

## Patagonia - Essential Patagonia | Ultramarine

Trip Code  
ACQEPP  
Departure



### Introduction

#### **Discover one of the most incredible fjord systems on Earth as you explore southern Patagonia.**

Exploring this captivating coastline by helicopter flightseeing and Zodiac cruises offering two very different perspectives with breathtaking views of some of the world's most secluded and stunning scenery. Cruise near unique tidewater glaciers, discover fascinating wildlife from Magellanic Penguins to South American sea lions and elephant seals. You will explore this region in the pioneering vessel, the Ultramarine, one of the most advanced polar expedition vessels offering a range of adventure options while in style and comfort.

Please Note: On the 20 March 2028 departure has a slightly different itinerary in that Day 14 does not go to Marta Island, but instead stops for a visit to the San Isidro Lighthouse museum offering visitors a chance to explore the region's cultural and natural heritage.

### Itinerary

#### DAY 1: Arrival in Buenos Aires

You may arrive in Buenos Aires at any time during Day 1 of your itinerary. Upon arriving in this splendid city, known for its architecture and rich European heritage, you will independently transfer to your group hotel (pre-expedition hotel night included in mandatory transfer package).



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Departure

20/03/2027, 20/03/2028

Duration

15 Days Fly Ushuaia and Embarkation

Locations

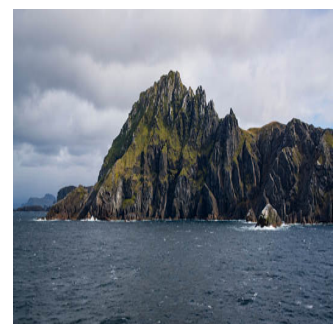
Chile, Patagonia, Argentina

After an early breakfast at the hotel, the group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Ushuaia, Argentina. Upon arrival, you will be transferred from the airport to a central downtown location to have some time on your own to explore this quaint port town before making your way to the pier. After a late afternoon embarkation, you will sail along the historic Beagle Channel, which transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America.



### DAY 3: Cape Horn

As we begin our exploration of Chile's southern extent, expect a new adventure every day. Though each expedition will be different, depending on the weather, we aim to start our journey to the "edge of the earth" with a visit to historic Cape Horn (Cabo de Hornos). At the southernmost point of the Tierra del Fuego ("Land of Fire") archipelago, the most isolated place in the Americas, this steep, rocky headland on Hornos Island marks the northern boundary of the famous Drake Passage, where the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans meet. From the 1700s to the early 1900s, prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, this cape was part of a major global trade route. If sea and weather conditions allow, you may go ashore for a hike out to the lighthouse, the tiny Stella Maris ("Star of the Sea") Chapel, and the albatross-shaped monument honoring the many mariners who lost their lives attempting to "round the Horn." Atop the windswept promontory, pause for a moment to take in the panoramic view and to enjoy the peaceful solitude that can only be found at one of the most southern stretches of land in the world. You can even have your passport stamped by the family operating the lighthouse!



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Duration: Diego Ramirez Islands

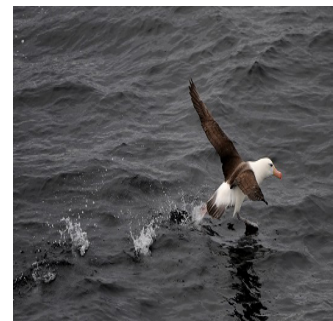
15 Days

Locations will then continue cruising farther

Chile, Patagonia, Argentina

South, to the Diego Ramirez Islands, the most southern point of South America and one of the least-explored places on the planet. This small archipelago was actually thought to be the southernmost land mass in the world when it was discovered in 1619 by the Spanish Garcia de Nodal expedition.

Named after the expedition's cosmographer, the archipelago held this distinction for 156 years, until Capt. James Cook's discovery of the South Sandwich Islands in 1775. Weather permitting, we'll Zodiac cruise around these tussock-grass-covered islands to admire the abundant birdlife. A designated Important Bird Area, and part of the recently-designated Diego Ramirez Islands and Drake Passage Marine Park, the archipelago is home to millions of breeding seabirds, and an exceptional place for birdwatching. Binoculars in hand, birders will marvel at the sight of multiple species of albatross (these islands are the southernmost albatross breeding ground in the world), including black-browed albatross, shy albatross and grey-headed albatross. Sightings of dolphins, South American fur seals, and rockhopper, macaroni and Magellanic penguins are also possible here.



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20/03/2027 - 20/03/2028

Duration

15 Days

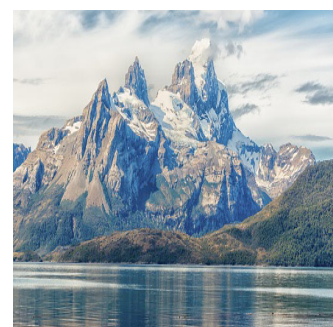
Location Chile, Patagonia, Argentina

As our ship sails back north toward the southern edge of Tierra del Fuego, stimulating presentations by your Expedition Team will enrich your knowledge of the glacial systems, geology, environment, wildlife and storied history of the region as you retrace Charles Darwin's historic journey through the Beagle Channel, a 150-mile (240 km) strait separating Tierra del Fuego's main island from several smaller islands. Named after Captain Robert FitzRoy's famous ship on which Charles Darwin was a passenger, the channel presents plenty of photo ops to capture seabirds hovering overhead and dramatic vistas of jagged-peaked mountains and massive tidewater glaciers. Rugged and untouched, this magnificent landscape is as starkly beautiful as it was when Darwin first laid eyes on it in 1833. Glacier Alley (as it's nicknamed) is one of the most spectacular ship passages in Tierra del Fuego. To honour the European countries that first explored the region, the glaciers have taken their names—España (Oblicuo), Romanche, Alemania (Roncagli), Francia, Italia, and Holland Glaciers. As we navigate the fjords, your Expedition Team will keep watch for Andean condors, massive birds rivaled in wingspan by only the wandering albatross.



### DAY 6: Dainelli (Aguila) Glacier

Located at the end of a tranquil lagoon surrounded by lush sub-Antarctic forests in Agostini Sound, Dainelli Glacier (sometimes called Aguila—Spanish for “Eagle” Glacier) is a unique sight, as it appears to flow over rolling hills rather than mountains. Cruising aboard a Zodiac toward the blue-tinged wall of ice, conditions permitting, you will be humbled by the wonder of nature's power. We hope to venture ashore for an easy hike along the beach to get a more intensive look at the glacier and surrounding mountains.



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**Duration** Cruising The Chilean Fjords

15 Days

**Locations**

Continuing north, we'll navigate through a remote network of coastal fjords and channels, including time spent venturing out into the Pacific Ocean. Your Expedition Team will prepare for the adventures that await, helping you further understand the glacial systems, as well as the flora and fauna that can be found in this part of Chile. Take a moment, as we glide past soaring snow-capped peaks, to contemplate the mariners of long ago who traveled these same sheltered passageways, and were rewarded with the same wondrous sights.



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DAY 8 - Puerto Natales and Torres Del Paine

Day 9

15 Days

**Schedule** The turquoise waters of the

**Chile, Patagonia, Argentina** extraordinary stretch of coastline leading to

The small port of Puerto Natales, we'll

meander through a mesmerizing maze of

deep, windswept fjords, narrow channels

and isolated bays, with an eye toward the

rugged landscape, unique wildlife and

impressive glaciers that tumble from the

towering mountains into the icy waters

below, along with the imperial and king

cormorants, South American terns, black-

necked swans and southern wigeons (Chiloé

wigeons) that frequent the fjord. Torres del

Paine National Park is one of the most

stunning wilderness areas in South

America, and Puerto Natales is the gateway.

This enormous park is a UNESCO Biosphere

Reserve, so designated for both its natural

wonders and ancient human history, and

named for the three granite peaks that

tower above the glacier-fed lakes. Enjoy a

full day of hiking tailored to your preferred

activity level and stopping at lookouts in the

park, followed by a traditional Patagonian

barbecue in the afternoon. Taking our

expedition onto dry land for another full

day, we will also visit a working Patagonian

estancia ("ranch"), founded in 1891 by

Scottish immigrants. Here you will learn

about Patagonian sheep farming in a

historic pastoral setting. Inhabiting the

surrounding grasslands are the ostrich-like

rhea, and guanacos, a wild relative of the

domestic llama. Complete your cultural

experience with a lunch of barbecued lamb

al palo ("on a stick"), and return to the ship

in the early evening.



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15 Days

Cruising the calm, crystal-clear waters of

Los Canales de las Montañas ("Channel" or

Chilean Patagonia, Argentina) will leave you

breathless. You'll be awed by the amazing

series of waterfalls cascading down

between the jagged peaks that rise up

sharply on either side of the narrow, 41-mile

(66 km) long channel dotted with glaciers,

five of which spill dramatically into the

water. Here, impressive ice fields glisten,

and steeply sloped glaciers exceed

elevations over 8,235 feet (2,510 meters).

The channel also provides an ideal place to

put our Zodiacs in the water for more

detailed exploring or going ashore for a hike

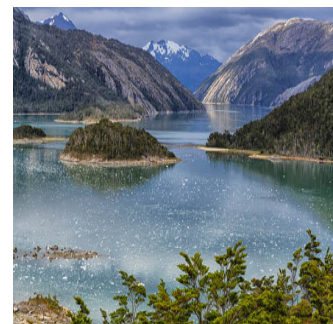
to scenic viewpoints. If you're feeling more

adventurous, perhaps you'll treat yourself to

an optional kayaking excursion (extra cost),

an exceptional opportunity to experience

the channel from a special perspective.



### DAY 11: Tucker Islets

A series of small islands and rocky outcrops

in Almirantazgo Sound ("Admiralty Sound"),

a small fjord off the Strait of Magellan,

Tuckers Islets is a superb location for

viewing penguins. Though landing here is

prohibited, a Zodiac excursion will take you

very near a pebble beach to view a colony of

4,000-plus breeding Magellanic penguins,

conditions permitting. Named for

Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan,

whose crew sighted the charming creatures

in 1520 during the first circumnavigation of

the globe, the species is native to the

region, and the sight of them in their

burrows, lounging on the beach or waddling

in and out of the water, is one you won't

forget. If we're fortunate, we may also see

Chilean skuas, Magellanic cormorants (rock

shags), imperial cormorants (king shags),

oystercatchers, kelp geese, or even

dolphins.



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15 Days

Continuing our exploration of Almirantazgo

Sound, we plan to explore ashore at

Ainsworth Bay, one of the most picturesque

and pristine places in Patagonia.

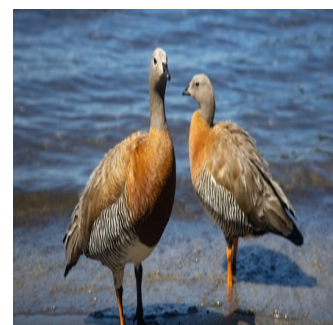
Surrounded by untouched sub-Antarctic forest, this isolated bay is a protected area within the border of Alberto de Agostini National Park. It hosts abundant birdlife, so you'll want to keep your eyes peeled as we cruise in the Zodiacs. Hiking options will be available for all fitness levels, affording panoramic views of Marinelli Glacier, Marinelli Fjord and the surrounding Darwin mountain range. In 2003, a small breeding colony of black-browed albatross was documented on Islote Albatros ("Albatross Islet"), located in Admiralty Sound.

Normally albatross are seabirds, nesting and feeding in coastal waters and open ocean; this the first record of a colony of this species in inland waters, feeding mainly in fjords and channels.



### DAY 13: Bahia Brookes

Another excellent spot for glacier exploring in Almirantazgo Sound is Bahia Brookes (Brookes Bay), where, conditions permitting, we'll go ashore by Zodiac. The bay offers ample chances for closer views of a number of waterfalls and glaciers, including the calving North Brookes Glacier, set against the breathtaking backdrop of the towering Darwin mountain range. Amid the serene silence of this icy wonderland, the only sound you may hear is the powerful roar of ice breaking off and crashing into the frigid waters below. This is also a great location for viewing ice fall deposits, which form reconstituted glaciers, and kame (silt and sediment deposits).



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DAY 14: Marta Island

Duration

15 Days

In the middle of the Strait of Magellan,

Marta Island (Isla Marta) is home to

abundant wildlife and more than one

thousand Patagonian (South American) sea

lions. To protect the wildlife, shore landings

are not possible here, but we do plan to

circumnavigate the island, providing

numerous opportunities to observe and

photograph the colony from a short

distance, in the comfort of a Zodiac. Called

lobos marinos (“sea wolves”) by local

Chileans, these giant pinnipeds—males can

weigh over 700 pounds/320 kg—form quite

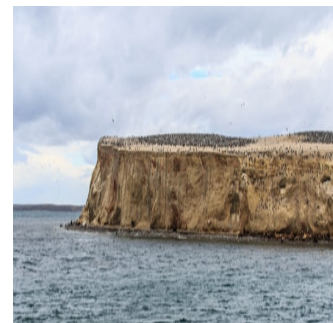
a noisy group as each sea lion vies for a

choice spot of coastline. As you cruise by,

sightings of imperial cormorants, skuas,

southern gulls, Antarctic pigeons—and if

we’re lucky, dolphins—are also possible.



DAY 15: Disembark Punta Arenas and Fly

Santiago

After an adventurous two weeks of

exploration, you’ll say goodbye to your

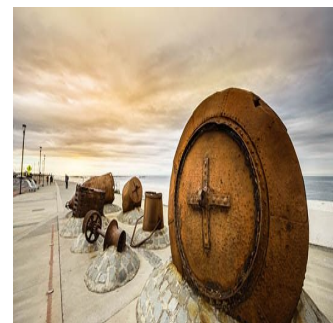
Expedition Team and disembark in Punta

Arenas, to be transferred to the airport for

your charter flight to Santiago, where you

are welcome to continue on your own

travels or connect to your homeward flights.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation

Cabin on board ship & hotel

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Duration  
15 Days  
Locations  
Chile, Patagonia, Argentina

## INCLUSIONS

Cabin accommodation on board ship  
All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board throughout your voyage  
Beer, standard wines & spirits, & cocktails during pre-dinner bar service, dinner & evenings  
Coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock  
All scheduled landings and excursions  
Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition team  
Expedition parka (yours to keep)  
A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for landings and Zodiac cruising excursions  
One 10 to 15 minute helicopter flight-seeing excursion (weather permitting)  
Torres del Paine National Park entrance fee and ground transfers  
Estancia visit and ground transfers  
Lunches ashore during Puerto Natales/Torres del Paine excursion days  
Free WiFi

### MANDATORY TRANSFER PACKAGE (INCLUDED)

Inclusions  
One night pre transfer accommodation in a hotel in Buenos Aires with breakfast  
Group economy flights from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia  
Transfers from the hotel to the airport in Buenos Aires for your flight to Ushuaia (arrival transfer in Buenos Aires on day 1 is excluded)  
Group flights from Punta Arenas to Santiago on disembarkation  
Group Transfers to/from the ship

## EXCLUSIONS

International flights  
Any other pre or post land arrangements not mentioned above  
Passport and visa expenses  
Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above  
Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended  
Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned  
Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew  
Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights  
Laundry, bar and other personal charges unless specified  
Optional Adventure Activities  
Difficulty Rating  
2 (light adventure)  
Single Surcharge  
Available upon request, a supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please [contact us](#) for more information.  
Prices are based on per person, and vary from single, quad, triple, and twin cabins.  
Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.  
All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.  
Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.

Notes  
On the 20 March 2028 departure has a slightly different itinerary in that Day 14 does not go to Marta Island, but instead stops for a visit to the San Isidro Lighthouse museum offering visitors a chance to explore the region's cultural and natural heritage.

Price Dependent upon  
Includes charter flights from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia and Punta Arenas to Santiago  
Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

Sustainability