificent Iguazu Falls?



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Cabin on board ship

Inclusions	Overnight in Buenos Aires before the expedition cruise, including breakfast
	Return flights in economy class between Buenos Aires and Ushuaia
Inclusions	Transfer from the hotel in Buenos Aires to Buenos Aires airport before the expedition cruise
	Transfers between Ushuaia airport and the ship, including a brief tour of the town
	Cabin accommodation on board vessel
	All meals on board including snacks
	All onshore excursions and zodiac cruising
	Free use of rubber boots and waterproof jacket during course of voyage
	Pre-night accommodation prior to embarkation, including breakfast and transfer
	Transfer to airport upon disembarkation
	All port taxes
	EXCLUSIONS
	International airfare
Visa and passport expenses	
Travel Insurance	
Beverages (other than tea and coffee)	
Personal expenses such as laundry and on board communication	
Gratuities for Staff and crew	
Optional activities whilst on board	
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. Contact us for more information.
Notes	Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, seasonality and availability.

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SUSTAINABILITY

As a member of IAATO we follow 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 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. 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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