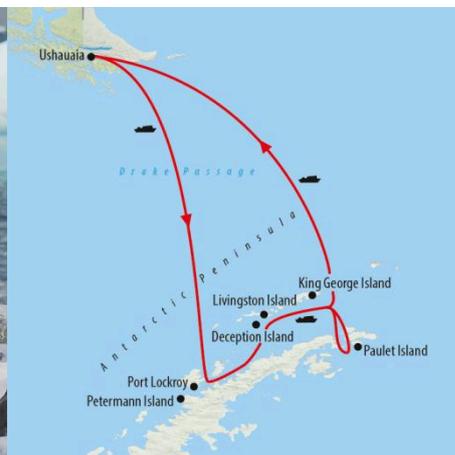


Classic Antarctica

10 days | Starts/Ends: Ushuaia



Embark on a classic expedition to Antarctica from Ushuaia, through the scenic Beagle Channel and across the infamous Drake Passage to the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula. With two shore landings per day, set foot on the continent proper, get up close with the region's wildlife and learn about the area from the expedition crew and lecturers.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Ushuaia – The starting point of your expedition cruise to Antarctica, this busy Argentine port city is the southernmost city in the world and a stunning place to spend a night at the start and end of your cruise to the Antarctic Peninsula
- Beagle Channel – Set sail along the famous Beagle Channel and scenic Mackinlay Pass from Ushuaia as you begin your Antarctic adventure, passing by spectacular snow-capped peaks and colonies of penguins and fur seals gathered on rocky outcrops

- Drake Passage – A historically challenging channel of water which marks the location of the Antarctic Convergence, where the warmer waters of the north meet the cold polar waters of the south resulting in incredible biodiversity of marine life
- The South Shetland Islands – A crucial stop on any Antarctic expedition, this spectacular archipelago is made up of islands, islets and rock outcrops, each with their own population of penguins and seals with plenty of opportunity to spot marine life offshore too
- Antarctic Peninsula – The northernmost point of the continent and a spectacular location for a shore landing with jagged mountain peaks, glaciers and an abundance of wildlife

What's Included

- 9 nights onboard the Ushuaia in a Standard twin cabin with semi-private facilities - two cabins share one bathroom accessible from both cabins (shower and wc). Each cabin is also equipped with its own washbasin. Cabin upgrades with private facilities are available on request
- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 9 dinners

- Two shore excursions per day to the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands by zodiac (ice conditions permitting)
- Program of lectures by expert naturalists
- Experienced expedition staff
- All service taxes and port charges

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Government arrival and departure taxes
- Drinks on board the Ushuaia
- Tips for the expedition staff and naturalists
- Pre and post tour accommodation, plus any airport or port transfers

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Your expedition begins



Today your expedition to Antarctica begins. In the afternoon you'll board

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 UK 020 4571 1381 USA 866 616 5394
 IRE 1800 936 885 CAN 866 890 7038
 AUS 1300 855 684 SA 0800 990 337
 NZ 0800 44 77 69

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your polar vessel, the Ushuaia, where you'll meet the expedition and lecture staff who will be accompanying you on your journey. Once settled into your cabin, you'll want to make your way to one of the open air decks so that you can admire the views as we set sail along the famous Beagle Channel and scenic Mackinlay Pass. **Overnight - The Ushuaia (D)**

Days 2-3 : Crossing the Drake Passage



The next two days are spent passing through the infamous Drake Passage, a historically challenging channel of water which bears the name of renowned explorer Sir Francis Drake who sailed through here in 1578. On this journey through the Drake Passage you will pass over the Antarctic Convergence, where the warmer waters of the north meet the cold polar waters of the south. This interaction causes an upwelling of nutrients from the seafloor, resulting in the incredible diversity of algae, krill and other small sea creatures.

The Ushuaia offers the choice of four open-air decks where you can pass the time enjoying the views and keeping an eye out for seabirds. Expedition lecturers will be available at all times to help you spot and identify common and more obscure species. Thanks to the vessels open bridge policy, you can also join officers on the bridge to learn about navigation and watch for whales.

You'll know when we've reached the South Shetland Islands as you'll begin to see icebergs and snow-capped

mountains. This group of twenty islands was first sighted by Captain William Smith back in February 1819. Should the conditions of the Drake Passage be favourable, you'll enjoy your first land excursions on day 3 where you'll have the chance to see penguins and seals up close. **Overnight - The Ushuaia (B:2, L:2, D:2)**

Days 4-7 : Exploring the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland Islands



A stunning archipelago home to an incredible abundance of wildlife, the South Shetland Islands is a crucial stop on every expedition to the Antarctic Peninsula. Spanning 540 kilometres from northeast to southwest, this polar archipelago is made up of four distinct groupings of islands with some 150 additional islets, skerries and rock outcrops.

Perhaps the best known of the South Shetland Islands is Deception Island with its flooded caldera of an active volcano. The largest is King George Island which is home to several scientific bases dedicated to studying the island's population of Adélie and Chinstrap Penguins, Kelp Gulls, Blue-eyed Cormorants, Antarctic Terns and Southern Giant Petrels. Another island worth visiting is Livingston Island, where you can spot more species of penguin as well as elephant seals.

The next four days are spent navigating the Gerlache Strait, the Neumayer Channel, and narrow passages of the Lemaire Channel with towering rock faces on one side and spectacular

glaciers on the other. You'll have the opportunity to join two landings per day, at locations such as spectacular Paradise Bay and the continent proper, as well as Paulet Island where you'll be able to see the Adélie Penguin and Blue-eyed Cormorant colonies.

Exploring further south you may have the opportunity to visit Melchior Island, Cuverville Island, Portal Point, Neko Harbour and Pléneau Island. Should ice conditions permit, you'll also have a chance to see the southernmost colony of Gentoo Penguins on Petermann Island. **Overnight - The Ushuaia (B:4, L:4, D:4)**

Days 8-9 : Crossing the Drake Passage



Departing the Antarctic Peninsula, the Ushuaia will start its journey back across the Drake Passage travelling north. Once again you'll have the opportunity to spot and identify seabirds and whales with the help of the naturalists on deck, as well as enjoy some final lectures. **Overnight - The Ushuaia (B:2, L:2, D:2)**

Day 10 : Your expedition comes to an end

Your vessel arrives into the port of Ushuaia early in the morning. After breakfast and bidding farewell to your expedition lecturers and naturalists, your Antarctic adventure comes to an end. The ship arrives at 7 am and disembarkation is normally at 8.00/ 8.30 am. We strongly recommend not to book flights departing before noon time.(B)

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PRICES / DATES INFO

Prices shown are per person based on twin occupancy sharing a Standard semi-private twin cabin. The 'Single Room' rate is applicable to solo travellers and anyone else who would like the comfort of a Premier single cabin. Private Standard Plus twin and triple cabins, Premier twin cabins, Superior twin cabins and Suites are also available upon request. Our Antarctic Expeditions are specialist voyages and places are limited, please contact us via email or telephone to check availability and to make a reservation. This trip cannot be booked online.

PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
03 Nov	NZD 7,565	NZD 13,755
12 Nov	NZD 9,145	NZD 16,555
01 Dec	NZD 9,145	NZD 16,555
10 Dec	NZD 9,145	NZD 16,555

PRICES / DATES 2023

Date	Twin Share	Single
08 Feb	NZD 11,485	NZD 19,905
27 Feb	NZD 10,185	NZD 18,045
17 Mar	NZD 9,145	NZD 16,555
26 Mar	NZD 9,145	NZD 16,555
01 Dec	NZD 9,145	NZD 16,555

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