

# PONANT EXPEDITION'S EMBLEMATIC ANTARCTICA



The classic Antarctica expedition voyage itinerary, aboard the most sophisticated ships sailing with a distinctive French flavor aboard Ponant. Tabletop icebergs, growlers, drift or pack ice... the Antarctic has its own language, which you'll soon speak fluently! We are offering you a chance to sail through the Heart of the Peninsula which offers travelers an enchanting polar desert, a final frontier surrounded by a gigantic ice sheet. This is a fascinating journey to the heart of this remote land, Penguins live in the thousands, waddling on the shores, whilst Humpback Whales come and swim alongside your ship.



**DATES:** **2021** – Nov 16 (A)\* | Nov 16(B) | Dec 07(A)  
**2022** - Jan 02(A) | Jan 08(B) | Jan 19 (L) | Jan 29(A) |  
Feb 08 (L) | Feb 9(A) | Feb 18 (L) | Feb 19 (A) | Nov  
18(A)\* | Dec 9(A) | Dec 15(B) | Dec 25(B)  
**2023** – Jan 4(B) | Jan 9(A) | Jan 14(B) | Jan 24(B) | Jan  
31(L) | Feb 3(B) | Feb 10(L) | Feb 19(L) | Feb 22(A)

**Duration:** 13 days/12 nights  
\*14 days /13 nights

**ROUNDTRIP:** Ushuaia

**Ships:** Le Boreal(B); Le Austral (A);  
Le Lyrial (L)

**From:** \$10,740 (Double)

## HIGHLIGHTS:

**ABUNDANT ANTARCTIC WILDLIFE:** The highest concentration of Gentoo, Adelie and Chinstrap penguins in Antarctica; Minke and humpback Whales, Weddell seals, sea Leopards, and numerous sea birds: Cape Petrels, Albatrosses, imperial Shags, and snow Petrels.

**Landscapes:** A multitude of drifting icebergs, ice floe (or pack ice), calving of imposing icebergs, tall snow-capped peaks.

**Visits:** to research stations and former whaling stations.

**Hiking possibilities:** Deception Island, Neko, Paradise Bay.

**Outings in Zodiac® dinghies:** The Weddell Sea, Neko Bay, Paradise Bay.

**Promise of an extraordinary journey in the footsteps of Great Explorers.**

**Educational discovery with respect for environment:** Exceptional landing sites in the North of the Antarctic Peninsula, where you also have the opportunity to appreciate modern human ingenuity at scientific research stations of various nationalities. Some of these stations, such as Port Lockroy, even boast a museum, gift shop, and post office.



Buenos Aires

## ITINERARY:

### Day 1: Arrive Buenos Aires, Argentina

You will be met and transferred to your deluxe hotel. Remainder of the day is free.

### Day 2: Buenos Aires Tour

Enjoy a full day tour of Buenos Aires, "Paris of South America", arranged exclusively for Explor Cruises' guests. Visit the unique neighborhoods of San Telmo, Recoleta, La Boca, Puerto Madero and Palermo. Lunch is included. This evening, you will enjoy an included dinner.

### Day 3: Flight to Ushuaia – Embarkation

Transfer from your hotel to the city airport for your included flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia. Meet and transfer to ship. Capital of Argentina's Tierra del Fuego province, Ushuaia lies in a bay opening into the Beagle Channel, at the country's southernmost tip. Its colorful houses are framed against towering mountains, snow-capped in winter and summer alike.



### Day 4-5: Drake Passage

Among the wildlife spotting opportunities as we sail south are the Albatrosses, Prions, and Petrels that frequently follow the ship. Our Expedition Team will be out on deck as well, looking for the Whales and Dolphins that may also be seen in the area. Our experts will hold informative and entertaining presentations on the wildlife, history, and geology of Antarctica. Helpful briefings on environmental regulations and expedition safety

will also be held in the comfortable lounge. The length of our journey depends on sea conditions but we should approach the South Shetland Islands of the Antarctic Peninsula in the evening of Day 4.



### **Days 6 - 10: Exploration of Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands**

The Antarctic Peninsula and nearby South Shetland Islands provide exceptional opportunities to discover the unique wildlife and awesome landscapes. Depending on weather and ice conditions, the captain and expedition team will direct your ship to a variety of secluded bays and harbors to optimize Zodiac landings and wildlife viewing. While we have a plan, flexibility is the key to successful expedition cruising. With the help of our expedition team, look for the four penguin, six seal and several whale species on your Antarctic checklist. We'll also find a time for our most adventurous travelers to take a polar plunge, perhaps in Neko Harbor or the relatively warm waters of volcanic Deception Island.



As we head south along the Antarctic Peninsula, you'll understand why the imposing, snow-covered Lemaire Channel is called "Kodak Alley." We'll also try to visit a research station during the voyage, although the work schedules of the scientists may not always permit this. A Zodiac cruise of Paradise Bay, with its many glaciers, offers an experience like no other on the globe. Cruise by massive icebergs, with cracks and crevices reflecting an amazing spectrum of blue colors. Conditions permitting, we'll set foot on the actual Antarctic Continent at Hope Bay or perhaps another site.

In 1996, the Port Lockroy base was renovated and is now a museum and post office operated by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust. It is one of the most popular tourist destinations for cruise-ship passengers in Antarctica. Proceeds from the small souvenir shop fund the upkeep of the site and other historic sites and monuments in Antarctica. Visit Pleneau Island and its colony of Gentoo penguins.

### **DAYS 11-12: DRAKE PASSAGE**

Cross back across Drake Passage.

### **DAY 13: USHUAIA – DISEMBARKATION**

Transfer from ship to included flight from Ushuaia to Buenos Aires. Connect with flight home, or stay longer in Argentina.



