

ANTARCTICA - ULTIMATE ANTARCTICA ADVENTURE FROM USHUAIA TO DUNEDIN | SH MINERVA



INTRODUCTION

This semi-circumnavigation of Antarctica offers an in-depth expedition across remote regions rarely visited by travellers. You will spend time exploring volcanic calderas, major ice shelves, and remote coastal habitats of the Antarctic Peninsula, the Ross Sea, and isolated islands such as Peter I, Shepard, and the Balleny Islands. Encounter the incredible wildlife such as the iconic Emperor, Adelie, Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguins as well as multiple species of whale, seals and an abundance of seabirds across the sub-Antarctic ecosystem. The Ross Sea region provides insight into early polar exploration, with preserved expedition sites and vast wildlife colonies.


Throughout the voyage, days at sea are balanced with expert-led lectures, wildlife watching from deck, and access to onboard amenities. Crossing the Antarctic Circle and the International Date Line adds unique milestones to the journey. The cruise concludes in New Zealand after navigating some of the Southern Ocean's most significant natural and historic polar regions.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive Buenos Aires

Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met by a representative and transferred to your hotel in Buenos Aires. This evening, enjoy the hotel's amenities or take advantage of your free time to explore the city.



TRIP CODE
ACSHMUA
DEPARTURE
02/02/2027, 03/02/2028
DURATION
34 Days
LOCATIONS
Antarctic Peninsula, Antarctica, East Antarctica & New Zealand Subantarctic Islands


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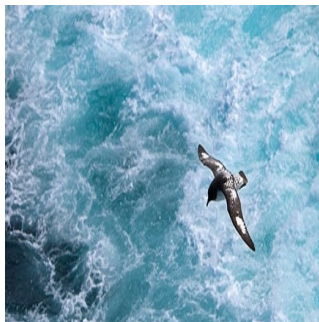
DAY 2: Fly to Ushuaia & Embarkation in Ushuaia

This morning, you will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to the airport in time for your charter flight to Ushuaia. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to the cruise ship for embarkation. Ushuaia is the gateway to the White Continent. Nestled in the foothills of the snow-capped Martial Range in Argentina's Patagonia region, Ushuaia's colourful streets and mismatched buildings cascade from the imposing mountains before coming to an abrupt halt at the shores of the Beagle Channel. Often described as 'the End of the World', the city carries the reputation well - the moody weather and dramatic surroundings certainly help.



DAY 3: At Sea - Day 3 & 4

Spend your day at sea enjoying the facilities available onboard. Head to the sauna, get in a workout in the state-of-the-art gym or relax in the hot tub while taking in incredible views along the way. If you prefer to learn a little more about your surroundings, listen to an informative talk or have a chat with one of our knowledgeable experts.



DAY 5: South Shetland Islands

Your first true taste of Antarctica comes fast in the South Shetlands, where jagged ridgelines, penguin shores, and active geology sit within a single horizon. At Discovery Bay on Greenwich Island, the scene is classic High Latitude: a sheltered inlet backed by snow and rock, with the quiet presence of research outposts and the sense that you've crossed into the polar world. Later, Deception Island delivers a rare spectacle: an active volcanic caldera you can sail into, with black-sand beaches and steam-warmed ground in places. A call at Fort Point gives you a front-row look at the island's stark coastal drama, while Whalers Bay brings the human story into focus with haunting remnants of the whaling era set against an otherworldly volcanic amphitheatre.



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DAY 6: Antarctic Peninsula - Day 6 & 7

Among captivating glaciers, majestic icebergs and snowy islands, the Antarctic Peninsula is where most visitors to the White Continent live their Antarctica dream. It's the most accessible part, with scientific bases and incredible scenery, like the photogenic Lemaire Channel. Shore excursions might include Mikkelsen Harbour, where among gentoo penguins, snowy sheathbills and skuas, Antarctic Weddell seals haul out.



DAY 8: At Sea - Day 8 & 9

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DAY 10: Peter Island, Bellingshausen Sea

The magnitude of translucent bergs silently floating on crystal-clear seas is often broken up by the tail of a fluking whale and leopard seals resting on an ice floe. Rarely visited by ships, the ice-covered volcanic Peter I island in Bellingshausen Sea is claimed by Norway and is home to elephant seals, cape pigeons and southern fulmars. Two of the largest islands in the Antarctic - Alexander and Thurston Islands - lie past Peter I Island.



DAY 11: At Sea - Day 11 to 13

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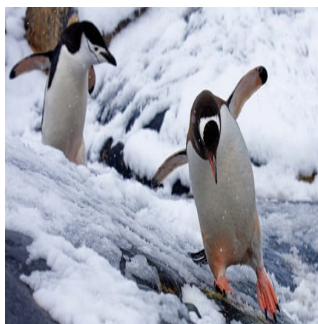
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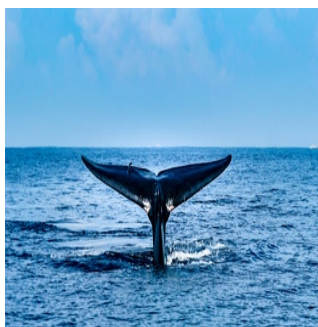
DAY 14: Shepard Island

In one of the most remote areas of Antarctica, volcanic Shepard Island is an 11-mile stretch of wilderness near Grant Island off Marie Byrd Land’s unclaimed coast. It is ice-capped except along its northern, seaward side, where it is almost entirely embedded in the Getz Ice Shelf. The exposed northern shores provide sanctuary for chinstrap penguins and skuas in this remote polar refuge.



DAY 15: At Sea

Spend your day at sea enjoying the facilities available onboard. Head to the sauna, get in a workout in the state-of-the-art gym or relax in the hot tub while taking in incredible views along the way. If you prefer to learn a little more about your surroundings, listen to an informative talk or have a chat with one of our knowledgeable experts.



DAY 16: Bay Of Whales

The Bay of Whales was Antarctica’s key natural harbor, an ice-bound inlet by the Ross Ice Shelf near Roosevelt Island and Cape Colbeck. As the southernmost navigable waters, it was the closest ship approach to the South Pole. The original bay vanished in 1987 when iceberg B-9 calved, but new embayments may form. It supported whaling and was Amundsen’s base for his 1911 South Pole triumph, 60 miles ahead of Scott.



DAY 17: Crossing the International Date Line

Experience time travel first-hand as you cross the international date line. This imaginary line in the Pacific Ocean joins the South Pole to the North Pole and roughly follows 180 degrees longitude with a deviation east to the 150-degree meridian to include the Kiribati and Line Islands. Sailors celebrate the passing with the Ceremony of the Domain of the Golden Dragon. On our transpacific journey, you will lose a day as you cross the line.



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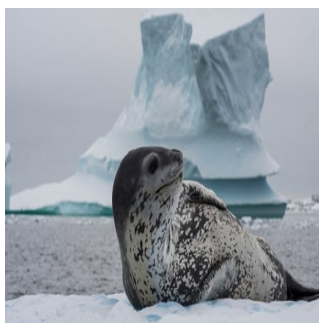
DAY 18: Ross Sea - Days 18 to 24

One of the last untouched salt-water wilderness regions, the Ross Sea region is home to an abundance of wildlife - southern right whales, orca, emperor penguins, parakeets and elephant seals, to name a few. Antarctica's largest Adelie penguin colony is located on the shores of the Ross Sea. This faraway place also exudes polar history - many of the expedition huts of past explorers are still perfectly preserved.



DAY 25: Balleny Islands - Day 25 & 26

The Balleny Islands, 2,000 km south of New Zealand near Antarctica, remain mostly untouched since their discovery in 1839. The Ross Sea surrounding them is a biologically rich area in the Southern Ocean, still under research. These dramatic coastal landscapes are home to humpback, fin and minke whales, along with crabeater, Weddell, elephant and leopard seals. Some islands host significant Adélie and chinstrap penguin colonies.



DAY 27: At Sea - Day 27 to 29

Spend your day at sea enjoying the facilities available onboard. Head to the sauna, get in a workout in the state-of-the-art gym or relax in the hot tub while taking in incredible views along the way. If you prefer to learn a little more about your surroundings, listen to an informative talk or have a chat with one of our knowledgeable experts.



DAY 30: Cruising Sub-Antarctic Islands - Day 30 to 32

Over these days at sea, you cruise through one of the planet's great wildlife sanctuaries: New Zealand's Sub-Antarctic Islands, protected for their exceptional ecosystems and breeding colonies. These remote islands are famed for their seabirds, including albatrosses and petrels, and for shorelines where you may spot sea lions and seals in wild, wind-sculpted settings that feel truly at the edge of the world. Expect the rhythm of expedition cruising: long horizons from deck, fresh expert commentary as conditions shift, and the quiet excitement of scanning for life in the sky and on the water as you move between these far-southern outposts.



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DAY 33: Disembarkation in Dunedin - Day 33 & 34

Known as the Edinburgh of New Zealand, Dunedin, on the South Island, is set in a pretty bay that serves as a port. Surrounded by bush-covered hills, the town is one of the best-preserved Victorian and Edwardian cities in the Southern Hemisphere. It's proud of its Celtic connections with New Zealand's only castles. Elaborate civic buildings, funky alleyways filled with street art, and picturesque parks add to the appeal. Upon arrival in Dunedin, you will be transferred from the cruise ship to the airport in time for your onward flight. *Please note: Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship & Hotel
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INCLUSIONS

Cabin accommodation on board ship in selected stateroom
 All meals onboard throughout your voyage.
 Complimentary hot & cold beverages, beer, wine & spirits
 24-hour room service
 24/7 self-service laundry
 All scheduled expedition landings
 One selected shore excursion per port of call
 Lecture programs by expedition team and guest speakers
 A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for landings and Zodiac cruising excursions
 A branded parka (yours to keep)
 Waterproof backpack and refillable water bottle (yours to keep)
 A Memory Package documenting the expedition
 Onboard gratuities & port taxes
 Entry level WI-FI (upgraded packages available)
MANDATORY CRUISE PLUS PACKAGE (INCLUDED)
 Group transfers from airport to hotel in Buenos Aires, to the airport in Buenos Aires and to the Ushuaia Airport to the cruise port for embarkation as well as group transfers in Dunedin, New Zealand to the airport upon disembarkation.
 One night pre-cruise accommodation in a 4/5-star hotel with breakfast in Buenos Aires
 Includes economy class one-way charter flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia.

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

International flights
 Any other pre or post land arrangements not mentioned above
 Passport and visa expenses
 Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above
 Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended
 Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned
 Meals ashore unless otherwise specified
 Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights
 Other personal charges unless specified
 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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<p>Notes</p>	<p>Prices are based on per person, and vary from single and twin cabins. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. Includes one night pre-cruise accommodation in a 4/5-star hotel with breakfast in Buenos Aires, Argentina & economy class one-way charter flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia on day of embarkation.</p> <p>Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions*</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. Any Promotional Pricing has already been applied to the published 'From' price.</p>

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SUSTAINABILITY