

ANTARCTICA - EPIC FALKLANDS, SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTIC CIRCLE | OCEAN ATLANTIC



TRIP CODE

ACABAAC

DURATION

22 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica



INTRODUCTION

This is a truly epic 22-day voyage as you follow in the wake of brave explorers to cross the Antarctic Circle, visiting the Peninsula and exploring the South Shetland Islands before heading to South Georgia and Falkland Islands. Enjoy hikes and Zodiac excursions around the Antarctic mainland, witnessing an abundance of wildlife such as whales, penguins, seals and seabirds. As we pass between Elephant Island and South Georgia we are offered a small glimpse into the passage made famous by Shackleton 100 years ago. South Georgia is one of world's greatest natural wonders – wildlife-packed beaches, active research stations, former whaling stations and a visit to Shackleton's final resting place is on our agenda.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival and Embarkation In Ushuaia - Day 1

Arrive and embark in Ushuaia, Argentina - the world's southernmost town. Explore the quaint city or local countryside. Alternatively, consider a day trip off the beaten path to the raw, natural archipelago of Tierra del Fuego. It's a hiker's paradise with rugged snow-capped mountains, glaciers, flower-filled meadows and boggy quagmires. In the afternoon, we board our ship. Our journey begins as we navigate through the calms of Beagle Channel, a strait in the Tierra del Fuego Archipelago.




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DAY 2: At Sea - Cross Drake Passage – Day 2-3

Sailing onward, we cross the famed Drake Passage - a body of water that marks the intersection of the cold Antarctic with the warmer Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Drake Passage is known for rollicking conditions and strong westerly winds, called the Roaring Fifties. While this passage may be challenging, you can rest confidently aboard our expedition vessel, which is purpose-built with stabilizers, powerful engines and a highly-qualified crew. The most spirited sailors consider Drake Passage a lifetime achievement, and you will complete the crossing twice! In the Drake, the excitement builds as Antarctic wildlife comes into view. Weather permitting, we will catch our first sight of seals and penguins! The area is also well-know for its abundance of birds.



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DAY 4: S Shetland, The Peninsula, C Circle - Day 4-9

In the first few days, we will begin the exciting Antarctic experience our ancestors only dreamed of. During these days we will explore the sub-Antarctic islands of the South Shetland chain and be marveled by the captivating landscapes we will encounter along the way. Weather permitting, our projected landfalls include: King George Island; Deception Island, an extinct volcano with waters warm enough for a polar swim; and Half Moon Island with nesting Wilson's storm petrels and chinstrap penguins. As the white shimmer of Antarctica looms on our horizon, the presence of wildlife multiples by tens of thousands with many species of lively penguins, inquisitive seals, nesting birds and the spray of marine mammals. Wildlife abounds along our projected route along the Antarctic Peninsula: leopard, fur and Weddell seals of Cuverville Island; humpback whales of Gerlache Strait; Paradise Bay; the dramatic Lemaire Channel's orcas and much more. We explore as far south as possible towards the Antarctic Circle at c. 66 deg 33 minutes south of the Equator. Possible landfalls in this wild and seldom visited area could be Pleneau and Petermann Islands, Crystal Sound and Detaille Island. We will also visit research stations if ice conditions allow us. Then we will continue the exciting Antarctic experience at the very tip of the Continent. During these days in the Antarctic Sound, named in 1902 after the Swedish vessel Antarctic, the captain and the expedition team will keep a watchful eye on the mighty tabular icebergs, born from the floating Larsen Ice Shelf further south. We aim to have both continental and island landings on the shores of Antarctic Sound and Weddell Sea, always on the lookout for some of the unusually large penguin colonies, which have recently been observed. The itinerary and activities over the next few days depend on weather and ice conditions. The route and shore landings will be determined by the Captain and Expedition Leader and communicated to the guests through regularly scheduled briefings.



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DAY 10: Drake Passage and South Georgia - Day 10-15

From the Weddell Sea we continue our journey into the open sea, just as Ernest Shackleton and his men did more than hundred years ago. Having lost their ship Endurance deep south in the Weddell Sea they moved slowly north on ice floes and later in open lifeboats until they reached Elephant Island. From here started one of the most remarkable boat journeys in the polar history, when Shackleton and five of his men for two weeks navigated the 720 nautical miles to South Georgia to call for recovery of the stranded crew on Elephant Island. We on the other hand will reach the mighty South Georgia after just a few days at sea! South Georgia offers stunning wildlife experiences with a wealth of breeding penguins, sea birds, sea lions and seals, all seeking shelter in this oasis amidst the roaring Southern Ocean. Previous whaling history pops up in most of fjords we will explorer - not least in Grytviken the only inhabited settlement on this mountainous island. Grytviken is also the last resting place for Ernest Shackleton, after he died on yet another Antarctica voyage in 1922. We will explorer the fjords of the north coast for 2-3 days and take as many shore landings as time and the swelling sea will allow us.



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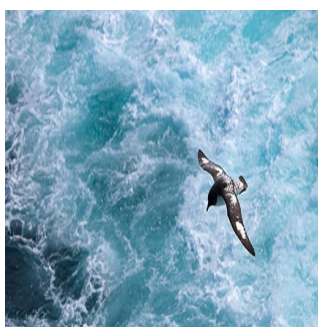
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DAY 16: South Atlantic, Falkland Islands - Day 16-17

Days at sea are great for participating in lectures and and other activities hosted by the expedition team, reading books in the ship library and watching the ubiquitous storm petrels and albatrosses from top deck. Or just to relax.



DAY 18: Port Stanley, Falkland Islands - Day 18-19

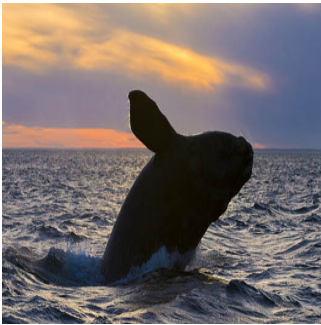
During the morning we approach Falkland Islands and in the early afternoon we will cast anchor the sheltered natural harbor of Port Stanley. Utilizing our Zodiacs, we will land in town center, and take a leisurely stroll through the streets of Stanley. On the following day we will make landings - weather permitting - at two of the islands' many magnificent wildlife spots.



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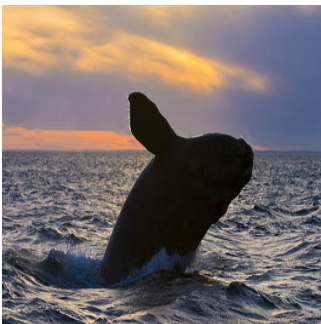
DAY 20: At Sea towards Puerto Madryn - Day 20-21

We are now into the last leg of this adventurous voyage, heading to Puerto Madryn.



DAY 22: Disembark at Puerto Madryn

Welcome to Puerto Madryn. After a hearty farewell to vessel and crew, we disembark in the morning after breakfast.




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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
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Inclusions	INCLUSIONS 22-days/21 nights cruise with accommodation in a shared double stateroom featuring ensuite facilities All Zodiac landings and excursions as per itinerary Expedition parka Rubber boot rentals Guiding and lectures by our expedition leader and team Special Photo Workshop English-speaking expedition team Visual Journal link after voyage including voyage log, gallery, maps, species list and more! Full board on the ship - breakfast, lunch, dinner and afternoon snacks Free tea and coffee 24 hours daily Welcome and farewell cocktails Port and authority fees and taxes
	EXCLUSIONS Extra excursions and activities not mentioned in the itinerary Single room supplement and cabin upgrades Meals not on board the ship Beverages (other than coffee and tea) Tips for the crew (we recommend USD 14 per person per day) Personal expenses Anything not mentioned under 'Inclusions'
	Difficulty Rating 2 (light adventure)
	Single Surcharge Contact us for details.
	Notes Not Available
Price Dependent upon Season and availability.	

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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.

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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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