



### TRIP CODE

ACACFEX

**DEPARTURE** 

08/01/2024

DURATION

21 Days

## LOCATIONS

Antarctic Peninsula, Falkland Islands, South Georgia



# INTRODUCTION

PLEASE NOTE THIS DEPARTURE IS NOW CRUISE ONLY AND WILL START FROM USHUAIA ON 09 JAN\*

This is an epic voyage of discovery aboard the Ocean Endeavour, as you follow in the footsteps of Ernest Shackleton and unearth the secrets of Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falklands. Marvel at spectacular rugged scenery, mingle with thousands of King penguins, seals and observe soaring albatross in the wildlife meccas of South Georgia and the Falklands. Glide through ice floes in a zodiac with expert guides among Antarctica's towering icebergs and majestic glaciers in search of whales and predatory leopard seals.

With optional adventures including camping, kayaking, snowshoeing and photography workshops; together with luxury touches thanks to an on board saltwater pool, sauna, hot tub and spa treatments this journey of discovery will be etched in your memory forever.

PLEASE NOTE: Pricing is subject to change and availability at the time of booking. Contact us for more information.

# **ITINERARY**



# DAY 1: Ushuaia, Argentina

On arrival at Ushuaia Airport, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with the ship name on it.. If you cannot locate the representative please refer to the emergency contact details on your final documents. The first night of your voyage is spent in the quaint town of Ushuaia, the most southerly city in the world and the capital of Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire). The remainder of the day is at leisure and you are free to explore, maybe making a few last-minute purchases from the many shops or artisan markets or relaxing in a café. Avenida San Martin is the main street and there are some excellent museums to visit or you may prefer to wander the streets taking in the town's dramatic setting, with views of the mountains to the north and the Beagle Channel to the south.



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# DAY 2: Embarkation in Ushuaia

This morning is free for you to explore Ushuaia, giving you time to wander the streets of this quaint port town, or discover Tierra del Fuego National Park. Transfer to the pier of Ushuaia for embarkation in the late afternoon and you will be welcomed on board the Ocean Endeavour by the Expedition Team and the Ship's Officers. This evening we set sail through the Beagle Channel that was named after the British ship the HMS Beagle. This famous channel transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America, and is rich in wildlife. Keep a look out for Magellanic penguins, rock cormorants, petrels and black-browed albatross from the deck as well as sea lion colonies. Enjoy your first taste of life at sea and a welcome dinner. The air is likely to be filled with anticipation, as your next view of land will be of Antarctica - the White Continent.





DAY 3: At Sea, Crossing the Drake Passage - Days 3 & 4

The infamous Drake Passage, named after the famous English explorer, Sir Frances Drake, separates the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula from the southernmost tip of South America. Enjoy the fabulous on board facilities, maybe join a yoga class, or attend a presentation or two given by the Expedition Team to prepare you for what lies ahead - from the geology of Antarctica to the history, wildlife and even the ice! As we sail towards Antarctica, there is a fall in temperature as we cross the Antarctic Convergence and enter the waters of the Antarctic Ocean. The Antarctic Convergence is marked by an increased number of seabirds, whales and other species that are attracted by the nutrient-rich waters pushed to the surface by the colder waters of the polar region flowing north and meeting the warmer equatorial waters flowing south. Head out on deck to look for the mighty albatrosses that fly overhead, scan the waters for breaching whales and icebergs, or gaze out from the panoramic windows of the observation deck. We continue our course south and hope to make landfall by the evening of Day 4, depending on the weather conditions. Keep on the look out for the first sighting of land - that heralds your arrival to the White Continent!



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DAY 5: South Shetland Islands and Antarctic -Days 5 to 7

Spend three unforgettable days exploring the Great White Continent with your expert crew. While landing sites will be chosen based on wildlife-spotting opportunities and weather conditions, you can expect to explore on land and by Zodiac boat during daily excursions. The Antarctic Peninsula is home to Leopard seals, Adelie penguins and Chinstrap penguins, among many others. Nights will be spent on board, listening to lectures from the expedition crew.





# DAY 8: Elephant Island

Retrace explorer Ernest Shackleton's path to South Georgia and look out for seabirds, whales and other wildlife. Listen to sessions from the onboard Antarctic experts and take in the shapes of the seascape from the comfort of the Ocean Endeavour. You'll head towards Elephant Island, where sea and weather conditions permitting, we may be able to offer a Zodiac cruise at Point Wild before we head east towards South Georgia that afternoon. Elephant Island is where Sir Ernest Shackleton left 24 of his men after being shipwrecked in 1917, then embarked on one of the greatest survival stories of all time on a mission to South Georgia.



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# DAY 9: At Sea - Days 9 & 10

Hit the sea once again, bound for South Georgia, arriving by the evening of Day 10 if conditions are favourable. Maybe take the opportunity to relax and unwind with some onboard health and wellness services. Or perhaps you'd prefer to taste the crisp Antarctic air from on deck as seabirds and perhaps whales rear their heads.





# DAY 11: South Georgia - Days 11 to 14

South Georgia captivates every traveller that steps foot on its shores. Home to the greatest concentration of wildlife on the planet, here penguins number in the hundreds of thousands, blanketing beaches as far as the eye can see. We aim to spend four days exploring this stunningly beautiful island, an island that is not only overrun with an incredible array of fauna, but one that is steeped in history. South Georgia was an intrinsic part of Sir Ernest Shackleton's ill-fated Endurance Expedition and was once the centre of the whaling industry. South Georgia is home to over 30 million breeding birds, thousands of seals, the introduced Norwegian reindeer, nesting sites of the wandering albatross, four breeding species of penguin and the largest colony of king penguins on this planet. It is known as the 'Galapagos of the South'. If the wildlife is not enough of a draw card - then the spectacular scenery against which it is set can only enhance your visit - emerald green bays, snow-covered peaks and blue glacier ice. We explore by Zodiac and kayak and on foot, with opportunities to learn more about photography from one of our expert guides. Every day provides a different experience and a different location. Stand in awe amongst tens of thousands of penguins, look out across beaches carpeted with elephant seals, visit the remains of abandoned whaling stations and even the grave of Shackleton himself.



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## DAY 16: At Sea - Days 15 & 16

Saying goodbye to the wildlife of South Georgia, we head west towards the isolated and sparsely populated Falklands archipelago, where the silence is broken only by the call of birds. Attend lectures and presentations by the Expedition Team, relax and unwind in the His and Hers saunas and spa and take advantage of all the other amenities on board. Weather permitting, we should arrive to the Falkland Islands on the late evening of day 16.





DAY 17: Falkland Islands - Days 17 & 18

Have your camera at the ready as we approach the ruggedly beautiful Falklands archipelago to capture not only the abundant wildlife but also the incredible scenery. Over the next couple of days, we explore the Falkland Islands by Zodiac and on foot as we make daily shore landings and maybe even discover smaller inlets by kayak. Learn about the intriguing and controversial history of the Falkland Islands as we explore the quaint capital of Port Stanley, with its British outpost feel. Near the town you may see Southern giant petrels, the endemic Falkland steamer ducks, kelp gulls and dolphin gulls. There are also black-crowned night herons, red-backed hawks, peregrine falcons and turkey vultures. As we explore the islands, look out for the 5 species of penguins found here, large populations of blackbrowed albatrosses, elephant and fur seals, Peale's and Commerson's dolphins, orcas and a myriad of bird species including the Falkland's flightless steamer duck, imperial shags and Cobb's wrens.



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DAY 19: At Sea - Days 19 & 20

After our exploration of the Falkland Islands, we set sail on a course west, bound for the city of Ushuaia, the most southerly city in the world and the capital of Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire).





## DAY 21: Disembarkation in Ushuaia

Your Antarctic adventure draws to a close as you disembark the Ocean Endeavour following breakfast. Farewell your fellow guests and your Expedition Team and join a transfer to Ushuaia airport for your onward journey (included for selected flight departures today) or to the city centre of Ushuaia, where you can make your way to your hotel if you are extending your stay and want to spend some more time exploring this incredible part of the world. With much to see and do in this quaint 'End of the World' town, including the Museo Maritimo, Avenida San Martin or even an adventurous hike to the Martial Glacier, your adventure doesn't have to end here. If you would like to stay additional nights in Ushuaia, please speak to your booking agent. Please note: A transfer to the city centre after disembarkation OR a transfer to the airport for onward flights (for selected departures today only) is included. If you are extending your stay or do not meet the requirements for the included transfers then we can arrange transportation at an additional cost, please discuss this with your booking agent. You are advised not to book a flight out of Ushuaia before midday on disembarkation day, in case of delays caused by unfavourable weather conditions. Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



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# **INCLUSIONS & DETAILS**

Accommodation

Hotel & Cabin Onboard a Ship



#### **INCLUSIONS**

All meals onboard the Ocean Endeavour including snacks Accommodation onboard the Ocean Endeavour in booked cabin category

Onboard lecture program from Expeditions Team and **Naturalists** 

All applicable shore excursions and Zodiac cruising (except paid adventure options with cost)

Use of rubber boots on land and use of waterproof outer shell jacket

Insulated inner jacket, yours to keep at the end of the

Transfer from Ushuaia airport to hotel (Day 1) and prenight hotel with breakfast

Transfer from Ushuaia hotel accommodation to the Ocean Endeavour for embarkation

Transports to Ushuaia airport on return to port

All port taxes All landing fees

Use of onboard gym, sauna, pool and jacuzzi and onboard

### **Inclusions**

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

International or internal flights unless specified 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 Visa (if applicable) and passport fees

Travel insurance (compulsory) Fuel surcharge may be applied to all bookings

Paid adventure options and all personal expenses Tobacco, alcoholic or beverages (other than coffee and

Miscellaneous extras

Laundry and communication charges on board

Gratuities for Expedition team and crew (recommended US\$15 per person per day)

For minors under 16 years of age at time of travel; life jackets, waterproof outer shell jacket, insulated inner jacket and boots

For guests who require larger sizing; Waterproof outer shell jacket, insulated inner jacket and rubber boots

## **Difficulty Rating**

2 (light adventure)

# **Single Surcharge**

Available on request. No single supplement if willing to share. Contact us for more details.

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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 **Notes** change at any time. Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, **Price Dependent upon** currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

# **SUSTAINABILITY**

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