

ANTARCTICA - ULTIMATE SOUTH GEORGIA, FALKLANDS & ANTARCTIC PENINSULA | HERITAGE DISCOVERER



TRIP CODE

ACHEUSGF

DEPARTURE

16/11/2026

DURATION

21 Days

LOCATIONS

Antarctic Peninsula,
South Georgia, Falkland
Islands



INTRODUCTION

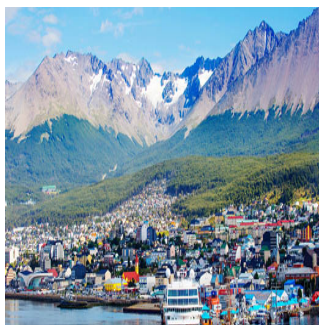
This journey combines three unique locations into one trip: the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula. It will give you access to some of the most wildlife rich areas in the region. It begins in the Falklands, known for their mix of penguin colonies, nesting albatross and small local settlements, before continuing to South Georgia. You will visit large king penguin colonies, beaches filled with seals and important historic sites. The voyage then heads south to the Antarctic Peninsula, where long daylight hours and early season conditions create strong opportunities for wildlife viewing both on land and from Zodiac excursions.

Throughout the trip, the expedition team adjusts the daily plan to suit weather, ice conditions and wildlife activity, helping make the most of each landing. You can expect regular shore visits, guided walks, wildlife encounters and time for photography, along with onboard talks that provide background on the places visited. With an ice strengthened vessel and an experienced crew, the experience is well suited to those wanting a well rounded introduction to the subantarctic and Antarctic, with a focus on wildlife, history and time spent off the ship.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive Ushuaia

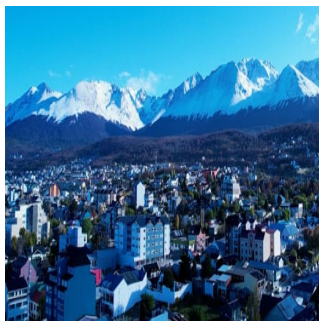
Arrive at Ushuaia, the world's southernmost city surrounded by the wilds of southern Patagonia and framed by the jagged peaks of the Martial Mountains, this end-of-the-world outdoor playground is also the gateway to Heritage Expeditions Ultimate South Georgia, Falklands & Antarctic Peninsula Cruise. Make your way to your hotel where you will spend the first night of the expedition. This evening meet your fellow voyagers and some of our expedition guides over dinner at the hotel.



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DAY 2: Embarkation in Ushuaia

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel restaurant and have the morning free to explore Ushuaia before returning to the hotel and departing for the Ushuaia Cruise Port to embark Heritage Discoverer. The captain and expedition team will welcome you on board and you will have time to settle into your accommodation and familiarize yourself with the ship. You are invited to join the expedition team in the Observation Lounge as we set our course for the Falkland Islands and our adventure begins.



DAY 3: At Sea towards Falkland Islands

Learn more about the biology and history of the Falkland Islands through a series of lectures and presentations and ease into ship life as we cross the South Atlantic Ocean. Scan the sky for Blackbrowed Albatross, countless Prions and Shearwaters, and look for Orca and Sei Whales during our day at sea.



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DAY 4: Falkland Islands - Day 4 & 5

We have two days to explore the pristine wilderness of the Falkland Islands as we navigate East and West Falkland Islands and their remote satellite islands. This stunning landscape spanning more than 700 islands, quiet villages, white sandy beaches, spectacular towering cliffs and grassy fields of wildflowers is a birder's paradise and home to five species of penguin - Gentoo, Southern Rockhopper, Magellanic, King and Macaroni - and the world's largest Blackbrowed Albatross colony. We will also look be looking for the endemic flightless Falkland Steamer Duck and, if lucky, the elusive Cobb's Wren among Black-Crowned Night Herons, Long-Tailed Meadowlarks, TwoBanded Plovers, and Upland and Kelp Geese. Our adventures may see us stretching our legs on Carcass Island where Southern Sea Lions, South American Fur Seals and Southern Elephant Seals can be found lazing on the beaches and among the tussac grass. If weather conditions are favourable, we hope to explore Steeple Jason where some 200,000-plus breeding pairs of Black-browed Albatross, 70% of the world's population, are joined by Rockhopper and Gentoo Penguins, and attract the largest numbers of predatory Striated Caracara and Falkland Skua in the region. The flora also punches above its weight here with some 417 different plant species found across the Falkland Islands including the Dog Orchid and Vanilla Daisy. History buffs will look forward to exploring colourful British outpost and Falklands capital the 'city' of Stanley where nature preserves meet maritime exploration, hilltop memorials to the 1982 Falklands War, the Jubilee Villas and the opportunity to enjoy a pint with the friendly locals.



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DAY 6: At Sea towards South Georgia - Day 6 & 7

At sea en route to South Georgia, there's time to unwind after the adventures of the Falkland Islands. Look for cetaceans, Wandering and Southern Royal Albatross, Sooty Shearwater, Antarctic Prion and Soft Plumaged Petrel, join a lecture or catch up on your photos and journaling. On the afternoon of Day 7 we plan to ship cruise the 150-millionyear-old Shag Rocks. Despite their inhospitable appearance, this collection of six, wind and wave carved jagged islets rising up to 75 metres (246ft) out of the Southern Ocean, are an important seabird breeding site, in particular the South Georgia Shag after which the rocks are named. These nutrient rich waters filled with krill, fish and squid, located near the Antarctic Convergence where the cold Antarctic waters meet warmer Subantarctic currents, also makes Shag Rocks perfect for cetacean spotting.




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DAY 8: South Georgia - Day 8 to 11

We have 4 days and a flexible itinerary to explore the astounding wildlife sanctuary that is South Georgia, also known as the ‘Serengeti of the Southern Ocean’ - for reasons which will quickly become apparent. Here, among the rugged, unrestrained beauty of towering, ice-capped mountains, glaciers, endless beaches, grasses and the clear emerald water of this British Overseas Territory resides one of the world’s wildlife hot spots. Our voyage is timed to coincide with the start of breeding season, when it is believed South Georgia has more wildlife per square metre than anywhere else on Earth. The sheer spectacle and numbers are mind-boggling: more than 60 million seabirds (including Whitechinned Petrel, Diving Petrel and 50 million Antarctic Prion), 1 million King Penguins (the world’s largest population), 3.5 million Antarctic Fur Seals (more than 95% of the world’s population) and 400,000-plus Southern Elephant Seals (half the world’s population). Other wildlife to look out for with our guides include Macaroni, and Gentoo Penguins; Wandering, Black-browed, Grey-headed and Light-mantled Sooty Albatross; South Georgia Shag, South Georgia Pipit, Pintail Duck, Weddell Seals and, occasionally, Leopard Seals. While Humpback, Blue and Southern Right Whales are also known to visit these waters. High on our agenda are visits to Salisbury Plain, St Andrews Bay and Gold Harbour, where the chaos of thousands of King Penguins blanketing these shores offers some of the world’s best birding. Despite the abundance of wildlife, Antarctic Fur Seals were once hunted to almost extinction for their fur in the early 19th Century, and the settlement of Grytviken was once a productive whaling centre. Although the historic whaling station is still a feature, Grytviken’s legacy is now the final resting place of heroic explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, where we plan to pay our respects. Like the Subantarctic Islands below New Zealand and Australia, South Georgia was also an important stopover during heroic-era Antarctic expeditions, and we look forward to sharing this history with you.

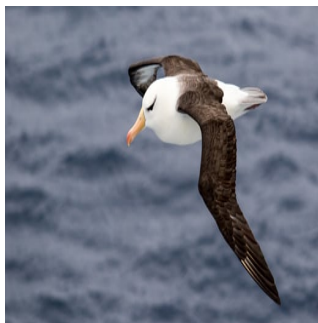


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DAY 8: At Sea towards Antarctica - Day 12 & 13

Soaring albatross and petrels circle the vessel as we steam southward through the cetacean filled Scotia Sea. Our lectures will now concentrate on Antarctica and there is some good whale watching to be enjoyed. Look out for our first iceberg, these otherworldly frozen cathedrals will become part of our daily adventures, each one a unique natural sculpture as we enter the realm of more than 20-hours daylight! Relax in the ship's bar, catch up with some reading in the library or download and edit photos to free up space on your memory card.



DAY 14: Antarctica Explorations - Day 14 to 18

Early season Antarctica is an especially magical time pairing long clear days with an abundance of wildlife and spectacular lighting. Even the most novice photographer can't help but take exceptional photos with the low hanging sun creating epic sunrises and sunsets, washing icebergs, ice, sea and sky in vivid colors. Our voyage is timed to coincide with the arrival of the breeding season, when Antarctica's wildlife converges in full force and mating behaviors at chaotic penguin cities can be observed. Icebergs, frequently clad with Chinstrap and Adélie Penguins, are also at their most captivating. Landings here are frequent, maximizing the long daylight hours and the opportunities they present, eventful, occasionally unexpected and always exciting. We have 5 days, each with more than 20-hours of daylight, to explore multiple historic and wildlife rich landing sites, hidden bays, quiet coves and walks on the ice and snow of the Seventh Continent. Prepare to be dwarfed by nature as we discover alien landscapes and elaborate icescapes of unimaginable beauty carved by wind and waves. Look for, and walk among Gentoo, Chinstrap and Adélie Penguins; Weddell, Leopard and Crabeater Seals; in the water Humpback and Minke Whales fill these important feeding grounds along with Orca. Birders can gaze skywards for Cape, Storm and Snow Petrels, our constant companions while in Antarctica, along with predatory Antarctic Skua and the curious, ground-dwelling Snowy Sheathbill - the only bird in Antarctica without webbed feet.



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DAY 19: At Sea: Crossing the Drake Passage - Day 19 & 20

En route to Ushuaia we cross the legendary Drake Passage and experience one of the world's great ocean crossings. Take time to rest after the adventures of Antarctica, look for whales and enjoy shipboard life.



DAY 21: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

Early this morning we will arrive in the Ushuaia Cruise Port. After a final breakfast, we bid farewell to our fellow voyagers and take a complimentary coach transfer to Ushuaia International Airport. In case of unexpected delays due to weather and/or port operations we ask you not to book any onward travel until after 12 noon.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Cabin on board a ship & Hotel

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Inclusions	<p>INCLUSIONS One night hotel accommodation in Ushuaia in a twin share room (incl. dinner/breakfast) Group transfer from hotel to dock Cabin Accommodation on board vessel All meals whilst on board; house beer, wine and soft drinks with lunch and dinner Local payments Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition crew Expeditions by zodiac according to itinerary Group transfer from ship to airport on disembarkation in Ushuaia</p> <p>EXCLUSIONS International flights Airport transfers, taxes and excess baggage charges unless specified Meals other than those specified in the pre-departure information Pre or post cruise travel expenses Any optional activities (like kayaking) not mentioned in itinerary Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel insurance All items of a personal nature Laundry and drinks Customary gratuities for staff and expedition crew</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available on request. Subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	<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 government regulations, weather and ice conditions</p>
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

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SUSTAINABILITY