

Antarctica - Antarctic Explorer 2027/2028 | Douglas Mawson

Trip Code
ACAFAE9
Departure



Introduction

This Antarctic fly/sail journey blends efficiency with exploration, flying you over the Drake Passage in one direction so you can spend more time experiencing the white continent itself. Beginning in Punta Arenas, you'll fly to King George Island where your expedition vessel awaits, ready to take you deep into the Antarctic Peninsula. Over several days, you'll explore a landscape of towering glaciers, drifting icebergs and wildlife-rich shores, with regular Zodiac excursions and landings bringing you up close to penguin colonies, seals and feeding whales. With long daylight hours and a flexible itinerary shaped by conditions, each day offers something different, whether cruising through icy channels or stepping ashore in this remote and remarkable environment.

Your return journey crosses the Drake Passage by sea, giving you time to unwind, take in lectures and reflect on everything you've experienced while still keeping an eye out for seabirds and marine life. The voyage concludes back in Ushuaia after sailing through the Beagle Channel, wrapping up a well-balanced Antarctic adventure that combines immersive exploration with a smoother, more time-efficient way to travel.

Itinerary

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Departure

15/01/2028 Arrive Punta Arenas

Duration

9 Days in Punta Arenas, where you will be

met by a representative of Aurora

Expeditions and transferred to our

Antarctic, Antarctic Peninsula

We ask that you arrive no later than 2:00pm

on this day. In addition to ensuring your

arrival in time for our important pre-flight

briefings, if weather conditions deem it

necessary, we may depart for King George

Island on Day 1 as opposed to Day 2. Please

visit the Aurora Expeditions hospitality desk

in the lobby between 2.00 pm - 6.00 pm to

collect your luggage cabin tags. Our team

will confirm details regarding your

embarkation day, answer any questions and

provide you with information about where

to dine or purchase last minute items.

Overlooking the Straits of Magellan, the city

sits astride one of the world's most historic

trade routes. Today, Punta Arenas reflects a

great blend of cultural backgrounds, from

English sheep ranchers to Portuguese

sailors. It remains an utterly fascinating

testament to Chile's rich history. Modern

day Punta Arenas is home to many popular

restaurants, and bars, offering a mix of local

and international fare (meals at your own

expense today). At 7.00 pm this evening,

meet your fellow expeditioners at a voyage

briefing where we will reconfirm your

transfer times for tomorrow, explain the

procedures for your flight to King George

Island and outline important IAATO

regulations for visitors to Antarctica.



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Departure

15/01/2028 to King George & Embarkation

Duration

9 Days

Port of Origin

Christiansburg Airport, Antarctica (weather permitting). The flight will take

approximately one hour and forty-five minutes. On arrival into King George Island our expedition team is on hand to greet you

and to prepare you for your Zodiac transfer to the vessel. You will have time to settle

into your cabin before our important safety briefings. Note: King George Island is

located at the northern part of the Antarctic Peninsula in the South Shetland Islands and

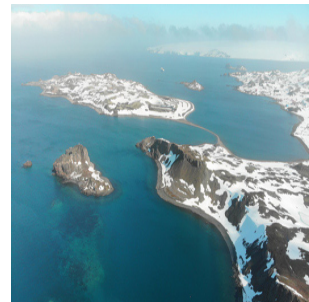
is one of the most remote places on Earth. A clear sky with perfect visibility is required

for safe take-off and landing. A contingency plan will be applied to your itinerary should

your flights not proceed today. Your safety is our utmost priority. We apologise in

advance for any delays caused due to this unpredictable situation. Please refer to our

terms and conditions for a more detailed explanation.



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Departure

15/01/2028 Antarctic Peninsula - Day 3 to 6

Duration

It's almost impossible to describe the feeling of arriving in Antarctica. Spotting your first iceberg and taking a deep breath of some of the most fresh, crisp air on earth is an experience that will stay with you forever. Once we arrive, the western side of the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland Islands are ours to explore, and we have a host of choices available to us. Because we are so far south, we will experience approximately 18-24 hours of daylight and the days can be as busy as you wish. Your experienced expedition team, who have made countless journeys to this area, will use their expertise to design your voyage from day to day, choosing the best options based on the prevailing weather, ice conditions and wildlife opportunities. We generally make landings or Zodiac excursions twice a day. You will want to rug up before joining Zodiac cruises along spectacular ice cliffs or among grounded icebergs, keeping watch for whales, seals and porpoising penguins. Zodiacs will also transport you from the ship to land, where you can visit penguin rookeries, discover historic huts and explore some of our favourite spots along the peninsula. While ashore we aim to stretch our legs, wandering along pebbly beaches or perhaps up snow-covered ridgelines to vantage points with mountains towering overhead and ice-speckled oceans below. If you have chosen an optional activity, you will have the option to do that whenever conditions allow, and of course keen polar plungers will have the chance to fully immerse themselves in polar waters - conditions permitting! In addition to Zodiac cruises and shore excursions, we may ship cruise some of the narrow, dramatic straits separating offshore islands from the mainland, or linger in scenic bays to watch whales travelling or feeding. This is a great time to enjoy the observation lounge or make your way to the bridge for uninterrupted views of Antarctica in all its splendour. Keep an ear out for the creak and deep rumble of glaciers as they carve their way from summit to sea. Take a quiet moment to experience the wonder of this incredible white continent.



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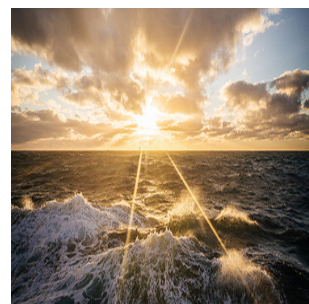
Duration

9 Days Crossing the Drake Passage - Day 7

Locations

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula

Enjoy a final morning landing in the South Shetland Islands before we re-enter the Drake Passage for our return journey to South America. With lectures and film presentations to complete our Antarctic experience, there is still plenty of time to enjoy the magic of the Southern Ocean and the life that calls it home. There is time for reflection and discussion about what we have seen and experienced. We hope you become ambassadors for Antarctica telling your family, friends and colleagues about your journey to this magical place, advocating for its conservation and preservation so that they might one day visit the region to experience what you have been lucky to see and do here. As we approach the tip of South America, our Captain may sail close to legendary Cape Horn, weather and time permitting.



DAY 9: Disembark in Ushuaia

During the early morning, we cruise up the Beagle Channel, before quietly slipping into dock in Ushuaia, where we will be free to disembark around 8.00 am. Farewell your expedition team and fellow passengers as we all continue our onward journeys, hopefully with a newfound sense of the immense power of nature. Upon disembarkation, for those continuing their travels in the region, transportation to the hotel will be arranged exclusively for guests who have booked their accommodations through Aurora or for those staying in downtown areas near the port.

Expeditioners departing on flights prior to 12.30 pm will be directly transferred to Ushuaia Airport, those with flights after 12.30 pm will have the opportunity to explore Ushuaia before an afternoon airport transfer, and the transfer procedures and details will be communicated onboard before disembarkation.



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Duration
9 Days

Accommodation Hotel & Cabin on board a ship

Locations Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula

INCLUSIONS

- All airport transfers mentioned in the itinerary.
- One night's hotel accommodation including breakfast, in Punta Arenas on Day 1.
- Charter flight from Punta Arenas to King George Island.
- Onboard accommodation during voyage, including daily cabin service.
- All meals, snacks, tea and coffee during voyage.
- Beer, house wine and soft drinks with dinner.
- Captain's Farewell reception including four-course dinner, house cocktails, house beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages. All shore excursions and Zodiac cruises.
- Educational lectures and guiding services provided by Expedition Team.
- One 3-in-1 waterproof, polar expedition jacket.
- Complimentary use of Muck Boots during the voyage.
- Comprehensive pre-departure information.
- Port surcharges, permits and landing fees.
- Wi-Fi (Please note we travel to remote regions and therefore the connection can be unreliable)

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

- International or domestic flights, unless specified
- Transfers not mentioned in the itinerary
- Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)
- Airport arrival or departure taxes
- Travel insurance
- Hotels and meals not included in itinerary
- Optional excursions not included in the itinerary
- Optional activity surcharges
- All items of a personal nature, including but not limited to alcoholic beverages and soft drinks (outside of dinner service), laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, wi-fi, email or phone charges.
- Gratuities for ship's crew - *(A \$15 USD per person per day gratuity for the crew is automatically added to your onboard account. It is at your discretion if you would like to remove the tip (or adjust the amount) when you settle your bill. It is not necessary to tip the expedition team members. This gratuity amount is included for suites as part of their 'Suite Benefits'.)*

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

Single Surcharge

Available upon request. Single occupancy cabins may be available with a surcharge. Subject to availability, contact us for more details.

Prices are based on per person, twin share (unless otherwise stated for triple/quad cabins)
Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.

Notes

Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions

Charter flight from Punta Arenas to King George Island on Day 2 is included in cruise cost.

Price Dependent upon

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

Sustainability