

ANTARCTIC 2025/2026

Emperor Penguin Quest: Expedition to Snow Hill

 ULTRAMARINE



Contents

1	Expedition Overview
2	Itinerary
5	Arrival and Departure Details, and International Flight Planning
7	Your Ship: <i>Ultramarine</i>
8	Included Activities
9	Adventure Options
10	Departure Dates
11	Inclusions and Exclusions
12	Your Expedition Team
13	Extend Your Trip
14	Meals on Board
15	Alternative Landing Sites
16	Packing Checklist



Expedition Overview

Emperor Penguin Quest: Expedition to Snow Hill

Our successes at Snow Hill Island, especially in November 2023 when we reached the legendary Emperor penguin colony on two separate voyages, were the culmination of three decades of polar expertise—and our unrivalled track record in bringing guests to the rarely visited Emperor colony.

We made polar history in 2004 when we became the first operator to reach the 8,000-strong Emperor penguin rookery. Our Expedition Team—the most experienced in the industry—has landed more guests on hard-to-reach Snow Hill Island than anyone else.

We also attribute our recent Snow Hill successes to our technologically-advanced ship *Ultramarine*, which was built for this type of expedition. The vessel is equipped with two twin-engine helicopters that fly guests to the vicinity of this rarely-visited rookery. Anticipate scenes reminiscent of “March of the Penguins” and BBC’s “Frozen Planet.” Just imagine the penguins tobogganing across the ice towards the sea. You, too, can witness Snow Hill’s majestic moments alongside more than 4,000 pairs of breeding Emperor penguins and their chicks while exploring the eastern peninsula of the magical 7th Continent.

HIGHLIGHTS



Explore with the expedition team that has an unrivalled track record in bringing guests to Snow Hill Island



Embrace the expeditionary spirit on a quest to reach the colony of thousands of pairs of Emperor penguins and their chicks



Spend up to five days in the vicinity of Snow Hill Island to maximize the Weddell Sea experience.



Travel aboard our technologically-advanced *Ultramarine*, enjoying the sauna or one of the ship's many other onboard amenities



Enjoy the intimacy of traveling on a ship with a reduced capacity of 150 guests



Additional staff means there will be one expedition team member for every four guests



Learn from polar experts during our enhanced onboard education program



Enjoy helicopter sightseeing and Zodiac cruising for unique perspectives of the Antarctic Peninsula.



Itinerary

DAY 1 | ARRIVE IN BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Upon arriving in this fascinating city, known for its architecture and rich European heritage, you will independently transfer to your group hotel, which is included in your Charter Flight & Hotel Package.

DAY 2 | FLY TO USHUAIA & EMBARK

After an early breakfast at the hotel, your 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 enjoy time on your own to explore quaint Ushuaia—the world's southernmost city—before making your way to the pier. After a late afternoon

embarkation, you will sail along the historic Beagle Channel, which transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America. Enjoy the air of anticipation as you depart—the next land you see will be the Antarctic.

DAYS 3 & 4 | CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

The unpredictable and exciting Drake Passage, which lies at the confluence of the Pacific, the Atlantic and the Southern oceans, is an adventure unto itself. While being well taken care of by our expert onboard staff and expedition team, you'll have plenty of time to gaze out at the expansive ocean waters, photograph seabirds as they swoop around the ship, and get to know your Expedition Team and fellow travelers.



EMPEROR PENGUIN QUEST Expedition to Snow Hill

- On board *Ultramarine*
- - - Flights to/from Buenos Aires
- Approximate ship drifting position
- 🐧 Emperor Penguin Colony

DAY 5 | NAVIGATING INTO THE WEDDELL SEA

Onboard presentations by world-respected experts will enrich your polar quest, conveying what it was like a century ago for the brave polar heroes who embraced the unknown. You'll also learn more about the ice-dwelling Emperor penguins.

DAYS 6-10 | WEDDELL SEA AND THE QUEST TO LAND AT SNOW HILL

The journey toward Snow Hill Island will put you in explorer mode as the captain and Expedition Leader keep you updated through weather briefings, meteorological and sea ice condition reports. The thickness of ice will determine how close *Ultramarine* can get to Snow Hill Island, then our twin-engine helicopters will take over.

Like summitting a mountain from base camp, parties will set out from *Ultramarine* towards the Emperor penguin colony. The adventure begins with an extended helicopter transfer that will reveal a landscape of snow-capped peaks and apartment-building-sized tabular icebergs. The rookery itself is located on the sea ice off the south coast of Snow Hill Island and the landing will be as close to the penguins as possible, yet at a safe distance to avoid disturbing the birds. Upon landing, your party will walk across the ice to the fabled Emperor penguin colony. The wind. The ice beneath your feet. Walking next to paths in the snow carved by penguins that came before. And then there are the incredible sounds of the penguins in the distance as you march toward one of the rarest wildlife opportunities on the planet: the colony of approximately 8,000 rarely-seen Emperor penguins.

The goal of the expedition is to get every guest to the remote colony at least once. The Expedition Team and special experts will be close by to answer your questions and ensure you take in everything there is to see. You will be able to observe close up how the Emperor penguins behave as a tight-knit community, how they care for their young, and how they body surf across the ice in a way that can only be described as quirky yet efficient.

““ Seeing the Emperor penguins for the first time was truly awesome. I couldn't believe how tall and also how curious they were towards humans. Their chicks were just as impressive.”

—CHRIS P., SNOW HILL, 2023

And while at base on *Ultramarine* with your attentive Expedition Team, you'll be immersed each day in the polar experience of the Weddell Sea. Daily activities can include Zodiac cruising among the icebergs, paddle-on-top kayaking, or working with our team to observe the weather forecasting and ship operations up close.

A particularly enriching component of your voyage will be the bespoke educational programs tailored specifically for this expedition that offer both traditional (lecture format) and hands-on opportunities for learning about this fascinating region. Each day our polar experts, who include penguin scientists, biologists and polar historians, will present on various aspects of Emperor penguins and their behaviors, ice formations such as the tabular icebergs

which you'll see from the deck of your ship, and the experiences of polar explorers who braved the Weddell Sea over a century ago. Or you might, on one of these days, decide to take the polar plunge, or test your balance on a stand-up paddleboard. Then again, maybe you'll enjoy a little pampering. If so, you can choose from *Ultramarine's* excellent onboard amenities, including the spa, sauna and fitness room.

The Emperor penguin colony at Snow Hill is the goal of this expedition. However, if weather or ice conditions prevent us from visiting the colony or shorten the duration of our visit, we may explore some other sites. Your possible landings in Antarctica will take place on the eastern side of the Peninsula, which is an extension of the Transantarctic Mountains and is the most northern stretch of Antarctic land.

For more details on these possible alternate Antarctic landing sites, please see page 17

EXPEDITION SPIRIT

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. Throughout the voyage your Expedition Team must consider the sea, ice and weather to guide the route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a proposed outline of what you may experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. Your visit to the remote Emperor penguin colony at Snow Hill as described is expected, but not guaranteed. Your Expedition Team will use their considerable experience in Antarctica to ensure you witness various wildlife species and ice formations on route to Snow Hill Island.

DAYS 11-13 | CRUISING

The journey back across the Drake Passage provides a final opportunity to enjoy the invigorating Southern Ocean air. Spend time on the deck watching for seabirds and scouting for whales, enjoy presentations by your Expedition Team, and celebrate the experiences you've shared getting off the beaten track in the remarkable world of Antarctica.

DAY 14 | DISEMBARK IN USHUAIA AND FLY TO BUENOS AIRES

You will arrive in Ushuaia in the morning and disembark after breakfast. Your Charter Flight & Hotel Package includes a tour of Tierra del Fuego National Park for a taste of Patagonia, after which you'll transfer to the airport for the return group charter flight to Buenos Aires.

Ultramarine was built for this type of expedition

- › This voyage leverages the best elements of *Ultramarine's* unique design and extraordinary expedition-focused features.
- › Our best-in-class H145 twin-engine helicopters are utilized for their added range and passenger capacity, allowing us to shuttle guests to the landing area in a short period of time. Our helicopters are equipped with noise-reduction technology that minimizes impact on wildlife.
- › *Ultramarine's* 1A+ PC6 ice class allows her to safely and confidently navigate several kinds of Antarctic waters and ice conditions, allowing the ship to venture further into remote regions of the Antarctic.
- › The water-level Zodiac hangars enable quick-deploy Zodiac cruising, allowing us to enrich the guest experience and make the most of our time in the Weddell Sea.



Guests hike to the Emperor penguin colony.



Arrival and Departure Details, and International Flight Planning

 	 		  
DAY 1	DAY 2	EXPEDITION DAYS	FINAL DAY
<i>In-bound international flight*</i> Arrival and independent transfer to hotel night	Group transfer to airport, flight to embarkation point, and embarkation	On ship or landing days	Disembarkation, free airport transfer, and flight to Buenos Aires, <i>International flight onward**</i>
<p>* Arrive anytime on Day 1 or earlier. Day 1 includes an optional briefing.</p> <p>** Consider booking your international flight home after the Final Day as charter flight times may vary.</p> <p> International flights are not included in the cost of the voyage.</p>			

Arrival Day and Embarkation

DAY 1 — ARRIVING IN BUENOS AIRES AND HOTEL NIGHT

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you will make your way to the group hotel, which is included in your Charter Flight & Hotel Package. A presentation room will be open from 12 pm to 8 pm for luggage weighing and tagging. A Quark Expeditions representative will be available to answer your questions and give information about the next day's flight and ship embarkation. After an early breakfast the following morning, your group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Ushuaia, Argentina, the southernmost city in the world.

DAY 2 — USHUAIA AND EMBARKATION

In Ushuaia you will have some free time to explore this quaint port town, and also (when flight schedules allow) a tour of Tierra del Fuego National Park, which is included in your Charter Flight & Hotel Package. Note: The tour (if available) may take place on either the embarkation or disembarkation day.

We will transfer the group to the ship for embarkation around 4 pm.

PLEASE NOTE

Luggage will be limited to one checked luggage and one cabin baggage on the flights between Buenos Aires and Ushuaia. Luggage weight restrictions will be confirmed in your final documents received 30 days prior to your trip. Should you have additional luggage, it can be stored at the hotel in Buenos Aires. There is NO option to pay for additional luggage.



Final Day and Departure

DISSEMBARKATION IN USHUAIA

The ship is scheduled to arrive back at the pier in Ushuaia between 7 am and 8 am. After breakfast you will bid farewell to your Expedition Team before completing your disembarkation. This process takes approximately one hour.

DEPARTING FROM BUENOS AIRES

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you may be able to connect directly with your homeward flight, as we will land at Ministro Pistarini International Airport (also known as Ezeiza International Airport, EZE) at 5 pm. Please allow a minimum of three hours between our charter arrival and your international departure. We recommend four hours.

If your plans will take you onward in South America, please check your flight schedule to confirm your connection before booking. Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you may need to transfer from the international airport (EZE) to the domestic airport, Jorge Newbery (also known as Aeroparque, AEP), which is located about a one-hour drive away under normal traffic conditions. If you must transfer between airports on the final day of the voyage, you can choose to use the efficient airport shuttle service, Manuel Tienda León, or take a *remis* (a pre-paid taxi booked inside the airport). As traffic can add time to the commute, we recommend that you allow at least five hours between flights arriving and departing from the different airports in Buenos Aires to allow for transit, check-in, and security clearance.

For the absolute safest travel plans, we recommend that you book an extra hotel night in Buenos Aires between flights.

Arrival and Departure Transfers

BUENOS AIRES AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Arrival transfers from your international flights in Buenos Aires are not included.

We request that you provide your flight details to Quark Expeditions at least 30 days prior to traveling.

PLEASE NOTE

Included Hotel Accommodations:

Your included accommodation begins on Day 1 of your itinerary. The specific hotel will be indicated on your final voyage confirmation. If you are arriving prior to Day 1 of your expedition or are staying after the disembarkation day and would like help booking a pre- or post-stay, please contact your preferred travel agent or Quark Expeditions for hotel options. As accommodation space is limited, you are encouraged to request any extra nights as early as possible.

Weather conditions may occasionally delay our arrival, and airline schedule changes have also been known to occur in Argentina. Booking flexible tickets is always encouraged, as we cannot be held responsible for delays due to unforeseen circumstances.





Your Ship

ULTRAMARINE

The technologically-advanced *Ultramarine* is designed to go beyond the familiar in polar exploration, to immerse guests in parts of the Polar Regions where few humans have ever set foot.

Equipped with two twin-engine helicopters and 20 quick-launching Zodiacs, *Ultramarine* offers the most off-ship adventure activities in the industry. Guests can enjoy two restaurants (Balena and Bistro 487), Tundra Spa, a sauna-with floor-to-ceiling windows, spacious suites and abundant wildlife-viewing spaces. *Ultramarine* also features advanced sustainability systems—which exceed all industry standards.

Ultramarine is perfectly designed to deliver the ultimate polar expedition experience.

SHIP SPECIFICATIONS:

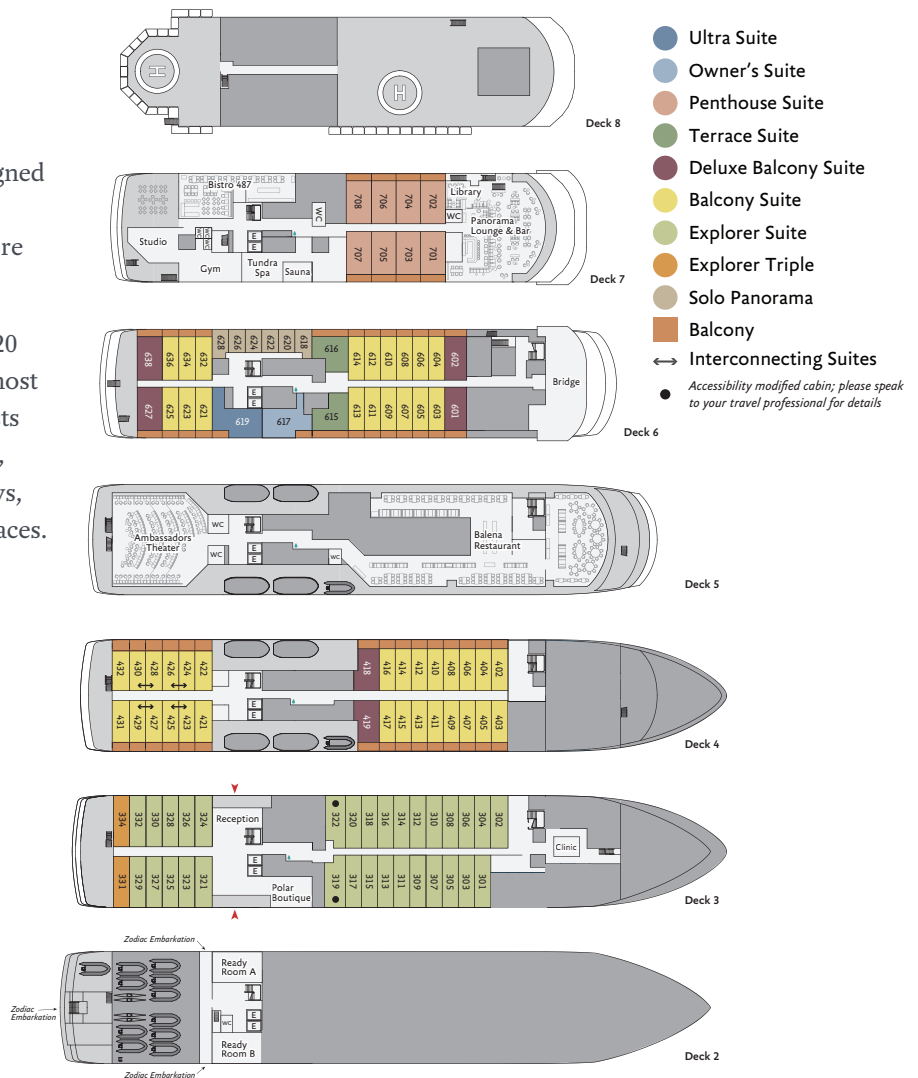
Staff and Crew: 140

Guests: 199

Lifeboats: 4, fully enclosed

Ice Class: PC6

Visit QuarkExpeditions.com to view deck plan details.





Included Activities

These are included in your trip package.

Ready for a little adventure beyond your ship? Each Quark Expeditions® voyage offers a variety of recreational activities to enhance your polar experience. In addition to the below included activities, helicopter flights to and from the penguin colony are included.

ZODIAC CRUISING

Zodiacs—rugged inflatable watercraft—are the workhorses of polar expeditions, taking you to places the ships can't access, allowing you to reach remote shorelines, explore shallow inlets and spot unique wildlife. Expedition staff make stepping in and out of them safe and comfortable, and your Zodiac drivers will provide active interpretation, making the landscape come even more alive.

HIKING

Hiking in Antarctica is free-form and supervised by our expert staff, who set out a perimeter or paths at each landing site within which you are free to explore. While you hike, staff will be available to enhance your experience by answering questions about the wildlife, history and geography of the area.

PRESENTATIONS

Enjoy daily chats with and presentations by our world-class onboard polar experts—expedition guides, specialists, photography guides and other special guests who will introduce you to the fascinating history, biology, ornithology, glaciology and geology of the region, and much, much more.

POLAR PLUNGE

This rite of passage, scheduled only once per expedition, gives you the chance to jump safely into the bracing Antarctic waters under the watchful eye of our staff—and just about every single camera on board.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Documenting your voyage so you can take the memories home is a rewarding experience. Our photography guide will help you hone your skills to capture the beauty of the polar regions.

More information about your Included Activities and Adventure Options, including the necessary experience, physical requirements and cost, is available by contacting your Polar Travel Adviser or travel professional.

FLIGHTSEEING

While polar landscapes are spectacular from the sea, they are even more striking from the air. On board *Ultramarine* you will experience remarkable aerial perspectives on a 10- to 15-minute flightseeing excursion included in the cost of your voyage.

“The heli-flightseeing was so exciting. Seeing Snow Hill Island from above, seeing the Emperor penguin colony amongst the snow that seemed never-ending. Truly out of this world. The on-ship presentations were engaging and educational. It was so interesting to learn more the penguins, the icebergs, the history.”

— CHARLY M., SNOW HILL, 2023



Adventure Options

These activities cost extra and must be booked in advance of your trip.



PLEASE NOTE

Pre-booking is required for all paid activities. We recommend booking early, as spaces fill quickly.

✕ PADDLING EXCURSION

If you're interested in kayaking but would like to try something a bit less demanding than Sea Kayaking, you're the perfect candidate to sign up for a one-time paddle on our stable sit-on-top kayaks—perfect for anyone with minimal or no kayaking experience. Small groups of paddlers will be taken out on calm days, with our expert guides always present to provide instruction and help you connect with the polar sea. Pre-book into one of two priority groups. Any subsequent excursions can be booked on board, and groups will be assigned via a lottery.


🏄 STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING

Combining a surfboard with a kayak, stand-up paddleboarding will give you a very personal and unique perspective on Antarctica. Conducted in small groups—in calm bays and harbors, in good weather conditions—and accompanied by a safety Zodiac, one-time stand-up paddleboarding excursions can be pre-booked into one of two priority groups. Any subsequent excursions can be booked on board, and groups will be assigned via a lottery.



Departure Date

Emperor Penguin Quest: Expedition to Snow Hill

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Start / End</i>			
ANTARCTIC 2025/26					
NOV 15 - 28, 2025	14	Buenos Aires	\$	\$	Included

Raise a Glass and Stay Connected

See below for specifics on our complimentary Wi-Fi and bar service.



Inclusions and Exclusions

Inclusions

RATES INCLUDE:

For all voyages:

- One 10- to 15-minute helicopter flightseeing excursion (weather and logistics permitting)
- An official Quark Expeditions parka to keep
- Leadership throughout the voyage by our experienced Expedition Team, including shore landings and other activities
- All Zodiac transfers and cruising as per the daily program
- All shore landings as per the daily program
- Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
- All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board throughout your voyage.
- Complimentary select beer, wines and select cocktails during bar service hours and dinner
- Complimentary coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock

*CHARTER FLIGHT & HOTEL PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- One night's pre-expedition hotel accommodation in Buenos Aires with breakfast (Note: The number of guests per room is the same as cabin occupancy on the ship. Due to limited availability, travelers who reserve a suite on board are accommodated in standard rooms at the hotel. Triple rooms may not be available.)
- Group flight departing from Buenos Aires' domestic airport (Aeroparque/AEP) to Ushuaia, and returning to Buenos Aires' international airport (Ezeiza/EZE)

- Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and guest speakers as scheduled
- A photographic journal documenting your expedition
- A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for landings and Zodiac cruising excursions
- Hair dryer and bathrobes in every cabin
- Complimentary Wi-Fi service on one device permitting basic Internet browsing, email, posting on social media and voice applications. (Premium packages are available for more data-intensive applications.)
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
- All luggage handling aboard the ship.

- Group transfer from hotel to airport in Buenos Aires
- Group transfer from Ushuaia airport to the ship, and return (Note: Transfer on arrival in Buenos Aires from airport to hotel at the beginning of the journey is not included. Please make your way to the included hotel.)
- Combined airport transfer and express bus tour of Tierra del Fuego National Park after disembarkation in Ushuaia

Exclusions

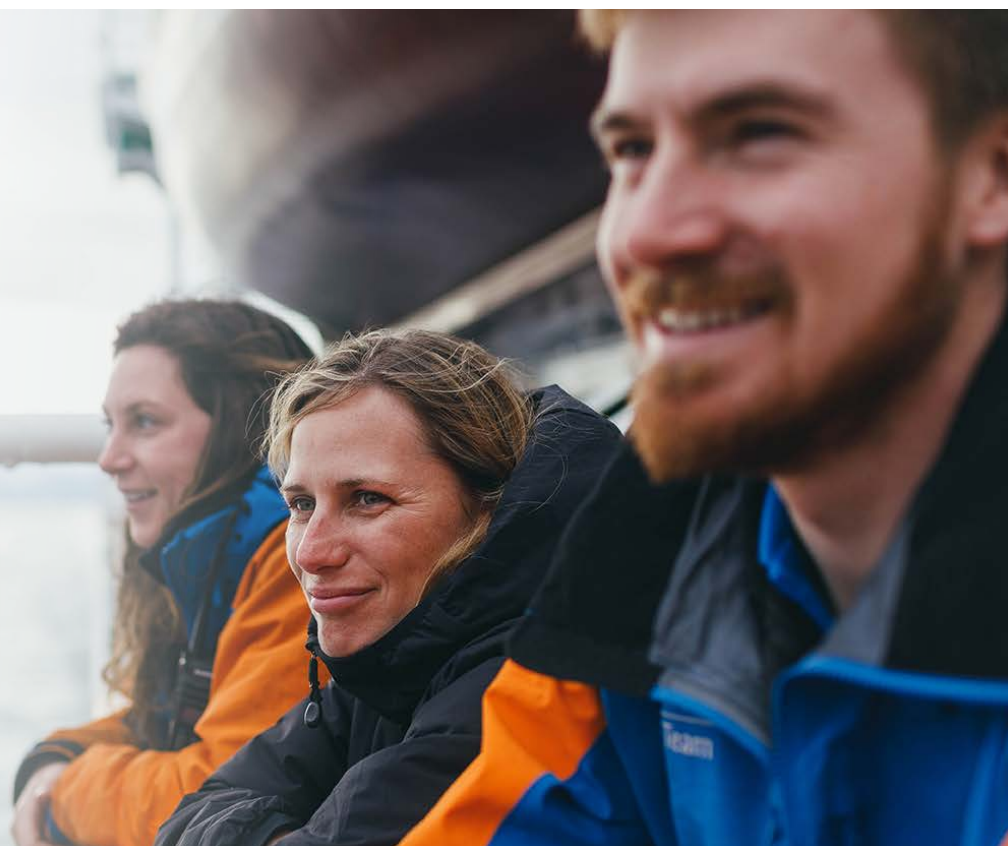
RATES SPECIFICALLY DO NOT INCLUDE:

For all voyages:

- International airfare
- Passport and applicable visa expenses
- Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned
- Meals unless otherwise specified
- Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended
- Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights
- Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac landing and cruising excursions, or any other gear not mentioned
- Laundry, spa services and other personal charges, unless specified
- Phone charges may vary by location
- Our basic complimentary Wi-Fi service does not include Premium packages which enable more data-intensive applications
- Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for expedition staff and shipboard crew
- Additional overnight accommodation
- Arrival and departure transfers, except where explicitly stated
- Adventure Options not listed in Included Activities.

“ It was a real treat to be ‘Standing among the Emperors.’ Hundreds and hundreds of them. Arguably the most amazing bird on the planet. Expedition Leader Shane was a pro. I loved chatting with all manner of staff experts. They taught me a ton.”

— GARY K., SNOW HILL, 2023



Your Expedition Team

In 2004, the Quark Expeditions team became the first to visit the Emperor penguin colony at Snow Hill Island. Since then, our Expedition Team has brought more people to Snow Hill than anyone else in the industry. In 2023 alone, they succeeded in bringing 208 guests to Snow Hill on two separate voyages. They were led by veteran Expedition Leader Shane Evoy, who has made 19 successful Snow Hill landings in his career—perhaps more than anyone else on the planet.

Our Expedition Leaders and their teams bring diverse expertise in subjects as varied as polar history, marine biology, glaciology, ornithology and photography. Their knowledge and enthusiasm will greatly enhance your immersion into the polar environment and further deepen your connection to the Antarctic.

With over 34 years of experience bringing passengers to remote polar regions and an industry-leading staff-to-guest ratio, we know how to safely handle the unexpected. Ensuring this hard-earned experience is passed on, all our expedition staff receive comprehensive training in Quark Academy, which provides hands-on polar expedition training prior to any staff member's first voyage as well as ongoing training for experienced staff.



Veteran Expedition Leader Shane Evoy has led 19 successful voyages to Snow Hill Island.



One of the many historic churches in Buenos Aires



Iguazú Falls



Ushuaia Maritime Museum

Extend Your Trip

PRE- AND POST-EXPEDITION TRIP EXTENSIONS

Since you're traveling such a long way, you may want to spend extra time in Buenos Aires. We have a variety of pre- and post-expedition packages in this captivating city, known as the tango capital of the world. Enjoy an extensive city tour, take in a tango show and explore the unique neighborhoods of Recoleta, Palermo and San Telmo. Savor Argentine barbecue at a steakhouse (*parrilla*), then stroll the tree-lined boulevards and marvel at the historic architecture.

Take an extended tour from Buenos Aires to Iguazú Falls, and, if you're daring, walk the catwalks over the falls.

Upon arrival in Ushuaia, you can take in its unique museums, incredible hiking, and Patagonian cuisine. Spend a day in nearby Tierra del Fuego National Park, marvelling at the mountains, birdlife, waterfalls and forests.

To discover the best options for extending your adventure, get in touch with your Travel Professional or a Polar Travel Adviser for seamless, worry-free booking of all trip extensions.

Raise a Glass and Stay Connected

See below for specifics on our complimentary Wi-Fi and bar service.



Meals on Board

If there is one constant on board, it is that you'll enjoy delicious meals daily. While meal times may change due to landings and wildlife sightings, you'll always be served three well-prepared meals per day. Most dietary restrictions can be accommodated by letting us know prior to your expedition.

Balena Restaurant, the main diningroom on Deck 5 of *Ultramarine*, features tables that accommodate 2 to 10. Guests can enjoy a quiet dinner with a loved one or join a larger table of new friends. Guests will enjoy views from every seat in addition to direct access to the wraparound deck. Guests can also enjoy a meal in Bistro 487, which offers an indoor/outdoor dining experience—perfect for enjoying the polar landscapes.

Breakfasts and lunches are normally served buffet style, while dinners are served plated. À la carte meals are made at the time of your order, allowing our chefs to prepare each dish to your individual needs, ensuring you receive top-quality meals during the course of your expedition.

Complimentary coffee, tea, cocoa and water stations are available around the clock, while soft drinks and juices are available during meals and when the bar is open—all included in the cost of your package.

Enjoy complimentary select beer, wines and select cocktails during bar service hours and dinner as part of our “Raise a Glass and Stay Connected Free” program. Premium wines and champagne are available at extra cost and can be billed to your shipboard account. The well-stocked bars on the ship are open late morning, afternoon and evening, though hours may occasionally change to accommodate the expedition schedule.





Alternative Landing Sites

BROWN BLUFF

Brown Bluff, an immense cliff of volcanic rock, towers 2,225 feet (678 meters) over rookeries of Adélie and gentoo penguins, some of which will be incubating their eggs.

DEVIL ISLAND

The Swedish Antarctic Expedition of 1901-04 discovered the narrow island, which is 1 mile (1.6 km) long and has a low summit at each end.

HOPE BAY

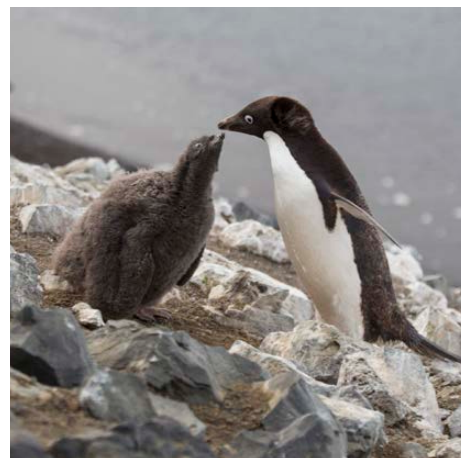
Three members of the Swedish Antarctic Expedition (1901-04) spent the winter in a hut on the shores of Hope Bay. The hut is located close to the jetty of Esperanza Station, an Argentine research station.

PAULET ISLAND

Located in the northwestern Weddell Sea, Paulet Island is home to a large Adélie penguin rookery. With a volcanic cone that rises 1,158 feet (353 meters), the island reminds you that this was once a very active landscape. In addition to penguins, you may be interested in visiting a historic hut built by members of the Swedish Antarctic Expedition of 1901-04. A cross marks the gravesite of crew member Ole Wenersgaard.

SEYMOUR ISLAND

Northeast of Snow Hill Island is a smaller island that was originally mistaken for a cape. Seymour Island is significant for fossil finds and for the remains of the KT Boundary, which marks the transition between the Cretaceous Period (dinosaurs and reptiles) and the Tertiary Period (mammals) of geological times. This era is known for the mass extinction of many forms of life, including dinosaurs.



What to pack on your Snow Hill expedition

VISITING THE EMPEROR PENGUIN COLONY

Located on sea ice, the Emperor rookery is situated some walking distance from the closest potential helicopter landing site (to not disturb the animals), so make sure you bring layered clothing suitable for covering the distance comfortably and additional layers to top-up whilst being more stationary at the colony.

Please note: The walk will be over uneven terrain of ice and varying levels of snow, so make sure you only bring what you can carry yourself without assistance.

- ☐ Waterproof pants (mandatory for every Zodiac and helicopter ride)
- ☐ Waterproof jacket (either the complimentary Quark 3-in-1 jacket or if you prefer, you can bring your own water and windproof winter warm anorak or extreme weather jacket (recommended: long/hooded*- complete with a solid insulating layer (fleece/ down**) *hood (with (faux) fur ruff /**responsible Down Standard (RDS)
- ☐ (Reusable) Hand and feet warmers ☐ Warm base-layer wool or synthetic top
- ☐ Binoculars ☐ Warm base-layer wool or synthetic bottom
- ☐ Mid-layer(s)* warm or (smart)wool/fleece top (*to adjust depending on your thermos-regulation comfort and activity level /keep a dry spare in your bag, for layering)
- ☐ Mid-layer(s)* warm or (smart)wool/fleece top (*to adjust depending on your thermos-regulation comfort and activity level /keep a dry spare in your bag, for layering)
- ☐ Warm hat that covers ears (bring an extra for your daypack in case one gets wet)
- ☐ Balaclava, scarf, buff, or other warm face protection (against wind and snow)
- ☐ Warm wool or synthetic socks (keep a dry pair in your bag)
- ☐ Warm, insulating insole(s) (for included boots)
- ☐ Warm waterproof gloves or mitts (bring an extra for your daypack in case one gets wet)
- ☐ Additional warm glove liners (for operating the camera or binoculars while at the colony)
- ☐ Ski goggles (protection against snow flurries and wind) and polarized sunglasses with UV protection (for sunny moments)
- ☐ Cold protection cream with UV block (don't bring regular, water-based Sunscreen — it will freeze)
- ☐ Waterproof, lightweight backpack (Daypack to carry your spare clothing and gear to and from the colony)
- ☐ Additional reusable (thermos-regulating) water bottle or thermos (in addition to the reusable collapsible water bottle provided)
- ☐ Camera(s) and pertinent equipment with enough spare batteries, ideally in a 'warm pack' (due to the low temperatures batteries will run out faster than usual)
- ☐ Folding (collapsible) ski pole walking stick with seat (for balance and stability aid for walking on uneven terrain and seating option for while at the colony)
- ☐ Small quick dry towel/handkerchief (to get rid of perspiration or snow)

- › To view our packing checklist online, visit:
QuarkExpeditions.com/What-to-Pack/Snow-Hill-Island
- › Related topics are covered on our Frequently Asked Questions page:
QuarkExpeditions.com/Frequently-Asked-Questions



Scan this QR code or [click here](#) to watch our video on what to pack before you go.

WHAT TO BRING Packing for the Polar Regions doesn't have to be daunting, and to make it easier for you, all Quark Expeditions voyages include a Quark parka to keep, and a loan of insulated waterproof boots. Additional suggested items include:

EXPLORING THE ANTARCTIC

Basic Antarctic gear recommendations (while on outer decks aboard the ship or during Zodiac Operations for alternative Landings etc.)

- ☐ Waterproof pants (mandatory for every Zodiac and helicopter ride)
- ☐ Waterproof jacket (the complimentary Quark 3-in-1 is ideal for all excursion outings with our Zodiacs)
- ☐ Binoculars ☐ Base-layer wool or synthetic top
- ☐ Mid-layer warm or fleece top* ☐ Mid-layer warm or fleece bottom*
- ☐ Warm hat that covers ears ☐ Base-layer wool or synthetic bottom
- ☐ Waterproof gloves or mitts ☐ Glove liners*
- ☐ Warm wool or synthetic socks (keep a dry pair in your bag, and bring extras for layering)
- ☐ Waterproof, lightweight backpack or dry sack for camera and gear or waterproof cell phone case / rain sleeve
- ☐ Ski goggles (for Zodiac cruising on snowy or windy days)
- ☐ Hat, buff or scarf (for wind and weather protection)
- ☐ UV protection (sun hat, polarized sun glasses, sun block, lip balm)
- ☐ Collapsible walking stick for hikes (if required). Quantities are available on every vessel to borrow.

** recommended layering depending on the conditions of the day and reflecting your personal thermo-regulation comfort levels.*

TO WEAR ON BOARD

- ☐ The complimentary Quark 3-in-1 Parka provided on board is designed with a waterproof shell that can be worn out on deck, and a removable liner that you can wear to stay comfortable indoors)
- ☐ Comfortable casual clothing like lighter shirts, pants or jeans, etc. (in case the ship gets warm)
- ☐ Comfortable non-slip closed-toed, heelless shoes (flip flops, sandals or slip-on shoes should not be worn on board due to safety concerns)
- ☐ Workout attire (for the fitness center)
- ☐ Swimsuit for the Polar Plunge. Some vessels may also have a pool, hot tub, sauna and/or steam room. See your ship book for details.

Just a reminder: No formal evening wear required on our voyages but if you would like to bring something a little more dressy for the Captain's welcome and farewell cocktails you may certainly do so.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- ☐ Passport, visas, immunization records, travel documents, etc. as required
- ☐ Camera gear—complete with charger, storage medium, transport and cleaning kit (lens cloth etc.) and extra batteries
- ☐ Reusable waterproof bags or plastic bags with zippers (to keep small items organized and cameras dry)
- ☐ Voltage converters and plug adapters (see ship book for details)
- ☐ Seasickness, indigestion, headache, or other medications
- ☐ Earplugs and eye masks for sleeping
- ☐ Moisturizer for face and hands (skin dryness due to wind and temperature changes)
- ☐ Credit card and small amount of local currency (see pre-departure book for more details)

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND TEMPERATURES

Polar weather is extremely variable; temperatures may hover around the freezing mark and winds can be strong. The extended daylight warms sheltered areas so that you may sometimes find it warmer at times. However, you may encounter rain, snow squalls, fog and white-outs during an expedition and should be ready for any conditions.



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EXPEDITION BROCHURE
May 29, 2025

