

WEDDELL SEA EXPLORER | PLANCIUS



INTRODUCTION

On board this incredible 12 day voyage you will explored the incredible sights of the Weddell Sea. Featuring massive icebergs, dramatic landscapes and incredible historical sights the Weddell Sea offers some of the most incredible sights of the Antarctic. This extraordinary expedition will introduce you to magical sights and incredible wildlife including a number of whales, seals rare sea birds and even the opportunity to see juvenile emperor penguins.

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

ACOWWSE

DEPARTURE

11/02/2023

DURATION

12 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Weddell Sea



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DAY 2: Drake Passage - 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.



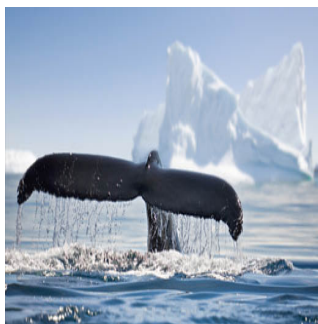
DAY 4: Brown Bluff, Madder Cliffs

This morning we hope to land at Brown Bluff with its impressive scenery and nesting Adelie penguins. In the afternoon, we head across the Antarctic Sound to Kinnes Cove for a landing, where you can see the nearby Madder Cliffs with their subtle red coloration as well as nearby gentoo penguins.



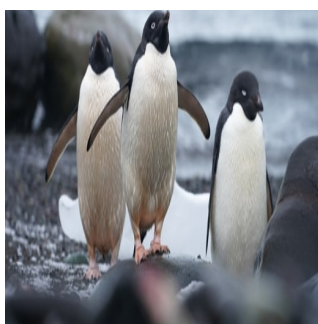
DAY 5: Antarctic Sound

Today we explore the southern end of the Antarctic Sound, including the islands of Jonassen, Andersson, and Rosamel, depending on conditions. In the afternoon, we head to Paulet Island, where an historic hut remains from the 1903 Swedish Antarctic Expedition of Otto Nordenskjold. This hut enabled the team, whose ship had been crushed in sea ice, to survive until they were rescued.



DAY 6: Devil Island

The aim is to spend the day on and around Devil Island, an impressive landing site that gives us the chance to ascend the summit and take in breathtaking views of Erebus and Terror Gulf, as well as our ship anchored in the bay below.



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DAY 7: James Ross Island

Today you can explore the area of Herbert Sound, named after the great explorer Sir Wally Herbert. We will focus our attention on the area of the Naze Peninsula and Comb Ridge on James Ross Island.



DAY 8: Erebus and Terror Gulf

We sail as close as the ice allows to the northwest area of Erebus and Terror Gulf, where the Beak and Eagle islands await us. As with other islands in this group, they are volcanic in origin. Beak island has two freshwater lakes that are home to unique ecosystems, and Eagle Island offers spectacular scenery. It is most famous for being the hottest place in Antarctica during a heatwave that melted 20% of the island's snow and ice in 2020.



DAY 9: Deception Island

The next plan is to visit Deception Island. Actually a subducted crater, this island opens into the sea and creates a natural harbor for the ship. Hot springs, an abandoned whaling station, and multiple bird species – cape petrels, kelp gulls, brown and south polar skuas, and Antarctic terns – can be seen here. Wilson's storm petrels and black-bellied storm petrels also nest in the ruins of the whaling station in Whalers Bay.



DAY 10: Drake Passage - Day 10 to 11

Your return voyage is far from lonely. While crossing the Drake, we are 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.



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DAY 12: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

Every adventure, no matter how great, must eventually come to an end. It's now time to disembark in Ushuaia with memories that will accompany you wherever your next journey leads.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	<div> Cabin accommodation on board ship All meals whilst on board Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition crew All scheduled landings and excursions by zodiac Pre-scheduled group transfer from vessel to airport in Ushuaia (disembarkation day) All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges </div> <div> EXCLUSIONS International airfare Pre or post land arrangements not mentioned in itinerary Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Government arrival and departure taxes Any optional activities not mentioned in itinerary Customary gratuity for crew and personnel </div>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available on request, contact us for more information.
Notes	Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and sea 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

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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 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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