

Antarctica & Falklands

22 day small group tour including Hurtigruten Cruise 25 Oct to 15 Nov, 2019









Oct 25: Flight from Australia to Montevideo, Uruguay. Transfer to hotel.

Oct 26: Day free to explore Montevideo, the vibrant capital of Uruguay.

Oct 27: Montevideo. Montevideo boasts colourful cultural diversity, with a picturesque blend of colonial Spanish, Italian and Art Deco architectural styles. Enjoy a tour through this vibrant city before embarking on MS Fridtjof Nansen for your polar adventure.

Oct 28 & 29: Days at sea. Enjoy the first day on board! The Expedition team will start the lecture program covering history and the great explorers, marine biology, wildlife, oceanography and climate change. Spend some time on deck and enjoy the sun and the warm temperatures and look out for wildlife as we make our way south.

Oct 30: Puerto Madryn. The first highlight on this expedition is our visit to the Valdez Peninsula. This is a nature reserve that has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage site. Situated on Argentina's barren eastern Patagonian coast, this oddly shaped peninsula is home to some of the country's most dramatic wildlife habitats, with elephant seals, Magellan penguins, the southern right whale and a great variety of birds. Puerto Madryn is known as the gateway to whales, penguins...and Welsh traditions. Founded by Welsh immigrants in 1865, it is now one of the most vibrant cities in Patagonia, with a beautiful coastal avenue overlooking the huge natural amphitheatre of Nuevo Gulf. Enjoy our wide variety of excursions like horseback riding, snorkelling with sea lions, kayaking with sea lions, whale watching or visit Estancia San Lorenzo where you will see wildlife including rheas (flightless, ostrich-like birds), guanacos (related to alpacas and llamas) and elephant seals.

Oct 31: Day at sea. Enjoy a day at sea, sharing experiences, exchanging stories, photos and films with your fellow adventurers.

Nov 01 - 03: Falkland Islands. When we arrive the Falkland Islands, you will experience everything from red buses and English pubs in the capital Stanley to penguins, hikes in the hills or along the coastline or kayaking clear waters. New Island is an adorable inlet, with sandy white beaches and turquoise waters. It could easily be mistaken for a Caribbean island, if the sun was a little stronger. We pass an old shipwreck on our way ashore to enjoy a day amongst penguins and seals. While we are here, you can join several excursions like history tours, bird watching tours, nature walks and even a scenic plane tour where you can discover the Falklands by air in a classic island-hopping aircraft.

Nov 04 & 05: Days at sea sailing the Drake Passage. Days at sea are full of activity. By now, our Expedition team will probably have convinced everybody on board that science is fun! We can promise first class edutainment. Once we have crossed the Antarctic Convergence, you will notice that the air becomes crisper and colder. From deck, you might start seeing icebergs in the water, maybe whales as well.

Nov 06 - 08: Antarctica. Antarctica is sure to overwhelm you. Endless white horizons, oceans are full of glorious icebergs and whales. Maybe even more awe-inspiring will be your meeting with the huge colonies of penguins. They are not afraid of humans; you can look forward to true close encounters with this most charming of bird species. Come ashore to explore the impressive Antarctic scenery. From deck, there are great chances to spot whales. Enjoy close encounters with wildlife and glaciers, old whaling stations and relics. You are in one of the most remote areas of the world and the sensations are non-stop. We will land several times for unforgettable experiences. Among the locations we may visit are Half Moon Island, Yankee Harbour and Cuverville Island, home to a large colony of Gentoo penguins. Neko Harbour is beautifully located in the innermost part of Andvord Bay, and Paradise Harbour got its descriptive name from the whalers who came here long ago. When the storms were at their worst, this is where they came to seek shelter. The high glacier walls in Wilhelmina Bay convey the mighty power of ice, from calving glacier fronts to floating ice.

Nov 09 & 10: Days at sea Crossing the Drake Strait. After exhilarating days in Antarctica and the Falklands, the final days on board are spent crossing the Drake Passage. Spend time with family, old friends, new friends and our Expedition team, and enjoy the farewell dinner on the last evening.

Nov 11: Ushuaia/Buenos Aires. Arriving in Ushuaia, it's time to say goodbye. We transfer you to the airport for your flight back to Buenos Aires.

Nov 12: Buenos Aires. Day free to explore Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires, city and capital of Argentina. The city is coextensive with the Federal District (Distrito Federal) and is situated on the shore of the Río de la Plata, 150 miles (240 km) from the Atlantic Ocean. Buenos Aires is one of Latin America's most important ports and most populous cities, as well as the national centre of commerce, industry, politics, culture, and technology. According to tradition, Spanish colonizer Pedro de Mendoza established the first settlement there, which he named Nuestra Señora Santa María del Buen Aire ("Our Lady St. Mary of the Good Air"). Buenos Aires locals are referred to as porteños ("people of the port") because so many of the city's inhabitants historically arrived by boat from Europe.

Nov 13: Day free to explore Buenos Aires. Evening flight to Australia

Nov 14: In transit

Nov 15: Arrive home.

This initial itinerary may be modified to suite local conditions.















Per person twin share Includes economy airfares, transfers, accommodation breakfast & some dinners.

