

ANTARCTICA - ANTARCTIC PENINSULA: FLY THE DRAKE | DOUGLAS MAWSON




INTRODUCTION

This fly in, fly out Antarctic expedition is designed for those who want to spend less time at sea and more time exploring the continent itself. Beginning in Punta Arenas, you'll take a charter flight straight to King George Island, where your ship awaits, turning what is usually a long ocean crossing into a quick and memorable arrival over the Southern Ocean.

Once in Antarctica, the focus shifts fully to exploration. Along the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands, days are flexible and shaped by conditions, with regular Zodiac cruises and shore landings that bring you alongside seals, whales, penguin colonies, and striking ice formations. With long daylight hours and a small group on board, there's plenty of time to take it all in before flying back to Punta Arenas, wrapping up a trip that feels immersive without the long haul at sea.

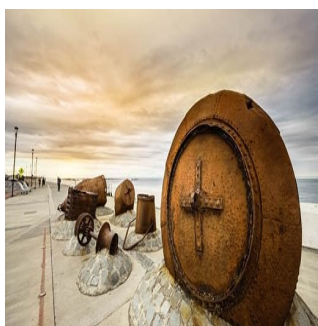
ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
ACAEFD8D
DEPARTURE
10/01/2028
DURATION
8 Days
LOCATIONS
Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula


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DAY 1: Arrive 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.



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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: 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.




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DAY 3: Antarctic Peninsula - Day 3 to 6

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. Once we arrive, the western side of the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland Islands are ours to explore, and we have a host of choices available to us. Because we are so far south, we will experience approximately 18-24 hours of daylight and the days can be as busy as you wish. Your experienced expedition team, who have made countless journeys to this area, will use their expertise to design your voyage from day to day, choosing the best options based on the prevailing weather, ice conditions and wildlife opportunities. We generally make landings or Zodiac excursions twice a day. 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. 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 we aim to stretch our legs, wandering along pebbly beaches or perhaps up snow-covered ridgelines to vantage points with mountains towering overhead and ice-speckled oceans below. If you have chosen an optional activity, you will have the option to do that whenever conditions allow, and of course keen polar plungers will have the chance to fully immerse themselves in polar waters - conditions permitting! 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. Keep an ear out for the creak and deep rumble of glaciers as they carve their way from summit to sea. Take a quiet moment to experience the wonder of this incredible white continent.




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DAY 7: Fly from King George Island to Punta Arenas

As we approach Frei Base on King George Island, it is time to farewell Antarctica and our amazing adventure before boarding our flight (approximately one hour and forty-five minutes) to Punta Arenas, Chile. There is time for reflection and discussion about what we have seen and experienced. We hope you become ambassadors for Antarctica telling your family, friends and colleagues about your journey to this magical place, advocating for its conservation and preservation so that they might one day visit the region to experience what you have been lucky to see and do here. From Punta Arenas airport, you will be transferred to our group hotel for an overnight stay. Note: King George Island is located at the northern tip 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. We apologise in advance for any possible delays.



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DAY 8: Depart Punta Arenas

After breakfast, bid a fond farewell to your fellow travellers as we continue our onward journeys, hopefully with a newfound sense of the immense power of nature (breakfast included). A transfer to the airport is included in the voyage fare. Note: Should your flight not proceed due to local conditions; you will remain on the ship until it is deemed achievable to return to Punta Arenas. Refer to our terms and conditions for further details. *Please note: Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Hotel & Cabin on board a ship

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INCLUSIONS

All airport transfers mentioned in the itinerary.
 Two night's hotel accommodation including breakfast, in Punta Arenas on Day 1 and Day 7.
 Return charter flight between Punta Arenas and 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)

Inclusions

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.

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<p>Notes</p>	<p>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</p> <p><i>Return charter flight from Punta Arenas to King George Island (on Days 2 and 7) is included in cruise cost.</i></p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Price Dependent upon</p>	<p>Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.</p>

SUSTAINABILITY

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