

SOUTH POLE AND EMPEROR PENGUINS

Scott and Amundsen are, rightly, the two great explorers associated with the quest for the South Pole, and now you can see why they were willing to risk their lives to get there. The journey to the South Pole is a passage to one of the most consequential coordinates on Earth. At 90°S, the Pole marks the southern axis of the planet and the ultimate milestone of polar exploration. At 3,000 m (10,000 ft) above the ice, the High Polar Plateau unfolds as an unbroken expanse of white and sky. Time at the Pole is deliberately simple: standing at the bottom of the world, where all directions lead north. From the main camps, guests travel 2,400 km (1,500 mi) into the continent's interior, first flying five hours to Dixie's Camp before continuing onward after refuelling, crossing the same vast terrain that once demanded months of endurance from early explorers. The return to Dixie's Camp at 83°S offers a rare overnight immersion in Antarctica's interior, surrounded by silence, scale, and uninterrupted horizons -- a perspective on place and distance that few will ever experience. Emperor Penguins Standing nearly 1.2 m (4 ft) tall and weighing up to 45 kg (99 lb), the Emperor Penguin is Antarctica's largest and most resilient bird. Perfectly adapted to extreme cold, dense waterproof feathers and a thick layer of insulating blubber allow them to endure temperatures below -50°C (-58°F) and winds exceeding 190 km/h (120 mph). Their most remarkable feat unfolds in winter, when males incubate a single egg on their feet beneath a brood pouch, fasting for up to two months as the colony huddles together in a slow, deliberate rhythm to survive the polar night. To witness this resilience firsthand is to journey deep into their world. A short Basler flight crosses the vast ice shelf and surrounding ocean before guests continue by PistenBully, approaching the colony at a respectful distance. As the horizon begins to move and distant specks resolve into thousands of penguins, the scale of their collective endurance becomes unmistakable. An encounter of rare privilege, revealing the fragility of the colony and the extreme environment that

shapes it.

ITINERARY

Day 1. Capetown to Antarctica

Arrival in Antarctica

Soar across oceans and sea ice on a 5.5-hour flight from Cape Town. Cross into the Polar Circle and bask in endless daylight. Land on a blue-ice runway, then toast your arrival at your camp with cocktails chilled by 10,000-year-old Antarctic ice.

NB - Weather and flexibility

Our main priority is to fly guests safely and successfully to the penguins and the South Pole, and we adjust each week's itinerary for those optimal flying windows. These can often change, so it's important to remain flexible.

Day 2. Journey to Atka Bay

Fly 2.5 hours across dazzling landscapes to Atka Bay. Walk among resilient Emperor penguins; majestic, rare, and utterly unforgettable. Very few will ever witness such a scene in the wild of Antarctica.



Day 3. Peaks and Panoramas

Hike above the ice sheet to sweeping views of untouched peaks. Enjoy a champagne picnic, then venture further with your guide to a breathtaking lookout.

Day 4. Journey to the South Pole

The South Pole awaits. Board a Basler aircraft and fly over vast mountain ranges. After refuelling at Dixie's Camp, arrive at the Pole and stand where explorers dreamt of being. Capture the moment, stamp your passport, and return to Dixie's to overnight like Polar pioneers

Day 5. Return from the South Pole

Awaken under canvas on the High Polar Plateau. After breakfast, fly back to Echo, savouring the scale and solitude from above. A celebratory three-course dinner and champagne await your return.

Echo Base

The idea for Echo was conceived in conversation with astronaut Buzz Aldrin during his visit to Antarctica.

Perched in quiet solitude on a vast, shimmering glacier, arriving at Echo feels like stepping into a future imagined during the golden age of space exploration: clean lines, gleaming surfaces, and views so expansive they blur the boundary between the terrestrial and the cosmic.

Echo's expansive floor-to-ceiling windows frame this vast, dreamlike wilderness, allowing guests to take in the immense landscapes that define Antarctica. Beneath the striking exterior lies unexpected comfort, including a private en-suite shower in every pod, delivering warmth and restoration in one of Earth's most extreme environments.

Whether sharing stories over cocktails or watching the midnight sun spill across the glacier, Echo offers an experience that feels less like a stay on Earth and more like a glimpse into another world.

Day 6. At Leisure

At Your Leisure

Enjoy gentle hikes to abseiling and summiting a nunatak. Or, slow down and listen to our explorer team's tales of lesser-known Antarctic history and record-breaking feats beneath the endless southern skies.

Day 7. Hiking in Antarctica

Explore Wild Horizons

Venture along a dramatic cliff-side trail with panoramic views of the last true wilderness. Led by IFMGA mountain guides, this challenging hike promises awe, exhilaration, and a deeper connection to Antarctica's untamed spirit.

Day 8. Return to Cape Town

The flight out of Antarctica will be the last of your enduring memories of the great White Continent. Watch as your returning-flight, an A330 or A340 touches down on the blue ice runway. Linger at Wolf Fang's Ice Bar amidst sculptures carved from ice, explore White Desert's exclusive boutique, or unwind with a film -- before returning to the vibrant energy of Africa.



YOUR SHIP: ECHO CAMP ANTARCTICA

YOUR SHIP: **Echo Camp Antarctica**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:



The idea for Echo was conceived in conversation with astronaut Buzz Aldrin during his visit to Antarctica. If you want to visit The South Pole, you have very few options short of walking there! Perched in quiet solitude on a vast, shimmering glacier, arriving at Echo feels like stepping into a future imagined during the golden age of space exploration: clean lines, gleaming surfaces, and views so expansive they blur the boundary between the terrestrial and the cosmic. Echo's expansive floor-to-ceiling windows frame this vast, dreamlike wilderness, allowing guests to take in the immense landscapes that define Antarctica. Beneath the striking exterior lies unexpected comfort, including a private en-suite shower in every pod, delivering warmth and restoration in one of Earth's most extreme environments. Whether sharing stories over cocktails or watching the midnight sun spill across the glacier, Echo offers an experience that feels less like a stay on Earth and more like a glimpse into another world. An amazing place to stop on your way to visit The South Pole!



INSIDE YOUR SHIP

Antarctic Camps - Echo Base





PRICING

01-Dec-2026 to 08-Dec-2026

Antarctic Camps - Echo Base	**£88555 GBP pp**