



INTRODUCTION

Experience Antarctica during the peak of the summer on this incredible 18 day expedition to the Antarctic Circle. You will undertake this voyage on board the Roald Amundsen, Antarctica's first hybrid-powered expedition vessel. Starting with an overnight in the vibrant Argentine capital of Buenos Aires, you will then take a charter flight to the end of the earth - Ushuaia - where you will begin your unforgettable expedition.

A land of immense icebergs, stunning polar vistas, remote penguin colonies and curious swimming whales - Antarctica truly is an unforgettable place. As you spend 10 days exploring the worlds final frontier you will have many opportunities to see curious wildlife and amazing landscapes as you sail along past the ice south of the Antarctic Circle. You may possibly even make a landing at Marguerite Bay. This unforgettable expedition awaits.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE

ACHUACR

DEPARTURE

12/01/2023, 28/01/2023, 13/02/2023, 07/01/2024, 23/01/2024, 08/02/2024

DURATION

18 Days

LOCATIONS





DAY 1: Arrival and Overnight in Buenos Aires

You'll have one summer's night to spend in the bustling capital of Argentina. This is where passionate tango was born and you can watch, or better yet join in, shows at numerous locations across the city. To fuel your dance moves, there's plenty of delicious local food to sample, like meaty empanadas, choripán, top-notch Argentinian steak, Malbec red wine and of course creamy dulce de leche for dessert. If you arrive early enough in the day, take in history and architecture at the splendid Plaza de Mayo or head north to the garden district where you'll find the largest Japanese gardens in the world outside of Japan itself. We also recommend popping into the impressive El Ateneo Grand Splendid, dubbed the 'world's most beautiful bookstore'. Buenos Aires is also the world capital of theatre and has more theatres than any city in the world. Almost every genre is showcased; circuses, musicals, drama, ballet, comedy. You name it, Buenos Aires has it. Should you, however, have plenty of time on your hand, why not extending your stay with an optional Pre-Programme to explore wild Patagonia?



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Antarctic Peninsula & Antarctic Circle



DAY 2: Fly Buenos Aires to Ushuaia and embarkation

Estimated time of departure is 7:00 PM You have an early-morning flight to catch to Ushuaia, which is where your comfortable expedition ship MS Fridtjof Nansen awaits. As the plane begins its descent to Argentina's southernmost city, you might have birds-eye views over Tierra del Fuego province and catch glimpses of fjords and glaciers in Alberto de Agostini National Park to the west. Once you check-in on board the ship, it'll be time to depart and begin your journey to Antarctica. You'll attend a brief mandatory safety meeting and be introduced to the Expedition Team and key crew members. There's also a welcome dinner to enjoy, which is a good occasion to start getting to know your fellow explorers. Afterwards, go for drinks in the bar or take a stroll around and get familiar with what will be your home for the next couple of weeks.





DAY 3: Crossing The drake - Day 3 to 4

Before you can relish in the infinite wonders that Antarctica has in store, we first need to make our way through what is infamously known as The Drake 'Rite Of' Passage. These turbulent waters were reportedly discovered by chance in the 16th century when one of Sir Francis Drake's ships was forced south by heavy winds. They are still just as unpredictable today as they were back then, and conditions can vary wildly; rough and shaky or placid as a lake. It takes approximately two days to cross the Drake Passage. This gives you plenty of time to prepare for the upcoming adventure. Join the Expedition Team in the Science Center for lectures on topics like the Antarctic Treaty, accounts of past polar expeditions and the area's rich biodiversity from the macro- to the microscopic. Other key takeaways will include how to keep safe during landings and the importance of not disturbing local wildlife be they pods of feeding whales or families of lazy-looking seals. You will also learn about IAATO guidelines, and why we have special sterilised boots for use ashore and why we vacuum our backpacks and clothes before going on landings in Antarctica. Optional Citizen Science programmes will also help to give you further insight into the frozen continent's intricate ecosystem. Our ethos is the more you know, the more you'll appreciate the unique experience only Antarctica offers. Over the course of your journey, you will grow increasingly fond of the ship as it acts as a warm and homely sanctuary after each day of exploration. Whether your idea of relaxation is hitting the gym or being pampered at a spa, MS Fridtjof Nansen has got you covered on both. If the gym, outdoor running track and Wellness Centre aren't enough, there's also the infinity pool, panoramic sauna, and outdoor hot tubs. For the foodies, the ship comes with not just one but three exquisite onboard restaurants to satisfy any craving.



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DAY 5: Antarctic Circle - Days 5-15

You are about to explore the seventh continent of Antarctica over eleven magical days. Across all our expeditions and all our destinations, this is the longest period we offer in one place. Antarctica is so special and magnificent that it deserves as much time as we can spend here. The Expedition Team will take you on landings and go ice-cruising to get even closer to the amazing icescapes and wildlife. You will also get the chance to enjoy optional activities like showshoeing and kayaking. Not to mention the Citizen Science projects you can join to help scientists all over the world get a better understanding of the wildlife and ecology of Antarctica. Where many other cruise operators are content to just do a sail-by, on which their guests only see but never set foot on the ice, your expedition with us will bring you ashore and on explorer boat ice-cruises on multiple occasions, which is whenever weather and sea ice conditions are right. This allows you to marvel at the massive ice fronts, dozens of icebergs, glacial walls, and frozen mountains in the safest and most sustainable way. Under the guidance of our experienced Expedition Team, you'll also observe bustling colonies of everyone's favourite flightless birds, some of whom may be just as curious to see you as you'll be to see them. Set amid the otherworldly scenery of Antarctica, your first small step on each landing marks one giant leap in your story here. Together, we will go places few have been before, even attempting to venture beyond a numerous possible landing zones on the Antarctic Peninsula, past the Antarctic Circle and deep into the hidden corners of the continent. As long as weather and sea ice cooperate, we'll sail as far as the polar circle at 66°33' South and beyond to Marguerite Bay. Rarely visited even by other expeditions, this wide bay is iced over for most of the year and is usually only accessible in the late summer season, even that is no guarantee. Whales are known to frequent the area, while the icy islands are havens for Adélie penguin rookeries and other polar birdlife. There are a number of scientific research bases located around Marguerite Bay which we will try and land at if conditions allow, such as a modern base on Horseshoe Island and historic ruins on Stonington Island.



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DAY 16: Drake Passage to Ushuaia - Days 16-17

After ten adrenaline-inducing days of high adventure in Antarctica, we'll start heading back north to civilisation and to warmer weather. The two days spent back across the Drake Passage will allow you to press pause and fully absorb the amazing time you've just had. Share the trip's most vivid highlights with fellow expedition members who, after your experiences together, have gone from strangers to lifelong friends. Join art classes, learn how to tie different kinds of sailor's knots, and keep active in the gym and toasty in the sauna. Or watch for seabirds outside. By now, what with the Expedition Team's lectures, you'll hopefully be able to identify many of Antarctica's winged wonders on your own.



DAY 18: Disembarkation - Fly to Buenos Aires

Your journey comes to a close as you reach Ushuaia. From the port, a transfer will take you to the airport for your flight back to Buenos Aires.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Cabin on board ship



Inclusions

ANTARCTIC CIRCLE EXPEDITION | ROALD AMUNDSEN

Overnight in Buenos Aires before the expedition cruise, including breakfast

Return flights in economy class between Buenos Aires and Ushuaia

Transfer from the hotel in Buenos Aires to Buenos Aires airport before the expedition cruise

Transfers between Ushuaia airport and the ship,

including a brief tour of the town

Expedition cruise in a cabin of your choice

Breakfast, lunch and dinner including beverages (house beer and wine, sodas, and mineral water) in restaurants Aune and Fredheim

Complimentary Wi-Fi on board. Be aware that we sail in remote areas with limited connection. Streaming is not supported.

English-speaking Expedition Team who organise and accompany activities on board and ashore

Experts on the Expedition Team deliver in-depth lectures

on a variety of topics

Use of the ship's Science Center which has an extensive library and advanced biological and geological

microscopes

Professional onboard photographer gives top tips and tricks for the best landscape and wildlife photos Escorted landings with small expedition boats while in Antarctica

Complimentary wind and water-resistant expedition

Loan of boots, trekking poles and all equipment for activities

EXCLUSIONS

International flights Travel insurance Luggage handling

Optional shore excursions with our local partners Optional small-group activities with our Expedition Team

Optional treatments in the onboard wellness and spa area

Difficulty Rating 2 (light adventure)

Available on request. Please contact us for more **Single Surcharge**

information.

Please note this itinerary may be subject to change Notes

depending on weather, ice and sea conditions.

Price Dependent upon Departure dates, seasonality and availability

SUSTAINABILITY

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Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click **HERE**

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