



## **Antarctica Classic**

11 days, Ushuaia to Ushuaia

Trip code XVCASX

### **What's included**

- 9 nts aboard the Expedition
- 1 nt hotel in Ushuaia, on a twin share basis

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Zodiac excursions with our expert expedition team
- Lectures and educational programs
- Waterproof boots supplied for USA sizes 4 - 16
- Expedition parka

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing July 21st, 2020 and onwards

# Itinerary

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## Itinerary Notes

This trip is assigned a Physical Rating of 2. It is accessible to most fitness levels and for those able to do extended walks and light hiking on various terrain. It is important to note that for landings in Antarctica we use Zodiacs and wet beach landings in what sometimes can be extreme environments. This will require you to be able to safely navigate ice and snow on uneven ground, to lift your leg over the side of a Zodiac and push yourself up, walk on wet, rocky beaches and stand throughout the landing with no place to sit. Please also note that the Expedition does not have an elevator and thus staircases must be used to move between decks, and depending on the weather the ship can sometimes find itself navigating rough and choppy sea conditions. For visual examples of the zodiac landings and activities please refer to the Excursions image gallery on the Expedition landing page [here](#).

**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Ushuaia

Arrive in Ushuaia at any time. Arrival transfer included. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the world's most southerly city.

There will be a welcome desk in the lobby of the start hotel that will provide more specific information on the Expedition and your upcoming adventure.

Please note that the first night in Ushuaia is on twin share basis. If you're travelling solo or have an odd number of travellers in your group and have not purchased a private cabin, you will be paired with another solo traveller of the same gender.



### Accommodation

Albatros Hotel (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Ushuaia Aerodrome - Ushuaia

Included arrival transfer.

Enjoy a free morning in Ushuaia. Do any last minute shopping, explore the town, or visit the surrounding countryside. Embarkation on the Expedition begins in the afternoon at the port in Ushuaia. Enjoy the evening sailing through the Beagle Channel.

Opt to visit the magnificent Tierra del Fuego National Park today before boarding the ship.

Expedition travel can be full of surprises! While it is our intention of adhere to the itinerary described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. On the first day onboard, the Expedition Leader will give an expedition overview outlining what the specific plans are for the trip.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



## Today's Activities

Free Time

Ushuaia

Explore the city, do some shopping or take an optional excursion and enjoy lunch ashore.

Expedition

Ushuaia - Beagle Channel

Not too big, not too little, our 128-passenger polar expedition ship is just right.

Expedition

Beagle Channel - Drake Passage

Not too big, not too little, our 128-passenger polar expedition ship is just right.

Embarkation of the Expedition

Ushuaia

In the afternoon, join your fellow passengers to take your group transfer and begin your journey on the Expedition. Please refer to your welcome letter or the joining instructions posted in the lobby of the start hotel. Make sure you have your passport handy as you are about to embark on the adventure of a lifetime.



## Optional Activities - Day 2

Tierra del Fuego National Park Visit

Ushuaia

Explore this stunning coastal national park extending 630 sq km. The Tierra del Fuego National Park has many different attractions, like Acigami Lake and Lapataia Bay, where the Pan-American Route ends. This is the southernmost national park of Argentina and the only one that protects mountains, sea, and forests within its limits.

Days 3–4

## Drake Passage/South Shetland Islands

The adventure begins with an 1000km (800mi) crossing of the passage named in honour of the 16th-century English sea captain and privateer, Sir Francis Drake. Take in daily lectures from the expedition team and keep an eye out for the first sightings of icebergs, whales and albatross following in the Expedition's wake.

The Expedition is at home in this part of the Southern Ocean, known for the unimpeded never ending fetch of the winds that encircle the Antarctic.

As the Expedition crosses the passage there will be time to become acquainted with the ship and frequent the common areas that include the lounge, dining hall, library and lecture hall where we meet our guides, ship's crew and expedition staff.

Begin lectures and information sessions to learn the extraordinary human and natural history of the Antarctic region



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



## Today's Activities

Expedition

Drake Passage - South Shetland Islands

Not too big, not too little, our 128-passenger polar expedition ship is just right.

Daily lectures and educational program

Drake Passage

Attend lectures hosted throughout the day on everything from local wildlife to geology to history. The Expedition has one of the highest ratios of expedition team members to guests – with one expert for every ten guests there is always someone on hand to answer questions and provide greater insight and appreciation of the world at its extremes. The expedition team is comprised of professional and highly skilled historians, marine biologists, and naturalists who offer keen insight and a unique personal perspective to each and every adventure.

Free Time

Drake Passage

Spend time out on deck and keep an eye out for sea birds and whales that live in these fertile waters. Wandering, Black-browed and Light-mantled Sooty Albatross, Prion's and Cap Petrels are among some of the species of seabirds that may follow the Expedition on the journey towards Antarctica.

Days 5–8

## South Shetland Islands/Antarctic Peninsula

Experience some of the most unique wildlife viewing and inspiring scenery in the world while setting foot on the Antarctic continent. Attempt two shore landings per day (weather permitting) and encounter Gentoo, Chinstrap and Adélie penguin rookeries, Weddell, crabeater and leopard seals, and orca, humpback and minke whales in the cold Antarctic waters. During the voyage, learn about the peninsula's remarkable history.

This is what we've all been waiting for - a chance to explore step foot on the Great White Continent! Over the next 4 days the Expedition will navigate southwards making stops in the South Shetland Islands then through the Bransfield Strait and to the Antarctic Peninsula.

Our goal is to attempt two excursions per day while navigating through the area but the itinerary and daily schedule will be based on the local weather and ice conditions.

During the voyage, learn about some of the most important and dramatic expeditions to this remote corner of the world.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Expedition

South Shetland Islands - Antarctic Peninsula

Not too big, not too little, our 128-passenger polar expedition ship is just right.

Zodiac Landings

Antarctica

Hop into one of the Expedition's 14 Zodiacs and take the quick, safe trip from the ship to the shore to encounter the awe-inspiring wilderness of Antarctica. Thanks to the performance of these boats in remote conditions, quick trips to shore are easily accomplished. Get up close to towering icebergs, glaciers and amazing wildlife. Depending on weather conditions these excursions will hopefully happen daily.

Daily lectures and educational program

Drake Passage

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appreciation of the world at its extremes. The expedition team is comprised of professional and highly skilled historians, marine biologists, and naturalists who offer keen insight and a unique personal perspective to each and every adventure.

Daily Briefings and Recaps on board the Expedition

Learn about the Expedition's current location, daily announcements, landing site-specific information as well as recaps of the previous day at a quick daily briefing.

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## **Optional Activities - Days 5-8**

Polar Plunge

You remembered to pack your bathing suit, right? Depending on weather conditions, opt to do the polar plunge and jump into the frigid waters of the Antarctic. Convince some of your fellow passengers to join and you'll be left with an amazing group experience no one will ever forget!

Days 9–10

## Drake Passage/Ushuaia

Begin the journey north to the home port of Ushuaia. Review the highlights of the Antarctic experience with the lecturers and staff. Keep sharp eyes on the observation deck for some last-minute whale sightings.

Leave Antarctica and head north across the Drake Passage. In between bird watching and whale watching and enjoying some final lectures by the expedition staff, this is a chance to relax and review the adventures of the past week before returning to Ushuaia.

Remember, the best way to experience the wildlife of the Drake Passage is to be on deck keeping a look out for Albatross, Prions, and Whales!



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Daily lectures and educational program

Drake Passage

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Expedition

Drake Passage - Ushuaia

Not too big, not too little, our 128-passenger polar expedition ship is just right.

Disembark the Expedition after breakfast.

In the morning upon completion you will disembarkation in Ushuaia. Passengers will receive a complimentary transfer to either the airport or a central location where luggage can be stored.

For those on morning flights, a transfer will bring them directly to Ushuaia airport (USH). The rest of the passengers will be transferred to the luggage storage point and given time to explore the city. These passengers should then return to retrieve their luggage and board a second transfer to Ushuaia airport in the afternoon, depending on their flight times. Please note that the transfer times are subject to change according to flight schedules.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

- 9 nts aboard the Expedition
- 1 nt hotel in Ushuaia, on a twin share basis
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Zodiac excursions with our expert expedition team
- Lectures and educational programs
- Waterproof boots supplied for USA sizes 4 - 16
- Expedition parka

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Set foot on Antarctica – the world's least-visited continent, watch majestic albatross soar by the ship while crossing the Drake Passage, opt to brave the chill of a polar plunge, witness immense icebergs and magnificent glaciers, have your questions answered by Antarctica experts

## Itinerary Notes

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## **Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?**

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips, visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## **Are there Itinerary notes?**

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# What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

1. Please note: While it is our intention to adhere to the route described above, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. On the first day onboard, your Expedition Leader will give you an expedition overview.

2. Flight Information: When packing your luggage please note that the weight restriction on the domestic flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia is only 15 to 23 kg (33 to 50 lbs) per person, depending on the airline. Please note that the airlines will generally charge for excess baggage.

3. Pre-embarkation medical questionnaires are required to be completed in-destination for all passengers prior to boarding the vessel. For more information, please read the [Expedition Health & Safety Protocols](#).

4. The Expedition is an adventure ship and does not offer an elevator

5. Please note:

WATERPROOF PANTS FOR ZODIAC LANDINGS:

- Waterproof pants are mandatory for all Zodiac excursions.

BOOTS FOR ZODIAC LANDINGS:

- Complimentary used waterproof boots will be supplied in the following sizes:

- USA size 4 - 16

- EURO size 35 - 49

Please be advised that there are limited numbers of the smallest and largest sizes.

If you wish to bring your own boots, you should follow the guidelines below:

Rubber, waterproof boots that are just below your knees (12-16" high or 30-41cm) with a strong, ridged non-skid sole are essential for wet landings via Zodiac. You usually have to step from the Zodiac into water, which can be up to 1 ft or 30 cm high on most landings. Do not bring heavy, cumbersome boots that make it difficult to walk. Do not bring boots with metal cleats as they cannot be used for the landings. Try out your boots before your voyage.

6. The electricity onboard is 220AC electrical outlets, with European 2 pin round holes, as well as 110-volt shaving sockets in the bathroom for electric razors only. You may wish to bring an international adapter. A limited supply of electrical adapters are available to borrow free of charge at the Purser's Desk.

7. Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been travelling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

## CAMPING & KAYAKING EXCURSIONS

For the more adventurous, our kayaking and camping trips provide the opportunity to encounter the intimacy and power of the polar regions in ways very few people can lay claim to having experienced. For details about these optional activities, including prep notes and full terms and conditions, please visit our [Polar Excursions](#) page.

Please note: Space is limited on camping (offered on select departures) & kayaking (offered on all departures) excursions; booking in advance is strongly recommended. To add these to your Expedition cruise, simply call us and reference your booking number

8. Please check out our [Parka](#) page for details about the expedition parka.

## 9. The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO)

G Adventures holds Full Membership Status with IAATO (the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators), an organisation that advocates, promotes and ensures safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic. All operations aboard our ship adhere to IAATO's strict rules, regulations and guidelines for operating in Antarctica. The world has witnessed an increase in highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreaks, leading to the tragic deaths of hundreds of thousands of seabirds, including seals and sea lions globally. IAATO is deeply concerned about the heightened risk of HPAI reaching Antarctica and consequently, rigorous measures have been put in place. We kindly request that you visit the [expedition guidelines page](#) to carefully review the documents located there, which will help you to adequately prepare and act in line with these essential guidelines for your upcoming journey.

## What is the group leader like?

A carefully chosen team will lead our voyage. Our expedition ships boast an international team of professional naturalists and lecturers. Their goal is to provide an informed and balanced interpretation of the destination, accomplished through stimulating lectures, day-to-day briefings, and informal discussions. Your lecturers and Expedition Leader will cover all aspects of the voyage including ornithology, marine biology, geography, geology, history and the environment, as well as practical things like photography. The expedition staff work conscientiously with you on deck and in the field, improving your observational skills to allow you to experience all that the destination has to offer. Their strong sense of ethics and ecological knowledge make for stimulating and mindful conversation whether onshore or at the dinner table. The Expedition Staff will pilot the Zodiac landing craft used for shore landings and Zodiac cruises; they are experienced drivers who operate the Zodiacs in a responsible manner.

## How large will the group be?

Max 134 aboard the Expedition

## What meals are included in this trip?

10 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 9 dinners

## What are the meals like on this trip?

Onboard our expedition ships you'll find a diversity of gourmet international cuisines prepared and catered by professional chefs; all meals are included in the price of your expedition. Dining is casual, tables are unassigned and the dining room is capable of seating the entire passenger complement at one time. There is always a selection of different meals available, and vegetarians will find plenty of options. Special dietary requirements can be accommodated with advance notice, please advise us at time of confirmation. Coffee, tea and water are all provided free of charge. All other beverages, alcoholic and non-alcoholic are not included and can be purchased in the dining room, pub or the lounge.

## What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Expedition, Zodiac, private bus, walking.

## Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

Local flights are not included in the price of this trip. Please make sure that you arrive into Ushuaia on Day 1. If you require assistance booking local flights please contact your G Adventures representative. From our experience we have found that there are regular delays in flights from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia.

Please note that internal flights in Argentina generally allow less luggage than international flights.

## Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## Where will we stay during the trip?

Twin-share hotel (1 nt), aboard the Expedition in quad-, triple-, twin-share cabins, or suites (all with en suite bathrooms and porthole or window, 9 nts). Please note that all cabins consist of twin-size berths and are ocean-facing. Suites have one queen-size bed.

## Will I get my own room?

Please note that if you have selected the Private Cabin option at the time of booking, you will receive your own room for the duration of this cruise. This includes the hotel in Ushuaia.

If you are a solo traveller and you have NOT selected the Private Cabin option, you will be paired with another solo traveller for all nights, including the hotel in Ushuaia.

For groups of 3 passengers travelling together who have booked a triple cabin, you will have a triple room in the hotel where available. If we cannot book a triple room, please note that one of you will be sharing with another solo traveller of the same gender for the hotel night in Ushuaia.

## What is the joining hotel?

Please note your first night hotel in Ushuaia is based on your cabin category:

Lower Deck Twin, Lower Deck Triple, Obstructed View Triple and Main Deck Triple:

Las Lengas

Address: Goleta Florencia 1722, V9410 Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina

Phone: +54 2901 43-6100

Owners Suites, Suites Double, Deluxe, Upper Deck Twin, Main Deck Twin Window and Main Deck Porthole:

Albatros Hotel

Address: Av. Maipu 505, V9410 Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina

Phone: +54 2901 43-7300

# What are the joining instructions?

## A NOTE ON FLYING INTO BUENOS AIRES

Most international flights flying into Buenos Aires arrive at Ministro Pistarini Airport (EZE) in Buenos Aires.

On arrival at the International airport, there is an airport shuttle service, Manuel Tienda Leon, that can take you from Ministro Pistarini Airport (EZE) to Jorge Newberry Airport (AEP), available at an approximate cost of USD \$16.00 each way. It is about 1 to 1.5 hours between the airports, so please allow yourself enough time.

## A NOTE ON FLYING INTO USHUAIA

From our experience we have found that there are significant delays, especially in high season on flights from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia. We highly recommend booking your travel arrangements to arrive into Ushuaia earlier in the day on Day 1. We are happy to book additional pre-tour accommodations should you want some additional time in Ushuaia.

Please check with your airline as to which airport your domestic flight will be flying out of. Most flights that continue to Ushuaia depart from the domestic airport, Jorge Newberry Airport (AEP); however this is not always the case and some flights do depart from Ministro Pistarini Airport (EZE).

Please also confirm the luggage restrictions for your flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia as domestic flights generally allow less luggage than international flights.

## ARRIVAL INTO USHUAIA

G Adventures is happy to offer you a complimentary airport transfer if you are arriving on Day 1 of the tour or have booked pre-night accommodation through G Adventures.

Joining Instructions with complimentary transfer:

Upon arrival into Ushuaia City Airport (USH) please collect your luggage and look for a G Adventures representative. Please make sure you have advised your booking agent of your arrival flight details into Ushuaia so we are expecting you. Be sure to keep all your important documents (i.e. passport) and medication in your hand luggage, as your main luggage will be transferred separately to the hotel.

Joining Instructions without complimentary transfer:

Ushuaia City Airport (USH) is located only 5 km outside of the city. Local taxis can be hired at the airport for transportation into Ushuaia at a cost of around \$10 USD. On your arrival to Ushuaia please make your way to the hotel listed on your voucher. Information will be available on the notice board at the hotel. Luggage tags and other information will be available for you 1 day prior to embarkation.

Your luggage will be transferred for you from the hotel to the expedition ship on the morning of Day 2. Please have your luggage in the lobby of the hotel by 8:00 am on the morning of Day 2. You will have the morning free to enjoy the city of Ushuaia and the surrounding countryside.

Embarkation time on Day 2 is set for 4:00 pm, and passengers will not be able to board the ship before that time due to refuelling, provisioning, and preparing the ship for your stay. For information on activities, restaurants, and services you can consult either the tourist information office or your hotel. Due to new port security regulations you are no longer allowed to enter the port area on your own so make sure you are on time at the designated parking lot across the pier to catch the 4:00 pm group transfer to the ship. More details will be provided with your hotel welcome letter.

On embarkation day, you should dress for changeable weather. Once aboard, you will find your luggage stored in your assigned cabin. Please ensure that all your luggage is accounted for on arrival.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to arrive into Ushuaia before embarkation time (usually 4pm) of Day 2 please use the emergency contact details in this dossier. We highly recommend arriving at least 1 day before sailing in order to make sure that delays do not ruin your trip as the ship is unable to wait for late passengers. If you are delayed in arriving to prebooked accommodations please contact the hotel to advise them when you will arrive. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your booking agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Operator (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office Lima, Peru.

During office hours (Weekdays, 9-6pm Local Time): +51 1 241 1650

After hours Emergency number: +51 99 758 2712, (WhatsApp Available)

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## **What information should I be aware of as the itinerary draws to a close?**

Upon completion of the 8:00 am disembarkation in Ushuaia, passengers will receive a complimentary transfer to either the airport or a central location where luggage can be stored.

For those on morning flights, the 8:00 am transfer will bring them directly to Ushuaia airport (USH). The rest of the passengers will be transferred to the luggage storage point and given time to explore the city. These passengers should then return to retrieve their luggage and board a second transfer to Ushuaia airport at 12:30 pm or 4:30 pm, depending on their flight times. Please note that the transfer times are subject to change according to flight schedules.

With the understanding that most will be needing to connect to their International flights in Buenos Aires, you can arrange departure flights from Ushuaia starting from 10:00 am onward.

Please note, the complimentary airport transfer is only available on disembarkation day. If you choose to stay another night, you must arrange a taxi with the hotel reception. The cost is approximately \$8-\$10.

## **Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?**

Most airlines allow one checked bag and one carry-on per person. To avoid any problems at check-in and with possible excess baggage charges, please consult the airline for specific restrictions. For storage on board the expedition ship, soft compactible luggage makes storage much easier.

Dress on board is informal. Plan to bring comfortable, casual clothing for all activities. Bring wind and waterproof outer layers. Beware of tight clothing that leaves no room for trapped air, which is an excellent insulator. Wool, silk and some of the new synthetic fibers, like polar fleece, retain heat better than cotton. When packing, we suggest that you do not weigh yourself down with too many clothes or too much gear. Select informal, practical attire that can be worn in layers.

In order to participate on Zodiac excursions or landings, a pair of waterproof pants is mandatory.

It is possible to rent gear in Ushuaia for the expedition, but the quantity and quality of gear varies greatly depending on the demand. For the location of a rental shop consult with the front desk of the hotel where you are staying. If arriving on embarkation day you will NOT have time to rent the gear. You will also not have time to return the rental gear if you have a morning flight departing Ushuaia.

In the world's most remote destinations that the Expedition travels to we cannot offload our plastics, glass or tin waste for recycling. Therefore, we try to reduce what single use items that we use. You will see on the ship that every effort is being used to stop the use of single use plastic containers, bags and other items. In an effort to prevent plastic waste from entering the waste stream, we are asking for your help. We offer exceptional drinking water on the ship with refilling stations for your reusable water containers. You will be provided a complimentary water bottle to fill up as needed.

Plastic Items such as single use shampoo/conditioner plastic containers cannot be recycled, so please plan to bring any plastics back to your home countries for recycling. Please do not bring single use items that you intend to leave behind such plastic bags and throw away razors. Your participation helping to prevent pollution and promote recycling is greatly appreciated.

# What should be on my packing list?

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Expedition:

- Waterproof pants (required) (Mandatory for all Zodiac landings, preferably with elastic cuffs to avoid any water seeping in during landings.)
- Binoculars (highly recommended)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Credit cards (Please note the Expedition is cashless and only accepts credit cards for payment.)
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Drybag (To protect your camera and belongings on Zodiac landings)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Recommended for Antarctic camping)
- Fleece jacket or warm layer
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear (good gripping) (Please note that open toed shoes are not allowed in public spaces on the Expedition.)
- Hat
- Long pants/jeans
- Moisturizer/lip balm
- Moneybelt
- Motion sickness tablets
- Outlet adapter (Electricity onboard is 220AC electrical outlets, with European 2 pin round holes, as well as 110-volt shaving sockets in the bathroom for electric razors only.)
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Scarf (Or neck warmer.)
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Sunblock
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Thermal base layer
- Thermal underwear
- Toiletries (Shampoo and shower gel are provided aboard the Expedition.)
- Walking poles (if desired)
- Warm hat
- Warm waterproof gloves
- Watch and alarm clock
- Wool/Heavy socks

**Health & Safety:**

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.) Note: Waterproof pants are mandatory for Zodiac excursions.

# Suggested Reading

## ANTARCTICA

### Suggested Reading List

There are several dozen books on Antarctica that could be recommended, books dealing with various explorers and expeditions, scientific studies, etc.

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Amundsen, Roald. *The South Pole*. John Murray, 1912.

Antarctica: Great Stories from the Frozen North. Reader's Digest, 1985. Natural history, explorers, atlas and other miscellaneous information.

Asimov, Isaac. *The Ends of the Earth*. Weybright and Talley, 1975. General narrative of the polar regions of the world.

Bond, Creina and Roy Siegfried. *Antarctica: No Single Country, No Single Sea*. Mayflower Books, 1979. Photos by Peter Johnson.

Byrd, Richard E. *Alone*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1938.

Campbell, David. *Crystal Desert*. Houghton Mifflin, 1992.

Cherry-Garrard, Apsley. *The Worst Journey in the World*. Constable, 1922.

Chester, Jonathan. *Antarctica: Beauty in the Extreme*. Michael Friedman Publishing, 1991. Limited copies available from Mountain Travel-Sobek.

Fiennes, Ranulph. *To the Ends of the Earth: the Transglobe Expedition*. Arbor House, 1983.

Fuchs, Vivian and Edmund Hillary. *The Crossing of Antarctica*. Little, Brown, 1958. The Commonwealth Trans-Antarctica Expedition 1955-1958.

Halle, Louis J. *The Sea and the Ice: A Naturalist in Antarctica*. Houghton Mifflin, 1973. Account of a journey on an icebreaker to Antarctica with an emphasis on bird observations.

Harrington, Richard. *Richard Harrington's Antarctic*. Alaska Northwest Publishing Co., 1976.

Harrison, Peter. *Seabirds*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1885.

Huntford, Roland. *Scott and Amundsen*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1980. Story of the two great rival explorers.

Huntford, Roland. *Shackleton*. Fawcett Columbine, 1985.

Huxley, Elspeth. *Scott of the Antarctic*. Atheneum, 1978.

King, Judith E. *Seals of the World*. Cornell University Press, 1983.

Lansing, Alfred. *Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage*. McGraw-Hill, 1959.

May, John. *The Greenpeace Book of Antarctica*. Doubleday, 1988.

Mear, Roger and Robert Swan. *A Walk to the Pole: To the Heart of Antarctica in the Footsteps of Scott*. Crown, 1987.

Moss, Sanford. *Natural History of the Antarctic Peninsula*. Columbia University Press, 1988.

Peterson, Roger Tory. Penguins. Houghton Mifflin, 1979.

Porter, Elliot. Antarctica. Dutton, 1978. Narration of his experiences on an NSF expedition to Antarctica; wonderful photographs.

Pyne, Stephen J. The Ice: A Journey to Antarctica. Ballantine, 1988. Geophysical examination of Antarctica and essays on the history and landscape of this continent.

Ralling, Christopher, ed. Shackleton. British Broadcasting Corp., 1983.

Ray, G. Carleton and M.G. McCormick-Ray. Wildlife of the Polar Regions. Harry N. Abrams, 1981.

Riedman, Marianne. The Pinnipeds: Seals, Sea Lions, and Walruses. University California Press.

Scott, Robert F. Scott's Last Expedition. Dodd, Mead 1913. The personal journals of Captain R.F. Scott on his journey to the South Pole.

Shackleton, Ernest. South: The Story of Shackleton's 1914-1917 Expedition. Heinemann, 1970.

Siple, Paul. 90 South. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1959.

Stonehouse, Bernard. Animals of the Antarctic: The Ecology of the Far South. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972.

Watson, George. Birds of the Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic. American Geophysical Union, 1975.

Watson, Lyall and Tom Ritchie. Sea Guide to Whales of the World. Hutchinson, 1981.

Worsley, F.A. Shackleton's Boat Journey. W.W. Norton, 1977.

Others:

Safina, Carl. Eye of the Albatross / Song for the Blue Ocean

Herzel, David. Sailor on Ice: Tom Crean with Scott in the Antarctic 1910-1913

Also available in: Kindle and Nook

<http://www.amazon.com/Sailor-Ice-Antarctic-1910-1913-ebook/dp/B00AEU1K6Y>

<http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/245578>

## **When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. Aboard the Expedition, laundry is available to be serviced by our shipboard team at an additional charge.

## What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

# Where can I read detailed notes about this trip?

## Experience Counts

Accompanying the voyage is our dedicated and experienced expedition staff, naturalists and lecturers who share with us their knowledge, enthusiasm and commitment to the environment. Our ship is manned by officers and crew, all highly experienced in ice navigation.

## Environmental Policy

We are dedicated to minimising the impact of our expedition on wildlife and sensitive natural habitats. We operate environmentally responsible cruise and expeditions and follow all internationally agreed regulations of conduct ashore. We are all privileged visitors – and committed to the future of these extraordinary, icy realms.

## Safety First

Although expedition cruising is adventurous by nature, the safety of our passengers and staff is paramount. Our ship is equipped and maintained to cope with the most challenging conditions and is manned by experienced and conscientious officers, crew and expedition staff. The Zodiac landing craft used for shore landings are rugged and versatile and are operated by experienced drivers in a responsible manner. Onboard you will be fully briefed on safety issues and our environmental policy and you will receive appropriate and detailed briefings before every landing.

## Expedition Staff and Lecturers

A carefully chosen team will lead our voyage. They are chosen not only for their local knowledge and wealth of experience but also for their great love of the Antarctic. With formal lectures, as well as informal briefings and discussions, your lecturers and Expedition Leader will cover all aspects of the voyage including ornithology, marine biology, geography, geology, history and the environment, as well as practical things like photography.

## Tips for Travellers

We are all privileged visitors to these extraordinary, icy realms. As a traveller, it is your responsibility to help ensure your impact on Antarctica's flora and fauna is minimal.

The following are excerpts from the GUIDANCE FOR VISITORS TO THE ANTARCTIC:

### Respect wildlife

Do not feed, touch, or handle birds or seals, or approach or photograph them in ways that cause them to alter their behaviour. Special care is needed when animals are breeding or moulting. Keep a minimum distance of 5 metres (15 feet) from all wildlife.

### Respect vegetation

Do not damage plants, by walking or landing on extensive moss beds or lichen-covered scree slopes. They are fragile and take generations to grow.

### Respect the environment

Do not collect or take away biological or geological specimens or artefacts as souvenirs, and do not dispose of litter or garbage on land.

### Take photos with care

Keep low as you will appear less threatening to animals and it will also yield better photographs. Do not try to make an animal react for a photograph. If an animal's behaviour changes you are too close.

Stay Safe

Take note of, and act on, the advice and instructions from your leaders, and do not stray from your group.

## **What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping.

While on board our Expedition ships, please note they are cashless and only accept credit cards for payment. The currency for all purchases is USD.

## **What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?**

Before and after the cruise:

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances. Visa cards are the most widely accepted cards. While ATMs are widely available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work overseas. Check with your bank. You should be aware that to purchase products or services on a credit card a fee of 5%-10% usually applies. Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of US dollars cash and cards is best. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

While on board our Expedition ships, major credit cards (VISA, Mastercard and AMEX) are used to clear incidental bills at the end of the cruise by the ship's Purser (ie. bar bills, laundry, crew tips, etc.). Please note the Expedition is a cashless ship.

We recommend bringing USD in cash for the Argentinean portion of this tour as it is easier than using a credit card or withdrawing ARS from an ATM. USD currency is accepted in travel agencies for booking optional activities.

## **How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## **Do I need to pay a departure tax?**

Most airlines include departure tax in the cost of the ticket.

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. It is an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your expedition. The industry standard and suggested amount is USD \$10 - 15 per person per day spent on board. Of course, tipping is a personal choice and the suggested amount is set only as a guideline. Crew tips may be settled using most major credit cards (VISA, Mastercard and AMEX) by the ship's Purser. The money is collected by the Hotel Manager at the end of the voyage and distributed amongst the crew and Expedition Staff.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Ushuaia

- Tierra del Fuego National Park  
Visit

### South Shetland Islands

- Polar Plunge

## Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We require all passengers travelling to Antarctica to advise us if they have any preexisting conditions. Passengers with preexisting medical conditions are required to submit a medical form, signed by a physician, to their booking agent.

The questionnaire can be found online at [www.gadventures.com/medical\\_form](http://www.gadventures.com/medical_form)

It is very important that we are advised of any special meal requirements, food allergies, or prescribed medication when you confirm your tour. The ship is equipped with a small infirmary with typically required medications and limited equipment. The ship's doctor is available for visits during the day and is available 24 hours per day for emergencies.

For those with pre-existing conditions, we recommend that you bring a signed and dated letter from your physician (to be given to our doctor on board, as well as for any medical authorities) stating any health problems and dosage requirements. International health regulations do not currently require any inoculations for the countries that you will visit on our voyage. We suggest that you confer with your own physician to be sure your routine immunizations, such as tetanus, diphtheria and hepatitis A, are up-to-date before travelling. Mature travelers, in particular, may wish to consider preventive measures against influenza and pneumonia.

For more information, please read the [Expedition Health & Safety Protocols](#).

# What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safekeeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

## What are the trip specific safety considerations?

We recommend that you wear minimal jewellery and that you keep valuable items safely stored in our complimentary safety deposit box, which is located at the Purser's Desk.

## **What rules should I know before joining this trip?**

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

## **Is travel insurance required for my trip?**

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

# Trip Specific Responsible Travel

## OUR COMMITMENT TO RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL IN ANTARCTICA

As a leader in Sustainable Tourism, we are committed to ensuring that all of our marine expeditions operate in a socially and environmentally responsible manner. All expeditions aboard the expedition ship meet and exceed all environmental regulations and protocols in the regions that we visit.

The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO)

G Adventures holds Full Membership Status with IAATO (the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators), an organisation that advocates, promotes and ensures safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic. All operations aboard our ship adhere to IAATO's strict rules, regulations and guidelines for operating in Antarctica. The world has witnessed an increase in highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreaks, leading to the tragic deaths of hundreds of thousands of seabirds, including seals and sea lions globally. IAATO is deeply concerned about the heightened risk of HPAI reaching Antarctica and consequently, rigorous measures have been put in place. We kindly request that you visit the [expedition guidelines page](#) to carefully review the documents located there, which will help you to adequately prepare and act in line with these essential guidelines for your upcoming journey.

Staff & Crew:

Our crew and expedition team act as stewards of the environment and are well versed in the strict environmental protocols on board and on land. All of our travellers are thoroughly briefed in these protocols before being allowed to participate in excursions and are always supervised by our team when on shore.

4-Stroke Outboard Engines:

In an effort to drastically reduce environmental pollutants 4-stroke outboard engines have been installed on all of our zodiacs. Our 4-stroke outboard motors use less fuel and produce less noise pollution than 2-stroke engines. Since there is no mixing of oil and gas the exhaust is intrinsically much cleaner and friendlier to the environment.

Planeterra Foundation

Through our commitment to responsible tourism we have developed the Planeterra Foundation, a non-profit organisation that supports local community projects and international charities around the world.

Sea Chart Auction:

At the end of each Antarctica departure, the Captain's Sea Chart is auctioned and all proceeds are donated to international organisations through Planeterra.

Our end goal is to minimise the potential negative impact of tourism in the areas we operate while maximising the positive impact of instilling a widened understanding and appreciation of these regions. During our voyages, we ask all our passengers that they see their visit to these areas as a privilege and that they share their newfound knowledge and experiences with others when they return home. We also hope that by bringing people to these regions that they continue to act as ambassadors and stewards of these areas.

## What is Planeterra?

Every Expedition cruise raises thousands of dollars for G Adventures' non-profit partner, Planeterra, supporting both the Ocean Health Fund and Planeterra's community social enterprise programs. The Ocean Health Fund helps combat waste which threatens ocean health, conducts scientific research on ocean animals and climate change, as well as investing in programs that work with local communities to promote ocean conservation and stewardship. Onboard the Expedition, there are many opportunities to learn about these initiatives, to participate in Citizen Science programs, or purchase items in the gift shop from Planeterra-supported communities around the world.

The Planeterra Foundation [planeterra.org](http://planeterra.org) is a Canadian non-profit organisation that helps empower local people to develop their communities, conserve their cultures, and create humane and supportive systems for their endeavours. Planeterra provides capacity building and catalyst grants to get community social enterprises off the ground. These businesses address local challenges by providing benefits for indigenous people, empowering marginalised women, and granting disadvantaged youth access to education, employment, and brighter futures. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating programs into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

### Dollar-a-Day Program

G Adventures' Dollar-a-Day Program provides travellers with the opportunity to give back to the people and places visited on our tours by donating one dollar for every day you are on trip. 100% of these donations go directly to support community development projects worldwide that are implemented by Planeterra.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that you'll receive a special discount code for free online prints and we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Please visit <http://www.gadventures.com/evaluations>

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

Minimum age of 10 years for this trip.

## Keeping in Touch on the G Expedition

While you are on board the Expedition, we know that keeping in touch with your family and friends is important to you. We want to ensure you have the tools available to keep you connected in some of the most remote regions of the world. The Expedition is equipped with Starlink internet system which offers reliable connection in all the places we visit and that allows our travellers to stay connected with the purchase of personal data credit. Travellers are encouraged to use any Wi-Fi enabled device to connect to our network, which is available throughout the ship, or they can use the computers located on deck 4. Satellite phone service is available upon request.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Itinerary Disclaimer**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.