

ANTARCTIC 2026/2027

Antarctica by Helicopter: Crossing the Circle & the Peninsula

 **ULTRAMARINE**



Contents

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



Expedition Overview

Antarctica by Helicopter: Crossing the Circle & the Peninsula

Crossing the Antarctic Circle at 66°30 is a polar milestone achieved by relatively few travelers. Our polar-obsessed expedition team has made this dream come true for modern-day adventurers for over 30 years. Because innovation is in our DNA, we wanted to make this experience even more memorable. The result is our brand-new 14-day *Antarctica by Helicopter: Crossing the Circle & the Peninsula* itinerary, which includes opportunities for guests to soar above the Antarctic landscape in one of *Ultramarine's* twin-engine helicopters.

Our goal is to maximize helicopter adventures throughout your voyage so you can experience perspectives of the 7th Continent no one else can offer. Your helicopter-supported excursions—included in the cost of the trip—feature multiple opportunities for heli flightseeing, as well as a heli landing. You'll learn what it's like to step out of a helicopter onto Antarctica and gaze upon polar landscapes previously only seen by a few fearless explorers and mountaineers.

Not only will you reach the Antarctic Circle, but you'll also explore the southern heart of the Antarctic Peninsula. And you'll experience it all from sea—and air. Get ready to embrace the pinnacle of polar adventures.

HIGHLIGHTS

-  Be one of the select few to cross the Antarctic Circle at 66°30
-  Experience at least two heli-flightseeing excursions—included in the cost of the trip
-  Participate in one heli-landing amidst Antarctica's vast coastal mountains
-  Enjoy off-ship excursions by Zodiac for intimate marine and land-based experiences
-  Explore Crystal Sound and Marguerite Bay—the southern heart of the Antarctic Peninsula
-  View the least-explored mountains and glaciers of the Antarctic Peninsula from sea and air
-  Learn from polar experts during our enhanced onboard education program.



Itinerary

DAY 1 | ARRIVE IN BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Upon arriving in this splendid city, known for its vibrant Argentinian culture, European architecture and cosmopolitan vibe, you will independently transfer to your pre-expedition hotel night, included in your Charter Flight and Hotel Package.

DAY 2 | FLY TO USHUAIA AND 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 to a central downtown location to enjoy some time on your own to explore this quaint port town before making your way to the designated meeting spot near the pier, where you will be transferred to the ship for embarkation.

After a late afternoon embarkation, we will sail along the historic Beagle Channel, which transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America. Expect an air of anticipation as you depart—the next time you see land, you'll be in the remote Antarctic wilderness.

DAY 3 | CROSSING THE DRAKE: A POLAR RITE OF PASSAGE

Crossing the legendary 800-km stretch of water is a must-do for many travelers. Prepare yourself for dramatic seascapes as you stand on the deck of *Ultramarine* and gaze at the water stretching beyond the distant horizon. Be on the lookout for dolphins, whales and seabirds, especially albatrosses, petrels and skuas as they glide over the sometimes rough waters. As the ship approaches the



Antarctic Peninsula, keep your eyes peeled for your first glimpse of towering, multi-shaped icebergs.

DAY 4 | AT SEA WITH POLAR EXPERTS

Today, as we continue crossing the Drake Passage, we experience the Antarctic Convergence, where the warmer waters of the sub-Antarctic meet the cold Antarctic. Your days at sea are filled with presentations led by your Expedition Team on photography, wildlife, glaciology, and history. In between presentations, spend time on deck looking for wildlife or chatting with your shipmates over a drink at the bar.

DAYS 5 & 6 | SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS AND ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

The most common reaction upon reaching the Antarctic Peninsula 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 elusive 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, Adélie 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. Days 5 and 6 are also ideal times to experience *Ultramarine's* portfolio of helicopter-supported adventures exclusive to Quark Expeditions.

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. That's in addition to the spectacular experience of soaring in a helicopter over the Antarctic landscape.

DAYS 7-9 | EXPLORE THE ANTARCTIC CIRCLE AND THE SOUTHERN PENINSULA BY WATER, LAND AND AIR

Helicopter operations in Antarctic are acutely weather-dependent. We have designed this itinerary so we can spend time each day in stunning locations that allow us to enjoy helicopter opportunities



EXPEDITION SPIRIT

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team must consider the sea, ice and weather to guide the route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you may experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. By the same token, wildlife encounters as described are expected, but not guaranteed. Your Expedition Team will use their considerable experience to seek out wildlife in known habitats, but the presence of any particular species of bird or marine wildlife is not guaranteed.

if the weather allows and, alternately, to maximize your experience of Antarctic wildlife, ice and landscapes when flying conditions are not favorable. Each day near the Antarctic Circle will showcase the flexibility and technical prowess of our industry-leading expedition team, pilots and crew, who will look for opportunities to experience Antarctica well beyond its coasts.

As *Ultramarine* gains access to the Antarctic Circle, you'll have accomplished an impressive achievement as most expeditions to the Peninsula do not come close to navigating this far south. Toasting the first explorers who ventured here over a century ago, you can raise a glass and take pride in the knowledge you've reached part of the world visited by a relative few.

Next on our itinerary are Crystal Sound and Marguerite Bay, which comprise the geographical theater of focus on this incredible venture into the "deep south" of Antarctica.

After visiting some of the region's iconic penguin colonies and glacial features, we continue south into Crystal Sound to cross the Antarctic Circle. Crystal Sound is known for its massive expanse of steep mountains that rise directly out of the sea. We hope to visit Detaille Island and, weather-permitting, fly into the mountains of the Antarctic Peninsula at the Antarctic Circle. Our goal is to visit the British Antarctic Survey's historical hut, and the Adélie penguin colony of Detaille Island. We also hope to Zodiac cruise in this area to see the colossal

icebergs that formed from the glaciers fed by the snowfall in the coastal mountains of Antarctica. Seals frequently roam this coastal area. There will be time to marvel at the impressive topography, which features Castle Peak, a 2,380 meter (7,800-foot) massif. If weather allows, we may add to our marine operations and embark on our flightseeing experiences. What you will have just seen from sea, you will now experience from the sky as you witness the vastness of Antarctica and Crystal Sound.

Continuing further south, we'll set out toward Marguerite Bay, which is rich in human history, stunning geological features, and expansive ice fields. The bay is separated from Crystal Sound by Adelaide Island. Ice conditions



permitting, we may be able to transit slowly through the narrow passage between the mainland and the island. This channel is known as The Gullet, known for pulsing currents that can lodge and dislodge ice throughout the summer months. Keep your eyes focused off-ship for potential marine mammal sightings. To the west of Adelaide Island, the 70-kilometer-long Fuchs Ice Piedmont stretches out like a long ice tongue to east Arrowsmith Peninsula with multiple peaks rising 1,800 to 2,100 meters (6,000 to 7000 feet).

We also hope to explore Debenham Islands, named after Frank Debenham, a member of the advisory committee for the British Graham Land Expedition of 1934-37. The six main islands are named after Debenham's children.

DAYS 10 & 11 | NORTHBOUND ALONG THE PENINSULA

By now, your knowledge of Adélie, chinstrap and gentoo penguins will be matched by your ability to differentiate between a leopard, crabeater and Weddell seal. Terms like 'bergy bits' and 'pancake ice' will become part of your vocabulary. As you head north, Zodiac excursions will occupy your days, and your Expedition Team will continue looking out for species of seabirds, seals and whales that may have eluded us on this journey south.

DAYS 12 & 13 | CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

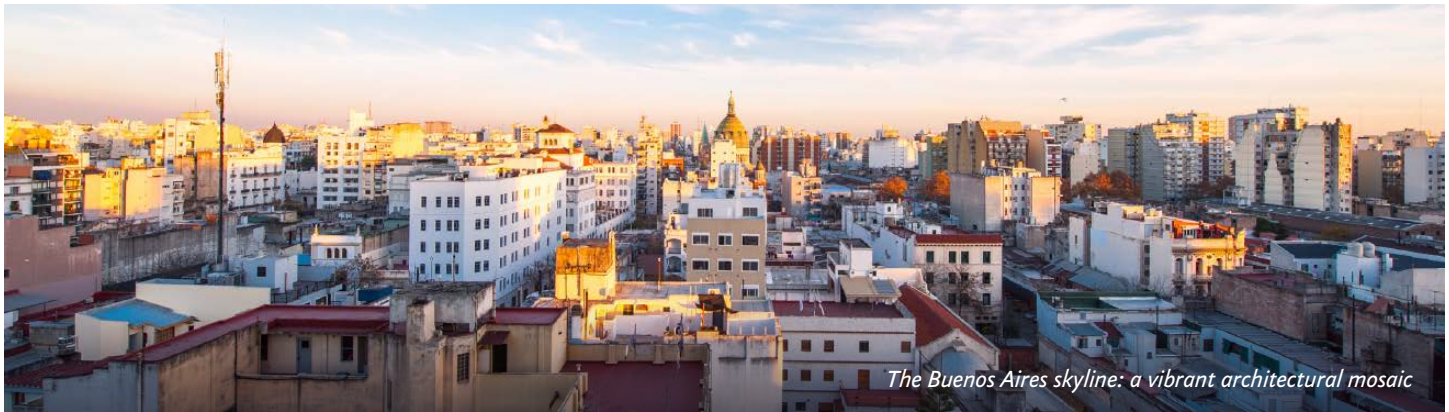
As you recross the Drake Passage at the end of your expedition, rest assured you'll do so with a storehouse of memories to last a lifetime. You'll have experienced

moments—soaring in a helicopter over remote parts of Antarctica being one of the most memorable—which few travelers can ever claim. Your Expedition Team will have a few remaining presentations for you—including the guest favorite, the end-of-voyage photo-and-video compilation showcasing the most unforgettable moments of your voyage. Remember to take advantage of *Ultramarine's* amenities, especially Tundra Spa & Sauna, on the final days onboard.

DAY 14 | DISEMBARK IN USHUAIA AND FLY TO BUENOS AIRES

You will arrive in Ushuaia in the morning and disembark after breakfast—but the adventures aren't over. Your Charter Flight and Hotel Package includes your transfer to the airport for the return group charter flight to Buenos Aires.





The Buenos Aires skyline: a vibrant architectural mosaic

Arrival and Departure Details, and International Flight Planning



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 designated group hotel, which is included in your Charter Flight and 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 your Charter Flight and Hotel Package will provide some free time to explore this quaint port town.

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

CHARTER FLIGHT LUGGAGE LIMIT

This expedition includes a return charter flight between Buenos Aires and Ushuaia. Your package includes one checked bag and one cabin bag. Luggage weight restrictions on these flights are typically less than those on international carriers. There are no options to pay for additional luggage, but additional baggage may be stored at the hotel in Buenos Aires. Specific weight restrictions will be confirmed in your final travel documents.

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. Our charter flight lands at Buenos Aires international airport (Ministro Pistarini International — EZE). The included flight lands at approximately 5 p.m. We recommend you only select flights departing after 9 p.m.

Check your itinerary carefully before booking. Some South America-bound flights originate at Jorge Newbery Airport (IATA code: AEP), which is also known as Aeroparque (IATA airport code: AEP). Due to unpredictable traffic in Buenos Aires, we recommend you only select flights departing Jorge Newbery Airport after 10 p.m.

For the absolute safest travel plans, we recommend that you book an extra hotel night in Buenos Aires between flights. Expedition travel is occasionally unpredictable. We strongly recommend booking flexible international air tickets. Quark Expeditions is not responsible for any air ticket change costs you may incur.

Arrival and Departure Transfers

BUENOS AIRES AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Arrival transfers from your international flights in Buenos Aires are not included; however, your Travel Professional or Polar Travel Advisor can arrange them for you.

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 that's part of your Charter Flight and Hotel Package 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.



Ushuaia: the southernmost city in the world.



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.

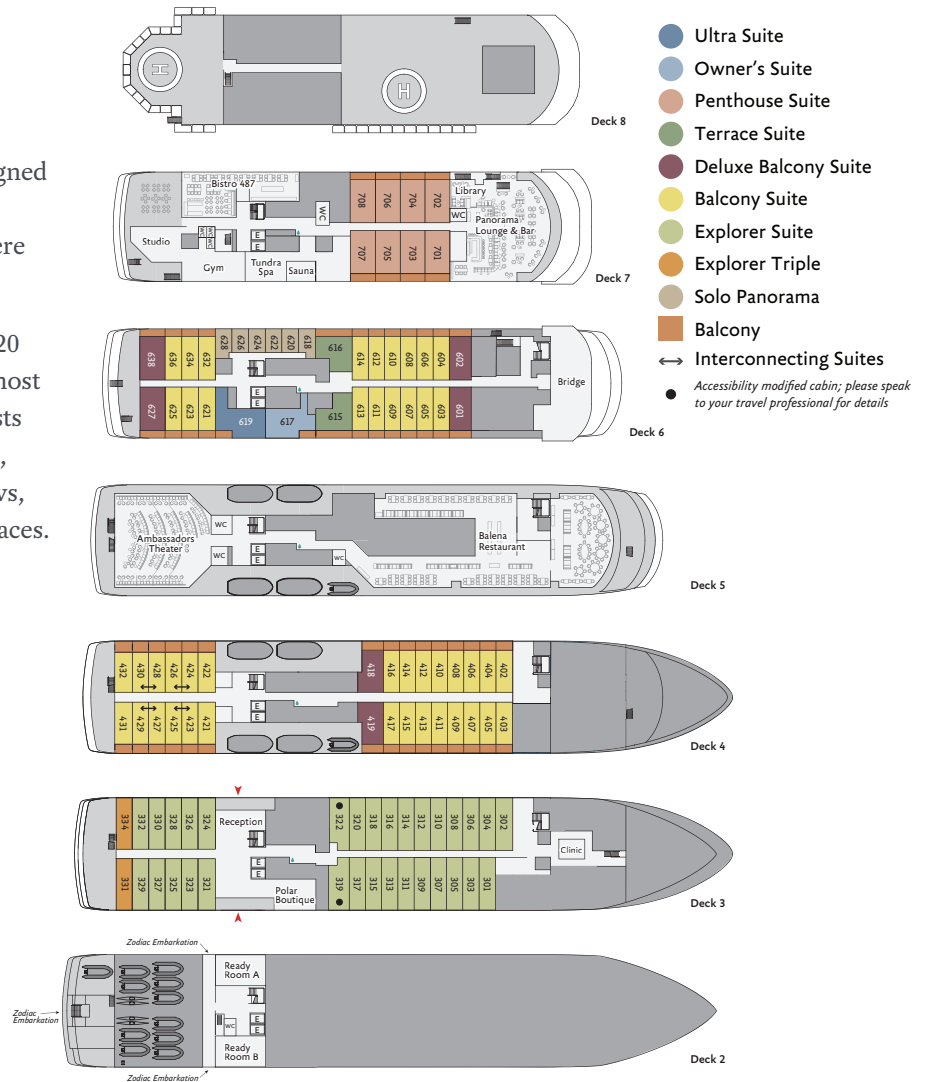
Equipped with two twin-engine helicopters and 20 quick-launching Zodiacs, *Ultramarine* offers the most off-ship adventure activities in the industry. Guests can enjoy two restaurants (Balena and Bistro 487), Tundra Spa, a sauna-with floor-to-ceiling windows, spacious suites and abundant wildlife-viewing 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:

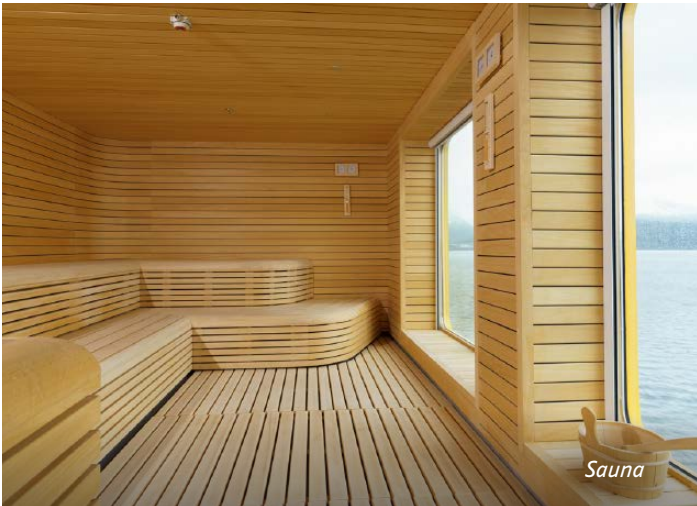
- Staff and Crew: 140
- Guests: 199
- Lifeboats: 4, fully enclosed
- Ice Class: PC6

Visit QuarkExpeditions.com to view deck plan details.





Deluxe Balcony Suite



Sauna



Panorama Lounge



Fitness Center



Balena Restaurant



Included Activities

All of these are included in your trip package.

Ready for a little adventure beyond your ship? Each Quark Expeditions voyage offers a variety of immersive off-ship activities to enhance your polar experience.

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.

HELI-LANDING

Imagine setting foot in an area of the Antarctic that can only be safely accessed by helicopter. With 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, breathtaking summits, and more. At your 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*.

Your heli-landing experience is uniquely curated by our expedition team, taking conditions, regulations and location capacity into consideration.

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.

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





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 search for 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.

PRESENTATIONS

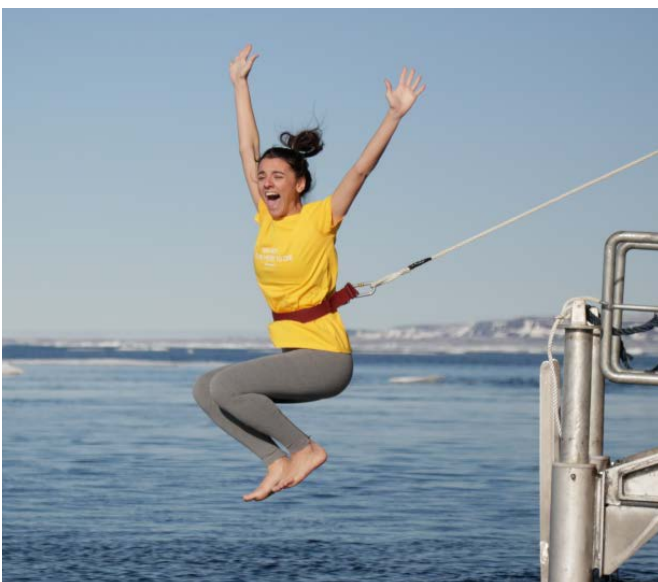
Enjoy daily chats with and presentations by our world-class onboard polar experts—expedition guides, specialists, photography guides and other special guests who will introduce you to the fascinating history, biology, ornithology, glaciology and geology of the region, and much, much more.

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 and physical requirements is available by contacting your Polar Travel Adviser or travel professional.



Departure Date

Antarctica by Helicopter: Crossing the Circle & the Peninsula

ULTRAMARINE

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Start / End</i>		
ANTARCTIC 2026/2027				
FEB 16 - MAR 1, 2027	14	Buenos Aires	Included	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:

- An official Quark Expeditions parka to keep
- Two (2) 10- to-15 minute helicopter flightseeing excursions, and one (1) heli landing (weather and logistics permitting)
- 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
- 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
- Emergency Evacuation insurance for all passengers to a maximum benefit of USD \$500,000 per person

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.

Your Charter Flight and 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)
- 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.)



Your Expedition Team

Our Expedition Leaders are proudly and unapologetically polar-obsessed. They focus exclusively on Arctic and Antarctic exploration, and they draw on 34 years of polar expertise. They obsess over every detail of your voyage—on ship and off ship. Our Expedition Leaders spend their careers—it’s a life calling, actually—feeding and sharing their passion for the Polar Regions. And they’re driven to ensure you experience polar moments no one else can offer.

Our Expedition Leaders are experts in polar history, marine biology, glaciology, ornithology photography and other subjects. They’re trained to handle the unexpected. All staff undergo comprehensive training at Quark Academy, which provides hands-on polar expedition training to new and experienced team members.





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 encounters, 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 free beer, standard wines, spirits, and cocktails during bar service hours and dinner as part of our new “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.





Possible Excursions

South Shetlands

AITCHO ISLANDS

This group of small islands is situated at the northern entrance of English Strait. You can often spot a robust diversity of wildlife in the area, including rookeries of gentoo and chinstrap penguins. Southern elephant and fur seals frequently haul out here, too.

DECEPTION ISLAND

Deception Island is a flooded circular caldera formed by the collapse of an active volcano. To reach this protected harbor, it is necessary to sail through a narrow passage called Neptune's Bellows. Inside are several bays used at various times for whaling and scientific research. Along with waddling penguins and lounging seals, you'll see the rusting remains of whaling operations on the beach in some locations. The landscape of Deception Island often presents

opportunities for longer walks to striking vistas. The contrast of white snow against dark volcanic sand, coupled with steam rising from geothermal activity at the right tide, creates a dramatic atmosphere.

YANKEE HARBOR

Gentoo penguins have established a rookery at this harbor, situated on the southwest side of Greenwich Island. Here, you can see an abandoned Argentine refuge hut and a large glacier that stretches along the east and north sides of the bay. An abandoned sealing try pot, once used to render oil from marine mammal blubber, is all that remains of the activity that prompted men to cross vast oceans in tall ships to seek their fortune. Enjoy a rare chance for a longer walk along the expansive beach, dotted with historical artifacts and wildlife.



Peninsula

PARADISE HARBOUR

Paradise Harbor is a wide bay and natural harbor on the West Antarctic Peninsula. Mountains, glaciers and ice cliffs offer spectacular views. Icebergs regularly calve from the glaciers, providing a place for seals, penguins and seabirds to rest and play. An Argentine base, Almirante Brown Station—named after Admiral Guillermo Brown, father of the Argentine Navy—is also located in Paradise Harbour. It was operated from 1951 until a large section burned down in 1984, and has since been partially rebuilt as a summer research base.

YALOUR ISLANDS

These islands were named for an Argentine Navy lieutenant who rescued the shipwrecked members of the Swedish Antarctic Expedition in 1903. Approximately 8,000 pairs of Adélie penguins nest in the islands, sometimes parading for visitors. Yellow lichens and grass give color to the landscape, and icebergs are easy to spot during your Zodiac cruise.

LEMAIRE CHANNEL

One of the most scenic locations on the peninsula's west coast, this dramatic strait runs between the towering cliffs of Booth Island and the Antarctic Peninsula. The channel may become impassable when ice fills the narrow, 6.8-mile (11 km)-long passageway, so we'll hope for clear waters

Antarctic Circle and the "Deep South"

CROSSING THE CIRCLE

Although not a shore landing, the crossing of the Antarctic Circle is a moment to remember for life. The momentous event takes place while we're at sea, so be sure to head out on deck to toast the achievement.

CARVAJAL STATION

On the southwest extreme tip of Adelaide Island lies a handful of red huts connected to Chile's Teniente Luis Carvajal Villaroel Antarctic Base, often simply called Carvajal Station. Originally built by the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey in 1961, it was known as Station T.

The glacier in the background provided an ideal skiway for aircraft, and from 1961 to 1977 the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) used the base for meteorology, glaciology and geology research. When the skiway deteriorated, the BAS closed the base and transferred operations to nearby Rothera Station. In 1984, seven years after the British closure, the BAS transferred it to Chile, who have since operated it as a summer base. Today, while the base contains laboratory facilities, its function is mainly logistical: it's used by the Chilean air force as a jump-off point for exploration into the interior of Antarctica. The buildings lie on a patch of bare rock of the predominantly glaciated Adelaide Island.

CRYSTAL SOUND

Crystal Sound, home to various islands named after scientists who studied ice crystals, is cut by the Antarctic Circle and is thus a "quarry" sought by people who feel they absolutely must cross this imaginary line. Ships usually don't get this far south along the Antarctic Peninsula until the very end of the



austral summer, when ice cover is at a minimum. Even then, it's a long ride through the Penola Strait—with lots of ice. There's the potential to see towering icebergs that reach 30 to 50 meters high. Some of the smaller islands within the Barcroft Islands have no ice cover and little snow, revealing greenish-tan, homogeneous textured, well-jointed rocks.

DEBENHAM ISLANDS

These islands, located in northeast Marguerite Bay, were first surveyed during the ground-breaking British Graham Land Expedition (BLGE) of 1934-37 and named in honor of Frank Debenham, who was a member of the advisory committee for the BLGE. He was also founder and first director of Scott Polar Research Institute. In fact, Debenham, as a younger man in 1910, joined Captain Scott's Antarctic Terra Nova expedition as a geologist. The six main islands—Ann Island, Audrey Island, Barbara Island, Barry Island, Brian Island and June Island—are named after Debenham's six children.

DETAILLE ISLAND

Detaille Island lies in Lallemand Fjord, just south of the Antarctic Circle. Station W, of the British Antarctic Survey, is a historical research hut established in 1956. Researchers overwintered here, setting out on expeditions and conducting scientific investigations. Stepping inside is a walk back in time as the hut has been impeccably preserved. Enjoy 1950s memorabilia such as jars of HP Sauce and canned butter—a little beyond their expiry dates—and imagine overwintering here, below the Antarctic Circle.

FISH ISLANDS

The Fish Islands are located west of Prospect Point, off the western extremity of Graham Land. Individual islands are named after different fish species; hence, Flounder Island and the islets known as The Minnows. The islands are low-lying and occupied by an estimated 4,000 breeding pairs of Adélie penguins between 12 colonies. Blue-eyed shags also breed on the islands. This area is known for its stunning glacial scenery and tabular icebergs birthed from ice shelves further south in the Bellingshausen Sea.

HORSESHOE ISLAND

Named for a horseshoe-shaped arrangement of peaks that reach 600 to 900 meters (1,950 to 2,950 feet), this island lies in the northeast corner of Marguerite Bay, on the Graham Land coast of the Antarctic Peninsula. Discovered in 1937 by Australian John Rymill of the British Graham Land expedition, the island played an important role in both British and, subsequently, Antarctic history because of its research station, Base Y or colloquially, Horseshoe Base (HSM 63). Built in 1955 by the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey, the research station's purpose was geological and survey work. Today it remains as a time capsule of another era. At that time in Antarctic history, airplanes were being introduced and Horseshoe and Detaille Islands provided a ground control network for aerial photography. In an unusual twist of scientific endeavor in 2019, Turkey launched their third Antarctic expedition and chose Horseshoe Island to set up their first meteorological station, transforming the British legacy on this once forgotten island.



PETERMANN ISLAND

Here, near the Lemaire Channel, you can stand on shore and observe the southernmost breeding colony of gentoo penguins. Adélie penguins, shags and south polar skuas also inhabit the island.

PLENEAU ISLAND

The 1.2 kilometer-long Pleneau Island lies just south of the Lemaire Channel, separating Hovgaard Island and the Antarctic Peninsula. Here we can find an iceberg garden, where both large tabular icebergs and older, rolled icebergs (also known as overturned or flipped) have run aground. Many of these icebergs have originated from as far south as the Ross Ice Shelf. From the cobbled beach on the eastern coast, smooth rock terraces slope gently upwards towards a large crevassed ice-cap, which covers the western two-thirds of the island. Leopard seals can be seen off-shore, and Weddell and Southern Elephant seals regularly haul out here. The island is also home to South Polar skuas, Kelp gulls, Gentoo penguins, Blue-eyed shags and Antarctic terns. Keep your eyes out

on possible shore landings for swards of moss species, Caloplaca. and other lichens, green algae such as Prasiola crispa, and snow algae.

PORT CHARCOT

Port Charcot lies on the northern coast of Booth Island (previously named Wandel island). It was discovered by Jean-Baptiste Charcot in 1904 and named for his father. Charcot's crew spent the winter of 1904 in this location. Their ship, the Français, was moored here and although the men slept on board the ship, they established a shore station for scientific observations and as an emergency shelter.

POUR QUOI PAS ISLAND AND BLAIKLOCK ISLAND

Why Not Island, translated from its French name, was discovered by the French Antarctic Expedition led by Antarctica's gentleman explorer, Jean Baptiste Charcot. However, it was named by John Rymill, of the British Graham Land Expedition (1934-37), after Charcot's ship, the Pour Quoi Pas. At (27 kilometers long (17 miles),

it is a fair-sized, glaciated island on the north end of Marguerite Bay, between Adelaide Island and Graham Land. As if the island's name weren't curious enough, various landmarks here are named after characters in Jules Verne's 20,000 Leagues Under The Sea, such as Mt. Arronax. At 1,585 meters (5,200 feet), it dwarfs the surrounding landscape and is named after Professor Arronax, the protagonist of the famous sci-fi novel.

Adélie penguins nest on the island and mammals such Weddell seals rest on shore, and later in the season, Antarctic fur seals can be observed. Expanses of glacial debris cover the shore adding a glaciological and geological dimension to your visit. Just across The Narrows lies Blaiklock Island, also charted by Rymill, it was named after the Falkland Island Dependency, surveyor Kenneth Blaiklock. On the north side of the island is a British Antarctic Survey historical refuge hut. It was used from 1957 to 58 for geological and survey work by personnel mainly from the Horseshoe Island base, but also from Detaille and Stonington Island bases.



EXPEDITION SPIRIT

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team must consider the sea, the ice and the weather to guide the route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you may experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. By the same token, wildlife encounters as described are expected, but not guaranteed. Your Expedition Team will use their considerable experience to seek out wildlife in known habitats, but the presence of any particular species of bird or marine wildlife is not guaranteed.

RED ROCK RIDGE

Red Rock Ridge rises steeply from Marguerite Bay to 2,264 ft (690 m). It's no wonder that Jean-Baptiste Charcot, John Rymill, and the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey explored and surveyed it. Charcot named it Cap Pavie or Ile Pavie in 1909, but later it was Rymill that provided the descriptive name. Picturesque, the red-hued rock has been smoothed and rounded by erosion, seeming more reminiscent of Utah or Arizona than Antarctica. A short climb from shore offers spectacular views of Marguerite Bay and lovely place to sit and feel immersed in a different kind of Antarctica. The serene views lie in contrast to the assortment of wildlife ashore and plying the waters including nesting Adélies and Antarctic Cormorants as well as seal and whale species.

STONEHOUSE BAY

Tucked into the inner coast of Adelaide Island is Stonehouse Bay, a cathedral of ice and rock branching off Laubeuf Fjord, which separates Adelaide Island

from Graham Land. At 139 kilometers (86 miles) long, Adelaide Island is both sizable and mountainous. Its extensive glaciation results in the island's largest glacier, Shamble's Glacier, at 10 kilometers (6.2 miles) wide, pouring into Stonehouse Bay, with Stoke's peaks peering over the iceberg-strewn waters. While Adelaide Island was discovered during the British Southern Ocean Expedition led by John Biscoe in 1832, it was surveyed by Jean Baptiste Charcot on the French Antarctic Expedition of 1909. The bay was named by the British after Bernard Stonehouse, a leader, biologist and meteorologist of the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey.

STONINGTON ISLAND

Two abandoned research stations can be found on this island south of the Antarctic Circle. The first women to overwinter in Antarctica were housed at East Base. The British-built Base E is about 200 meters (656 feet) away from East Base, which was constructed by the United States Antarctic Service Expedition.

THE GULLET

As its name suggests, The Gullet is an extremely narrow and dramatic passage way between Adelaide Island and Graham Land. Jean-Baptiste Charcot first surveyed the area and speculated its existence by sketching it on his expedition charts. But it was John Rymill of the British Graham Land Expedition of 1936 who navigated and surveyed the narrow channel, followed by the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey, resurveying and naming it in 1948. This channel, which connects Laubeuf Fjord to the south with Hanusse Bay to the north, provides a spectacular shortcut between the two waterways—when it's ice-free and navigable.



What to pack on your Antarctic expedition

BY SEA AND AIR

All transfers ship to shore, helicopter flights and Zodiac/ship cruising.

- Waterproof pants (mandatory for every Zodiac and helicopter ride)
- Base-layer wool or synthetic top*
- Base-layer wool or synthetic bottom*
- Mid-layer warm or fleece top*
- Mid-layer warm or fleece bottom*
- Warm wool or synthetic socks (keep a dry pair in your bag, and bring extras for layering)
- Glove liners * Hand and feet warmers* Binoculars
- Waterproof gloves or mitts (bring an extra pair)
- Scarf, buff, or other face protection
- Warm hat that covers ears (bring an extra)
- Waterproof, lightweight backpack or dry sack and/or rain sleeve for camera or a waterproof phone case (to keep camera and gear dry)
- Polarized sunglasses with UV protection (consider bringing an eyewear retainer: string/clip etc.)
- Ski goggles (for Zodiac cruising on snowy or windy days)

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

BY LAND (Shore Excursions and Hiking)

In addition to the gear requirements (as above) mandatory for the transit from ship to shore, it is recommended to bring:

- Hat, buff or scarf (for wind and weather protection)
- UV protection (sun hat, polarized sun glasses, sun block, lip balm etc.)
- Collapsible walking sticks for hikes (if required)
Quantities are available to borrow on every vessel
- Additional reusable (thermos-regulating) water bottle (in addition to the reusable collapsible water bottle provided)

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:

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)

- › To view our packing checklist online, visit: [QuarkExpeditions.com/What-to-Pack/Antarctica](https://www.quarkexpeditions.com/What-to-Pack/Antarctica)
- › Related topics are covered on our Frequently Asked Questions page: [QuarkExpeditions.com/Frequently-Asked-Questions](https://www.quarkexpeditions.com/Frequently-Asked-Questions)



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

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 warm enough for t-shirts. However, you may encounter rain, snow squalls, fog and white-outs during an expedition and should be ready for any conditions.



Polar-Obsessed Since 1991

TO BOOK YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE

Contact your Travel Professional
or a Quark Expeditions Polar Travel Adviser

TOLL FREE AND LOCAL NUMBERS:

North America (Toll Free) **1 888 332 0008**

U.K. Tel **+44 203 514 2712**

U.K. (Toll Free) **0 808 120 2333**

Australia Tel **+61 2 72580333**

Australia (Toll Free) **+61 1800 953518**

France Tel **+33-1 80 14 01 05**

France (Toll Free) **08 05 08 66 46**

QuarkExpeditions.com

PHOTO CREDITS (over all Expedition Brochures for the Antarctic 2026/27 season):

Acacia Johnson; David Merron; Michelle Sole; Nicky Souness; Samantha Crimmin; Hugo Perrin; Taylor Cranney;
Sam Edmonds; Abbey Weisbrot; Hans Lagerweij; Rogelio Espinosa; Cindy Miller Hopkins; Grange Productions;
Adobe Stock

EXPEDITION BROCHURE
February 5, 2025