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



TRIP CODE
ACQEAPSE
DEPARTURE
27/10/2027, 09/11/2028
DURATION
18 Days
LOCATIONS
Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia

INTRODUCTION

Cruise aboard the deluxe, refined and spacious Ocean Explorer to discover the incredible wildlife of South Georgia, the "Galapagos of the Southern Ocean" and then Antarctica - untouched, pristine and unforgettable.

South Georgia offers unrivalled wildlife encounters, with beaches carpeted with king and macaroni penguins and the largest king penguin rookeries in the world. Antarctica is the land of extremes, silent and desolate, where the silence is broken only by the sound of calving glaciers crashing into the clear blue waters and noisy penguin colonies alive with chinstrap, Adelie and Gentoo penguins. Zodiac excursions take you amongst the icebergs whilst shore landings bring you in close contact with the wildlife, with opportunities to explore historic sites and maybe even take a Polar plunge!

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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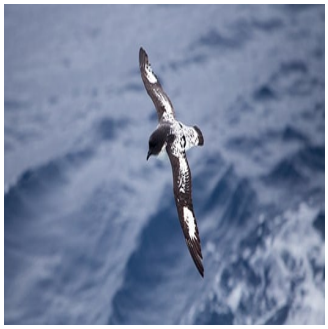
DAY 2: Embarkation in Ushuaia

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 rocky spires 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.



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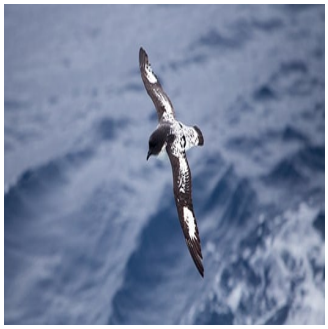
DAY 7: South Georgia - Day 7 to 9

After enjoying South Georgia from a distance, we'll head toward its numerous beaches to find a bay for your first excursion. Landing sites are varied, largely determined by the weather conditions of your voyage. The sites you visit will provide you with wildlife encounters unrivaled anywhere else on Earth. South Georgia is one of the most fertile breeding grounds in the world for sub-Antarctic wildlife, with beaches blanketed with penguins and seals. It won't take you long to realize that you are in a birder's paradise, as burrowing seabirds, albatross and petrels can be seen in abundance. 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. Grytviken possesses a special appeal largely because it's the site of the grave of Sir Ernest Shackleton, one of the most famous Antarctic explorers.



DAY 10: At Sea - Day 10 to 11

Say goodbye to the king penguins as you leave for your next destination: 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 on the 7th Continent.



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DAY 12: Antarctic Peninsula - Day 12 to 15

The most common reaction upon reaching Antarctica 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 a land of extremes. One moment you'll be overcome with a feeling of complete isolation and silence, and the next moment you'll be inspired by nature as a calving glacier crashes into a brilliant blue sea or a curious penguin waddles by to observe you. Your Expedition Team will take care of you at each excursion, whether you are Zodiac cruising, visiting a historical site or observing 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. Eachday and each excursion will present a new array 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 booking an optional paddling excursion (at an extra cost) or cast reason aside and jump into Antarctic waters for the Polar Plunge!



DAY 16: At Sea - Day 16 to 17

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.



DAY 18: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

You will arrive in Ushuaia in the morning, which allows you to continue your adventure onward or catch your flights home.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel & Cabin on ship
Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** Shipboard accommodation All meals & snacks on board throughout your voyage Beer, standard wines & spirits, & cocktails during pre-dinner bar service, dinner & evenings Coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock All scheduled landings/excursions Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition leader A photographic journey documenting the expedition Waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings Expedition parka to keep Comprehensive predeparture materials, including a map and an informative Antarctica Reader All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges All luggage handling aboard the ship All gratuities Group transfer in Ushuaia from the airport to the pre-expedition hotel on Day 1 One night's pre-expedition hotel accommodation in Ushuaia, with breakfast Group transfer from the hotel to the ship on embarkation day Group transfer upon disembarkation in Ushuaia from the ship to the local airport Free WiFi **EXCLUSIONS** Airfares to/from embarkation and disembarkation city/cities Passport and visa expenses Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above Meals ashore unless otherwise specified Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance Excess baggage fees on international flights Laundry and personal expenses incurred onboard Phone and internet charges Additional overnight accommodation Optional adventure activities
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, a supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please Contact Us for more information.

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Notes	Prices are based on per person, and vary from single, triple, and twin cabins. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. Any promotional discounts mentioned, including percentage discounts are off of berth costs only, with no discount on taxes, mandatory flight or transfer packages. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. *Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions. In rare and unforeseen situations, an operator may apply a fuel surcharge after your booking has been confirmed and paid. This is outside our control and uncommon, but transparency with our travelers is important to us.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability. Any promotional discounts mentioned, including percentage discounts are off of berth costs only, with no discount on taxes, mandatory flight or transfer packages.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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