

## The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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### ANTARCTICA & PATAGONIA EXPEDITION (SOUTHBOUND) ABOARD MS ROALD AMUNDSEN

The national parks of Patagonia The expedition begins in the UNESCO city of Valparaíso, sailing to rustic and charming Castro. From there, we continue to the isolated hamlet of Puerto Edén within Bernardo O'Higgins National Park, and Puerto Natales, gateway to Torres del Paine National Park which you can visit on an optional excursion. We cruise the Strait of Magellan on our way through the Beagle Channel before reaching the southernmost tip of South America. If we have favourable sea conditions, we'll try landing at Cape Horn. After that, we'll start our crossing of the Drake Passage towards Antarctica. The Seventh Continent When you arrive in Antarctica, it will be late spring. The snow is fresh from winter, icebergs look pristine, and penguin species are courting and nest-building. Over the next four days, you'll be exploring several landing sites out of a choice of 20. We have no fixed itinerary, as wind, weather, wildlife and sea ice in this extreme environment can affect our daily programme. But rest assured, it's all part and parcel of the adventure. You'll enjoy joining the Expedition Team on lectures, ice-cruising, landings and possibly on optional activities like kayaking, snowshoeing or even camping.



#### ITINERARY

##### Day 1 Valparaíso, Chile

Chile's 'Little San Francisco' Estimated time of departure is 11:00 PM Located on a picturesque bay? Check. Rows of colourful houses lining the hills? Check. A network of trams and funiculars that take you to scenic views? Check that too. A thriving arts scene and exciting foodie culture? Double check. With these shared similarities, it's no wonder that vibrant Valparaíso is often compared, as a compliment, to San Francisco in the opposite hemisphere. Depending on when you arrive here, you might be lucky enough to have some time to explore before embarking MS Roald Amundsen. If you plan

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ahead, you can even extend your voyage by adding our optional Pre-Programme adventure to the beautiful Atacama Desert. However, if you are short on time, you can start by taking a stroll around Sotomayor Plaza to admire the architecture and spot ships in the nearby port. You could then head up into the Concepción Hills

### Day 2-3 At sea

Expedition enlightened Two days at sea gives you all the time you need to ease into your journey and acclimatise for your adventure ahead. You'll definitely want to explore the ship and start enjoying onboard facilities like the infinity pool, hot tubs, sauna, indoor gym, outdoor running track and spa. But you'll likely also be having fun getting to know your Expedition Team as well as other crew members and guests. Share some drinks with them at the bar and strike up a camaraderie with your new ship mates. Your entertainment during any day at sea are the informative lectures from the Expedition Team. Each topic is designed to help you fully appreciate the areas you are sailing through. You might learn about how tectonic activity formed the surrounding mountain ranges, followed by examining real rock samples in the ship's Science Centre. Or perhaps, there will be an in-depth look at local history and culture that will inform your upcoming landings. Pick up fascinating facts about local sea birds like skuas or kelp gulls before grabbing a pair of binoculars and scanning for rare wandering albatross and various types of petrels. However you choose to spend these sea days, the mixture of onboard activities and lectures are an opportunity to enhance your sense of exploration and to whet your adventurer's appetite for what's to come!

### Day 4 Castro

Capital of Chiloé Island Tucked away off a fjord in the middle of Chiloé Island, Castro has evolved from Chile's third oldest city into a cosmopolitan capital that still manages to be classic Chilote in character. The typical postcard picture that you'll want to see for yourself are the brightly painted palafitos. These are traditional wooden stilt houses that you can find lining the edges of the fjord at Gamboa wharf. The nearby UNESCO-listed Church of San Francisco is also a masterpiece of carpentry made entirely of wood in a Neo-Gothic style. Other attractions you might like to check out are the Plaza de Armas centre of the city, the impressive Museum of Modern Art of Chiloé, and the Regional Museum of Castro. You can also spend the day sampling the wide range of high-quality restaurants and gastro-pubs that have popped up here for the fresh seafood and views of the fjord.

### Day 5 At sea

Sailing south We continue our voyage, setting course for Puerto Edén and passing by the many islands of Aysén, Chile's most sparsely populated region. Part of being on an expedition is knowing how to enjoy the moment; taking time out to reconnect with nature and the world around you. So park yourself in the panoramic Explorer Lounge or soak in a hot tub out on deck, sit back and simply take in the serene scenery as untouched isles and green mountains roll quietly by. You'll also be able to join the Expedition Team in the Science Centre so that they can continue to enthral you with details about the local geography, climate and birdlife.

### Day 6 Puerto Edén

The Portal to Paradise This tiny hamlet lies along a bay on a remote peninsula that juts out into a fjord in the province of Última Esperanza. As we sail into the area, you'll immediately

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appreciate that the port's main draw is its access to the exceptional landscapes of Bernardo O'Higgins National Park, which were surely the inspiration for naming the hamlet 'Eden' to begin with. The park is the largest protected area in Chile, made up of a stunning network of silent fjords and beautiful mountains covered in native forests. Keep on the lookout for South Andean deer on the nearby slopes, marine otters in the water, and cormorants up above. The climate of the region, that of frequent rainfall, high humidity and heavy storms, makes Puerto Edén only accessible by sea and one of Chile's most hard-to-reach inhabited places. There are no roads to, from or even within the isolated village, just boardwalks and footpaths that connect the homes of its less-than 200 inhabitants. A dozen of these residents are the last known community of the indigenous Kawéskar people who make a living fishing and selling wicker baskets to any travellers that pass through.

### Day 7-8 Puerto Natales

The Last Hope Sound Blessed with gorgeous views of the southern Andes, the port on Señoret Channel in Última Esperanza fjord has come a long way from its sheep industry origins. The city now acts as a launch pad for Torres del Paine National Park, attracting hikers from all over the world. Aside from a full-day optional excursion to the national park, you can also spend some time leisurely exploring Puerto Natales on foot. This sleepy city is a mix of Bohemian bars, shops selling outdoor gear, corrugated tin houses, and eateries serving up global cuisine. Visit the artisan village at Etherh Aike for a range of souvenirs or drop in for drinks at the Last Hope Bar which also claims to be the southernmost distillery in the world. Following the waterfront will grant you views across the fjord and there are photo-fantastic opportunities at the old pier, Monument to the

Wind, and Monument of the Hand. Bird watchers should also be on alert for Andean condors and for famously pink Chilean flamingos, to name just a few. You might also come across a monument to 16th century Spanish explorer Juan Ladrillero. He named the fjord here 'Last Hope' because he felt the inlet was his last chance to reach the Strait of Magellan. He was proved right and went on to become the first person to successfully sail the strait.

### Day 9 Chilean Fjords

Going with the flow Our journey down the Chilean coast continues south through the many broken isles and fabled fjords of Chile's rugged Magallanes Province. We will be in the western part of the Strait of Magellan, so named after the famous 16th century Portuguese explorer who first traversed it. The plan for today is that there isn't one! After all, where's the sense of fun and adventure if everything is scripted beforehand? The day's activities and any landings will therefore be decided at the discretion of the Expedition Team. They will draw on their in-depth knowledge of the area to pick out the most interesting sites for you to explore, and based on the local weather conditions that day. Whether cruising aboard small explorer boats or just out on deck aboard the ship, remember to scan the shores for picturesque waterfalls, birdlife, and maybe colonies of Magellanic penguins and, if lucky, elephant seals. In the waters themselves, you might get a rare glimpse of various species of whales.

### Day 10-11 At Sea

Cape Horn and the Drake Passage We loop round glacier-carved Alberto de Agostini National Park and enter the Beagle Channel in the morning. Gaze at the sumptuous landscapes as we pass between the park and Isla Gordon of the Tierra del Fuego



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archipelago. If it's a clear day, you may be able to see Monte Darwin towering to the north, part of the southernmost range of the Andean mountains. Exiting the channel midway, it is time to begin our crossing to Antarctica. Before we do so though, there is one historical place that we might try to visit in honour of past sailors. At the tip of South America lies legendary Cape Horn, a major milestone in the old clipper routes that connected Europe with the Far East and Oceania. This is where the open waters of the Atlantic and Pacific collide, creating powerful waves that are made even stronger by swirling westerly winds. For yachters, rounding Cape Horn is a maritime feat akin to summing Mount Everest. Given the notoriety of these turbulent waters, we can't guarantee you a landing. But if fortune favours us on the day with weather stable enough to set foot on the island, you'll be among a select few in the world able to boast about it. From Cape Horn, it's a clear shot to Antarctica across the Drake Passage. With no nearby landmass to break the currents, the waters here are fully exposed. Depending on the current, you might realise why some sea captains have come to nickname the passage the 'Drake Shake'. Other times, conditions are at the other end of the spectrum and completely calm. In such cases, be grateful you were blessed with the 'Drake Lake' instead! The Expedition Team will be hard at work on board to prepare you for the main event of your voyage: Antarctica! Lectures will focus on how to explore this sensitive environment in accordance with strict IAATO regulations. You'll get clued up on the importance of maintaining a respectful distance from curious penguins and what practical measures we will be taking to prevent bio-contamination of the ecosystem with foreign particles. If weather allows, spend some time out on deck taking in the fresh sea air. You might be accompanied by various seabirds who seem to enjoy following the ship from above. As

the first icebergs appear on the horizon, a ripple of excitement never fails to spread throughout the ship, even to those crew who have been many times before. In the following days, you'll understand why.

### [Day 12-15 Antarctic Peninsula](#)

The fabled frozen continent We've arrived. You are finally here. And isn't it a sight to behold. This other-worldly landscape of snow and ice can't be found anywhere else on earth. The wind and waves work with the late spring sun to carve fresh icebergs into giant white and blue gems, some as tall as buildings. Immense ice shelves and crumpled glaciers seem to creak while crashing chunks of ice into the waters below. Vast ranges of mighty mountains sleep silently beneath blankets of soft snow. Welcome to the epic Seventh Continent. Welcome to Antarctica. You'll be spending the next four days intensively exploring several of more than 20 possible landing sites on and around the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands. Wherever we go and whatever we do, each day in this vast, breathtaking region will offer you something different and thrilling. We might spend our time sailing into a flooded volcanic caldera or landing at dramatic bays that still harbour remnants of the whaling era. Or you'll go ashore and stand in the presence of thousands of penguins, while keeping at least a few metres away from any inquisitive ones who come to inspect you. This being the Antarctic late spring, gentoo and chinstrap penguins will be at the start of their courting season while the more advanced Adélie penguins may have already laid their eggs and be in nesting mode. There are many other birds in Antarctica to see too, such as skuas, jaegers, petrels and terns. Unlike penguins, these ones can actually fly, so remember to point your binoculars up to the sky now and again. The Expedition Team

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will be with you each step of the way, guiding you on landings and leading ice-cruises aboard small explorer boats. Depending on the local snow, ice and wind conditions, you might be among the fortunate few to join optional activities like kayaking and snowshoeing, or even get to spend a night camping on land. There will also be easy-to-do Citizen Science projects like cloud observation, whale and leopard seal spotting, and analysing phytoplankton under the microscopes in the Science Center. It is satisfying to know that the data you help collect as part of these projects feed into real scientific studies at key institutes around the world. The resident photographer will also have some handy tips for you on how you can best capture the stunning landscapes and charming wildlife. Don't forget to come out from behind your lens now and then though, just to take it all in.

#### Day 16-17 At sea

Back from the bottom of the world Your four days in Antarctica will go by in a flash and it is unfortunately now time to head home. No matter how long you spend here, it never quite feels enough. There always seems to be so much more to see in this inspirational place. Over the next two days, the ship crosses back over the Drake Passage towards South America. It's the ideal time to wind down from all the excitement of Antarctica. Pamper yourself in the Wellness Spa with a few soothing treatments. Reminisce on the trip's special memories with new-found friends in the bar. Proudly compare your best photographs and swap stories of the different excursions. Join the Expedition Team in the Science Center to take stock of all you have seen and learned along the way.

#### Day 18 Ushuaia / Buenos Aires

A fond farewell Estimated time of arrival is 7:00 AM Once we arrive in Ushuaia, you'll catch a transfer to the airport for a flight

to Buenos Aires. From here, you can either fly home or stay on for a few days to explore the city where tango was born. You can also opt to add on a post-programme to the magnificent Iguazu Falls on the Brazilian border. But just before you depart for Ushuaia airport, you'll sadly have to say goodbye to the ship, the crew and your amazing Expedition Team. Each of them has worked very hard to make your adventure a joyful and unforgettable one. We share an overall goal: to show that expedition cruises can and should be done sustainably, inspiring all of us to do more to cherish our wonderful planet. We hope that you'll take that same appreciation home with you and share it with your friends and family. Together, we can be better. Here's to seeing you on your next adventure!

#### Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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## YOUR SHIP: FRIDTJOF NANSEN

**YOUR SHIP:**

**Fridtjof Nansen**

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

Fridtjof Nansen is a small cruise ship specifically designed to be one of the most sustainable ships that can visit the Polar regions. Launched in 2020, The state of the art vessel features new and environmentally sustainable hybrid technology that will reduce fuel consumption and show the world that hybrid propulsion on large ships is possible. MS Fridtjof Nansen is the second of two hybrid ships to be launched cutting emissions by sailing with electrical propulsion. Hybrid technology, combined with the advanced construction of the hull and effective use of electricity on board will reduce fuel consumption and CO2-emissions on the ships by 20 percent. The future of shipping will be silent and emission free. MS Fridtjof Nansen will lead the way towards an even more sustainable way of traveling. Sailing on electrical power is not only a great benefit for the environment, but it will also enhance the impact of experiencing nature for the guests. The ship will be specially constructed for voyages in polar waters and serve as a comfortable basecamp at sea - bringing adventurers from all over the world to the most spectacular destinations in the most sustainable way. These ships combine state-of-the-art technology together with a premium onboard experience. All cabins are outside, half have

private balconies, and aft suites even boast private outdoor Jacuzzis, to soak up the stunning scenery in style. Facilities on board One of the most eye-catching exterior design features of the ships will be the two-level indoor/outdoor Observation Deck wrapped around the top of the ships' raked bow. In a vast area behind it, you'll find the core of the onboard experience: Amundsen Science Center. Packed with state of the art technology and high tech gadgets such as touch screens and science equipment, the immersive edutainment area will be the place guests and staff/crew meet, mingle and create a deeper understanding for the areas they explore. The flexible venue will feature lecture spaces, a small library, and speciality areas for workshops in photography, biology, and more. The stunning scenery will be reflected in a rich and comfortable interior design. Scandinavian materials from nature, such as granite, oak, birch and wool will be used to create relaxed and stylish cabins and public areas. All cabins are outside, 50 % will have private balconies, aft suites will feature private outdoor Jacuzzis with



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spectacular views.



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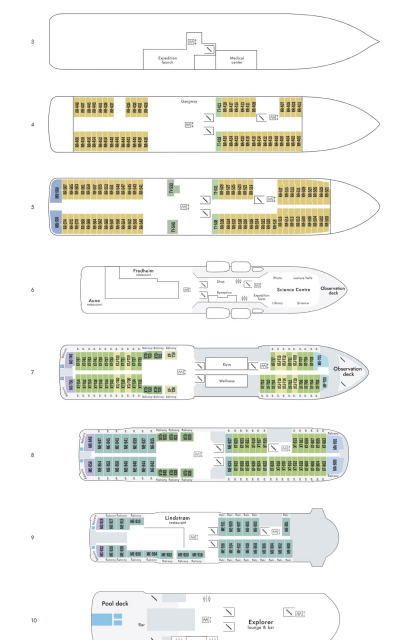
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP



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