



SOUTH GEORGIA & ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

Penguin Safari





Overview

The Antarctic region offers so many extraordinary things to see and do for adventurous travelers. We've designed this guide to help you figure out what interests you most in order to plan the perfect Antarctic expedition that suits your interests and passions. Depending on what you're looking for, the following pages will inform you of everything you need to know about exploring Antarctica.

The *South Georgia and Antarctica: Penguin Safari* itinerary is the fastest way to get to the rarely visited South Georgia Island while also stepping foot on the 7th continent. Whether you choose to depart in November or December—including an exclusive New Year's Eve voyage—all trips operate during the peak season to optimize your chance of immersive encounters with iconic wildlife like penguins, whales and seals. Choose from our polar-class of expedition ships including the *Ocean Diamond*, offering an intimate experience or *World Explorer*. You also have the opportunity to further personalize your voyage with our robust selection of Adventure Options including hiking, kayaking and more.

Antarctica has been inspiring explorers for centuries and this expedition offers the chance for you to discover why. We're excited to host you on your unforgettable polar adventure! Feel free to reach out to our team of Polar Travel Advisers who can answer any of your questions and provide assistance at any time of your planning journey.



EXPEDITION IN BRIEF



See South Georgia's incredible wildlife, including 30 breeding bird species and four penguin species



Follow in the footsteps of Sir Ernest Shackleton's perilous voyages to South Georgia and pause for a moment at his gravesite



Explore the Antarctic Peninsula by ship, Zodiac and foot



Learn about Antarctica's unique geology, history and wildlife with our on-board lecturers



Immerse yourself in the icy realm of the Antarctic, with an optional paddling excursion



South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula: Penguin Safari

16-Day Itinerary

DAY 1 | ARRIVE IN USHUAIA, ARGENTINA

You will begin your journey in Ushuaia, a small but bustling port at the tip of South America. It's the ideal gateway for you to explore the southern extent of Patagonia while preparing for your adventure ahead. Get active in the mountains or enjoy handcrafted chocolate at a café in town.

DAY 2 | EMBARKATION DAY

Embarkation will occur in the late afternoon, after which your vessel will sail down the historic Beagle Channel, which transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south

of South America. Expect an air of anticipation as you depart!

DAYS 3-6 | AT SEA

There are many activities to keep you engaged while you are at sea. Learn to identify seabirds that glide alongside the ship, or attend dynamic presentations by your Expedition Team. You will be prepped on safety procedures for Zodiac cruises and shore landings, and also be given instructions for getting the most out of your optional kayaking adventures (extra cost), a truly intimate way to experience Antarctica.



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Onboard the *Ocean Diamond* and *World Explorer*

DAYS 7-8 | SOUTH GEORGIA

The first indication that you are approaching South Georgia is the sight of birds around a group of rocky spires called Shag Rocks. Have your binoculars and cameras ready to photograph these rocks rising out of the icy ocean waters. Shags and prions often rest here.

After enjoying South Georgia from a distance, we'll head toward its numerable beaches to find a protected bay for your first land excursion. Landing sites on South Georgia are varied, largely determined by the weather conditions of your voyage. Whichever sites we visit, they'll provide you with wildlife encounters unrivaled anywhere else on earth.

This is one of the most fertile breeding grounds in the world for sub-Antarctic wildlife, with beaches blanketed with penguins. It won't take you long to

realize that South Georgia is a paradise for bird lovers, as burrowing seabirds, albatross and petrels can be seen in abundance.

You'll find that South Georgia, once a popular base for whalers and sealers, is also scattered with abandoned relics and evidence of human activity from centuries gone by. Your Expedition Team will help bring those days to life while you visit old whaling stations and enjoy presentations on the South Georgia of then and now.

One of the most significant sites you will visit on the island is Grytviken. This settlement is one of the first whaling stations established in sub-Antarctic waters. Many travelers find that this place has a special appeal, as it is home to the remains of Sir Ernest Shackleton, one of the most famous Antarctic explorers.

DAYS 9 & 10 | AT SEA

Say goodbye to the king penguins, as your next destination is Antarctica! Your days at sea are filled with presentations and lectures led by your Expedition Team, who will prepare you for the wildlife that will greet you upon your arrival. In between activities, spend time chatting with your shipmates over a drink at the bar.

If conditions allow, we may attempt landfall on the South Orkney Islands, our first official stop in Antarctica.

DAYS 11-13 | ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

The most common reaction upon reaching the White Continent is a sense of reverence and awe. The experience is hard to put into words, since few places are as untouched, unique and enduring as Antarctica.

