

ANTARCTICA - EXPEDITION ANTARCTICA: WEDDELL SEA INTENSIVE | HANSEATIC INSPIRATION



INTRODUCTION


This 22-day expedition delivers an in-depth exploration of the Antarctic Peninsula, Weddell Sea, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands, as well as remote sub-Antarctic island groups, with a flexible route shaped by weather, ice, and wildlife conditions. Designed for travelers seeking an active Antarctic experience, the voyage features regular Zodiac operations for shore landings, close-range wildlife encounters and guided walks, all led by an experienced onboard team of polar experts.

Throughout the journey, guests may encounter an extraordinary range of wildlife, including rockhopper, king, gentoo, and Adélie penguins, along with whales, seals and diverse seabirds. Highlights include seal haulouts along remote coastlines, vast penguin colonies in South Georgia and whale sightings in nutrient-rich Antarctic waters. Expert guides accompany all excursions, providing insight into polar ecosystems, geology, and the legacy of early exploration, with visits to historic sites linked to Ernest Shackleton and former whaling operations when conditions allow.

The ship's expedition capabilities enable navigation through iceberg fields, pack ice and narrow passages such as the Lemaire Channel, as well as visits to remote island groups including the South Shetlands and South Orkneys. Scenic experiences may include cruising iceberg-filled channels, entering volcanic calderas, viewing large tabular icebergs unique to the Weddell Sea, and exploring ice shelves, glaciers and coastal landing sites. When permitted, guests may also visit active scientific research stations, gaining insight into modern polar research.

With its small-ship design enhancing maneuverability and access, the voyage emphasizes environmental awareness, safety, and maximizing time ashore. Flexible routing ensures the best possible opportunities for landings, wildlife viewing and meaningful exploration, delivering a true expedition experience shaped by nature and discovery rather than a fixed itinerary.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
ACHLWSI
DEPARTURE
13/12/2026
DURATION
22 Days
LOCATIONS
Falkland Islands, South Georgia, & Antarctic Peninsula


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DAY 1: Fly from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia & Fly to Ushuaia

Today you will board your charter flight to Ushuaia where the adventure begins. Upon landing at the airport in Ushuaia you will be met by a representative and transferred to the cruise ship for embarkation. The Expedition Team and ship staff will welcome you on board and help you get settled in, followed by a safety and orientation briefing and a welcome dinner. We're on our way to Antarctica!



DAY 2: At Sea

Today is a day to settle into life on board as we sail from Ushuaia toward the Falkland Islands. Enjoy the ship's amenities and take in the open views of the Southern Ocean. Keep watch for seabirds and marine life as the adventure begins to unfold.



DAY 3: Falkland Islands - Day 3 & 4

The British overseas territory has more than just a turbulent history; discover its impressive birdlife. Experience this unique ecosystem, which is home to around 60 species, during Zodiac landings. Together with your experts, you can observe rockhopper and Magellanic penguins, who share their habitat with kelp geese, striated caracaras, king cormorants as well as black-browed and wandering albatrosses. Natural history walks take you past the island's typical dwarf shrubs and tall tussock grass. The first human footprints on the Falkland Islands date back to 1690, and it wasn't until 1764 that the first settlement was established. The small capital city of Stanley has a very British feel to it today. The former whaling and sealing settlement boasts Victorian houses, small gardens and the southernmost Anglican church in the world.



DAY 5: At Sea - Day 5 & 6

Enjoy a couple days at sea as we continue toward South Georgia Island. Take advantage of the ship's amenities and the ever-changing views of the Southern Ocean. Keep an eye out for seabirds and marine life along the way.



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DAY 7: South Georgia - Day 7 to 9


Days of adventure and great experiences lie ahead of you, when rugged peaks on the horizon signal your approach to this unique animal paradise. South Georgia is often referred to as the "cold Serengeti". Hundreds of thousands of king penguins blanket the island's coastlines and mountain slopes. On numerous trips and landings with the Zodiacs, you will experience the animal world from a respectful distance. With a little luck, you will see elephant seals fighting over a harem or gentoo and king penguins in their natural habitat. Your experts, who have extensive experience in the Antarctic, will familiarise you with the flora and fauna. The pioneering days of polar research will come to life for you in Grytviken: in the former whaling station, you will visit the grave of Sir Ernest Shackleton and commemorate the heroic efforts with which he once saved his crew.



DAY 10: At Sea

Today is a day to relax and enjoy life on board as we sail toward Antarctica. Take in the vast scenery of the Southern Ocean as anticipation builds for the next stage of the journey. Keep watch for seabirds and passing marine life as we continue south.




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DAY 11: Antarctic Peninsula - Day 11 to 20

The South Orkney Islands, a small group of islands with a surface area of around 620 km² (239 mi²), are located in the Scotia Sea. A lonely, glaciated world with ice deserts - and more animal species than on the Galapagos Islands, as scientists have discovered. Who would guess there are around 1,200 animal species here? The South Orkney Islands are home to numerous varieties of penguin, whale and seal, as well as leopard seals. With luck, you will also see icebergs drifting off the rugged coast. In contrast, the Argentinian Orcadas research station - which has been staffed since 1904 - houses just a few people. Depending on the conditions and approval from the station, you will land in the Zodiacs to gain an impression of the isolated life of the polar researchers in the area. The South Shetland Islands form a long chain in the ocean. The island group opens up exciting chapters of Antarctic exploration and provides expert insights into geology. Here, your small manoeuvrable ship can again prove its expedition capability when it sails into the flooded caldera of the extinct volcano that forms Deception Island. Flanked by rock faces up to 50 m (164 ft) in height, the black sand in front of you gives off steam as a testament to a past eruption - and you in the heart of the scenery. Elephant Island, where history surrounds you, is legendary: polar explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton and his crew spent months here after abandoning their ship in the ice. You, too, will be enchanted by the scenery. Jagged crags loom fiercely on the horizon and the evening sun casts a delicate pink glow over the snowfields. This expedition takes you in a flexible route towards adventure through the Weddell Sea. The ice cracks and crunches around the ship's reinforced bow, conveying just how challenging the hardships were that the pioneers of polar research had to endure. Where weather and ice conditions dictate the route, the experienced crew reacts flexibly and spontaneously to provide you with unforgettable expedition moments. The Weddell Sea is home to spectacular ice formations - from majestic tabular icebergs occupied by Adelie penguins to ice shelves as tall as white cliffs and dense carpets of pack ice. How far into this region can the expedition ship actually make it? The Antarctic Peninsula, part of the coldest continent on Earth, may seem inhospitable at first glance, but it is actually a paradise for countless animal species that have adapted perfectly. Enjoy unforgettable moments when, for example, you set foot on the Antarctic mainland near to Paradise Bay. Snow-covered peaks, imposing icebergs and towering glaciers surround you. Unbelievable views also await you in the bay of Neko Harbor with its rocky massifs. On Petermann Island, look out for gentoo and Adelie penguins as well as blue-eyed cormorants, which have their breeding colonies here. One of the most impressive shipping passages in the world is the Lemaire Channel: mountains up to 1,000 m (3,281 ft) high line the strait of water.

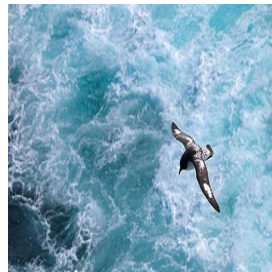


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DAY 21: Crossing the Drake Passage


Today is a day to unwind and reflect as we sail north across the Drake Passage toward Ushuaia. Enjoy the comfort of the ship, take in the sweeping ocean views, and keep watch for seabirds and marine life along the way. It is a wonderful time to revisit the memories of your Antarctic adventure as the journey gradually comes to an end.



DAY 22: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

Upon arrival in Ushuaia, you will disembark and say farewell to the expedition team and fellow travelers. You will then be transferred to the airport for your return charter flight to Buenos Aires. Your Antarctic journey comes to an end, leaving you with unforgettable memories of an extraordinary adventure.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
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INCLUSIONS

Cabin accommodation on board ship in selected stateroom
 All meals onboard throughout your voyage. Complimentary hot & cold beverages including soft drinks
 All scheduled expedition landings (dependent on weather & government permits)
 Lecture programs by expedition team and guest speakers
 Use of the interactive Ocean Academy with individual knowledge formats
 OCEAN SPA with Finnish sauna with an ocean view, steam sauna, indoor and outdoor relaxation area (spa treatments and hairdresser at a surcharge)
In every cabin: champagne to welcome you, mini bar restocked daily with non-alcoholic beverages (additional selection in Grand Suites and Junior Suites), coffee machine (tea on request), 24-hour cabin service
 Entry level Wi-Fi (free of charge for one hour per guest a day, satellite-dependent especially in polar areas)

On loan for your voyage:

One pair of binoculars
 Two sets of Nordic Walking poles
 Warm parka
 A pair of waterproof expedition boots for landings and Zodiac cruising excursions

PLATINUM FARE INCLUSIONS

Includes economy class return charter flights to/from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia.
 Group transfers from Ushuaia Airport to/from the cruise port for embarkation/disembarkation

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

Inclusions

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. From Price based on a Platinum Fare: Includes economy class return charter flights to/from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia.</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