

# CROSSING THE CIRCLE: SOUTHERN EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA

Setting foot on the 7th Continent is a polar achievement relatively few people experience in their lifetime. Even more rare is the incomparable milestone that's achieved when a traveler crosses the iconic Antarctic Circle. Navigating south of 66°33' S is--for most guests--the highlight of the 14-day itinerary Crossing the Circle: Southern Expedition, which rewards passengers daily with views of dramatic ice formations, humpback whales swimming alongside the ship, leopard seals diving beneath your Zodiac, penguins sliding off icebergs into crystal waters, or giant petrels soaring above the crackling sea. Starting in 2021, this itinerary allows you to the opportunity to experience our pioneering new vessel, Ultramarine. This purpose-built vessel is designed to extend the boundaries of polar exploration and offer an unmatched Antarctic experience, including a flightseeing tour you'll never forget and a range of adventure options more extensive than any other ship in its class.



## **ITINERARY**

Day 1 Arrive in Buenos Aires, Argentina

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





## Day 2 Fly to Ushuaia & Embark

After an early breakfast at the hotel, the group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Ushuaia, Argentina. Upon arrival, you will be transferred from the airport to a central downtown location to have some time on your own to explore this quaint port town before making your way to the pier. As the ship sets sail in the late afternoon, you will begin your Antarctic journey, passing through the Beagle Channel. Named after the famed ship on which Charles Darwin voyaged, the channel presents great photo opportunities of landscapes and seabirds. Eventually the channel opens up to the Southern Ocean, and onwards to Antarctica.

## Days 3 and 4 Crossing The Drake Passage

Your days at sea are filled with presentations and lectures led by your Expedition Team, who will prepare you for the wildlife that will greet you upon your arrival. In between presentations, spend time chatting with your shipmates over a drink at the bar, or enjoy the fresh air and views on the outer decks.

## Days 5 to 7 South Shetland Islands & Antarctic Peninsula

The most common reaction upon reaching the White Continent is a sense of reverence and awe. The experience is beyond words, since few places are as untouched and enduring as Antarctica. You will begin to appreciate why this region has long captivated the attention of explorers and travelers alike. Every visit to Antarctica, we witness something new or unexpected, which means that your expedition will be unlike any other--creating a unique, personal experience. Each day, you will take Zodiac excursions from the ship to explore local bays, channels and landing sites. With wildlife always at the forefront of our minds, you will visit penguin rookeries, scout for humpback and minke whales, and search for a number of southern seal species, including the cunning leopard seal. Your Expedition Team will take care of you at each landing, whether you are exploring the Antarctic terrain, visiting a research station or consorting with penguin colonies. Chinstrap, Adelie and gentoo penguins are found here, along with five different species of seals. Zodiac cruising can offer opportunities to view some of the larger local marine mammals more intimately, such as Antarctic minke and humpback whales. Each day and each excursion will present a new collection of creatures to delight you and keep your camera busy. Your days will be busy spotting wildlife

and being mesmerized by the astounding beauty of Antarctica. Listening to the crackling and crumbling of icebergs and glaciers and watching penguins waddling on the beach will become your daily entertainment, while sea kayaking, paddle excursions, or camping are optional activities available on select voyages (at an extra cost).

## Days 8 and 9 Antarctic Circle

Crossing the Antarctic Circle is both a memorable experience and impressive achievement, as few travelers reach so far south. If conditions allow us to cross this famed line at 66°33´S, we'll toast the first explorers who ventured here, and you can raise a glass and take pride in knowing you've made it to a part of the world visited by very few people. This is raw Antarctica, home of the midnight sun, Weddell seals, and your best chances of encountering sea ice - the foundation of the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

## Days 10 and 11 Northbound Along The Peninsula

By now, your knowledge of Adelie, chinstrap and gentoo penguins will be matched by your ability to differentiate between a leopard, fur and Weddell seal. Terms like 'bergy bits' and 'pancake ice' will become part of your vocabulary, yet there are still many tales to be told. As you head north, Zodiac excursions will fill your days, and your Expedition Team will continue looking out for species of seabirds, seals and whales that may have eluded you on your journey south.

### Days 12 and 13 Crossing the Drake Passage

As you recross the Drake, Antarctica fades away, leaving you with a collection of memories to last a lifetime. Excited conversations with your newfound friends will make the crossing fly by, regardless of weather and sea conditions. Your Expedition Team will round up its series of presentations as well, with a slideshow of the great landing sites and wildlife you've witnessed over the course of your voyage. Be sure to take some time to reflect on everything you've experienced so far.

Day 14 Disembarkation in Ushuaia & Fly to Buenos Aires





You will arrive in Ushuaia in the morning and disembark after breakfast. The mandatory transfer package includes a little taste of Patagonia with a Tierra del Fuego National Park tour before transferring to the airport for the return group charter flight to Buenos Aires.

### Please Note:

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy - and excitement - of expedition travel. There are no guarantees that we can achieve everything we set out to accomplish. A measure of flexibility is something all of us must bring to a voyage. There are nearly 200 recognized sites in the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetlands and the places mentioned above may be changed to others equally as interesting.





# **YOUR SHIP: OCEAN EXPLORER**

YOUR SHIP: Ocean Explorer

VESSEL TYPE: Polar Expedition

**LENGTH:** 342 ft (104.4 m)

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 138

BUILT/REFURBISHED: 2021

Ocean Explorer, the newest addition to our fleet, is modern, elegant and purpose-built for polar exploration. The 138-passenger vessel has been designed with the latest in expedition ship technology. One of the ship's key features is the ULSTEIN X-BOW®, a marine engineering innovation that ensures a comfortable and smooth sailing experience thanks to the inverted bow. Located at the bow is the two-story, light-filled library, which introduces a welcome airiness to the expedition ship.

Spacious cabins feature a modern, bespoke Scandinavian design and almost all have verandas. Guests can relax and find comfort in the spacious gym, sauna with large windows, and two outdoor Jacuzzis.

Ocean Explorer features ample outdoor viewing areas and multi-height outer decks, which are ideal for long-view photography and wildlife viewing. The vessel is equipped with a fleet of 15 Zodiacs that enable guests to get off the ship quickly and safely for off-ship adventures. In addition to the well-appointed and spacious public areas, Ocean Explorer has an industry-leading mix of sustainability systems, including fuel-efficient Rolls Royce engines.

## Two Story Library

Light-filled interior library--at the bow of the ship-- allows guests to sit and relax indoors while taking in the surrounding polar landscapes from their choice of two levels.

## Leading Edge Sustainability

With the latest sustainability technology in polar expedition, the ship features fuel-efficient Rolls-Royce engines and the ground-breaking MAGS gasification system that converts waste into energy, eliminating the environmental impact of waste transportation.

### **ULSTEIN X-Bow**

In addition to forming the double-story library, the innovative X-Bow design ensures calm, energy-efficient sailing in rough waters.

## High Observation Outdoor Decks

Observation areas on Decks 7 and 8 allow for higher, longer-view landscape photography while contending with less sea spray.

#### **Quiet and Comfortable**

Spacious and luxurious cabins ensure your quiet ambience with no sound disturbance from adjoining cabins--and almost all cabins feature a balcony for outdoor viewing.

## Stunning Interior Design

Each interior element was carefully hand-picked by designers for you to enjoy, from the dramatic two-story forward lounge, the floor-to-ceiling glass refuge in the library, to the grand fixtures and luxe furnishings throughout the ship.

Main Dining Room





Contemporary meets cozy in this modern dining room with its stylish lighting and contemporary art. Located on Deck 5, the Main Dining Room seats 144 guests, and features expansive floor-to-ceiling windows that open onto the spectacular polar wilderness.

## **Private Dining Room**

Tasteful and intimate. This stylish, private dining room on deck 5 provides a relaxed dining experience--with views of the polar landscape--for up to 36 guests.

## The Latitude Bar

A popular social hub on Deck 5, the beautifully-lit Latitude Bar--with its lush sofas and faux marble-topped end tables--is large enough to seat 46 and is ideal for enjoying a quiet drink on your own or hanging out with friends.

## Library

Located on Deck 6 at the top of the gorgeous atrium staircase, this beautiful Library with floor-to-ceiling glass, accommodates up to 47 people

## Dry Sauna

After a day of exciting off-ship adventure, guests can relax on the sauna's traditional wood benches while gazing at the polar wilderness just outside the large sauna windows. Accommodates 15 people on Deck 7.

#### Fitness Center

Stay fit with the latest work-out equipment in the Fitness Center on Deck 7.

### **Jacuzzis**

Two outdoor Jacuzzis on deck 7, at the ship's stern, mean you can relax alfresco while soaking up the breath-taking polar views.

**Observation Lounge** 

This stylish lounge at the top of the ship guarantees incredible views. Guests also frequent this spacious lookout on Deck 8 to enjoy cocktails and conversation with fellow travelers. Seats 63.

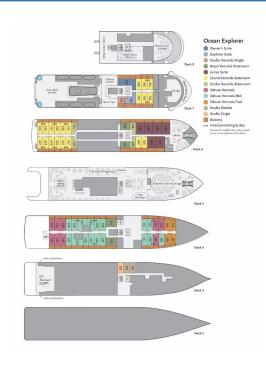


. Seats 63.





# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**



Balcony Suite. From



Deluxe Veranda Forward Stateroom



Explorer Triple. From



Owner's Suite. From



Deluxe Balcony Suite. From



Explorer Suite. From



Junior Suite



Owners Suite







# **PRICING**

### 06-Jan-2026 to 19-Jan-2026

Explorer Triple. From	31135 AUD pp
Explorer Suite. From	36320 AUD pp
Balcony Suite. From	39805 AUD pp
Deluxe Balcony Suite. From	46605 AUD pp
Terrace Suite. From	48390 AUD pp
Solo Panorama. From	50090 AUD pp
Penthouse Suite. From	51875 AUD pp
Owner's Suite. From	63860 AUD pp
Ultra Suite. From	70660 AUD pp

Explorer Triple. From	26776 AUD pp
Explorer Suite. From	31176 AUD pp
Balcony Suite. From	34216 AUD pp
Deluxe Balcony Suite. From	39976 AUD pp
Terrace Suite. From	41496 AUD pp
Solo Panorama. From	42856 AUD pp
Penthouse Suite. From	44376 AUD pp
Owner's Suite. From	54696 AUD pp
Ultra Suite. From	60456 AUD pp

#### 09-Feb-2026 to 22-Feb-2026

32125 AUD pp
33835 AUD pp
35905 AUD pp
42295 AUD pp
42295 AUD pp
45715 AUD pp
49045 AUD pp
52465 AUD pp

28-Feb-2026 to 13-Mar-2026





## SPECIAL OFFERS

Online prices reflect current special offers and are subject to change based on demand. This promotion is available for a limited time and subject to availability. Terms and conditions apply. For more information, please contact us.

## **Optional extras & upgrades**

#### **Exclusive Heli-Landing**

Imagine setting foot in an area of the Antarctic that can only be safely accessed by helicopter. With a small group of fellow passengers and expert guides, you'll board one of Ultramarine's two twin-engine helicopters to soar off to an exclusive polar site where no ships can navigate. Expect stunning bird's-eye views during your flight, and then, upon arrival, simply sit back, relax and take in the splendor of the Antarctic from "the best seat in the house": glacial amphitheaters, breath-taking summits, and more. Traveling in groups of 12 with no more than 4 groups (48 guests) at a time on each landing, you'll have time to relax and quietly reflect on the beauty of your polar surroundings, after which you'll be picked up by the helicopters in the same location and returned to Ultramarine.

#### Alpine Heli-Trekking

Let us take you on an active adventure high up in the Antarctic Peninsula. You'll be part of an intimate group of adventurers to board one of Ultramarine's two twin-engine helicopters for a trekking excursion in an area only safely accessed by air. The helicopter flight alone rewards guests with unforgettable views of the expansive polar landscape down below. On land, during an invigorating walk, hike or snowshoe trek (depending on conditions), you'll be rewarded with equally stunning views of remote ridgelines, glaciated terrain, and snow-topped peaks. This once-in-a-lifetime heli-adventure will leave you marveling at the overwhelming beauty of the Antarctic.

#### Stand-up Paddleboarding

Stand-up Paddleboarding, popularly known as SUPing, originated in Hawaii. Quark Expeditions is the first company to bring this watersport all the way to Antarctica.

#### Sea Kayaking

Positioning yourself in the seat of a kayak is one of the most intimate ways travelers can connect with the polar regions—at water level, up close, where you can touch and feel every polar sensation imaginable. The Sea Kayak Program enables a small group of like-minded individuals to forge bonds as they explore fjords, glacial faces or mazes of sea ice.

#### **Paddling Excursion**

Every sweep of the paddle as your craft glides through the pristine polar waters creates an incredible soundtrack: the jostle of glacial ice, the lapping of waves against the rocky shore, the perpetual drip from your paddle, the call of seabirds, and the occasional splash as wildlife break the surface of the water.

#### Camping

Imagine for a moment, staring at the stars in the indigo glow of an Antarctic night as you bed down for the night outside in the elements. The buzz of your daily life becomes a distant memory as you listen to the bray of penguin, the ethereal calls of the Weddell sea – even the exhalation of a humpback whale. And then you fall asleep.

