# ULTIMATE WILDLIFE EXPEDITION

# FALKLANDS, SOUTH GEORGIA AND ANTARCTICA



The sweeping scope of this Southern Ocean voyage brings the full spectrum of Antarctic wildlife into view. In the Falkland Islands, where birdlife abounds, we discover easily accessible albatross and penguin rookeries on idyllic island farmsteads. In South Georgia, amidst the dramatic Southern Ocean seascape, we find world-famous wildlife beaches thronged with jousting elephant seals, raucous fur seals, and stately king penguins. In the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula we explore a pristine polar wilderness of singular beauty, complete with bustling penguin colonies, dauntless seals, and voracious whales. On this ultimate wildlife expedition, each destination is more amazing than the last.



**DATES – 2022 –** Nov 9-Dec 1 **2023** – Jan 05-27 **2024 –** Jan 4-26

**DURATION** – 23days

**EMBARKATION** – Ushuaia, Argentina

**DISEMBARK** – Ushuaia, Argentina

SHIP - M/V Sea Spirit

**FROM** - \$21,195 (Double)

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

#### THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

The windswept and treeless Falkland Islands are a birders' paradise. The islands boast a great abundance and diversity of birdlife including five species of penguin, 80 percent of the world's population of blackbrowed albatross, and numerous species of waterfowl such as the endemic Falkland steamerduck.

#### **SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND**

The island of South Georgia is the world's premier destination for subantarctic wildlife viewing. In this remote and stunningly beautiful wilderness, seabirds and marine mammals are counted in the millions. The island's beaches are packed with fur seals and elephant seals jostling for space alongside innumerable king penguins.

#### **ANTARCTIC PENINSULA**

The Antarctic Peninsula is the ultimate polar wilderness. There is nothing else like it on Earth. Lofty serrated mountain ranges, all-encompassing glaciers, icebergs of every size and shape, and nutrient-rich waters define this pristine environment inhabited by robust populations of penguins, seals, and whales.

## **ITINERARY:**

### Day 1: Arrive Buenos Aires, Argentina

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



Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### **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 be taken to a Dinner & Tango Show at Tango Porteño, Includes round trip transfers and a tango lesson of 1hr before the dinner. Return to your hotel late.



### Day 3: Flight to Ushuaia, Argentina.

This afternoon, transfer to the city airport for your included flight to Ushuaia. Transfer to your hotel upon arrival. The small city of Ushuaia combines everything to be a perfect starting point for Antarctic cruises. It locates at the southern tip of South America Continent and is regarded as the world's southernmost city. Being the capital of Tierra del Fuego archipelago Ushuaia boasts the southernmost Tierra del Fuego National Park and beautiful landscapes of Beagle Bay and Andes mountains.

#### Day 4: Ushuaia, embarkation.

In the afternoon we embark the *Sea Spirit* and set sail down the scenic Beagle Channel.

#### Days 5: South Atlantic Ocean.

After transiting the Beagle Channel and passing the islands of Tierra del Fuego, we head northeast toward the Falkland Islands. We keep a lookout for marine mammals such as dolphins and whales. The ship's stabilizing fins provide comfort in the event of rough seas.

#### Days 6-7: The Falkland Islands

The remote and sparsely-populated Falkland Islands are a birders' paradise. We anticipate visiting one or more of the isolated outer islands where large colonies of penguins and albatross are easily accessible. The Falklands are also a great place to observe marine mammals. Fur seals and elephant seals can be found on sandy beaches while the waters in and around the archipelago are home to various whale and dolphin species. Our route and exploration opportunities are dependent on weather among these windswept islands.

We also intend to visit Stanley, the charmingly British capital of the Falkland Islands. Attractions within pleasant walking distance along the waterfront promenade include the Falkland Islands Museum, the governor's house, a cathedral with impressive whalebone arch outside, a war memorial, quality gift shops, pubs, and views of shipwrecks in the harbor.

#### **Days 8-9: Southern Ocean**

From the Falkland Islands we head east toward South Georgia, passing the remote, seabird-covered pinnacles known as Shag Rocks on the way. We also cross the Antarctic Convergence, the biological boundary of the Southern Ocean. Briefings, bio-security procedures, and lectures from our expert staff prepare you for our arrival in South Georgia.



### Days 10-14: South Georgia Island

South Georgia is an unmissable destination within Antarctica. This sub-Antarctic region is a peak emerging from the Scotia Arc, an underwater mountain chain that extends the Andes to the Antarctic Peninsula. This long and narrow, whale bone shaped island is a home to:

- Four seal species southern elephant seal, Antarctic fur seal, Weddell seal, and leopard seal.
- Several whale species southern right whales, humpbacks, fin whales, sperm whales, killer whales orcas, and southern bottlenose whales.
- Antarctic seabirds, about 46% of the world's breeding population of grey headed albatrosses; northern giant petrels, white chinned petrels and Antarctic prions. Most of the world's population of the South Georgia blue eyed shags live there, some 7,500 pairs.
- Penguins around half the world's population of macaroni penguins, along with 100,000 pairs of Gentoo penguins and about 6, 000 breeding pairs of Chinstrap penguins.

 The most attractive residents of the South Georgia are King penguins with their orangeyellow crowns. The total number of King penguins is around 400,000 breeding pairs.

#### Days 15-16: Southern Ocean

After our amazing time in South Georgia we proceed southwest toward the Antarctic Peninsula. Pelagic seabirds including the majestic albatross are common in these waters and can readily be viewed from panoramic open decks or from exterior stateroom windows and balconies.

# Days 17-20: South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula

The Antarctic Peninsula region contains some of the world's most impressive scenery and some of Antarctica's best wildlife viewing opportunities. Protected bays and narrow channels are surrounded by towering mountain peaks covered in permanent snow and immense glaciers. Icebergs of every size and description complete an image of incomparable beauty. Waters rich with krill are home to a variety of whale and seal species. The whole area is alive with penguins foraging at sea and forming large nesting colonies at special places on land. The area is also home to Antarctic research stations of various nationalities. Some stations have a gift shop and post office.

The South Shetland Islands are the northernmost islands in Antarctica and will likely be our first sighting of land. This wild and beautiful island chain contains numerous landing sites with abundant wildlife and historical significance. Among them is Elephant Island, where men from Shackleton's famous Endurance expedition spent the winter.

#### Days 21-22: Drake Passage

From Antarctica we head north through the Drake Passage toward South America. Presentations and workshops by our expert staff, as well as our range of onboard recreation facilities, ensure that these days at sea are not idly spent. This is also the time for our End of Voyage ceremonies including slideshow and farewell dinner.

#### Day 23: Ushuaia – Disembark

After breakfast we say farewell in the city of Ushuaia, where we started. We provide a group transfer to the airport or to the town center if you wish to spend more time here.



#### **RATES INCLUDE:**

All transfers, tours, air and hotels as described; one prevoyage hotel night in Ushuaia; Group transfers from the airport to the hotel in Ushuaia in a day prior to departure; Group transfer to the ship on day of embarkation; Group transfer to airport or central location upon disembarkation in Ushuaia; All scheduled landings/excursions; All lectures and briefings onboard; All meals served aboard; Coffee/tea/cocoa/espresso 24 hours daily; Welcome drink and farewell dinner onboard; Rubber boots for shore landings for the time of the cruise; Branded Poseidon Expeditions parka; All port fees; Pre-departure materials; WiFi; Digital Voyage Log.

#### **RATES DO NOT INCLUDE**

Airfare; Visa and passport fees (if applicable); Luggage and trip cancellation insurance; Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages other than those for special events and celebrations; Personal expenses such as laundry and telecommunication charges; Emergency Evacuation Insurance to a minimum benefit of USD 200,000; Staff gratuities.

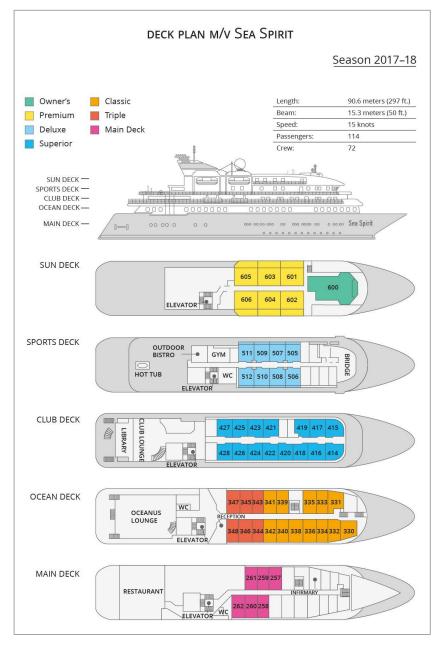


# Reservations & Information 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)

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2022-23 RATES Date\Suite	TRIPLE	MAIN	CLASSIC	SUPERIOR	DELUXE	PREMIUM	OWNER
•	CLASSIC	DECK			BALCONY	BALCONY	SUITE
<b>2022</b> – Nov 9-Dec 1	\$16,295	\$21,195	\$22,695	\$23,095	\$25,595	\$27,395	\$34,395
<b>2023</b> – Jan 5-27	\$19,195	\$25,095	\$26,895	\$27,295	\$30,295	\$32,495	\$40,895
<b>2024</b> – Jan 4-26	\$19,695	\$26,895	\$28,595	\$29,095	\$32,595	\$35,495	\$45,395
Early Booking – By June 30, 2022	\$18,760	\$25,600	\$27,215	\$26,286	\$29,436	\$32,046	\$40,956