ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER



TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

INTRODUCTION

This expedition combines Antarctica, the Weddell Sea and South Georgia in a single, in-depth polar journey, with a strong focus on wildlife encounters, photography and expedition-style exploration. Travelling by charter flight to Antarctica maximises time on the continent, while reduced passenger numbers, with a maximum of 100 guests, allow for more flexible and immersive experiences ashore and on the water.

Highlights include penguin colonies, seals and whales, the tabular icebergs of the Weddell Sea, and the major wildlife sites of South Georgia. Daily plans are shaped by weather, light and ice conditions, allowing time to focus on key wildlife activity and photographic opportunities, supported by expert-led lectures and photography workshops.

ITINERARY

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

DAY 1: Arrival in Punta Arenas

Arrive in Punta Arenas, where you will be met by a representative of Aurora Expeditions and transferred to our hotel. We ask that you arrive no later than 2:00pm on this day. In addition to ensuring your arrival in time for our important pre-flight briefings, if weather conditions deem it necessary, we may depart for King George Island on Day 1 as opposed to Day 2. Please visit the Aurora Expeditions hospitality desk in the lobby between 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm to collect your luggage cabin tags. Our team will confirm details regarding your embarkation day, answer any questions and provide you with information about where to dine or purchase last minute items. Overlooking the Straits of Magellan, the city sits astride one of the world's most historic trade routes. Today, Punta Arenas reflects a great blend of cultural backgrounds, from English sheep ranchers to Portuguese sailors. It remains an utterly fascinating testament to Chile's rich history. Modern day Punta Arenas is home to many popular restaurants, and bars, offering a mix of local and international fare (meals at your own expense today). At 7.00 pm this evening, meet your fellow expeditioners at a voyage briefing where we will reconfirm your transfer times for tomorrow, explain the procedures for your flight to King George Island and outline important IAATO regulations for visitors to Antarctica.



DAY 2: Fly to King George Island, Embarkation

This morning, we will be transferred to Punta Arenas airport for our charter flight to King George Island, Antarctica (weather permitting). The flight will take approximately one hour and forty-five minutes. On arrival into King George Island our expedition team is on hand to greet you and to prepare you for your Zodiac transfer to the vessel. You will have time to settle into your cabin before our important safety briefings. Note: Luggage restrictions apply to our charter flight, 1 x checked piece (<20kg) + 1 x carry-on piece (<7kg). The overhead bins of a BAE146 are substantially smaller than those on a regular commercial flight. Dimensions are Height: 45 cm / Width: 40 cm / Depth: 20 cm If your camera gear combined with your usual luggage means you may go over these weight limits, please let your reservations consultant know. As we have chartered the plane, we have some flexibility with the weight. If you would like to bring your camera gear on board with you, please take note of the overhead bin dimensions above, otherwise it will need to be placed under the seat in front of you or checked in. It is important to note that your checked luggage will be taken from the plane directly to the ship, and you will not have access to your checked luggage until it is brought to your cabin. Note: King George Island is located at the northern part of the Antarctic Peninsula in the South Shetland Islands and is one of the most remote places on Earth. A clear sky with perfect visibility is required for safe take-off and landing. A contingency plan will be applied to your itinerary should your flights not proceed today. Your safety is our utmost priority. We apologise in advance for any delays caused due to this unpredictable situation. Please refer to our terms and conditions for a more detailed explanation.



TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

DAY 3: Antarctic Peninsula - Days 3 to 7

It’s almost impossible to describe the feeling of arriving in Antarctica. Spotting your first iceberg and taking a deep breath of some of the most fresh, crisp air on earth is an experience that will stay with you forever. Your experienced expedition team, who have made countless journeys to this area, in partnership with our team of photography experts, will use their expertise to design your voyage from day to day, getting you in the best position based on the prevailing weather, ice conditions and wildlife opportunities. Flexibility is key on an Antarctic expedition, especially a photography expedition. Rest assured that if a wildlife event presents itself, or the light hits a glacier just right, the team will do what they can allow you more time to capture it, provided it is possible and safe to do so, of course! Once we arrive, the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland Islands are ours to explore, and we have a host of choices available to us. We generally make landings or Zodiac excursions twice a day, and the timings of these will depend on what the day brings us. You will want to rug up before joining Zodiac cruises along spectacular ice cliffs or among grounded icebergs, keeping watch for whales, seals and porpoising penguins. We have been known to have longer Zodiac excursions than originally planned... sometimes we are just presented with a special moment that cannot be missed. One can never know what wonders Mother Nature will serve up! And that is all part of the beauty and the fun of an expedition to the Antarctic. Keep an ear out for the creak and deep rumble of glaciers as they carve their way from summit to sea. With the engine turned off, take a quiet moment to experience the wonder of this incredible white continent. The Zodiac excursions are a major part of the expedition and on this voyage, we have reduced the passenger numbers on the voyage and in the Zodiacs. This will allow our photographers to manoeuvre around the Zodiacs to capture their subject matter with ease, as well as allow sufficient room for their gear. Zodiacs will also transport you from the ship to land, where you can visit penguin rookeries, discover historic huts and explore some of our favourite spots along the peninsula. While ashore, our expeditioners will be given a choice of how they would like to explore that site. Quite often, one of the options will be to hike up to a vantage point with mountains towering overhead and ice-speckled oceans below. The light can vary dramatically, depending on the weather on the day, but the view from the ridgeline never disappoints. We are travelling in the late summer, which is perfect for capturing the beauty of an Antarctic sunset. We plan to have some sunset excursions to take in the pastel-painted sky. If your focus is on the wildlife, you may choose to wander along pebbly beaches where you are likely to find a variety of penguins (in this area, mainly gentoo), seals, and birds. Occasionally you may capture a leopard seal coming close to shore to find a snack. Whichever option you choose, our team will be with you every step of the way. In addition to Zodiac cruises and shore excursions, we may ship cruise some of the narrow, dramatic straits separating offshore islands from the mainland, or linger in scenic bays to watch whales travelling or feeding. This is a great time to enjoy the library or the Observation Lounge, featuring huge windows and superb views. The bridge will be opened at the Captain’s discretion, which will give our photographers a different perspecti



TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

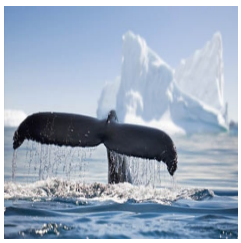
Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

DAY 8: Weddell Sea

Remote and inaccessible, entry into the Weddell Sea is highly prized among polar adventurers. Your passage begins at the northernmost extreme of the Antarctic Peninsula, in the beautifully barren Antarctic Sound. In this seldom-visited part of the Peninsula volcanic peaks tower above penguin colonies, and wave-sculpted icebergs parade through the deep channels leading to the Weddell Sea. Continuing further east, embrace the expedition spirit as you forge your way as far as possible into the Weddell Sea. The Weddell Sea is renowned for its breathtaking tabular icebergs and expansive sea ice, which attracts an abundance of wildlife, including crabeater seals, Weddell seals and an array of seabirds. Take some time out on deck to observe the flight of storm petrels, prions and Antarctic cormorants drawn here by the rich blooms of Antarctic krill that flourish in the shelter of this ice-covered sea. As you travel, take a moment to reflect on the truly historic seas you're sailing. It wasn't so far from here that the wreck of Ernest Shackleton's Endurance was discovered, mostly intact, on March 5, 2022. Researchers aboard the polar research vessel S.A. Agulhas II were astonished to find the well-preserved vessel only 6.4km (4 miles) south of the position calculated by Captain Worsley in 1915, when he last laid eyes on his ship.



DAY 9: Antarctic Sound and Elephant Island

Today we set a course for Elephant Island, the lonely outpost where 22 of Shackleton's men survived several winter months under the shelter of two upturned boats. Perhaps there will be a presentation today on the awe-inspiring story of Shackleton and his men, who spent 9 months stuck in Weddell Sea pack ice and 6 months camping on drifting sea ice before making a desperate escape from the sea ice in three open boats. They spent almost a week battling the wind, currents, swell and treacherous ice to finally make landfall on Elephant Island, a striking, ice-covered extremity of the South Shetland Islands, after 497 days at sea.



DAY 10: Elephant Island

Today we set a course for Elephant Island, the lonely outpost where 22 of Shackleton's men survived several winter months under the shelter of two upturned boats. Perhaps there will be a presentation today on the awe-inspiring story of Shackleton and his men, who spent 9 months stuck in Weddell Sea pack ice and 6 months camping on drifting sea ice before making a desperate escape from the sea ice in three open boats. They spent almost a week battling the wind, currents, swell and treacherous ice to finally make landfall on Elephant Island, a striking, ice-covered extremity of the South Shetland Islands, after 497 days at sea.



TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

DAY 11: Scotia Sea - Days 11 & 12

After an exciting program of excursions and activities in Antarctica, relax and enjoy the slower pace of sea days as you sail towards South Georgia. As you make your way across the Scotia Sea you're following the route taken by Shackleton and five of his men when they sailed from Elephant Island in search of rescue. In their open wooden boat, the James Caird, they spent 17 days sailing into the unknown across this perilous patch of ocean. This boat journey, which concluded with their safe arrival in King Haakon Bay on the west coast of South Georgia, remains one of the greatest stories of maritime navigation and survival in polar history. As you sail the onboard lecture program continues, with a series of entertaining presentations on South Georgia's wildlife, geology and history in the lecture room. Or you might prefer to simply unwind: take a long lunch, catch up on your gym sessions, or curl up with a book from our polar library. The Scotia Sea is known for its abundant wildlife including fin, humpback and blue whales. Keep watch for these gentle giants and elusive orca, which patrol these waters. Venture out on deck with your camera to capture cape petrels and prions wheeling, and albatross soaring gracefully amidst the swell.



TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

DAY 13: South Georgia - Days 13 to 16

As you near the rugged island of South Georgia, spare a thought for Captain James Cook, who arrived here in 1775 and believed it to be the northern tip of a great southern continent! In fact, it is a small island only 176 km (110 mi) long, but with a 3,000 m (9,842 ft) snow-capped mountain range, some of the world's largest congregations of wildlife and a truly fascinating human history, South Georgia is an island of incredible riches. As you approach, jagged mountain peaks rise steeply, while seabirds are often spotted soaring around the ship. You will sail along the coast, taking in the spectacular glaciated scenery and enjoying a little shelter from the prevailing westerly winds. This enchanting coastline is yours to explore! Zodiac cruise around craggy coves and along the rocky coastline in search of penguins, seal haul-outs and bird cliffs. Remember to keep an eye out for South Georgia's kelp forests—these remarkable underwater ecosystems are quite mesmerising as their fronds sway back and forth on the water's surface. Zodiacs will also shuttle you from ship to shore, where you can visit some of the largest king penguin colonies on Earth, take a guided walk among fur seals and elephant seals (making sure you listen to your guides and keep your distance!) and wander along pebbled streams and grassy glacial outwash plains. We also hope to visit the remnants of South Georgia's thriving whaling stations and visit the final resting place of Sir Ernest Shackleton, whose incredible voyage of survival is synonymous with this island. In addition to Zodiac cruises and shore excursions, we may ship-cruise through fjords with towering cliffs of ancient stone, or into deeply indented bays towards dramatic glacier fronts. This is a great time to find a comfy spot in the observation lounge to enjoy uninterrupted views of South Georgia's majestic coast. For some intrepid Shackleton fans, the optional hike from Fortuna Bay to Stromness will be a highlight. This route follows the final stage of Shackleton, Worsely and Crean's improbable traverse of South Georgia, from their landing place in King Haakon Bay on the east coast to Stromness in the west, where they finally found safety after 24 harrowing months at sea. From Fortuna Bay the trail rises to a spectacular alpine plateau, before angling steeply down towards the abandoned Stromness whaling station. Conditions permitting, we aim to repeat this final section of their traverse. "Bright moonlight showed us that the interior was tremendously broken," Shackleton wrote. "High peaks, impassable cliffs, steep snow- slopes, and sharply descending glaciers could be seen in all directions."



TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

DAY 17: At Sea Falklands Islands - Day 17 to 19

As we sail from South Georgia, you will be enthralled by the ceaseless flight of the many seabirds that follow the vessel, skilfully using the air currents created by the ship to gain momentum. If time and weather conditions permit, we could pass close to Shag Rocks, a fascinating group of jagged rocky islets protruding from the sea, in the proximity of South Georgia. As we sail on towards Ushuaia you may choose to spend your final precious moments at sea soaking up the views on deck, enjoying the onboard facilities, or attending final lectures. There is plenty of time to enjoy the magic of the Southern Ocean, have a drink with newfound friends and reflect on the voyage you've shared. On the final night, celebrate your unforgettable voyage with newfound friends at a special Captain's farewell dinner. We hope you will become ambassadors for the Antarctic region, telling your family, friends and colleagues about your journey to this magical place, and advocating for its conservation so that they might one day visit the region to experience what you have been lucky to see and do here.



DAY 20: Disembark in Ushuaia

During the early morning, we cruise up the Beagle Channel, before quietly slipping into dock in Ushuaia, where we will be free to disembark around 8.00 am. Farewell your expedition team and fellow passengers as we all continue our onward journeys, hopefully with a newfound sense of the immense power of nature. Upon disembarkation, for those continuing their travels in the region, transportation to the hotel will be arranged exclusively for guests who have booked their accommodations through Aurora or for those staying in downtown areas near the port. Expeditioners departing on flights prior to 12.30 pm will be directly transferred to Ushuaia Airport, those with flights after 12.30 pm will have the opportunity to explore Ushuaia before an afternoon airport transfer, and the transfer procedures and details will be communicated onboard before disembarkation. Note: At the conclusion of the voyage, we do not recommend booking flights departing Ushuaia prior to 12.00 pm on the day of disembarkation in case there are delays. Please note: At the conclusion of the voyage, we do not recommend booking flights departing Ushuaia prior to 12.00 pm on the day of disembarkation in case there are delays. Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel & Cabin on board a ship

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** All airport transfers mentioned in the itinerary. One night's hotel accommodation including breakfast, in Punta Arenas on Day 1. Charter flight from Punta Arenas to King George Island. Onboard accommodation during voyage, including daily cabin service. All meals, snacks, tea and coffee during voyage. Beer, house wine and soft drinks with dinner. Captain's Farewell reception including four-course dinner, house cocktails, house beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages. All shore excursions and Zodiac cruises. Educational lectures and guiding services provided by Expedition Team. One 3-in-1 waterproof, polar expedition jacket. Complimentary use of Muck Boots during the voyage. Comprehensive pre-departure information. Port surcharges, permits and landing fees. Wi-Fi (Please note we travel to remote regions and therefore the connection can be unreliable) **EXCLUSIONS** International or domestic flights, unless specified Transfers not mentioned in the itinerary Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Airport arrival or departure taxes Travel insurance Hotels and meals not included in itinerary Optional excursions not included in the itinerary Optional activity surcharges All items of a personal nature, including but not limited to alcoholic beverages and soft drinks (outside of dinner service), laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, wi-fi, email or phone charges. Gratuities for ship's crew - (*A $15 USD per person per day gratuity for the crew is automatically added to your onboard account. It is at your discretion if you would like to remove the tip (or adjust the amount) when you settle your bill. It is not necessary to tip the expedition team members. This gratuity amount is included for suites as part of their 'Suite Benefits'*.)
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. Single occupancy cabins may be available with a surcharge. Subject to availability, contact us for more details.

TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA - SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTICA: THROUGH THE LENS | GREG MORTIMER

Notes	Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated for triple/quad cabins) Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. *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.

SUSTAINABILITY

TRIP CODE

ACAUGSGA

DEPARTURE

27/02/2028

DURATION

20 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula, & South Georgia

Copyright Chimu Adventures. All rights reserved 2024. Chimu Adventures PTY LTD