Antarctica

JOURNEY TO THE WHITE CONTINENT ABOARD THE SEA SPIRIT, SEAVENTURE, OR ISLAND SKY



Terra Australis Incognita 'The Unknown Land of the South'



ANTARCTICA IS LIKE NOWHERE ELSE ON THE PLANET—to experience its ethereal splendor is a rare privilege to savor for a lifetime. This magnificent, uninhabited continent is hypnotically beautiful, where glacierclad mountains soar above a cobalt sea, towering blue-white icebergs float by majestically, and phenomenal wildlife abounds. The nutrient-rich waters here support humpback whales and orcas, countless seabirds including Wandering Albatross, with their 11-foot wingspans, seals, and huge colonies of penguins. A voyage to the Antarctic Peninsula—exploring the beautiful and wild South Shetland Islands, navigating the frozen labyrinth of picturesque Lemaire Channel, and encountering the white continent's most dense and varied wildlife populations—is a true expedition to one of Earth's last frontiers.

Oct 30-Nov 10, 2023 Sylvia Earle or Greg Mortimer Nov 5-16, 2023 Sylvia Earle or Greg Mortimer Nov 12-22, 2023 Sea Spirit Nov 20-Dec 1, 2023 Seaventure Nov 21-Dec 1, 2023 Sea Spirit Nov 29-Dec 11, 2023 Seaventure Dec 4-15, 2023 Sylvia Earle or Greg Mortimer Dec 7-17, 2023 Hondius Dec 9-21, 2023 Seaventure Dec 10-20, 2023 Sea Spirit Dec 11-22, 2023 Sylvia Earle or Greg Mortimer Dec 19-29, 2023 Sea Spirit Dec 19-31, 2023 Seaventure Dec 28, 2023-Jan 7, 2024 Sea Spirit Jan 9-20, 2024 Sylvia Earle or Greg Mortimer Jan 22-Feb 1, 2024 Hondius Jan 28-Feb 9, 2024 Seaventure Feb 3-13, 2024 Plancius Feb 19-Mar 2, 2024 Seaventure Mar 1-14, 2024 Sylvia Earle or Greg Mortimer Oct 27-Nov 7, 2024 Sylvia Earle or Greg Mortimer

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Why Travel to Antarctica With Wilderness Travel?

ENJOY THE ABSOLUTE BEST OF ANTARCTICA

Wilderness Travel has over 30 years of experience in Antarctica. We know this continent intimately and have carefully selected the best designed itineraries—true to our active, expert-led style of travel, and the most comfortable and well-run expedition vessels, allowing you to voyage through

THE WONDERFUL ADVANTAGE OF SMALL

EXPEDITION SHIPS The relatively small size of these vessels (just 114 to 170 passengers!) translates to superb maneuverability, with the ability to anchor close to shore. You'll have more time to explore on land, since all passengers can go ashore simultaneously (regulations in Antarctica limit

the waters of the Southern Ocean in the ultimate combination of adventure, style, and safety. You'll be traveling under the care of the finest expedition cruise companies, and while these voyages are not directly operated by Wilderness Travel (as our small-group land programs are), the trips are eligible for, and count toward, our frequent traveler Toucan Club discounts.



the number of passengers who can make landfall at one time; travelers on larger ships must wait in shifts to explore). Small ships also provide a far more personal experience—you will get to know other guests at meals that are able to accommodate everyone at one seating, and you will have quality time with the expedition team on board.





STELLAR TEAMS OF ONBOARD EXPERT LECTURERS

Each of our expedition ships offer a fleet of go-anywhere Zodiacs for exciting shore visits and an expert team of world-class naturalist guides who will accompany you on the twice-a-day shore landings. These are possible on most days when not we're not "at sea," conditions permitting. They also provide you with fascinating presentations on their fields of expertise, from marine biology, ornithology, and environmental science to tales of the incredible historic expeditions undertaken by Antarctic explorers.

SHIPS THAT MEET RIGOROUS SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

Traveling into the ice-realm of Antarctica requires a vessel that has been expressly built for expedition cruising. All of the ships we have chosen have ice-strengthened hulls with the proper safety rating for Antarctica's waters, advanced stabilization systems, and state-of-the-art navigation and communication equipment. We have selected only the vessels that fully adhere to the strict IAATO Antarctic Visitor Guidelines that protect the pristine environment of this fascinating, fragile, continent.



COMFORT AND PERSONAL SERVICE

The trips we offer are aboard the world's finest expedition ships. The majority of the ships are all-suite, luxury expedition ships with state-of-the-art amenities and delightful touches of elegance. They feature ocean-view staterooms with en suite bathrooms throughout, an abundance of public space for relaxing and enjoying lectures or presentations, including well-stocked libraries, comfortable lounges, a theater/lecture room, and elegant dining salon.



Antarctica Itinerary

TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

Length:	12 days					
Arrive:	Ushuaia, Argentina					
Depart:	Ushuaia, Argentina					
Lodging:	10 nights aboard an					
	expedition ship, 1-2 nights					
	hotel					
Meals:	All meals included					
	(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch,					
	D=Dinner)					
Activity:	Small Ship Cruising,					
	Wildlife & Natural History					
Trip Level:	⊕234567					
	Expedition cruise,					
	nature walks on uneven					
	ground, sea kayaking					
	and camping options on					
	several departures, Zodiac					
	cruising with wet landings,					
	possibility of rough seas					
	and cold weather					

With sculpted blue-white icebergs, mountains jutting from the sea, and a spectacular pageant of wildlife, Antarctica is hypnotically beautiful. Walk among throngs of penguins, look for spouting whales, and watch soaring Antarctic seabirds, including the wandering albatross. You'll explore by Zodiac, learn about daring Antarctic explorers, and photograph towering icebergs in the sublime austral light—there are even options to sea kayak or



camp overnight on many journeys. We've selected the finest expedition cruise companies, so you'll travel in comfort and safety, with expert naturalists by your side.



DAY 1 USHUAIA, ARGENTINA

Arrive in Ushuaia anytime today. You'll be staying at the beautiful Arakur Hotel & Resort, a member of the Leading Hotels of the World. Explore the trails, take a spa, relax and soak in the surroundings, or head into Ushuaia and browse the Argentinean leather markets. Enjoy a complimentary buffet breakfast in the morning. everything Antarctic, from wildlife to history. Crossing the Antarctic Convergence, a biological boundary between 50° and 60° South, you'll notice a distinct drop in temperature.

You're likely to witness some spectacular sights, from icebergs

to an array of seabirds and whale species. If you're lucky, you

may see some of them fully breach from the sea.

DAY 2 EMBARKATION DAY

This morning, you're free to explore Ushuaia or unwind at the resort until your mid-afternoon transfer to the ship. On board, you'll be greeted by your expedition team and the ship's officers; a concise safety and orientation briefing will be followed by the captain's welcome dinner. After dinner, take in the scenery on your early evening sail down the Beagle Channel and past Magellanic penguin, rock cormorant, and sea lion colonies.

"Where do we start to retell our odyssey? This adventure explored the fascinating history of the area, was surrounded by picture-perfect scenery, and had extraordinary cuisine, unequaled service, and breathtaking nature and geology." -Gus and Christine H., Meeker, CO

DAYS 5-9 ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

This is expedition cruising at its most authentic: as you cruise the waters of the Antarctic Peninsula and its adjacent islands, landings are dependent upon weather and ice conditions. The expedition leaders have been to Antarctica numerous times, and their experience in the region enables them to adapt quickly to change, making sure every option is considered, and every opportunity seized. If the weather is favorable, landings may be offered

DAYS 3-4 CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

As you make your way ever closer to the white continent, the expedition team will prepare you with presentations on before breakfast or even after dinner. There is also a possibility that you may visit a research station to witness the scientific activities conducted by the multinational community of scientists working there. Though the expeditionary nature of

Itinerary (cont'd)

our voyage precludes guaranteeing specific stops, the plan is to visit the following islands, bays, and coves where outstanding

birdlife, dramatic scenery, and unique marine life can be seen close at hand. The route will stress the most scenic bays and channels of the Peninsula with stops at penguin rookeries, seal wallows, bird colonies and whale feeding areas as well as sites of historic and scientific interest. This list serves only as a guideline of the places you may experience:

The South Shetland Islands – Antarctica's northernmost archipelago will likely be your first sighting of land. Landing "This was an awesome trip. The scenery was astounding and just kept coming! Whales, seals, penguins, penguins, penguins (did I mention penguins?!) were our constant focus. The educational lectures from staff naturalists and guest whale researchers really added to the experience. The ship captain took the time to change course to seek out whales and then slowed down to stay with them without getting into their way."

-Alan and Marilyn C., Appleton, WI

filled volcanic crater, which last erupted in 1970 (with minor eruptions as late as 1992), has a thermally heated spring near

Pendulum Cove—bring your bathing suit for a hot soak in Antarctica! Deception was a major whaling station in the early 20th century (rusty boilers used to make whale oil remain on site, as do as whale bones) and it was from here that explorer Nathaniel Palmer allegedly became the first American to sight the Antarctic continent in 1820 from a high point called Neptune's Window.

Lemaire Channel and Pleneau Island – Cruising the beautiful Lemaire Channel, keep watch

sites with abundant wildlife and historical significance include Deception Island, where the flooded caldera of an active volcano harbors an abandoned whaling station. This seafor the humpback and minke whales frequently spotted here. This narrow channel is one of the most visually impressive areas of the Antarctic Peninsula and is often referred to as the



"Kodak Gap" or "Nikon Niche" due to the wonderful photo opportunities it offers. Steep mountain peaks jut out of the sea on both sides, and the surrounding waters are often choked with icebergs and frequented by crabeater seals. A stunning labyrinth of grounded icebergs lies in the shallow waters west of Pleneau Island, presenting a superb Zodiac cruising experience. Crabeater and leopard seals haul out on the ice, and elephant seals and gentoo penguins may be found on the island itself.

Neko Harbour and Paradise Bay – Weddell seals can occasionally be found hauled out on the beach here, and a gentoo penguin colony overlooks a spectacular glacier, which is sometimes quite active in calving icebergs. In Zodiacs, cruise among these fantastic shapes sculpted by wind and water. Later, we may navigate the scenic waters of Paradise Bay, where Chile and Argentina both maintain bases. Camping and kayaking programs are

"The Antarctica cruise was fantastic and the quality of the ship and staff exceeded my expectation. I was especially impressed by the experience and friendliness of the expedition staff."

-Lynn T., Raritan, NJ

offered at additional cost. Space is limited so be sure to inquire about these programs when you secure your cabin.

DAYS 10-11 THE DRAKE PASSAGE TO USHUAIA

As you leave this magical place and make your way north, heading again across the Antarctic Convergence and the Drake Passage, wildlife spotting and presentations by our expert wildlife staff will continue. Sailing back to Ushuaia through the Beagle Channel, we'll celebrate the conclusion of

> our expedition with a special slideshow and a farewell dinner, as we reflect on beautiful Antarctica and its fragile future.

DAY 12 USHUAIA

Morning disembarkation lets you catch a flight to Buenos Aires or stay in Ushuaia for more sights and adventure.



Sea Spirit date and pricing information

Dates	Triple	Main Deck	Classic	Superior	Deluxe	Premium	Owner's
Nov 12-22, 2023;	\$8995	\$12,395	\$13,195	\$13,395	\$15,095	\$16,495	\$21,195
Nov 21-Dec 1, 2023							
Dec 10-20, 2023	\$8895	\$12,395	\$13,195	\$13,395	\$15,095	\$16,495	\$21,195
Dec 19-29, 2023	\$9695	\$13,495	\$14,395	\$14,595	\$16,495	\$17,995	\$23,095
Dec 28, 2023-Jan 7, 2024	\$10,295	\$14,295	\$15,095	\$15,395	\$17,295	\$18,895	\$24,295
Dec 6, 2024; Dec 16, 2024;	\$10,095	\$13,395	\$14,395	\$14,695	\$16,295	\$17,595	\$22,195
Feb 6, 2025; Feb 16 2025							
Dec 26, 2024-Jan 6, 2025	\$10,595	\$14,095	\$15,095	\$15,395	\$17,095	\$18,395	\$23,295

ADDITIONAL PRICING

Single occupancy cabins are available for 170% of the per person, double occupancy price, depending on cabin category Camping option: \$285 per person (limited) Kayaking option: \$795 per person (limited)

TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: 20% of trip cost 100 days prior to departure: Balance *Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Minimum fee: 20% of trip cost 90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

Passengers are subject to any cancellation fees assessed by the purveyors of services, including airlines or hotels used in the itinerary. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

PLEASE NOTE

Insurance for emergency medical evacuation is required for all Antarctica cruises. Call for more details.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- One night pre-expedition hotel accommodation in Ushuaia with breakfast
- Shipboard accommodation
- All scheduled landings and excursions
- All meals on board throughout the voyage
- Complimentary tea and coffee station
- A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings
- An official expedition parka to keep
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials and digital voyage log
- Group transfers in Ushuaia on Arrival and Departure dates
- All miscellaneous services taxes and port charges throughout the program
- All luggage handling aboard ship
- Professional expedition leadership

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Airfare to Ushuaia, Argentina, and return; pre- or post-voyage expenses in Ushuaia; passport, visa, or Argentine Reciprocity fees; baggage, cancellation insurance and emergency medical evacuation insurance (required); alcoholic beverages; excess baggage charges; meals other than specified above; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes, internet, and e-mail service; and gratuities to shipboard personnel.





Unless otherwise stated, cabins are equipped with either two twins or a king size bed, en suite facilities, walk-in closet or wardrobe, in-room safe, refrigerator, satellite telephone access, TV/VCR, individual temperature control, and hair dryer.

Main Deck Suite: Averaging 248 square feet, Main Deck cabins have a minimum of two portholes for exterior views.

Triple Classic: Averaging 226 square feet, these staterooms have a picture window, a comfortable sofa bed, and two wardrobes.

Classic Suite: Averaging 226 square feet, these cabins feature a picture window and two wardrobes.

Superior Suite: Averaging 215 square feet, these cabins have a picture window overlooking an outside walkway on the Club Deck.

Deluxe Suite: Averaging 258 square feet means plenty of room; a sliding glass door leads to a private balcony.

Premium Suite: Averaging a generous 323 square feet, these cabins include a lounge area and private balcony accessed by a sliding glass door.

Owner's Suite: Super-spacious at 463 square feet, this elegant suite is located on the Sun Deck. Designed for entertaining, the Owner's Suite has a separate living room with game and meeting area, a BOSE stereo system, and an HD plasma TV. Sliding glass doors lead to a private deck. Refresh in the jetted bathtub in en suite facilities. Slumber in the King size bed. A sofa bed can accommodate a third person.

Seaventure date and pricing information

Dates	Triple	Porthole	Window Suites	Veranda	Owner's
Nov 20-Dec 1, 2023 (12-day itinerary)	\$9,895	\$11,395	\$12,755	\$16,575	\$21,885
Nov 29-Dec 11, 2023; Feb 19-Mar 2, 2024	\$10,995	\$12,645	\$14,165	\$18,415	\$24,315
Dec 9-21, 2023; Dec 19-31, 2023; Jan 28-Feb 9, 2024	\$12,315	\$14,165	\$15,865	\$20,625	\$27,225
Nov 19-Dec 1, 2024; Dec 8- 20, 2024	\$10,005	\$12,645	\$14,165	\$18,415	\$24,865
Nov 29-Dec 10, 2024	\$9805	\$11,385	\$12,755	\$16,575	\$22,375
Dec 18-30, 2024; Jan 15-27, 2025; Feb 6-18, 2025	\$12,645	\$14,545	\$16,205	\$21,185	\$28,505
Feb 16- 28, 2025	\$11,085	\$13,785	\$15,445	\$20,075	\$27,105

ADDITIONAL PRICING

Discover Kayaking: \$250 Camping: \$295 Immersive Kayaking: \$895 (limited availability)

TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: 20% of trip cost 130 days prior to departure: Balance *Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Minimum fee: \$1000 per person 180-121 days prior to departure: 20% of trip cost 120 days or less: 100% of trip cost

Passengers are subject to any cancellation fees assessed by the purveyors of services, including airlines or hotels used in the itinerary. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

PLEASE NOTE

Insurance for emergency medical evacuation is required for all Antarctica cruises. Call for more details.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Two nights pre-expedition hotel accommodation in Ushuaia with breakfast
- Shipboard accommodation
- All meals on board
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (some super premium brands excluded)
- Coffee/tea/cocoa 24 hours a day
- A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings
- An official expedition parka to keep
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials and digital voyage log
- Citizen Science program: participation in a variety of scientific activities that support important research projects
- Group transfers in Ushuaia on Arrival and Departure dates
- Transfer from the hotel to the ship for embarkation
- All miscellaneous services taxes and port charges throughout the program
- All luggage handling aboard ship
- Professional expedition leadership

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Airfare to Ushuaia, Argentina, and return; pre- or post-voyage expenses; passport, visa, or Argentine Reciprocity fees (if required); emergency medical evacuation insurance (required); trip cancellation insurance (recommended); excess baggage charges; meals other than specified; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes; and gratuities to shipboard personnel.



- All expert presentations, navigation charts and the forward-view camera are broadcast live in every cabin.
- The mini bar is refilled with soft drinks free of charge on a daily basis.

Sylvia Earle

Sylvia Earle Dates	Triple	Superior	Balcony C	Balcony B	Balcony A	Bal. Superior	Junior Suite	Captain's Suite
Oct 30-Nov 10, 2023	\$12,395	\$13,395	\$13,795	\$14,495	\$15,595	\$17,095	\$21,395	\$25,395
Dec 11-22, 2023	\$13,995	\$15,195	\$15,595	\$16,495	\$17,695	\$19,295	\$24,295	\$28,795
Jan 9-20, 2024	\$14,495	\$15,795	\$16,195	\$16,995	\$18,295	\$19,995	\$25,095	\$29,795
Nov 12-23, 2024	\$13,695	\$14,895	\$15,295	\$16,095	\$17,295	\$18,895	\$23,795	\$28,195
Nov 22-Dec 3, 2024	\$14,395	\$15,595	\$16,095	\$16,895	\$18,195	\$19,895	\$24,895	\$29,595

Kayaking, Snorkeling, Camping and Ski/Snowboarding available. Please call for pricing.

TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: \$2500 100 days prior to departure: Balance

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Minimum fee: \$2500 per person 90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

PLEASE NOTE

Insurance for emergency medical evacuation is required for all Antarctica cruises. Call for more details.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Airport/Hotel Transfer on Day 1
- Hotel accommodation in Ushuaia on Day 1
- Half-day Ushuaia tour on Day 2, prior to embarkation
- Onboard accommodation and daily cabin service
- All meals, snacks, tea, and coffee onboard
- Beer, house wine, and soft drinks with dinner
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell receptions
- All shore excursions and Zodiac cruises
- Educational lectures and guided services with Expedition Team
- Pre-departure information
- 3 in 1 Waterproof polar expedition jacket
- Complimentary use of Muck Boots during the voyage
- Port surcharges, permits & landing fees
- Gratuities for ship's crew

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International or domestic flights, unless specified in itinerary, airport arrival or departure taxes; passport, visa, reciprocity, and vaccinations fees and charges; travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges; transfers, optional excursions, hotels, and meals outside of the specified itinerary; 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.



 Construction in all and Solution approximate

Greg Mortimer

Greg Mortimer Dates	Triple	Twin	Cat C	Cat B	Cat A	Bal. Superior	Junior Suite	Captain's Suite
Mar 1-14, 2024	\$16,195	\$16,695	\$18,095	\$19,095	\$20,495	\$22,395	\$28,095	\$33,395
Oct 27-Nov 7, 2024	\$12,795	\$13,195	\$14,295	\$15,095	\$16,195	\$17,695	\$22,195	\$26,295
Dec 8-19, 2024	\$14,995	\$15,395	\$16,795	\$17,595	\$18,895	\$20,695	\$25,995	\$30,795
Jan 6-17, 2025	\$15,595	\$15,995	\$17,395	\$18,295	\$19,695	\$21,495	\$26,995	\$31,995
Mar 6-17, 2025	\$14,295	\$14,695	\$15,995	\$16,795	\$18,095	\$19,795	\$24,795	\$29,395

Kayaking, Snorkeling, Camping and Ski/Snowboarding available. Please call for pricing.

TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: \$2500 100 days prior to departure: Balance

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Minimum fee: \$2500 per person 90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

PLEASE NOTE

Insurance for emergency medical evacuation is required for all Antarctica cruises. Call for more details.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Airport/Hotel Transfer on Day 1
- Hotel accommodation in Ushuaia on Day 1
- Half-day Ushuaia tour on Day 2, prior to embarkation
- Onboard accommodation and daily cabin service
- All meals, snacks, tea, and coffee onboard
- Beer, house wine, and soft drinks with dinner
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell receptions
- All shore excursions and Zodiac cruises
- Educational lectures and guided services with Expedition Team
- Pre-departure information
- 3 in 1 Waterproof polar expedition jacket
- Complimentary use of Muck Boots during the voyage
- Port surcharges, permits & landing fees
- Gratuities for ship's crew

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International or domestic flights, unless specified in itinerary, airport arrival or departure taxes; passport, visa, reciprocity, and vaccinations fees and charges; travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges; transfers, optional excursions, hotels, and meals outside of the specified itinerary; 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.





Hondius date and pricing information

Dates	Quadruple	Triple	Twin	Twin	Twin	Superior	Junior	Grand
	Porthole	Porthole	Porthole	Window	Deluxe		Suite	Suite
Dec 7-17, 2023	\$7,900	\$8,950	\$9,700	\$10,100	\$10,750	\$11,550	\$12,400	\$13,900
Jan 22-Feb 1, 2024;	\$8,650	\$9,700	\$10,700	\$11,150	\$11,800	\$12,650	\$13,450	\$15,400
Jan 22-31, 2025								

ADDITIONAL PRICING

Optional Kayaking: \$550 Optional Camping: \$210

TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: 20% of trip cost 100 days prior to departure: Balance *Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Minimum fee: 20% of trip cost 60-89 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost 59 days or less: 100% of trip cost *Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

PLEASE NOTE

Insurance for emergency medical evacuation is required for all Antarctica cruises. Call for more details.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Shipboard accommodation
- All meals aboard the ship including snacks, coffee, and tea
- Free use of rubber boots and snow shoes
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials
- Luggage transfer from pick-up point to the ship on the day of embarkation in Ushuaia
- Group transfer from the ship to airport in Ushuaia directly after disembarkation
- Program of lectures by noted naturalists
- Leadership by experienced expedition staff
- All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac
- All miscellaneous services taxes and port charges throughout the program
- All luggage handling aboard ship

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, airfare to Ushuaia, Argentina, and return; pre- or post-voyage hotel arrangements; additional gear such as waterproof parkas and pants; passport, visa, or Argentine Reciprocity fees; baggage, cancellation insurance, and emergency medical evacuation insurance (required); alcoholic beverages; excess baggage charges; meals other than specified above; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes, internet, and e-mail service; and gratuities to shipboard personnel.





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Plancius DATE AND PRICING INFORMATION

Dates	Quadruple	Triple	Twin	Twin	Twin	Superior
		Porthole	Porthole	Window	Deluxe	
Feb 3-13, 2024; Jan 6-16, 2025; Feb 3-13, 2025	\$8,650	\$10,700	\$10,700	\$11,150	\$11,800	\$12,650

TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: 20% of trip cost 100 days prior to departure: Balance *Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Minimum fee: 20% of trip cost 60-89 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost 59 days or less: 100% of trip cost *Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

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When to Go

The Antarctica Expedition Cruising season begins in late October (the Antarctic Spring) and continues through mid-March (the Antarctic Fall). Throughout this period you will be surprised with how mild the weather can be, with average daytime temperatures in the mid-30s°F ranging to highs in the 50s°F. While there is an abundance of wildlife and natural beauty throughout this time, there are differences in what wildlife is present through the Antarctic summer season.

EARLY SEASON (LATE OCTOBER TO DECEMBER)

Climate and Environment:

- Visitors experience the reawakening of Antarctica after the long winter.
- Average temperatures will be a chilly 20-25°F in October, rising to 30-38°F by early December.
- The pack ice is beginning to break up and icebergs will be at their greatest mass.
- Although Antarctica is never crowded, this is a favorite time for many veterans as there are fewer ships exploring the Peninsula and South Georgia.

Wildlife:

- Many species of penguins and other austral birds will be returning, building nests, courting and tending to their eggs on the Peninsula.
- In the Falklands and South Georgia, elephant seals and fur seals will be congregating on the beach and establishing territories, often with dramatic fights for harems.
- In South Georgia, due to the long breeding cycle, adults and chicks congregate by the thousands as the colonies are continuously occupied year round. Hungry chicks loudly clamor to be fed while the males shuttle back and forth to the sea in the hunt for food.
- By early December, southern right whales and Antarctic minke whales begin arriving.
- There is great light for dramatic landscape photography.





MID-SEASON (JANUARY TO MID-FEBRUARY)

Climate and Environment:

- The days are magnificently long, with up to 20 hours of sunlight daily from late December to January.
- Average temperatures reach their highest ranges, from 30-45°F.
- The calmest seas tend to be found at this time.
- Sunlight and salt water begin to melt and erode icebergs, transforming them into ever-changing works of art.

Wildlife:

- On the Peninsula, recently-hatched penguin chicks sporting thick warm coats will be loudly demanding food from their parents.
- Baby seals can be seen on the beaches, suckling from their mothers.
- Whale sightings, including humpbacks, minkes and orcas increase along the Antarctic Peninsula.
- Elephant seals begin their annual molt whereby they shed the outer layer of hair and skin. It will take a month and they'll stay on shore fasting the entire time.
- Orcas begin their hunt for young seals and penguins who are now foraging on their own having left the nest.

LATE SEASON (MID-FEBRUARY TO MARCH)

Climate and Environment:

- As the pack ice recedes even further, our Crossing the Antarctic Circle"itinerary will make its attempt to go south of the Polar Circle.
- More landing sites open up as the sea ice continues to recede.
- The days begin to get shorter once again and sunsets more spectacular.

Wildlife:

- South Georgia Island's king penguin rookeries are densely crowded with activity.
- Chicks are quite large and starting to fledge.
- On the Peninsula, you feel the tension and the race against time for penguins who got a late start, and have young who have yet to molt and forage on their own.
- This is when you get the best possibilities for whale watching.
- With more sunlight during the mid-season creating plankton blooms, we should enjoy excellent sightings of humpback and minke whales as they feed on plankton.
- Orcas continue their hunts of young seals and penguins.

Other Antarctic Journeys

In addition to our classic 12-day Antarctica adventure, we offer variations on this itinerary from 8-15 days in duration.

ANTARCTICA AIR CRUISE: 8 DAYS

As an alternative for those with quite limited time or who are concerned about the possibility of rough seas crossing the Drake Passage, we offer the Antarctica Air Cruise where you fly from Punta Arenas, Chile, to King George Island in the South Shetland Islands. While this choice is reliant on the weather cooperating with the flights, your time cruising will be largely in protected waters, and you replace a two-day crossing of the Drake Passage in each direction with a two-hour flight.

CROSSING THE ANTARCTIC CIRCLE: 15 DAYS

For those of you who would like to travel as far south as possible and cross the Antarctic Circle at 66 degrees South, you can consider going in late-February/early-March when the ice pack is at its most reduced. Keep in mind that our success in crossing the Polar Circle is dependent on weather and the sea ice that year!

ACTIVE ANTARCTICA PENINSULA: 13 DAYS

Because the waters along the Antarctica Peninsula are well protected, for the most part, it is possible to offer an itinerary with adventurous activities like kayaking, snowshoeing, glacier walks, and even camping on the ice.





For those who have even more time, we highly encourage you to consider a comprehensive Antarctic expedition, which visits the Falklands and South Georgia Island, often considered the crown jewel of this otherworldly realm. We firmly believe that this extended itinerary is worth every second of the journey!

SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS: 21-22 DAYS

The Falkland Islands have several different species of penguin including the handsome three foot tall king penguins who are so emblematic of the Antarctic Seas, and yet are rarely seen on the Peninsula. There are large colonies of southern elephant seals, cormorants, black-browed albatross, and numerous species of whales are often seen close to shore. For many travelers the friendly local British citizenry and the fascinating history of their war with Argentina make it an intriguing visit.

South Georgia Island is a not-to-be-missed destination. With a chain of mountains running down its entire 100 mile length, rearing right out of the ocean to as high as 10,000 feet, it is an extraordinary landscape. These mountains shelter the northeastern length of the island from the prevailing weather and because of this a series of dramatic valleys are literally carpeted with a phenomenal concentration of wildlife including some of the planet's most populous colonies of many different seals, penguins and seabirds such as albatross. South Georgia has well-preserved evidence of the fascinating history of explorers and whalers and we stop to pay respects at the grave of one of the most famous—Sir Ernest Shackleton.

Traveling clockwise from Tierra del Fuego to the Falklands and then South Georgia, you are largely cruising with the wind behind you. As you sweep back east to the South Orkneys, you do so largely in the protected lee of the Antarctic Peninsula. This allows you to get your sea legs before finally crossing the Drake Passage at the very end of your voyage.

What the Trip is Like

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

The trip is rated Level 1+, Easy, according to our trip grading system. It can be enjoyed by anyone in reasonably good health.

Average Walking Day

- 1-3 hours
- 1-3 miles

How tough is this trip?

You need to be able to walk on uneven surfaces and feel comfortable on your feet for multiple hours a day. You must be able to complete on board safety drills and emergency evacuation procedures without the assistance of others.

TERRAIN

Rolling seas and windy conditions require you to be stable on your feet, especially when walking on slippery decks or up and down steep gangways. Some agility is required for getting in and out of the Zodiac landing crafts. While a couple of Zodiac landings are dry, most will require that you step into calf-high water on rocky or sandy beaches to get ashore. your walks onshore will be over sandy or coarse gravel beaches or snow and often require hiking over uneven terrain without the benefit of a developed trail.

WEATHER

The Antarctic summer begins in November and ends in March—no tourist ships visit in the winter. December through February are the best times to visit as they bring long daylight hours and milder temperatures. You'll experience a variety of weather conditions including rain, snow, sleet, and sunny skies no matter when you visit. Temperatures can change quickly and range from the high 30s to below freezing, sometimes with a significant wind chill.

CUISINE

All meals will be taken on board. All ships we offer have the capacity to seat everyone at a single, open seating in the main dining room. In some cases outdoor buffet breakfast and lunch options are also available. Please let us know of any special dietary needs; the ship will accommodate as best as possible.

THE RIGHT CLOTHING FOR YOUR ADVENTURE

Since having the right clothing and gear is vital to the enjoyment of your trip to Antarctica, we have created the Wilderness Travel Gear Store in conjunction with our online retail partner, New Headings, to provide you with exceptional gear and apparel in a one-stop shop. They also provide waterproof layers for rent which can be delivered to you in Ushuaia. A polar jacket is included on some voyages; waterproof boots are available to borrow on all cruises.

Visit <u>wildernesstravel.newheadings.com</u> to begin shopping. Be sure to check out our Get Ready Packages, which features 3 Polar Packages that provide excellent value for the gear necessary to keep you warm and dry.

Wilderness Travel donates all profits from your purchases to the cultural and conservation groups we support worldwide. See the projects we support on our <u>Making a Difference</u> <u>webpage</u>.

MEDICAL ATTENTION AND EVACUATION IN REMOTE DESTINATIONS

Antarctica is an extremely remote and isolated region of the world. In the case of serious illness or injury, medical attention and swift evacuation are not always available. Once you sail from Ushuaia, you are far away from towns and medical facilities. In the case of serious illness or injury, the cruise ship will make every effort to reach medical facilities as soon as possible, but be aware that it may take several days to get you to a hospital. If you have health or medical issues of concern, please discuss them with your physician before considering this trip.

Due to the remoteness, emergency evacuation insurance is required for all voyages to Antarctica.

A NOTE ABOUT FUEL COSTS & RATES OF EXCHANGE

Given the uncertain, often volatile oil market and the dollar's decline relative to other currencies, it is extremely difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term, and, more specifically, at the time of these voyages. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates and rates of exchange at the time of brochure printing, which is well in advance of departure. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, it may be necessary to institute a surcharge. Thank you for your understanding.

Travel Notes





WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today* Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner 50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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