



10D/9N WORLD  
VOYAGER  
ANTARCTICA EXPRESS:  
FLY THE DRAKE & CRUISE  
THE PENINSULA



# ITINERARY

DAY BY DAY



This fast, immersive **Antarctic** air-cruise pairs a short stay in Punta Arenas with a swift charter flight to King George Island and several days exploring the Antarctic Peninsula from the Ocean Explorer. Designed for travelers who want maximum time on the ice with minimal sea time, the itinerary blends dramatic polar scenery, close wildlife encounters, Zodiac excursions, expert-led lectures, and comfortable city stays in Punta Arenas and Buenos Aires.

## DAY 1 — ARRIVAL IN PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE (DECEMBER 11, 2026)

Upon landing in Punta Arenas, an English-speaking guide will meet you and transfer you to your hotel. As the largest city in southern Patagonia, Punta Arenas offers museums, shops, cafés, and local restaurants to explore if you arrive early. In the afternoon, a representative will meet you at the hotel for a welcome dinner and a briefing about the upcoming embarkation and Antarctic operations, ensuring you are fully prepared for the extraordinary days ahead. Overnight at Dreams Punta Arenas.

## DAY 2 — FLIGHT TO KING GEORGE ISLAND & EMBARKATION (DECEMBER 12, 2026)

After breakfast, your guide will accompany you to the airport for your charter flight to Antarctica. In just two hours, you'll cross the legendary Drake Passage by air, while your ship approaches King George Island below. As your plane descends over the South Shetland Islands, take in your first dramatic views of Antarctica's coastline. After landing, walk to the shore and board a Zodiac that will bring you to your ship, the World Voyager, marking the true start of your expedition.

## DAY 3–6 ANTARCTIC PENINSULA & SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS (DECEMBER 13–16, 2026)

Welcome to one of the most extraordinary regions on Earth. Each day offers a new adventure shaped by weather, ice, and wildlife conditions. Your Captain and Expedition Team remain on constant lookout for whales, seabirds, seals, and penguins, alerting you to sightings from the bridge and outer decks.

On land, you may walk among bustling penguin colonies, learning to distinguish Adélie, gentoo, and chinstrap species. Zodiac cruises can bring you close to sculpted icebergs, feeding whales, or sleek leopard seals resting on floes. Some days may involve hikes to rookeries; others may offer glacier calving views or encounters with orcas patrolling icy bays.

Throughout the expedition, expert presenters offer engaging lectures on Antarctic wildlife, glaciology, exploration history, and photography, helping you capture frame-worthy images and understand the continent's fragile, fascinating ecosystems.

## DAY 7-8 — DRAKE PASSAGE TO USHUAIA (DECEMBER 17–18, 2026)

Your crossing of the Drake Passage marks the beginning of your journey home. By now, you will have gained your sea legs and can focus on enjoying the experience. Wildlife spotting continues; keep an eye out for wandering albatrosses gliding over the waves, as well as minke and humpback whales.

Between wildlife watching and photo sorting, enjoy the final presentations by your Expedition Team on marine biology, polar history, and glaciology. This is also the perfect time to reflect on your adventure as the ship approaches South America.

## DAY 9 — DISEMBARK IN USHUAIA & FLIGHT TO BUENOS AIRES (DECEMBER 19, 2026)

Arriving in Ushuaia in the morning, you will disembark after breakfast. From the pier, make your own way to the airport to board your independently arranged flight to Buenos Aires.

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, an English-speaking guide will greet you at the airport and provide a smooth, comfortable transfer to your hotel. Settle in and unwind as you transition from Antarctica's pristine wilderness back to the lively Argentine capital. Overnight at Pleno Palermo Soho Hotel.

## DAY 10 — DEPARTURE FROM BUENOS AIRES (DECEMBER 20, 2026)

After breakfast, your guide will meet you for a private transfer to the international airport. This ensures a seamless and timely arrival for your independently booked flight home or onward destination. If you prefer to extend your stay in Buenos Aires or elsewhere in South America, you are free to continue exploring on your own.

# RATES

**From \$15,940.00**  
per person



## Includes

- Led by highly experienced expedition leaders with deep polar expertise.
- Daily off-ship activities that immerse travelers in Antarctica's landscapes and wildlife.
- Small-ship experience with fewer than 200 guests for comfort and personalized exploration.
- Cozy cabins, excellent dining, wellness options, and panoramic polar views onboard.
- High-quality meals with options for diverse dietary needs.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi, alcoholic beverages, and a Quark Expeditions parka to take home.



## Not Includes

- International airfare.
- Visa expenses.
- Travel insurance
- Mandatory expedition gear.
- On-ship expenses.
- Adventure options.
- Trip extensions.

### Hotels:

**Punta Arenas:** Dreams Punta Arenas

**Buenos Aires:** Pleno Palermo Soho Hotel

### Cruises:

**Punta Arenas:** World Voyager

# HIGHLIGHTS

- Fast access to Antarctica via a charter flight to King George Island, more time ashore, less time at sea.
- Multiple Zodiac excursions and shore landings on the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands with expert naturalists.
- Outstanding wildlife viewing: penguin rookeries, seals, whales, and abundant seabirds.
- Daily lectures and photo guidance from the Expedition Team to deepen your understanding and improve your images.
- Comfortable city stays in Punta Arenas and Buenos Aires bookending the expedition.

# TRAVEL TIPS

- Keep essentials (passport, medications, camera batteries, chargers) in your carry-on for the charter flight, luggage may be handled separately.
- Pack clothing in layers: thermal base layers, insulating mid-layers, and a waterproof outer shell for Zodiac and shore activity.
- Use waterproof dry bags for cameras and electronics during Zodiac operations.
- Bring spare memory cards and extra batteries, cold drains battery life quickly.
- If prone to motion sickness, pack preventative measures for the Drake Passage return (medication, acupressure bands).
- Carry a small daypack for shore landings with water, sunscreen, lip balm, and sunglasses.

# WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

- Antarctic weather is highly changeable; expect cold temperatures, strong winds, and rapid visibility shifts. Wind chill can make air feel much colder than the thermometer indicates.
- Punta Arenas (departure) is temperate but can be windy and cool; Buenos Aires (arrival) will be milder and often pleasant in December.
- Waterproof, windproof outer layers and UV-protective sunglasses are essential. Bring insulated gloves and a warm hat, even “mild” days can be brisk on shore.

## **Fitness Requirements**

This itinerary is suitable for travelers with moderate physical fitness and the ability to move comfortably on uneven terrain. Guests should be able to step in and out of Zodiacs, walk on snow, ice, or rocky shorelines, and maintain balance while the ship is in motion. Shore landings may involve short uphill hikes, soft snow, or slippery surfaces, so good stability and mobility are important. No technical skills are required, but having a reasonable level of endurance will enhance your experience. If you can walk for 1–2 hours at a relaxed pace and manage small climbs, you will be well prepared for this Antarctic adventure.

# FAQS

## **1. How does the flight-based itinerary work?**

A charter flight takes you from Punta Arenas to King George Island (about two hours), bypassing the two-day sea crossing outbound so you have more time exploring Antarctica. You still return to South America by sea.

## **2. What wildlife am I most likely to see?**

Common sightings include gentoo, chinstrap, and sometimes Adélie penguins; seals (fur, elephant, and leopard); baleen whales (humpback, minke); and seabirds such as petrels and albatrosses.

## **3. How many landings can I expect?**

Landing frequency depends entirely on weather and ice conditions; typically there are multiple Zodiac excursions and at least one landing opportunity each full exploration day, but the Expedition Team adjusts plans daily for safety and wildlife considerations.

# FAQS

## **4. What should I wear for shore landings?**

Wear layered clothing with thermal base layers, a warm insulating mid-layer, and a waterproof outer shell. Sturdy, warm footwear (rubber boots are usually provided or loaned), warm gloves, hat, and UV sunglasses are recommended.

## **5. Are there age or fitness limits?**

No advanced fitness is required, but participants should have moderate mobility for boarding Zodiacs, walking on uneven terrain, and climbing short inclines during shore visits.



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