

Antarctic Peninsula - Emperor Penguins of Weddell Sea | Le Commandant Charcot

Trip Code
ACPOWEP
Departure



Introduction

The Weddell Sea offers an extraordinary voyage of exploration aboard Le Commandant Charcot, where you can experience intense emotions and encounter rare wildlife like emperor and Adelie penguins. As you navigate through the ice floes and gigantic tabular icebergs, you'll follow in the footsteps of great polar explorers like Sir Ernest Shackleton. Guided by passionate naturalists, you'll learn about the history and beauty of this captivating region, making for a unique and unforgettable adventure.

*package price includes a pre-night accommodation in Santiago and flights from Santiago to Ushuaia return with transfers to/from the ship.

Itinerary

DAY 1: Arrive & Spend the night in Santiago

Arrive in Santiago and spend the night exploring before starting your voyage the next day.



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Duration

14 Days

Capital of Argentina's Tierra del Fuego
provinces, Ushuaia is considered the
Weddell Sea, Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula
gateway to the White Continent and the

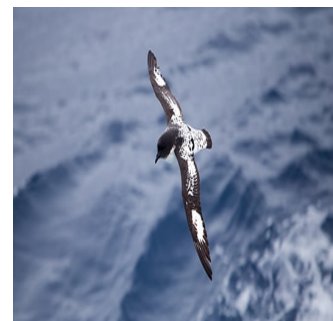
South Pole. Nicknamed "El fin del mundo"
by the Argentinian people, this city at the
end of the world nestles in the shelter of
mountains surrounded by fertile plains that
the wildlife seem to have chosen as the
ultimate sanctuary. With its exceptional site,
where the Andes plunge straight into the
sea, Ushuaia is one of the most fascinating
places on earth, its very name evocative of
journeys to the unlikely and the
inaccessible...



DAY 3: Crossing the Drake Passage: Days

3-4

Use your days spent in the Drake Passage to
familiarise yourself with your ship and
deepen your knowledge of the Antarctic.
The Expedition Leader will first present the
IAATO rules of conduct that must be
observed during landings in the region and
will explain everything you need to know
about the zodiac outings. Lectures about the
history and wildlife of the Antarctic will be
an opportunity for you to learn more about
this magical region, where every cruise is a
unique experience. From the ship's bridge,
you will experience exceptional sailing
moments before joining the naturalist-
guides on your ship's exterior decks to look
out for albatrosses, cape petrels, and other
seabirds flying over the Drake Passage.



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Succumb to the magic of a place unlike any

location. On this day, the mythical Antarctic

Peninsula will not only fascinate and

promises its visitors unforgettable moments.

Throughout your adventure in this icy

realm, you will find yourself in the heart of a

spectacular decor in subtle shades of blue

and white, surrounded by exceptional

wildlife. Penguins, humpback whales, seals

and giant petrels are at home here, as are

elephant seals, fur seals, Antarctic minke

whales, and orcas. Depending on which

sites you will be lucky enough to visit, you

may get the chance to observe them and

share with them the beauty of these

extreme parts. Each day, based on ice

conditions, the Captain and the Expedition

Leader will suggest zodiac outings or

landings to discover the infinite riches of

the Antarctic Peninsula. Glaciers, ice floe,

tabletop icebergs, mountain peaks that

plunge straight into the sea, volcanic

beaches, research stations, enchanting

bays, and vestiges of the whaling industry:

these are the faces of the Antarctic that will

likely reveal themselves to you, in a hushed

and surreal atmosphere. You will sail in the

wake of Jean-Baptiste Charcot, Adrien de

Gerlache and Sir Ernest Shackleton, great

Antarctic explorers who, from the 19th

century, set out to conquer these remote

and uninhabited lands.



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Impassable, extreme and captivating: this is
the best way to describe the Weddell Sea,
Weddell Sea, Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula,
much of which is covered by a layer of thick

densely packed ice. It is a challenge and a

privilege to sail upon this sea. Polar

exploration finds its full meaning here.

Heading towards the South is a real quest,

with the promise of highly-charged

encounters with the continent's endemic

fauna. This is the kingdom of the emperor

penguin, the largest penguin in the world,

renowned for its elegance. Unlike other

penguins that live on the rocks, the emperor

nest on the ice floe which it needs for its

reproductive cycle. It is therefore on the ice

floe that you will be able to observe it

walking around with its characteristic gait.

In this southern sea, where the ice changes

and is transformed constantly, there is

never any monotony. The new reliefs and

new colours ensure never-ending

wonderment. You will sail into the heart of

the immaculate ice floe, which is dislocated

or densely packed, into an alley of icebergs.

Among them are immense blocks of ice,

tabular icebergs, that drift and illuminate

the ocean with their cerulean blue haloes.

Aboard, on shore, on the ice, you will be as

close as possible to the colonies of Adelie

penguins, Weddell seals, Mink whales,

orcas, snow petrels.... With a little luck, you

will get a glimpse of a rare Ross seal with

its silver pelage or of emperor penguins,

waddling along the edge of the ice floe. A

sight that is as fascinating as it is emotional.



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Throughout your time in the north of the Antarctic Peninsula, you will find yourself in the heart of a spectacular décor in subtle shades of blue and white, surrounded by exceptional wildlife. You will sail through the Antarctic Sound, named after Swedish explorer Otto Nordenskjöld's ship, which was trapped by the ice during an important scientific expedition in 1902. The gateway to the Weddell Sea, this sound is filled with gigantic tabular icebergs and plates of sea ice drifting northward from the coastal areas of this vast sea. It is home to Adelie penguins and a great many leopard seals.



DAY 10: The Weddell Sea exploration - Day 10 & 11

Continue your exploration of the Weddell Sea, where shifting ice floes and towering bergs constantly reshape the horizon. As the ship navigates through ever-changing channels of ice, keep watch for wildlife thriving in this remote kingdom—penguins on the pack, seals resting on the floe, and whales surfacing in the open leads. Each hour brings new light, new textures, and fresh chances for unforgettable polar encounters.



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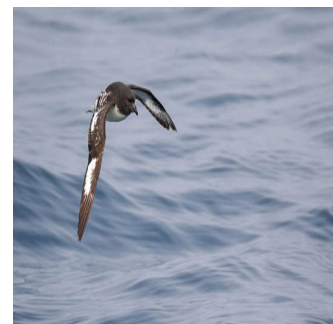
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Locations one place, one sea, one waterway

Weddell Sea, Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula

Created by tourists, researchers and hardened seafarers alike, it is undoubtedly Drake Passage. Situated at the latitude of the infamous Furious Fifties winds, between Cape Horn and the South Shetland Islands, it is the shortest route to connect Antarctica to South America. Seasoned navigators will tell you that you must earn your visit to the White Continent! As the Antarctic convergence zone where cold currents rising up from the South Pole meet warmer equatorial water masses, Drake Passage harbours a very diverse marine fauna. Don't forget to look to the sky to catch a glimpse of elegant albatross and Cape petrels, playfully floating about in the wind around your ship.



DAY 14: Disembark in Ushuaia & Fly to Santiago

Capital of Argentina's Tierra del Fuego province, Ushuaia is considered the gateway to the White Continent and the South Pole. Nicknamed "El fin del mundo" by the Argentinian people, this city at the end of the world nestles in the shelter of mountains surrounded by fertile plains that the wildlife seem to have chosen as the ultimate sanctuary. With its exceptional site, where the Andes plunge straight into the sea, Ushuaia is one of the most fascinating places on earth, its very name evocative of journeys to the unlikely and the inaccessible... Fly back to Santiago where your journey comes to an end.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation Hotel & Cabin on board a ship

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INCLUSIONS

Duration
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Locations
Weddell Sea, Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula

Cabin accommodation whilst on board Le Commandant Charcot
1-night hotel accommodation the night in Santiago before embarkation
Arrival Shuttle Transfer from Airport to Hotel in Santiago
Group Transfer from Santiago Hotel to Airport on Day of Embarkation
Return flights from Santiago to Ushuaia in economy class
Group Arrival & Departure Transfers in Ushuaia
All meals whilst on board
Open bar (no premium brands)
Mini bar in your stateroom (Champagne additional fee)
All scheduled landings and excursions, conditions permitting
Guiding and lectures by expedition team
Complimentary Polar expedition jacket
Free use of rubber boots for shore excursions
All port taxes
Comprehensive pre and post voyage informational material
Free WIFI
Kayaking Activities (limited places available)

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

Airfares other than specified
Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)
Travel Insurance
Personal expenses such as laundry
Gratuities for the crew (recommend US\$15 per person per day)
Optional Activities not mentioned in itinerary

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

Single Surcharge

Available upon request. A supplement surcharge may apply and is subject to availability. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

Notes

Prices are based on per person, twin share.
Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.
Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.

Price Dependent upon

Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

Sustainability