

ANTARCTICA - BEST OF ANTARCTICA: IN DEPTH | OCEAN ENDEAVOUR



INTRODUCTION

This is the ULTIMATE Antarctic Peninsula journey. More days on the peninsula at affordable prices!

Visiting Antarctica is nothing shy of mind blowing! After a formidable journey across the Drake Passage, the endless seascape will give way to great white ethereal vistas, sculptured by ice, and weathered by isolation. This journey will take you from Ushuaia to the South Shetland Islands and onto the Antarctic Peninsula where you will be swathed in the beauty of the most enigmatic place on earth and greeted by an abundance of wildlife. On this complete encounter, you will go on a deeper exploration than your average peninsula cruise and with the right conditions, venture over to the Weddell Sea where tabular icebergs lay and the history of Antarctic Exploration sighs in echoes through the rarely visited landscapes.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
ACAEAID
DEPARTURE
06/12/2024
DURATION
14 Days
LOCATIONS
Antarctic Sound, Lemaire Channel, Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands



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DAY 1: Arrival in Ushuaia

Welcome to the port city of Ushuaia for the beginning of your Antarctic adventure. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel to settle in before meeting your fellow travellers this evening at the welcome briefing. If you're arriving earlier there are plenty of activities to choose from in the area. Visit Tierra del Fuego National Park on a full day's adventure, tackle part of the Martial Mountains for a memorable view over the Beagle Channel, or perhaps just take a walk around town and enjoy the cafe scene. Please note: An arrival transfer from the airport is included if you arrive in Ushuaia on Day 1. On arrival at Ushuaia Airport, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel.



DAY 2: Ushuaia Embarkation

Explore the charming town of Ushuaia in the morning before embarking on your home away from home for your Antarctic expedition, the Ocean Endeavour. In the morning perhaps visit the Museo Maritimo to brush up on local history, or just enjoy a morning strolling this languid town. Board the Ocean Endeavour in the afternoon and meet your expedition team before taking a tour of the amenities and services available on the ship. After you have settled into your cabin, head out onto the outer decks to wave goodbye to Argentina and then find your sea legs as you say hello to the legendary Drake Passage. Next stop: Antarctica.



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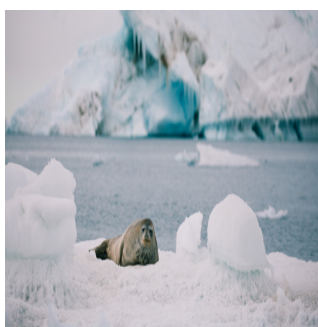
DAY 3: Crossing The Drake - Days 3 & 4

The next two days are all about relaxing and getting to know your team of polar experts as they share their in-depth knowledge about all things Antarctica. You will have the opportunity to enjoy presentations about the continent's geography, environment and wildlife. Spot seabirds flying with the Ocean Endeavour as she heads south to the Great White Continent, keeping an eye out for albatross on their migration route. Keep your eyes peeled for breaching whales and other marine mammals in the Southern Ocean as you cosy up with a drink at the bar while getting to know your fellow shipmates. If our lecture program by our expert guides is not enough to fill your days, the Ocean Endeavour's gym, polar library and sauna will keep you busy while crossing the Drake Passage. With favourable conditions, you should see your first sighting of land by early evening on day four.



DAY 5: East Antarctic Peninsula - Days 5 to 7

This is a true exploration, so all going to plan, today will see the ship's bow cruising around the eastern end of the Antarctic Sound, leaving you facing the wild coastlines of the Peninsula's eastern side. The vast Weddell Sea is edged by a seemingly endless coastline of basaltic beaches, islands that tower from the sea and collections of islands that few humans have laid eyes on. This is where British explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton and his crew began their legendary journey north after their ship 'Endurance' was crushed by sea ice and sank. There are so many potential landing sites from this location, like Paulet Island with its large Adelie penguin rookery and Swedish Antarctic expedition history; the sweeping Prince Gustav Channel to the south, and the protected and glacier-lined coves of Duse Bay. Spend the next few days exploring via Zodiac cruises and onshore excursions across a number of potential remote landing sites around the Eagle Island group. An average day onboard begins with a wake-up call from your expedition leader around 7am, giving you time to prepare for the day before joining your fellow expeditioners for breakfast in the Polaris restaurant. You will usually have two excursions per day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, with a delicious lunch served on the Ocean Endeavour in between excursions.



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DAY 8: West Antarctic Peninsula & S Shetland - Days 8-11

After three days exploring the peninsula's rarely visited east side, it's time to cross back through the Antarctic Sound for the better known, but no less spectacular, western shores. As the ship attempts to enter the sound, a collection of tabular icebergs typically serves as a gateway from east to west and locations like the Argentinean research station, Esperanza Station, and the volcanic cliffs of Brown Bluff are viable landing points along the way. For the next four days, explore well-known sites like Orne Harbour, Paradise Bay or Port Lockroy as you head on wildlife sightings, take to the Zodiacs for small group outings and soak up the unforgettable vistas that greet you at every turn. With multiple landing sites available, your expedition team will work out the best places to stop, taking into account the elements, accessibility and wildlife opportunities. You'll soon notice the contrast with the sense of isolation on the east side, as you won't find an excursion on the western side lasts long without a parade of penguins or marine mammal sightings. After four memorable days, the Ocean Endeavour will turn north, cross the Bransfield Strait and head through the South Shetland Islands. Now's the perfect time to join your crew and fellow explorers on the deck for a final toast to the Antarctic. No two days of any expedition are the same, and landing sites are subject to change depending on the elements and potential wildlife spotting opportunities, but our expert team of expedition guides will ensure that each day is memorable, offering you a sense of exploration and adventure unlike anywhere else on earth. An average day onboard begins with a wake-up call from your expedition leader around 7am, giving you time to prepare for the day before joining your fellow expeditioners for breakfast in the Polaris restaurant. You will usually have two excursions per day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, with a delicious lunch served on the Ocean Endeavour in between excursions.



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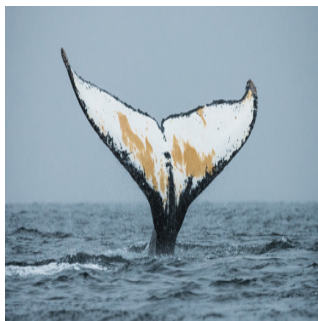
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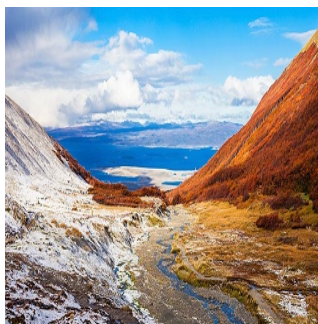
DAY 12: Drake Passage - Days 12 & 13

Settle back into the comfortable surroundings of the Ocean Endeavour for the return journey across the Drake Passage as you track north towards Cape Horn to your destination of Ushuaia, Argentina. This is your last chance to soak up the experience and knowledge of your expedition team before the end of your voyage, so make sure you join them on the outer decks with binoculars in hand to spot the surrounding wildlife. Now is also the chance to catch up with your shipmates and share stories about your voyage over a meal or a drink at the bar before bidding farewell.



DAY 14: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

This morning, following breakfast, farewell the Ocean Endeavour and your Expedition Team and ship's crew and staff as you disembark in Ushuaia. A transfer to Ushuaia airport or downtown is included if you're departing today. **SPECIAL INFORMATION** If you would like to stay on in Ushuaia beyond today or would like to explore South America, please speak to your booking agent to discuss options. If you are flying out today, please don't book your flight to depart Ushuaia before midday in case of any delays caused by unfavourable weather conditions. Please note: Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel & Cabin On board a Ship
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INCLUSIONS

All meals onboard the Ocean Endeavour including snacks
 Accommodation onboard the Ocean Endeavour in booked cabin category
 Onboard lecture program from Expeditions Team and Naturalists
 All applicable shore excursions and Zodiac cruising (except paid adventure options with cost)
 Use of rubber boots on land and use of waterproof outer shell jacket
 Insulated inner jacket, yours to keep at the end of the voyage
 Transfer from Ushuaia airport to hotel (Day 1) and pre-night hotel with breakfast
 Transfer from Ushuaia hotel accommodation to the Ocean Endeavour for embarkation
 Transports to Ushuaia airport on return to port
 All port taxes
 All landing fees
 Use of onboard gym, sauna, pool and jacuzzi and onboard yoga

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

International or internal flights unless specified
 Airport transfers, taxes and excess baggage charges unless specified
 Meals other than those specified in the pre-departure information
 Pre or post cruise travel expenses
 Visa (if applicable) and passport fees
 Travel insurance (compulsory)
 Fuel surcharge may be applied to all bookings
 Paid adventure options and all personal expenses
 Tobacco, alcoholic or beverages (other than coffee and tea)
 Miscellaneous extras
 Laundry and communication charges on board
 Gratuities for Expedition team and crew (recommended US\$15 per person per day)
 For minors under 16 years of age at time of travel; life jackets, waterproof outer shell jacket, insulated inner jacket and boots
 For guests who require larger sizing; Waterproof outer shell jacket, insulated inner jacket and rubber boots

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

Single Surcharge

Available on request. No single supplement if willing to share. Contact us for more details.

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Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated for triple/quad cabins)</p> <p>Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.</p> <p>Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.</p>
Price Dependent upon	<p>Departure Date, Fuel Surcharges, Cabin Category, Currency Fluctuations, Seasonality & Availability.</p>

SUSTAINABILITY

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