ANTARCTICA - THE WHITE CONTINENT (SMITHSONIAN JOURNEYS) | L'AUSTRAL



TRIP CODE

ACPOWAS

DEPARTURE

16/01/2027

DURATION

12 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula

INTRODUCTION

Enjoy exploring the White Continent on the luxury expedition ship, L'Austral. On this 11 day voyage you will explore the icy realms of Antarctica. Start by crossing the infamous Drake Passage, where you will be able to spot a range of seabirds who accompany the ship on it's jouney south. On arrival in Antarctica you will enjoy a range of excursions that are guided by the expert onboard expedition crew. Look out for Gentoo, AdÃ©lie, and Chinstrap penguins, Humpack whales, seals and a range of birds. Onboard you will enjoy a range of dining, entertainment and lectures.

This voyage is run in conjunction with Smithsonian Journeys and in addition to the usual elements of the experience, the listed price for these voyages includes transfers to and from the ship, talks and discussions aboard ship by world class experts, and a shore excursion or activity in each port of call that encourages guests to embrace the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of the local environment and culture.

ITINERARY

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DAY 1: Arrival in Buenos Aires

Your cruise package includes a pre-voyage night in Buenos Aires. Here you will have a meet and greet at your hotel by our local representative. Buenos Aires, Argentina's elegant, historic and cosmopolitan capital, is known as the "Paris of the South" due to its European atmosphere with glamorous avenues lined with fashionable shops and Parisian-style restaurants and cafes. Located on the western shore of the estuary of the Río de la Plata, Buenos Aires has many fascinating neighbourhoods to explore including the colourful and lively La Boca, home to art galleries and tango shows; San Telmo with its restored mansions and antique stores and Recoleta, the city's most exclusive area. Please Note: Check in is scheduled for the late morning. You will have time at your leisure to explore the city in the afternoon.



DAY 2: Embarkation

Capital of Argentina's Tierra del Fuego province, Ushuaia is considered the gateway to the White Continent and the South Pole. Nicknamed "El fin del mundo" by the Argentinian people, this city at the end of the world nestles in the shelter of mountains surrounded by fertile plains that the wildlife seem to have chosen as the ultimate sanctuary. With its exceptional site, where the Andes plunge straight into the sea, Ushuaia is one of the most fascinating places on earth, its very name evocative of journeys to the unlikely and the inaccessible.



DAY 3: Crossing the Drake Passage - Day 3 & 4

Use your days spent in the Drake Passage to familiarise yourself with your ship and deepen your knowledge of the Antarctic. The Expedition Leader will first present the IAATO rules of conduct that must be observed during landings in the region and will explain everything you need to know about the zodiac outings. Lectures about the history and wildlife of the Antarctic will be an opportunity for you to learn more about this magical region, where every cruise is a unique experience. You will experience exceptional sailing moments on board and join the naturalist-guides on your ship's exterior decks to look out for albatrosses, cape petrels, and other seabirds flying over the Drake Passage.



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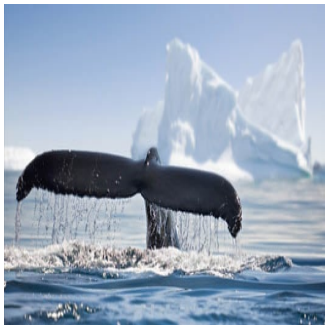
DAY 5: Antarctic Peninsula - Day 5 to 9

Succumb to the magic of a place unlike any other. To this day, the mythical Antarctic Peninsula still holds real fascination and promises its visitors unforgettable moments. Throughout your adventure in this icy realm, you will find yourself in the heart of a spectacular decor in subtle shades of blue and white, surrounded by exceptional wildlife. Penguins, humpback whales, seals and giant petrels are at home here, as are elephant seals, fur seals, Antarctic minke whales, and orcas. Depending on which sites you will be lucky enough to visit, you may get the chance to observe them and share with them the beauty of these extreme parts. Each day, based on ice conditions, the Captain and the Expedition Leader will suggest zodiac outings or landings to discover the infinite riches of the Antarctic Peninsula. Glaciers, ice floe, tabletop icebergs, mountain peaks that plunge straight into the sea, volcanic beaches, research stations, enchanting bays, and vestiges of the whaling industry: these are the faces of the Antarctic that will likely reveal themselves to you, in a hushed and surreal atmosphere. You will sail in the wake of Jean-Baptiste Charcot, Adrien de Gerlache and Sir Ernest Shackleton, great Antarctic explorers who, from the 19th century, set out to conquer these remote and uninhabited lands.



DAY 10: Crossing the Drake Passage - Day 10 & 11

If there is one place, one sea, one waterway dreaded by tourists, researchers and hardened seafarers alike, it is undoubtedly Drake Passage. Situated at the latitude of the infamous Furious Fifties winds, between Cape Horn and the South Shetland Islands, it is the shortest route to connect Antarctica to South America. Seasoned navigators will tell you that you must earn your visit to the White Continent! As the Antarctic convergence zone where cold currents rising up from the South Pole meet warmer equatorial water masses, Drake Passage harbours a very diverse marine fauna. Don't forget to look to the sky to catch a glimpse of elegant albatross and Cape petrels, playfully floating about in the wind around your ship.



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DAY 12: Disembarkation

Capital of Argentina's Tierra del Fuego province, Ushuaia is considered the gateway to the White Continent and the South Pole. Nicknamed “El fin del mundo” by the Argentinian people, this city at the end of the world nestles in the shelter of mountains surrounded by fertile plains that the wildlife seem to have chosen as the ultimate sanctuary. With its exceptional site, where the Andes plunge straight into the sea, Ushuaia is one of the most fascinating places on earth, its very name evocative of journeys to the unlikely and the inaccessible.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board a ship & hotel
Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** 1 night of accommodation in Buenos Aires Group transfers to/from the Airport in Buenos Aires Cabin accommodation whilst on board L'Austral Flights from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia (economy class) Group transfers in Ushuaia from Port to Airport All meals whilst on board Open bar (no premium brands) Mini bar in your stateroom (Champagne additional fee) Scheduled landings and excursions, conditions permitting Guiding and lectures by expedition team Complimentary Polar expedition jacket Free use of rubber boots for shore excursions All port taxes Comprehensive pre and post voyage informational material Free WIFI **EXCLUSIONS** Airfares other than specified Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel Insurance Personal expenses such as laundry Gratuities for the crew (recommend US$15 per person per day) Optional Activities not mentioned in itinerary
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)

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Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.
Notes	Prices are based on per person, twin share. 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. An arrival transfer will be provided on arrival in Buenos Aires if arriving as part of the pre-cruise package the day before embarkation ONLY. Transfers are available from Ministro Pistarini International Airport (EZE) or Aeroparque Jorge Newbery (AEP) and will take you to the pre-departure hotel. 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.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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