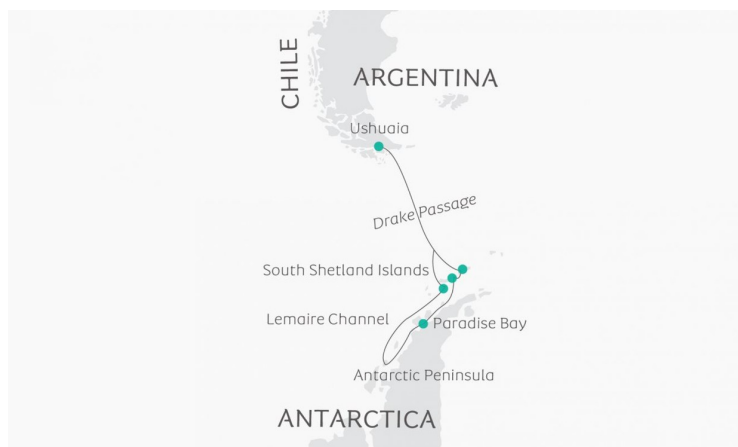




## SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS AND THE ANTARCTIC PENINSULA CRUISE

Onboard our strong, ice-classed expedition vessel, Ocean Atlantic, we are sure to get close to the dramatic coastlines. Zodiac cruising and shore landings are an important and considerable part of the planned itinerary, enabling all expedition guests to set foot several times on the Antarctic continent, as well as the many surrounding sub-antarctic islands. Departing Ushuaia in Argentina, we cross the mighty Drake Passage en-route for the South Shetland Islands, making Zodiac landings at penguin rookeries, research stations and fascinating lookouts along the way. Continuing southward, deep into the inlets of Antarctica, we pass the famous Gerlache Strait, where 3000-ft ice cliffs rise straight out of the still water. On no other journey can you experience so much pristine nature and varied wildlife in so few days! When Ocean Atlantic returns to Tierra del Fuego and Ushuaia, we pass close to the mythical Cape Horn - the southernmost point on South America and a celebrated maritime landmark. Any voyage to Antarctica is an adventure, but with a maximum capacity of 198 guests aboard Ocean Atlantic, this cruise offers a unique experience for the few. Shore landings, excursions, lectures and whale safaris are easily accommodated to help you enjoy a matchless expedition experience.



### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Arrival Ushuaia

Arrive in Ushuaia, Argentina - the world's southernmost town. Explore the quaint city or local countryside. Alternatively, consider a day trip off the beaten path to the raw, natural archipelago of Tierra del Fuego. It's a hiker's paradise with rugged snow-capped mountains, glaciers, flower-filled meadows and boggy quagmires. In the afternoon, we board our ship, Ocean Atlantic. Our journey begins as we navigate through the



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calms of Beagle Channel, a strait in the Tierra del Fuego Archipelago.

### Day 2-3: At Sea - Cross Drake Passage

Sailing onward, we cross the famed Drake Passage - a body of water that marks the intersection of the cold Antarctic with the warmer Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Drake Passage is known for rollicking conditions and strong westerly winds, called the Roaring Fifties. While this passage may be challenging, you can rest confidently aboard our expedition vessel, Ocean Atlantic, which is purpose-built with stabilizers, powerful engines and a highly-qualified crew. The most spirited sailors consider Drake Passage a lifetime achievement, and you will complete the crossing twice! In the Drake, the excitement builds as Antarctic wildlife comes into view. Weather permitting, we will catch our first sight of seals and penguins! The area is also well-known for its abundance of birds.

### Day 4-5: South Shetland Islands

Over the next two days, we will explore to the sub-Antarctic islands of the South Shetland chain. Projected landfalls include: King George Island; Deception Island, an extinct volcano with waters warm enough for a polar swim; and Half Moon Island with nesting Wilson's storm petrels and chinstrap penguins. The itinerary and activities over the next few days depend on weather and ice conditions. The route and shore landings will be determined by the captain and expedition leader and communicated to guests through regularly scheduled briefings.

### Day 6-7: Antarctic Peninsula

As the white shimmer of Antarctica looms on our horizon, the presence of wildlife multiplies by tens of thousands with many species of lively penguins, inquisitive seals, nesting birds and

the spray of marine mammals. Wildlife abounds along our projected route along the Antarctic Peninsula: leopard, fur and Weddell seals of Cuverville Island; humpback whales of Gerlache Strait; Paradise Bay; the dramatic Lemaire Channel's orcas. The itinerary and activities over the next few days depend on weather and ice conditions. The route and shore landings will be determined by the captain and expedition leader and communicated to guests through regularly scheduled briefings.

### Day 8-9: Depart Antarctica - At Sea

On Day 8, we depart Antarctica and spend two days at sea on our way back to the calms of Beagle Channel and Ushuaia, Argentina. En-route, we will cross Drake Passage and cruise past Cape Horn, a legendary maritime landmark and the southern tip of South America. During our time at sea, a variety of activities will be arranged on board and it provides the perfect opportunity to socialise with fellow travellers.

### Day 10: Back to Ushuaia and disembarkation

This morning, we arrive back in Ushuaia where our tour ends. Transfer to airport.

### Please Note:

As this is an expedition cruise to the world's most remote regions, we are at the mercy of Mother Nature. We have planned itineraries for each tour package, but to ensure the safety of our guests and crew, we may be forced to change the route. The itinerary can and will be changed according to weather, ice and local conditions, and travellers should consider this part of the journey. We strive to conduct as many shore landings, Zodiac excursions and hikes (up to 11km) as possible and these can be adjusted as desired to ensure everyone's safety.



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