Discovering Our Planet Together



Voyage to Antarctica

Discover the Wildlife Wonders of the World's Last Best Wilderness

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Trip Details:

Days
12 Days / Oct–Mar

Price
From $13500 (+Air)

Physical Requirements
Moderate

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Antarctica. The name alone is epic. No place is more synonymous with adventure, extremes and untouched wilderness. Though rumored to exist even among the ancient Greeks, Antarctica had no documented sightings by humans until 1820. History's most intrepid expeditions penetrated its inner reaches a little over a century ago. Today, Antarctica's white wonders are within reach of anyone with an explorer's spirit. Our small expedition ships designed for polar cruising navigate among colossal icebergs, giant whales and elephant seals, while hundreds of thousands of penguins and other seabirds congregate ashore, nesting and nurturing their young in the endless light of a southern summer. Antarctica arguably supersedes any place on Earth in provoking a traveler's awe, and it does so no less now than for Shackleton or Amundsen.

Trip Highlights

The Ultimate Wilderness Experience

Sail aboard a premier expedition ship designed for polar waters, and cross the Drake Passage to reach the sheltered seas of the Antarctic Peninsula

Close Encounters with Prolific Wildlife

Get close to penguins, seals, whales and seabirds on motorized Zodiac excursions and walks ashore, led by seasoned naturalist guides

Travel with Top Polar Experts

Learn about historic polar exploration, contemporary international research, and the quest to conserve the planet's last great wilderness

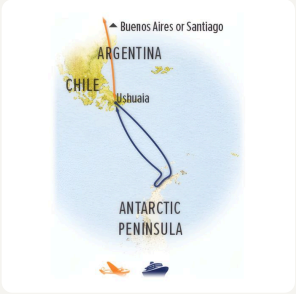


Voyage to Antarctica Itinerary

Discover the Wildlife Wonders of the World's Last Best Wilderness

Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1	Buenos Aires or Santiago
Day 2	Ushuaia
Days 3–4	At Sea
Days 5–9	Antarctic Peninsula
Days 10–11	At Sea
Day 12	Ushuaia / Buenos Aires or Santiago



Day 1

Buenos Aires or Santiago

Arrive in Buenos Aires or Santiago for your Antarctic adventure

- Arrive in Buenos Aires, Argentina, or Santiago, Chile, depending on your expedition ship
- Transfer from the airport to your hotel
- Settle in before your Antarctic expedition begins

The ship you select for your Antarctica expedition cruise determines the start and end point of your journey. Guests traveling aboard National Geographic Endurance arrive and depart via Buenos Aires, Argentina. Guests traveling aboard National Geographic Resolution arrive and depart via Santiago, Chile.

Arrive in Buenos Aires, Argentina's cosmopolitan capital, or Santiago, Chile's mountainous capital.

In Buenos Aires, guests traveling aboard National Geographic Endurance transfer from the airport to the Alvear Art Hotel or similar.

In Santiago, guests traveling aboard National Geographic Resolution transfer from the airport to the Ritz-Carlton, Santiago, or similar.

Please plan to arrive before 11:00 a.m. local time.

Day 2

Ushuaia

Reach Ushuaia and board your expedition ship

- Fly by private charter over Patagonia to Tierra del Fuego
- Cruise the Beagle Channel by catamaran, weather permitting
- Board your expedition vessel and set sail toward the Antarctic Peninsula

Take a private chartered flight to Ushuaia, Argentina this morning, surveying the peaks of Patagonia below before landing at the bottom of Tierra del Fuego, the foot of the southern Andes. There's no mistaking the "end of the world" feel of the planet's most southerly city, which is the point of embarkation for expeditions to the Antarctic Peninsula. If weather permits, we will have lunch on a catamaran cruise in the Beagle Channel, where steep mountains rise straight out of the sea, before we embark ship and set sail on a southward course.

Days 3–4

At Sea

Cross the legendary Drake Passage toward Antarctica

- Sail the 600-mile passage separating Cape Horn from the Antarctic Peninsula
- Watch for wandering albatrosses, Cape petrels and dolphins around the ship
- Pass through the Antarctic Convergence, where krill sustain whales, seals and penguins

The Drake Passage is legendary among mariners and a milestone in any adventurer's personal travel history. Named for the 16th-century English privateer Sir Francis Drake, whose ship was blown far off course in these challenging waters, this 600-mile-wide channel that separates Cape Horn from the Antarctic Peninsula is notorious for its frequent high winds and rough seas. Without a significant land mass, the Antarctic Circumpolar Current flows unimpeded, carrying a tremendous volume of water through the passage. Midway across, the Antarctic Convergence mixes cold, northward-flowing waters with the relatively warmer south-flowing waters, creating a highly productive marine zone for Antarctic krill, the favored food source for whales, seals, penguins, squid, albatrosses and other seabirds. Our ship is likely to be escorted through the passage by resident wildlife, including dolphins, Cape petrels and wandering albatrosses.

Ready to Book? Call an Adventure Specialist at 800-543-8917

Days 5–9

Antarctic Peninsula

Explore the Antarctic Peninsula beneath the long austral summer daylight

- Cruise by Zodiac among towering icebergs and land near colonies of chinstrap, gentoo and Adelie penguins
- Look for humpback whales, orcas and leopard seals among the pack ice
- Learn wildlife photography techniques from a National Geographic-certified instructor

With nearly perpetual daylight on this classic Antarctic expedition, we make the most of the long days by keeping a flexible schedule to take advantage of the unexpected—perhaps watching a 40-ton whale surface off the bow, studying a particularly cinematic bobbing iceberg, or observing the ship crunch through pack ice. On our daily excursions, we make Zodiac forays among towering icebergs, walk the shorelines amid huge colonies of penguins, hike to a summit for a commanding view, and kayak along cliffside rookeries to look at blue-eyed shags. Millions of animals thrive here, and visitors find a rich assortment of marine life including Weddell, Southern elephant, crabeater and leopard seals, and minke, humpback, sei and fin whales, as well as orcas. A proliferation of seabirds includes kelp gulls, various petrels, snowy sheathbills, skuas, shags and Antarctic terns. Zodiacs allow us to get close to wildlife and make shore landings, where we walk among noisy colonies of three resident penguin species—chinstrap, gentoo and Adelie. Learn from our experts how to identify penguins and get photo tips from a National Geographic-certified photography instructor to help you capture the best possible memories. On board, our undersea specialist may present video from any day's dive—rare images taken up to a thousand feet below the surface using our Remote Operating Vehicle (ROV).

Days 10–11

At Sea

Recross the Drake Passage toward South America

- Reflect on Antarctica with onboard naturalists, scientists and historians
- Watch for black-browed albatrosses and other seabirds trailing the ship
- Relax aboard your expedition vessel during the northbound crossing

Making the return voyage across the Drake Passage, our days at sea are an opportunity to learn and relax. The ship sails with a full staff of onboard naturalists, scientists and historians who are eager to reflect upon the geology, climate and wildlife of Antarctica that we have witnessed, as well as the riveting human history of the White Continent, from early explorers to present-day researchers. Take advantage of the ship's leisure and recreation opportunities, including a fitness center, sauna, massage therapy at the spa, and a library filled with books about Antarctic natural history and polar exploration. Our escorts while crossing these legendary seas will surely include a host of marine life and seabirds, including the black-browed albatross which boasts a wingspan of more than 7 feet.

Day 12

Ushuaia / Buenos Aires or Santiago

Return to Ushuaia before flying to your gateway city

- Disembark your expedition vessel with time to explore the mountain-framed port
- Fly by private charter to Buenos Aires or Santiago for homeward flights

After a last breakfast on board, disembark in Ushuaia. There's time to explore this adventure-focused mountain town before our private chartered flight returns you to Buenos Aires or Santiago (the same destination where you started your expedition) to meet homeward flights.

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Voyage to Antarctica Accommodations

Discover the Wildlife Wonders of the World's Last Best Wilderness



National Geographic Endurance

This new expedition ship is a next-generation ice-class vessel that's purpose-built for year-round polar navigation, designed for 138 guests in 76 staterooms to safely explore uncharted waters in exceptional comfort.



National Geographic Resolution

This new, next-generation ice-class vessel accommodates 138 guests in 76 staterooms and is purpose-built for year-round polar expeditions, exploring remote and icy waters in utmost comfort.

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/antarctica-and-arctic/classic-antarctica-expedition/ships.

Ready to Book? Call an Adventure Specialist at 800-543-8917

Sail with the World Leader in Conservation-Focused Small Ship Cruising

Voyage to Antarctica

We're proud to offer a worldwide slate of Expedition Cruises through National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions. Through our relationship with National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions, we are able to expand our nature travel offerings to our guests, with the opportunity to book directly through Nat Hab. Founded in 1958 by Lars-Eric Lindblad, the company pioneered eco-conscious expeditions for "citizen explorers" and today is the world leader in conservation-focused small-ship cruises. Our Adventure Specialists are intimately familiar with the ships and itineraries and are on call to answer any questions you might have.

1 **Small Ships Assure Closer Nature Encounters**

Meaningful nature adventures can't happen in big crowds. National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions ships offer an exhilarating, up-close experience of the southern ice and the abundant wildlife of Antarctica. Their small size makes them nimble enough to access protected coves and channels that big ships can't reach, while full stabilization and state-of-the-art technology make them exceptionally safe. The ship you sail aboard will depend upon the itinerary and departure you choose. Each polar vessel offers personal access to naturalists, lecturers, staff and crew.

2 **Benefit from Decades of Expertise**

This is a genuine expedition-style experience aboard an authentic expedition ship with a seasoned polar adventure team. Pioneers in opening Antarctica to civilian travelers in 1966, National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions draws upon more than a half-century of experience navigating polar seas, assuring safe passage in one of Earth's wildest settings. You'll benefit from traveling with a company whose stellar reputation has been carefully earned over decades.

3 **Multiple Tools for Immersive Expedition Travel**

A fleet of 13 Zodiacs and 32 double kayaks facilitate close-up exploration of Antarctica's icy landscapes and abundant wildlife. Come eye level with penguins, leopard seals, marine mammals and floating ice along the bays and coastlines of the Antarctic Peninsula. A mobile platform enables fast, safe deployment of kayaks within minutes of finding an anchorage. Led by veteran Expedition Leaders, hikes and activities on shore are offered at a variety of physical exertion levels. A remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV) and undersea interpretive specialist give passengers a rare opportunity to view Antarctica's seldom-seen underwater world. An onboard National Geographic-certified photography instructor helps you get your best shots.

4 **See the Undersea**

Unique to National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions, each voyage includes an undersea specialist who suits up for polar waters, dives to capture vivid HD video footage, and shares it on plasma screens in the ship's lounge. Going even deeper, the ship's hydrophone lets passengers listen in on whales while a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) capable of exploring depths up to 1,000 feet films the places where no diver can go. The ROV and polar dives provide a rare journey into the virtually unknown Antarctic undersea, while you enjoy the underwater expedition from a warm and dry spot on board. For the bird's eye view, a remote-controlled crow's nest camera broadcasts real-time footage on individual cabin video screens.

5 **Sail with Top Experts Who Specialize in Antarctica**

Explore Antarctica with a passionate team of experts whose knowledge will enhance your adventure and your understanding of our polar environs. Travel with an Expedition Leader, eight veteran naturalists, a National Geographic-certified photographer, an undersea specialist, expert guest speakers, a video chronicler and a wellness specialist. Your guide team specializes in Antarctica, from wildlife biologists to ornithologists, marine scientists and polar historians.

6 **We're Committed to the Planet**

Natural Habitat Adventures is a standard-setter in eco-conscious travel. We were the world's first 100% carbon-neutral travel company. And we continue to break innovative ground in adopting practices that help to protect our global environment. Because of our concern for the environment, we are pleased to partner with National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions to provide Expedition Cruises, a company that shares our values and commitment to the planet.

7 **Natural Habitat Adventures is WWF's Travel Partner**

Because of our environmental commitment and the outstanding quality of our adventures, World Wildlife Fund has chosen Natural Habitat Adventures as its worldwide travel partner, a designation we're very proud of! When you book your National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions cruise with us, a portion of your trip fee supports WWF.

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Dates & Pricing Summary:

Price
From $13500 (+Air)

Group Size
Limited to 138 Travelers

Physical Requirements
Moderate

Voyage to Antarctica Dates, Pricing & Info

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2026 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Dec 2 - Dec 13, 2026	**From $19968** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Dec 6 - Dec 17, 2026	**From $20500** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Dec 12 - Dec 23, 2026	**From $20000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Dec 16 - Dec 27, 2026	**From $21966** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Dec 22, 2026 - Jan 2, 2027	**From $30205** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Dec 26, 2026 - Jan 6, 2027	**From $30200** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution

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2027 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 1 - Jan 12, 2027	From $22500 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Jan 5 - Jan 16, 2027	From $25900 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Feb 7 - Feb 18, 2027	From $27900 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Oct 15 - Oct 26, 2027	From $13500 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Oct 25 - Nov 5, 2027	From $13500 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Nov 4 - Nov 15, 2027	From $15000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Nov 15 - Nov 26, 2027	From $15000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Nov 25 - Dec 6, 2027	From $15000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Nov 28 - Dec 9, 2027	From $15000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Dec 8 - Dec 19, 2027	From $16000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Dec 18 - Dec 29, 2027	From $20000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Dec 19 - Dec 30, 2027	From $24000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Dec 28, 2027 - Jan 8, 2028	From $19500 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Dec 29, 2027 - Jan 9, 2028	From $19000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance

2028 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 8 - Jan 19, 2028	From $24000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Jan 18 - Jan 29, 2028	From $24000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Jan 21 - Feb 1, 2028	From $25000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Jan 28 - Feb 8, 2028	From $19000 +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance

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Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Feb 7 - Feb 18, 2028	**From $23500** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Feb 23 - Mar 5, 2028	**From $19000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Mar 4 - Mar 15, 2028	**From $15000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Oct 14 - Oct 25, 2028	**From $14000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Oct 24 - Nov 4, 2028	**From $14000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Oct 29 - Nov 9, 2028	**From $14500** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Nov 8 - Nov 19, 2028	**From $16000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Nov 17 - Nov 28, 2028	**From $16500** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Nov 18 - Nov 29, 2028	**From $16500** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Nov 28 - Dec 9, 2028	**From $16500** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Dec 8 - Dec 19, 2028	**From $17000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Dec 17 - Dec 28, 2028	**From $17000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Dec 27, 2028 - Jan 7, 2029	**From $23000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution

2029 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 1 - Jan 12, 2029	**From $21000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Endurance
Jan 6 - Jan 17, 2029	**From $23000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Jan 16 - Jan 27, 2029	**From $23000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Feb 18 - Mar 1, 2029	**From $23000** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution
Feb 28 - Mar 11, 2029	**From $20250** +internal air	Aboard National Geographic Resolution

See https://www.nathab.com/antarctica-and-arctic/classic-antarctica-expedition/dates-fees for the latest pricing details.

Included

Overnight at hotel on Day 1; all accommodations; meals from lunch on Day 1 to lunch on Day 12; excursions; services of National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions Leader, Naturalist staff and expert guides; alcoholic beverages (except premium brands); gratuities to ship's crew; use of kayaks; entrance fees; all port charges and service taxes.

Not Included

Air transportation; immigration fees; personal items such as internet, laundry, voyage DVD, etc.; optional travel and/or medical evacuation insurance.

Recommended Insurance

Since the areas we travel to are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we strongly recommend that all guests have, at minimum, medical evacuation insurance for this program. While this is not required, we make this strong suggestion in the interest of our guests' safety. We recommend that your chosen independent insurance plan includes at least $250,000 in medical evacuation coverage.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

Physical Requirements

Moderate

You must be able to walk unassisted for a minimum of one mile over rough and uneven terrain including rocky beaches, ice and snow (in knee-high rubber boots), in order to join this expedition cruise. To participate in excursions ashore, you will need to walk down steep stairs and climb into and out of inflatable Zodiacs, which can sometimes feel unstable depending on water conditions. Travel via Zodiac occurs over variable conditions and can sometimes be quite bumpy. If it's windy, you may get wet from sea spray. Travelers with back problems or other health issues that could be exacerbated by such conditions should take this into consideration. Travelers must be prepared for any type of weather, including extreme conditions. Daytime highs typically range from 30°F – 40°F on the Antarctic Peninsula, but can drop well below freezing with high winds and wind chill. Nighttime temperatures may drop into the low 20s. Sea conditions during the Drake Passage crossing, which typically lasts two days, can be extremely rough, potentially causing issues for those who are sensitive to motion sickness, and can make for unsteady walking around the ship. We recommend discussing medications with your personal physician if you are prone to motion sickness.

Medical Form

Due to the extremely remote nature of this adventure, National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions requires that all travelers submit a medical form before departure. This form must be completed and signed by your primary care physician.

Important Information About This Trip

Antarctica’s tourist season is short, from early November to the end of March. The rest of the year, sea ice prohibits access to the continent, and perpetual darkness descends during the southern winter. Once spring arrives, Antarctica bursts into life. Each

period of the austral summer travel season has its own highlights. The details below will give you an idea of what wildlife sightings and natural phenomena to expect when.

November–December (Spring/Early Summer)
Spring comes to the northern latitudes first, in the Falkland Islands and South Georgia by November, and to the South Shetland Islands in December, moving progressively farther down the Antarctic Peninsula and continent as the year continues. Warmer temperatures in December and 20+ hours of daylight (providing exceptional photography) mark the arrival of high season for tourism. As ice melts and steady sunlight bathes the region, an explosion of phytoplankton in areas of ocean upwelling provides food for a host of creatures – krill form the next rung on the food chain, sustaining squid and fish that are ultimately eaten by seabirds (including penguins), seals and whales that arrive to feast on summer's bounty.

Visitors can expect to see:

- Crabeater seals (young are born between September and November)
- Southern Elephant seals courting into November, and huge males aggressively guarding their harems until early December
- Humpback, minke and Southern right whales migrating into the area
- Courting penguins engaged in nest building and stone stealing. By late December, penguin chicks begin to hatch, beginning in the South Shetland Islands and progressing south in January
- Spectacular icebergs and floes as winter sea ice breaks up in bays and channels, providing haul-out spots for seals

January–February (Summer)
Warm temperatures continue, with daytime highs often in the 40s, though coastal temperatures are typically around freezing. Receding ice opens more coastal inlets and bays ever farther south. Wildlife activity is at its height, offering travelers the greatest variety of species and behavior to witness.

Visitors can expect to see:

- Young penguin chicks, most of which hatch in January. Colonies are very busy as parents scurry back and forth feeding their young
- A multitude of seabirds: Some 35 species live south of the Antarctic Convergence, and 19 of these breed on the Antarctic continent itself. These include ocean-going pelagic species such as the albatrosses and petrels, and coastal species that feed close to shore, including skuas, cormorants, terns and sheathbills
- Fur seal and leopard seal pups are visible on ice floes
- Whale sightings continue to increase, with whale watching is at its best in February

March (Autumn)
Dark nights return but daytime temperatures are still above zero. Travelers get a taste of the Antarctic winter to come.

Visitors can expect to see:

- Penguins molting, losing their fuzzy gray down and developing their adult plumage
- Plenty of whales – numbers remain excellent into March
- Fur seals along the peninsula and offshore islands
- More landscapes unveiled and hiking options opened as snow cover is at its lowest point

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- Snow algae blooms, turning some slopes colorful shades of pink and green
- Fascinating patterns of thin sea ice on the ocean's surface, created by deep night frosts
- The southern polar lights, or aurora australis, which may appear on clear nights

Getting There & Getting Home

You will need to arrive the morning of Day 1 in either Buenos Aires or Santiago (depending on which ship you are on). You can depart the evening of Day 12.

We can best serve you by having National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions' air department book your flights, since National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions is most familiar with the special requirements of each trip. Please call National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions directly at 800-397-3348. Note that while National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions' air department will offer you its best available rates on airfare, you may find special web rates or better fares online.

Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

Natural Habitat Adventures · PO Box 3065 · Boulder, CO USA 80307

US & Canada: 800-543-8917 · International: 303-449-3711

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