

# ANTARCTICA: 2019/20

## TRIP NOTES



# Antarctica – 'In Depth'

(includes Antarctic Circle crossing)



28 DEC 2019 – 07 JAN 2020



10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS



STARTS USHUAIA

## CROSS THE ANTARCTIC CIRCLE AND MAXIMISE YOUR TIME DOWN ON THE ICE

This voyage encompasses two additional days of exploration in Antarctica without adding to the total length of the voyage. We achieve this by flying back from King George Island (Antarctica) to South America at the end of the voyage, which saves two days on the return sea crossing. Those two days 'saved' allow us to dive far to the south – with the objective of crossing the Antarctic Circle. This extra time also allows for great flexibility in daily programming and ultimately, it equals more time on shore, more time in the Zodiacs and more time spent in the company of our expert guides.

We always anticipate exciting navigation as we head for the Antarctic Circle. The region is home to several fascinating historical sites including the old British Antarctic Survey hut – “Base W” situated on Detaille Island. We encounter sizable Adelie penguin rookeries here and the low-lying Fish, Argentine and Yalour Island groups provide fantastic options for Zodiac cruising and wildlife observation. Many of the classic locations are also included and a day in the South Shetland Islands rounds out the experience.

Our full range of activities will be offered on this voyage – walks on shore, visits to wildlife colonies, visits to historic sites and possibly even a working science station. Zodiac cruising amongst icebergs is another memorable activity. For the more adventurous, sea kayaking is a wonderful way to discover Antarctica – and if weather conditions permit – why not spend the night, camping on shore?



## Expedition Highlights

- > Cross the Antarctic Circle and enjoy fantastic glaciated scenery along the Peninsula
- > Outstanding wildlife observation on shore, Zodiac cruising and from the ship
- > Visits to historic sites and science stations
- > Learn about the environment, wildlife and ecology of Antarctica from polar experts

## ON THIS TRIP

-  Zodiac excursions
-  Onshore hiking options
-  Wildlife observation
-  Photographer-in-Residence
-  Sea kayaking available
-  Whale watching
-  Camping on shore
-  Educational presentations
-  Active Cruising & Wellness

## IMPORTANT VOYAGE LOGISTICS

This trip commences in Ushuaia, Argentina. We recommend arriving in Ushuaia at least one day prior to the scheduled voyage departure. This gives you a buffer in the event of any unexpected travel delays between home and voyage embarkation and departure.

At the end of the voyage, we fly from King George Island (Antarctica) back to Punta Arenas (Chile) via a special charter flight. Upon arrival in Punta Arenas, a transfer is provided from the airport to downtown Punta Arenas. This itinerary includes an additional hotel night in Punta Arenas at the conclusion of your voyage. We advise making your onward travel plans for the following day.

Full joining instructions will be provided in your final travel documentation. If you have questions before this time, please ask us.



## YOUR DAY-BY-DAY EXPEDITION ITINERARY

### DAY 1 / USHUAIA (ARGENTINA) (SATURDAY, 28 DECEMBER 2019)

Our journey to Antarctica commences this afternoon in Ushuaia, Argentina. We gather at our central meeting point and transfer to the pier and embark our expedition ship. After settling into our cabins and exploring the ship, we meet our expedition team and fellow passengers. Excitement is in the air as we enjoy a welcome cocktail, dinner and cast off, bound for Antarctica and the adventure of a lifetime.

### DAYS 2 – 3 / DRAKE PASSAGE - AT SEA TOWARDS ANTARCTICA

Sailing south towards Antarctica we will be joined by hundreds of seabirds including the wandering albatross. Giant petrels and smaller Cape petrels are also constant companions as we transit the Drake Passage. Photographing these magnificent birds takes patience and skill and our photography expert will be on hand to show you the best techniques. Join the ship's Captain on the bridge and learn about the operations of our modern expedition vessel. Throughout the day our onboard experts educate us with a series of presentations about the environment, wildlife and history and the locations we hope to visit in the coming days.

### DAYS 4 – 9 / EXPLORATION OF THE GERLACHE STRAIT AND ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

We awaken today, and the magnificent snowy peaks of continental Antarctica are laid out before us. Even our experienced expedition staff, some with more than 100 journeys south, will take a moment to pause and reflect on this incredible sight. Take a deep breath – you have arrived. This is Antarctica.

The waterways of the Antarctic Peninsula are home to deep bays, pristine coves and inlets and numerous small islands. The Gerlache coastline features heavily glaciated mountains permanently covered in ice and snow. Rocky outcrops, known as 'nunataks' are home to gentoo, Adelie and chinstrap penguin rookeries and the waters are rich in marine life. We frequently encounter seals, including the powerful leopard seal, usually found hauled out on an ice floe. Curious humpback whales

and the smaller minke whales are present much of the time as they feed on the vast schools of krill. Sightings of orca are not uncommon.

Our activity program is in full swing and we encourage all guests to choose how their adventure unfolds. Every day we plan an exciting range of activities, including guided hikes on shore (both short and long), visits to wildlife colonies with our expert naturalist guides, as well as Zodiac cruising. The historic huts and science stations located along the peninsula provide a fascinating glimpse into the past and the present. Zodiac cruising among the ice, searching for seals and whales is a memorable activity.

Meanwhile, our sea kayakers may range several miles from the ship experiencing Antarctica from an entirely different perspective. Our resident photography guide will be on hand to help you with your camera handling and image composition. Maybe what you really want to do is sit on a rock, watching the penguins come and go from the water. Make yourself comfortable and enjoy the show.

Planned excursions along the Antarctic Peninsula may include Cierva Cove or Mikklesen Harbour, Danco Island, the Melchior Islands and Fournier Bay - or a cruise through the Errera Channel to visit the gentoo penguin rookeries at Cuverville Island. Wilhelmina Bay is another favourite location and one where we frequently encounter playful humpback whales. Nearby Paradise Harbour is a particular highlight and offers an excellent hiking route to a viewpoint providing expansive views. Andvord Bay and Neko Harbour provide yet another continental landing opportunity.

It is somewhere along this stretch of coastline that we plan a night on shore, camping in Antarctica. We have all the right gear and equipment and an expert team to make it happen - all you need is an adventurous spirit! Camping always depends on the weather and is never guaranteed on any voyage. If the weather is good and site characteristics suit our requirements, rest assured, we will always go for it. Camping is included, and you can decide to participate while onboard. There is no need to pre-book.



#### DAY 10 / SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS, ANTARCTICA

After several busy days of exploration along the Antarctic Peninsula, we head for the South Shetland Islands. The adventure is not over and if the weather conditions allow, we sail the ship into the flooded volcanic caldera at Deception Island. This is a very dramatic location. History is all around us as we explore the old whaling station and airport hangar. There are several superb hikes and an opportunity for a swim - the 'Polar Plunge!' We head north-east, cruising along the pristine coast of Livingston Island, which on a sunny day is always a memorable experience. There are several other landing sites in this vicinity including Half Moon Island and the broad pebbly beach at Yankee Harbour where we often encounter Weddell seals sunning themselves. Tonight, we enjoy a special dinner attended by the ship's Captain, cruising towards King George Island.

#### DAY 11 / KING GEORGE ISLAND (ANTARCTICA) – RETURN TO SOUTH AMERICA – OVERNIGHT PUNTA ARENAS (TUESDAY, 07 JAN 2020)

This morning we say goodbye to our expedition team and transfer ashore by Zodiac. We walk from the shore landing site past the Chilean research station and up towards the airstrip and board our special charter flight back to South America. This flight takes a little over two hours and is included in the price of your voyage. Upon arrival into Punta Arenas a transfer from the airport into town is provided.

**POST VOYAGE HOTEL INCLUDED:** This itinerary includes a complimentary hotel night in Punta Arenas for all guests returning from King George Island at the end of the voyage. This evening is at your leisure. Punta Arenas is home to some cozy restaurants, cafes and bars – including the historic 'Shackleton Bar' at the Hotel Jose Nogueira – a fitting location to reflect on your journey to Antarctica.

#### DAY 12 / PUNTA ARENAS – DEPART (WEDNESDAY, 08 JANUARY, 2020)

After breakfast and check-out, make your own way to the airport for your onward journey. (We recommend you book flights after midday). Otherwise, why not continue your exploration of Patagonia? Just a few hours north, lies the celebrated Torres del Paine National Park – home to towering peaks, glaciers and spectacular wilderness - a paradise for hikers and nature lovers.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS FOR 'ANTARCTICA – IN DEPTH':** Two similar itineraries will feature this season. Voyages of similar duration include our 10-night 'Quest for the Antarctic Circle' which starts in the Falkland islands, or the classic 10-night 'Antarctic Peninsula Adventure' voyages. See the website for details.

**ABOUT OUR ITINERARY:** Polar exploration can be unpredictable. Specific sites visited will depend on prevailing weather and ice conditions at the time of sailing. The above itinerary should be read as a 'guide only' and may change. The ship's Captain in conjunction with the Expedition Leader continually review the sailing plan throughout the voyage, making adjustments to the itinerary along the way to take advantage of optimal weather and ice conditions or to maximize our encounters with wildlife. Decades of experience spent exploring these waterways mean we have a large number of outstanding landing sites and Zodiac cruising locations to consider, even when the weather conditions may not be ideal or when heavy ice may hinder our planned route. A flexible approach is something we encourage you to bring to the ship.

## YOUR EXPEDITION INCLUDES:

- ✓ Comprehensive pre-voyage information package including details to help you prepare for your trip
- ✓ Transfers from central meeting point to the ship on Day 1 and from the Punta Arenas airport to a downtown hotel on Day 11
- ✓ Special charter flight from King George Island to Punta Arenas at the end of the voyage
- ✓ Shipboard accommodation in your selected cabin category with daily housekeeping. Cabins feature outside views with windows or portholes that open on each deck
- ✓ Hotel accommodation in Punta Arenas for one night at the conclusion of your voyage
- ✓ All breakfasts, lunches and dinners on board throughout your voyage with daily afternoon tea
- ✓ 24-hour tea, coffee, hot chocolate in bar/lounge plus in-cabin tea and coffee making facilities
- ✓ Experienced Expedition Leader and professional expedition team of marine biologists, naturalists, historians, adventure guides and photographers
- ✓ Daily off-ship excursions by Zodiac boat breaking into small groups for shore landings
- ✓ Guided hikes and walks on shore of various durations for guests of all abilities
- ✓ Visits to wildlife colonies, historic sites, places of outstanding natural beauty and science stations
- ✓ Educational presentations and talks by polar experts in their field (i.e. marine biologists, naturalists, historians etc). Onboard or on shore
- ✓ Resident photography guide available to assist all guests plus access to computers in the multimedia lab for image downloads, file back up and management
- ✓ An emergency trained medical physician onboard every voyage
- ✓ Dedicated hospitality team including Hotel Manager, four chefs, professional bar staff and Adventure Concierge staff
- ✓ Onboard sauna, plunge pool, Jacuzzi and fitness centre including massage options (charge applies for massage and treatments)
- ✓ Sea Kayaking programme available (additional charge of US\$795pp) – must be reserved at the time of booking your voyage and you must have some prior paddling experience
- ✓ Access to well-stocked library full of polar reference books
- ✓ End of voyage video, photos and take-home USB
- ✓ Port fees and all permits to access visited areas

### The right gear for your trip – included ✓



When you travel with One Ocean Expeditions, you have the use of an expedition gear package free of charge. Containing around \$US900 worth of essential equipment, this kit includes a quality waterproof/windproof jacket and bib-pants plus insulated rubber boots designed for extended walking. We also include a set of binoculars and a Nordic trekking pole for use when on shore. A waterproof backpack completes your package. This kit saves you buying expensive clothing and equipment you may only ever use once. It also eliminates the need to carry such cumbersome gear to the ship (total weight around 8kg/17lbs).

### The Expedition does not include:

- › Any international or local airfare unless otherwise specified in the voyage itinerary
- › Visa and passport expenses
- › Pre or post-cruise hotel accommodation unless otherwise specified in the itinerary (or pre-arranged)
- › Pre or post-cruise transfers unless otherwise specified in the itinerary (or pre-arranged)
- › Personal expenses on board such as alcoholic beverages, bar charges or laundry expenses
- › Telecommunication charges (i.e. email, satellite phone)
- › Baggage, cancellation or medical travel insurance related expenses (travel insurance is mandatory on all voyages)
- › A voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for expedition staff and ship crew (suggested amount – US\$15-20 per day)

**IMPORTANT:** We utilize a special charter flight between Punta Arenas (Chile) and King George Island (Antarctica) and different luggage limits apply. Please observe a limit of 20kg. There is no facility to purchase excess luggage on this flight. Excess baggage can be stored in Punta Arenas for the duration of your voyage (small fee may apply). Ask your booking agent for more details. Or contact our office if you have questions.

# THE RIGHT SHIP = THE BEST EXPERIENCE



**One Ocean Navigator**  
(Akademik Ioffe)

*Akademik Ioffe* is the perfect size ship for visiting Antarctica. She carries no more than 96 passengers. This is under the maximum number of people allowed on shore (100), as mandated by the regulatory organization for tourism activities in Antarctica (IAATO). Being under this limit means you will spend the maximum amount of time on shore, on EVERY single excursion. We do not need to operate shuttles to and from the ship or run hurried excursions. Once on shore, we break up into smaller special interest groups, with several hiking options, perhaps a visit to a penguin rookery, a historic site or a quiet stroll along the shoreline contemplating the magic. You decide how your day unfolds. Your time in Antarctica is precious and we aim to maximize your experience at every opportunity. To learn more about this exceptional vessel, request a copy of the [Ship Fact Sheet](#) containing detailed specifications and additional information about cabins and other facilities.

## BEFORE YOU BOOK – IMPORTANT VOYAGE DETAILS

### COMPREHENSIVE PRE-VOYAGE INFORMATION

Upon receipt of your deposit and booking forms, a detailed booklet will be sent to you providing additional information to help you prepare for your voyage. This resource is full of useful facts and covers practicalities such as suggested clothing, life on board the ship, wildlife, geography and history as well as details about the activities available throughout your voyage. Information regarding passports and visas, budgeting, as well as travel insurance requirements are also found in this helpful document.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

On all One Ocean Expeditions' voyages, you must have comprehensive travel insurance. Your booking agent can recommend a policy designed to cover participants on these voyages. Your policy must provide coverage for your medical costs in case of hospitalization, emergency travel and repatriation.

Please check the terms of your policy carefully, particularly with regard to limits of cover. Also ensure you are familiar with the procedure for making claims. Once you have paid your deposit or full payment, certain fees will apply if you have to cancel your holiday (see the cancellation provisions in our booking terms and conditions). For this reason you should take out travel insurance at the time of paying your deposit, which should then protect you in such a situation. You will be required to send us travel insurance policy details prior to your voyage.

### PASSPORTS AND VISAS

You will need a valid passport with you throughout the journey. Some nationalities will be required to pay a 'reciprocity fee' for entering Argentina and/or Chile. It is important that your passport is valid for at least six months AFTER the expected finish date of your voyage.

### CAMPING IN ANTARCTICA

Spend a night on shore camping in Antarctica. Quality camping gear is provided for everyone to enjoy this unique experience. Camping is INCLUDED in the price of your expedition. You do not need to pre-book this activity. Sign up once onboard. NOTE: Camping is dependent on favourable weather conditions. This activity is not guaranteed on any voyage.

### SEA KAYAKING

The sea kayaking program is directed at any passenger with an adventurous spirit and some prior paddling experience. This option MUST be reserved at the time of booking and attracts an additional charge of US\$795 per participant. You can not book sea kayaking on board the ship. You will need to complete a special questionnaire outlining your previous kayaking experience. Ask your agent, or our office for a copy of this document if you are interested in joining the sea kayaking program.

### THE ONE CLUB – EXPEDITION ALUMNI

Come as a passenger, leave as a friend. Once you have experienced one voyage with us, it's likely you will want to experience another. Your commitment to travel with us is rewarded with our commitment to you, our valued guest. As members of the One Club Expedition Alumni, your loyalty is rewarded with a range of great travel benefits when you return for your next voyage — no matter the destination. Ask your booking agent for details.



**IMPORTANT:** The information provided here is given in good faith and has been compiled with all reasonable care. However, some of the information may become out of date. Please keep this in mind and check with us if you want to be sure about anything. The document was correct at time of printing. If you have any queries, please contact your voyage booking agent or our office. We are here to help you.



## Supporting Antarctic Science

One Ocean Expeditions collaborates with various research partners, who are executing important and relevant projects while on-board our expeditions. These projects are funded and assisted by One Ocean Expeditions and our guests. Research may range from collecting data for critical oceanographic studies, to the tagging and tracking of migrant whale populations for universities and scientific institutions.



## World Leading - the World Over

For several years One Ocean Expeditions and The Royal Canadian Geographical Society have maintained a collaborative relationship grounded in geographical education, exploration, science, social and economic community development, Canadian national identity and experiential travel. We are proud to be the exclusive marine travel partner of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society and affiliates.



## The Right Team

Fewer than 100 guests on the ship doesn't mean fewer staff. Quite the opposite. You will come to appreciate the dedication of our expedition team when onboard the ship. The highest staff to guest ratio in the industry (1:4) allows you to experience the broadest range of activities possible, catering to all interests and abilities. We are known for our flexible, yet professional approach and an ability to 'make it happen'.

## INTERESTED IN THIS EXPERIENCE?

**When choosing to travel with One Ocean Expeditions we ensure your experience from start to finish is straight forward and well organized.**

Start by customizing your journey and mapping out the trip ahead.

If this sounds like the right trip for you, please discuss your ideas and plans with your preferred booking agent. They will reserve a cabin for you on your chosen voyage. This provides time to book flights to the embarkation points of this voyage and to plan other pre or post voyage travel requirements. Please remember that you will require comprehensive travel insurance to join our voyages. This is best arranged at the time of booking. Following confirmation of your reservation, you will need to complete a detailed **One Ocean Expeditions Booking Package** plus other pre-voyage documentation to accompany your deposit. At this point your voyage of discovery is underway.

Take advantage of our experience, which spans decades of expedition travel in the Polar Regions. Should you have any questions, we are here to help at any time.



8 The Strand, Penshurst NSW 2222,  
AUSTRALIA  
Call: 1300 738 168  
Look: [www.forwardtravel.com.au](http://www.forwardtravel.com.au)  
Email: [enquiries@forwardtravel.com.au](mailto:enquiries@forwardtravel.com.au)

Trip Note Updated: 26JUL18 - RC