



Incredibly dramatic & staggeringly beautiful

Antarctica

Day 1 – 05 Nov 2024 | Auckland to Argentina

Meet your Tour Escort at Auckland Airport and board a LATAM airlines flight from Auckland, via Santiago to Buenos Aires. Upon arrival into Buenos Aires, you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel.

Buenos Aires, Argentina’s elegant, historic and cosmopolitan capital, is known as the “Paris of the South” due to its European atmosphere with glamorous avenues lined with fashionable shops and Parisian-style restaurants and cafes. Located on the western shore of the estuary of the Río de la Plata, Buenos Aires has many fascinating neighbourhoods to explore including the colourful and lively La Boca, home to art galleries and tango shows; San Telmo with its restored mansions and antique stores and Recoleta, the city’s most exclusive area.

Evening at leisure to relax.

Accommodation: CasaSur Recoleta, Buenos Aires – 2 nights

Day 2 – 06 Nov 2024 | Buenos Aires

Today, enjoy a specially designed half-day tour of the cosmopolitan city of Buenos Aires. Explore the history of Plaza de Mayo Square, the site of Argentina’s most significant historical events, and learn about its surroundings and emblematic buildings. Continue to San Telmo, where you can immerse yourself in the original Tango vibes of the La Boca neighborhood, strolling along the famous Caminito Street. Enjoy the atmosphere and, if timing allows, witness a short tango demonstration. Pass by the Boca Juniors soccer stadium. Return to Recoleta and enter the Recoleta Cemetery with your guide. Wander through shadowed walkways adorned with towering marble mausoleums in various architectural styles. Discover the final resting place of Eva Peron, among other notable figures.

There will be some time at leisure before our evening out.

This evening you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to Fogón to immerse yourself in their Asado Experience. From the chefs of the famous Uco Restaurant in Buenos Aires and Butterfly in Bariloche comes Fogón - a new way of living the traditional Argentine Asado, served with a twist. A closed-door dining experience awaits you that explores new ways of serving Argentine Asado classics. While seated at the bar you'll see, feel and taste traditional and modern grill cooking techniques up close and personal as you sit with the chefs around the parrilla. Every Asado is unique but always includes the best cuts of meat available and fire roasted seasonal vegetables. The chefs have designed the tasting menu to combine new grill techniques with tried and true Argentine recipes that elevate the Asado to new heights. The wine pairing menu has also been designed to best enhance the flavours of the ingredients, while presenting you with some of the best boutique wines from Argentina.

Day 3 – 07 Nov 2024 | Ushuaia

Today we fly south to Ushuaia - the world's southernmost town.

Accommodation: Las Hayas Ushuaia Resort, Ushuaia – 1 night

Day 4 – 08 Nov 2024 | Tierra del Fuego

This morning you will explore the only National Park on the island, Tierra del Fuego, home to a variety of wildlife including beavers, foxes and rabbits as well as some beautiful native flora. A collection of short walks will take you to Ensenada Bay, Roca Lake and Lapataia Bay, before returning to Ushuaia by the End of the World Train.

In the afternoon, we board our vessel, waiting to welcome us in port.

After our mandatory safety drill, our expedition begins as we navigate through the calm waters of the famous Beagle Channel (named for Charles Darwin's ship). This steep-sided strait divides southern Tierra del Fuego between Chile and Argentina and has been the jumping-off point for thousands of expeditions into the unknown. Watch out for whales and dolphins as we sail off the edge of the map into the tempestuous Drake Passage.

Accommodation: Ocean Albatros Ship – 11 nights

Day 5-6 | Crossing the Drake Passage

Sailing onward, we cross the famed Drake Passage - the body of water separating Patagonia and the Antarctic Peninsula. The Drake Passage is known for rollicking conditions and strong westerly winds, nicknamed the Roaring Fifties. While this passage may be challenging, you can rest comfortably aboard our expedition vessels, which are purpose-built with stabilizers, powerful engines and manned by a highly-qualified crew. The most spirited sailors consider Drake Passage a lifetime achievement - and you will complete the crossing twice!

Our days in the Drake Passage will be put to good use preparing for our arrival in Antarctica - your Expedition Leader will brief you comprehensively on how to stay safe and minimise your impact on this precious wilderness, as well as briefing you thoroughly on our plans for our time spent exploring, including hints and tips for wildlife watching. Our dedicated Expedition Team will assist

you to bio secure your clothing and equipment (a vital process to protect Antarctica's delicate ecology), as well as sharing tailored lectures on Antarctic exploration history, wildlife, geology, glaciology and more!

We will cross into the Antarctic Convergence on the third day of our voyage - watch the mercury plummet as we sail southwards into Antarctic waters, an abrupt cooling that marks the intersection of Antarctic waters with the warmer waters of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. As the sea cools, wildlife multiplies; these are some of the most biologically productive water on Earth, so expect to see petrels, albatrosses and potentially penguins, seals and whales in abundance. Weather permitting, we may be able to make landfall in the South Shetland Islands (a small but spectacular archipelago to the north of the Antarctic Peninsula) on the afternoon of our second day in the Drake Passage, marking the start of our exploration on the Last Continent.

Day 7-12 | Exploring the Antarctic Peninsula

With no set itinerary in Antarctica, this voyage offers adventurous travellers the chance to experience Antarctica as it was meant to be - flowing with the wind, sea and ice, and taking the best opportunities Mother Nature provides. This voyage departs in the first half of the brief Antarctic summer, when sea ice is at its maximum - this offers us ample opportunities to explore in the icy wilderness of the last continent. Our exact route will be subject to careful planning by the Expedition Leader and Captain - however we will aim to visit a range of sites which showcase the best of this **staggeringly beautiful region**. Wherever we go on the Antarctic Peninsula, endemic wildlife, tantalising history and breathtaking natural beauty abound.

- Marvel at the massive icebergs and vast glaciers on a complimentary kayak excursion in Paradise Bay.
- Be moved by penguins tenderly caring for their precious eggs, and fiercely defending their nests on Cuverville Island.
- Watch cataracts of ice tumble into clear blue ocean on a snowshoe hike over the active glaciers of Neko Harbour.
- Experience the Antarctica of old at historic huts such as Damoy Point, lovingly restored and open to all.
- Awake to the icy wind and the bray of penguins during one of this voyage's several camping options.
- Feel the spray of water from the blow of a humpback whale on a Zodiac safari in Wilhelmina Bay.
- Wonder at awe-inspiring scenery on a ship cruise through the Lemaire Channel.
- Watch city-sized tabular icebergs drift silently past the ship in the Antarctic Sound.
- See penguins carefully constructing their pebble nests and fiercely defending their precious eggs from hungry skuas and Giant Petrels.
- The start of the Antarctic summer also sees the return of groups of humpback whales - these ocean wanderers come to Antarctica to feed on the abundant krill this time of year. With luck, we may even see the young of these gentle giants.

There is no set itinerary on this trip, but you can be sure that this will be the ultimate adrenaline-fuelled experience on the White Continent.

Day 13-14 | At Sea

We eventually depart Antarctica and spend two days at sea on our way northwards back across the infamous Drake Passage towards the more welcoming shores of the Beagle Channel and Ushuaia, Argentina. During our time at sea, a variety of activities will be arranged on board to provide our guests with the chance to reflect on their voyage. Relax with an expertly crafted cocktail in the Nordic Bar in the company of new friends, soak up the knowledge and passion of our Expedition Team during lectures in the Shackleton Lounge, or simply enjoy the flight of the albatross which accompany us northwards.

During your last evening onboard, join the Captain and Officers for the Farewell Cocktail Party, followed by a presentation of photos and video by our onboard photographer - the ideal opportunity to re-live your Antarctic adventure. Skål!

Day 15 – 19 Nov 2024 | Ushuaia – Buenos Aires

On the morning of the final day of our voyage, we will arrive back at the pier of Ushuaia, Argentina. Trees, grass and a busy city may seem strange to you after the white wilderness of Antarctica! After a hearty breakfast, it is time to bid a fond farewell to the Crew and Expedition Team and descend the gangway back to dry land with memories of the voyage of a lifetime.

Later in afternoon, take a flight from Ushuaia to Buenos Aires.

Accommodation: Buenos Aires – 1 night

Day 16 – 20 Nov 2024 | end Buenos Aires

Today is a free day in Buenos Aires, time to do some more exploring of this amazing city, perhaps some shopping or just a little time to rest before transferring to the airport this evening.

22 Nov 2024

Arrive Auckland early this morning.

PRICED FROM

Porthole Single Cabin, Deck 3, Cat G	NZ\$25,493 single
Porthole State Cabin, Deck 3, Cat D	NZ\$19,333 per person twin share
Balcony State Cabin, Deck 4&6, Cat C	NZ\$23,532 per person twin share

Price is subject to change until confirmed and paid in full.

Price based on special which ends 29/8/24

INCLUSIONS

- Services of a Tour Escort from Auckland
- Airport transfers in Argentina
- 4 nights comfortable boutique hotels with private facilities
- Breakfast in Buenos Aires & Ushuaia
- Half Day Buenos Aires City Tour
- Fogon Asado Experience & Wine Pairing
- Tierra Del Fuego National Park With Train
- 11 nights onboard in a stateroom with private facilities
- Full board on the ship - breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks
- Welcome and farewell cocktails onboard cruise
- Free tea and coffee 24 hours daily onboard cruise
- Complimentary house wine, beer and soda at dinner onboard cruise
- All Zodiac landings and excursions as per itinerary
- Expedition parka to keep
- Rubber boots on loan
- English-speaking expedition team
- Guiding and lectures by our expedition leader and team
- Special Photo Workshop
- Visual Journal link after voyage including voyage log, gallery, maps, species list and more!
- Port taxes and fees
- One complimentary kayak excursion per guest
- Onboard photographer to host workshops, enjoy lessons from expert guides and lecturers.
- Unique wildlife destination with penguins, seals, whales and birdlife.
- Be amazed by giant tabular icebergs and glaciated mountains.
- Many Zodiac excursions and landings exploring Antarctica up close
- Kayak in the waters of Antarctica, listening to the sounds of nature
- Shore landings in Antarctica - set foot on the white continent!

EXCLUDES

- Return Economy class airfare on LATAM ex Auckland (approx. NZ\$3360)
- Domestic airfares in Argentina (approx. NZ\$1200)
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities for the crew (recommended US\$16pp per day)
- Personal expenses eg. laundry
- Optional snowshoeing & camping to be booked onboard
- Visas

ABOUT THE SHIP

The **Ocean Albatros**, sailed her first season in Antarctica in the summer of 2023/24.

With the highest Polar code 6 and Ice class 1A, Ocean Albatros is the ideal vessel for small-ship cruising due to her sturdy construction and X-Bow®-Infinity class, which provides high stability in rough weather and allows for the smoothest movements on high waves, and a Solas 2012 classification which facilitates a safe return to port. The vessel is part of a brand new generation of low-energy vessels, with 4 diesel engines and 2 electro engines, all controlled electronically to optimize speed and fuel consumption. One feature of our expedition cruises includes landings and excursions aboard Ocean Albatros' fleet of 18 inflatable, motorized rubber "Zodiac" boats.

With a total of 95 comfortable staterooms and suites, all with unobstructed sea view, most with their own balcony, the Ocean Albatros is set to become one of the most popular expedition cruise vessels in the world. Like it's sistership the Ocean Victory, it offers two restaurants, a wellness area, an Albatros Nordic Bar, an open deck dining facility, a modern lecture lounge, and other state-of-the-art amenities including a unique panorama sauna. The vessel has more than a 50% lower carbon footprint than traditional expedition vessels and is one of the most environmentally friendly, implementing the Green Initiative Program, ensuring both absolute comfort and sustainability for guests.

Technical Specifications

Passengers | 175

Ice Class | 1A

Classification | Highest Polar code Class 6

More about the ship here, including pictures of cabins and facilities

[Ocean Albatros | Albatros Expeditions \(albatros-expeditions.com\)](https://www.albatros-expeditions.com)

TO BOOK

Fill in the Online Booking Form on www.roamtraveladventures.com

Once confirmed, a 30% non-refundable deposit is required with balance due end of July (unless otherwise stated on invoice)

AIRFARES & TRAVEL INSURANCE

Ask for best options at the time of booking.

