



Antarctica Expedition

6th – 17th March 2022



Join us...

On an icy adventure exploring the magnificent Antarctic Peninsula.

As the sea ice recedes, southern areas of the Antarctic Peninsula become more accessible. Long zodiac cruises are more comfortable, and epic sunrises and sunsets provide special light – a photographer's dream!

Magnificent mountain scenery, glaciers galore, a rugged coastline punctuated with icebergs, a rich historical tapestry, and an astounding array of wildlife can also be seen.



Itinerary Overview

6th – 8th March 2022

Arakur Resort & Spa | Ushuaia | Argentina

8th of March 2022

Embarkation on the MS Seaventure | Ushuaia

9th – 10th March 2022

Drake Passage

11th March 2022

South Shetland Islands

12th – 14th March 2022

Antarctica

15th – 16th March 2022

Drake Passage

17th March 2022

Disembarkation | Ushuaia



Antarctica Expedition

6th – 17th March 2022

- 2 nights Arakur Resort & Spa
- 9 nights on the MS Seaventure



Ushuaia | Argentina

Widely regarded as the world's southernmost city, Ushuaia is a strikingly beautiful destination on the southern coastline of Tierra del Fuego Island, backed by mountains and facing onto Beagle channel. The city's elegant commercial centre offers a variety of cultural and entertainment activities, while its natural location means that adventure enthusiasts are spoilt for choice, with kayaking, skiing, hiking and sailing all on offer. For a more serene excursion, boat cruises are a popular way to view the glaciers off Ushuaia's coast.





6th March 2022

Ushuaia | Argentina

- Arrival at Malvinas Argentinas Ushuaia International Airport
- Road transfer by shuttle to the Arakur Resort & Spa
- Relax and unwind from the international flight
- Overnight at Arakur Resort & Spa



7th March 2022

Ushuaia | Argentina

- Explore the city of Ushuaia, visit the museums and Argentinean leather markets or simply relax at the hotel.
- Evening briefing to meet some of your fellow travellers.
- Overnight at Arakur Resort & Spa





Arakur Resort & Spa

Close to Mount Alarcken's summit and nestled on a natural balcony 800 feet above sea level this spectacularly located luxurious hotel is set amidst native forests home to diverse fauna and flora. Magnificent views of the city of Ushuaia and the Beagle Channel, forest trails, wildlife watching, lagoons and glaciers offer wonderful opportunities for exploration. Arakur Ushuaia is located just 10 minutes from the city and the port of Ushuaia, and 20 minutes from the international airport.





8th March 2022

Ushuaia | Embarkation

- Morning at leisure
- Mid-afternoon transfer to the ship
- Welcome on board by the Expedition Team and ship staff followed by a safety and orientation briefing and Captain's welcome dinner.
- Overnight on the MS Seaventure



9th – 10th March 2022

Drake Passage

- This legendary journey takes us across some of the world's most remote oceans from the southern most tip of South America to the South Shetland islands of Antarctica. Our polar experts will present lectures on everything Antarctic it's wildlife and history. Participate in our renowned citizen science program, enjoy identifying the numerous seabirds that follow the ship, keep a look out for oceanic wildlife or just sit back and take in this incredible journey. .
- Overnight on the MS Seaventure



MS Seaventure

MS Seaventure features a Super 1-A ice class rating — the highest ice class awarded to passenger vessels. The ship offers a total of 67 outside-facing staterooms (some with balconies) for a maximum of 139 passengers, and a beautifully appointed dining room with large picture windows. There is also a second kitchen on the Lido deck to facilitate dining *el fresco* when weather permits.

Services

- Certified Emergency MD and Clinic
- World Class Cuisine and Live Entertainment
- Complimentary Coffee/Tea station
- Voyage Photographer
- Dedicated Passenger Service Manager
- Complimentary Expedition Jacket





Facilities on the ship

- Two Elevators serving all passenger decks
- Library with computers
- Fitness Center and Sauna
- Heated saltwater swimming pool
- Citizen Science Laboratory

Window suite

188 sq ft (17.5 m²). stateroom with windows and sitting area



Veranda

224 sq ft (20.8 m²), stateroom including a 39 sq ft (3.6 m²) balcony and sitting area

Porthole

188 sq ft (17.5 m²) stateroom with portholes and sitting area



11th March 2022 South Shetland Islands

- The volcanic South Shetland Islands offer amazing abundance and beauty. We will hop into our inflatable Zodiac boats and spend as much time as possible exploring. Be prepared to marvel up close at nature's glory!
- Overnight on the MS Seaventure



12th – 14th March 2022 Antarctica

- We will explore many picturesque bays and famed harbours, manoeuvring through majestic channels as we travel the wildlife-rich waters. There are great opportunities to stop at several active scientific bases and historic landing sites as we spot numerous species of penguins, seals, and whales along the rugged coastlines and in the sea.
- Overnight on the MS Seaventure



15th - 16th March 2022

Drake Passage

- We leave this magical place and make our way north, once again crossing the legendary Drake Passage. Today we celebrate the conclusion of our expedition with a special slideshow and a final meal together.
- Overnight on the MS Seaventure



17th March 2022

Disembarkation | Ushuaia

- Disembark the ship in the morning for your connection flight
- As disembarkation may get delayed due to weather conditions/immigration procedures, we recommend to book flights out of Ushuaia after lunch time to be on the safe side and avoid the risk of missing connections.
- Transfer from the pier to the airport or hotel in Ushuaia

End of arrangements



Activities

- Zodiac cruising
- Shore landings
- Glacier hikes (these are short hikes to view points using rubber boots, nothing too strenuous)
- Visit to the penguin colonies
- Whale watching
- Incredible birding & mammal watching opportunities
- Photography (there will be a professional photographer on board to help with Polar photography)
- Lectures and presentations by subject experts during the voyage





Wildlife

Be prepared to be dazzled by the beauty of the Antarctic Peninsula. The abundance of wildlife here is truly extraordinary including five seal species, massive penguin rookeries of gentoo, adélies and chinstraps as well as a profusion of seabirds from albatross to skuas. It is nature you will experience up close and personal on frequent excursions inland.

March is a very special month where wildlife is very active as they prepare for the big freeze. It is the prime hunting month for orcas and leopard seals as the young penguins and seals enter the waters for the first time. We hope to find these incredible predators patrolling the shoreline in search of their prey.





Whales

Late summer is the best time to see to see whales in Antarctica. After a couple of months of feeding the whales have full bellies and plenty of body fat. They are relaxed, playful and very curious. It is most common to see humpback, minke and killer whales, with a bit of luck many other species may be found as well. These can include blue whales, fin whales, sei whales, southern right whales and sperm whales.





Ice conditions

March offers many opportunities for landing sites that were inaccessible at the beginning of the season as the ice was blocking them. During this time you can start seeing the sea water freeze for the first time, forming the “ice cakes” which are seldom seen in Antarctic (depending on the temperatures of course).

Light conditions

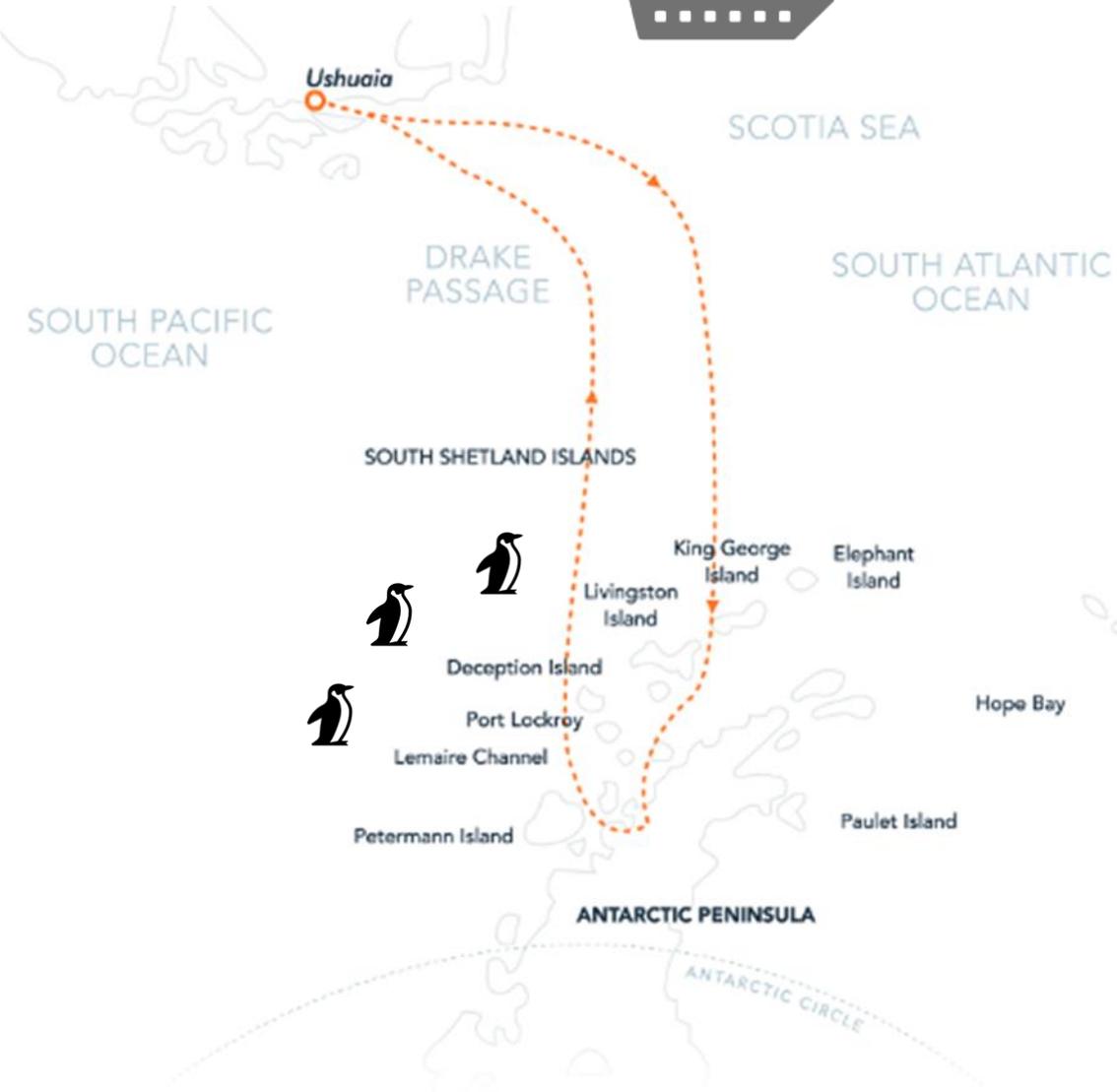
For keen photographers, March is the best month to visit Antarctica, offering perhaps the best sunrises and sunsets of the season. As the sun goes down and lowers its angle, it provides amazing opportunities to take marvellous photos of the landscapes and ice bergs which reflect the incredible colours from purples to oranges, reds, yellows and pink.



Argentina & Antarctica

The Antarctic Peninsula is the northernmost part of the mainland of Antarctica, located at the base of the Southern Hemisphere off Argentina. At the surface, it is the biggest, most prominent peninsula in Antarctica as it extends 1,300 km (810 miles) from a line between Cape Adams (Weddell Sea) and a point on the mainland south of Eklund Islands. Beneath the ice sheet, the Antarctic Peninsula consists of a string of bedrock islands; these are separated by deep channels whose bottoms lie at depths considerably below current sea level. They are joined together by a grounded ice sheet. Tierra del Fuego in Argentina, the southernmost tip of South America, lies only about 1,000 km (620 miles) away across the Drake Passage..

The Route





Included

- Specialist AE guides Richard Anderson and Fraser Gear for the duration of the expedition
- Bed & Breakfast at Arakur Resort & Spa
- Accommodation, meals, drinks and activities on the MS Seaventure
- Expedition Jacket (yours to keep)
- Airport transfers

Excluded

- International flights and airport taxes
- Accommodation, meals, drinks and activities not listed in this itinerary as well as super premium drinks
- Laundry services
- Personal expenses
- Staff gratuities
- Visa costs
- Travel Insurance





Richard Anderson

After university Richard was trained and subsequently guided in the Kruger National Park and in Northern Zululand in South Africa where his naturalist passions, including animal behaviour and birdwatching were developed. He spent time leading leopard research safaris and as a specialist private guide on various South African reserves. Pursuing his passion for exploring the bush on foot, Richard then trained and qualified as a walking trails guide and led multi-day walking safaris in the northern Pafuri region of the Kruger National Park.

After time spent training guides in South America, Richard returned to Africa and established himself as a pan-African safari guide, leading specialist trips throughout southern and east Africa and as far afield as the Horn of Africa and the central, west region of the continent. He has led kayaking expeditions in Madagascar, walking trails in the Kruger Park, cultural expeditions to the Omo Valley, canoe trails on the Zambezi river and flying safaris on the Skeleton Coast. He regularly guides trips to Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya and has recently added Ethiopia and Chad to his repertoire.

Guests on a safari led by Richard described their experience with the following:
"Richard... it was by far the best travel experience we have ever had. Much of this was due to your expertise, vast and intricate knowledge, wonderful humour and your personal capacity to manage people, and create an exhilaratingly fun space in which we all felt safe and confident. Thank you for being our friend, such good company and for guiding us safely through areas where we could not go ourselves".



Fraser Gear

Fraser is an excellent naturalist, guide and explorer. He has spent the last 28 years leading wildlife, photographic and birding expeditions across the length and breadth of Africa, Madagascar, Middle East, Asia and into the neo-tropics. Fraser's interests and skills are as diverse as his explorations. He is a passionate birder, tracker, botanist and wildlife enthusiast, Fraser has a great love of the planet's wildest places and the adventure that comes with exploring these regions. Fraser is at his happiest when in the thick of things on foot in the African savanna, on a remote sea kayak expedition with his wife and best friend Sandra, or deep in a steamy jungle seeking out avian wonders. A sensitive and caring tour leader, a wonderful teacher with a passion for nature, a wicked sense of humor, a repertoire of incredible tales of challenge and a sharp intellect combine to make Fraser the exceptional expedition leader he is today.



Useful information



Travel Documents – please make copies of passports and visa documents and carry these with you



Cash - be sure to have some cash for gratuities and incidental purchases.



Laundry – The MS Seaventure has a full laundry service on board which is not included in the cost.



Climate – expect very cold and generally extremely dry weather. Moisturizers and lip balms are needed in addition to sunblock and sunglasses



Binoculars – we strongly recommend that you travel with at least one pair of good binoculars



Time zone – Time zone in Argentina & Antarctica is GMT/UTC -3 hours



Medical information – please seek professional medical advice from your local travel clinic prior to travel



Luggage restrictions – there are no luggage restrictions on the MS Seaventure

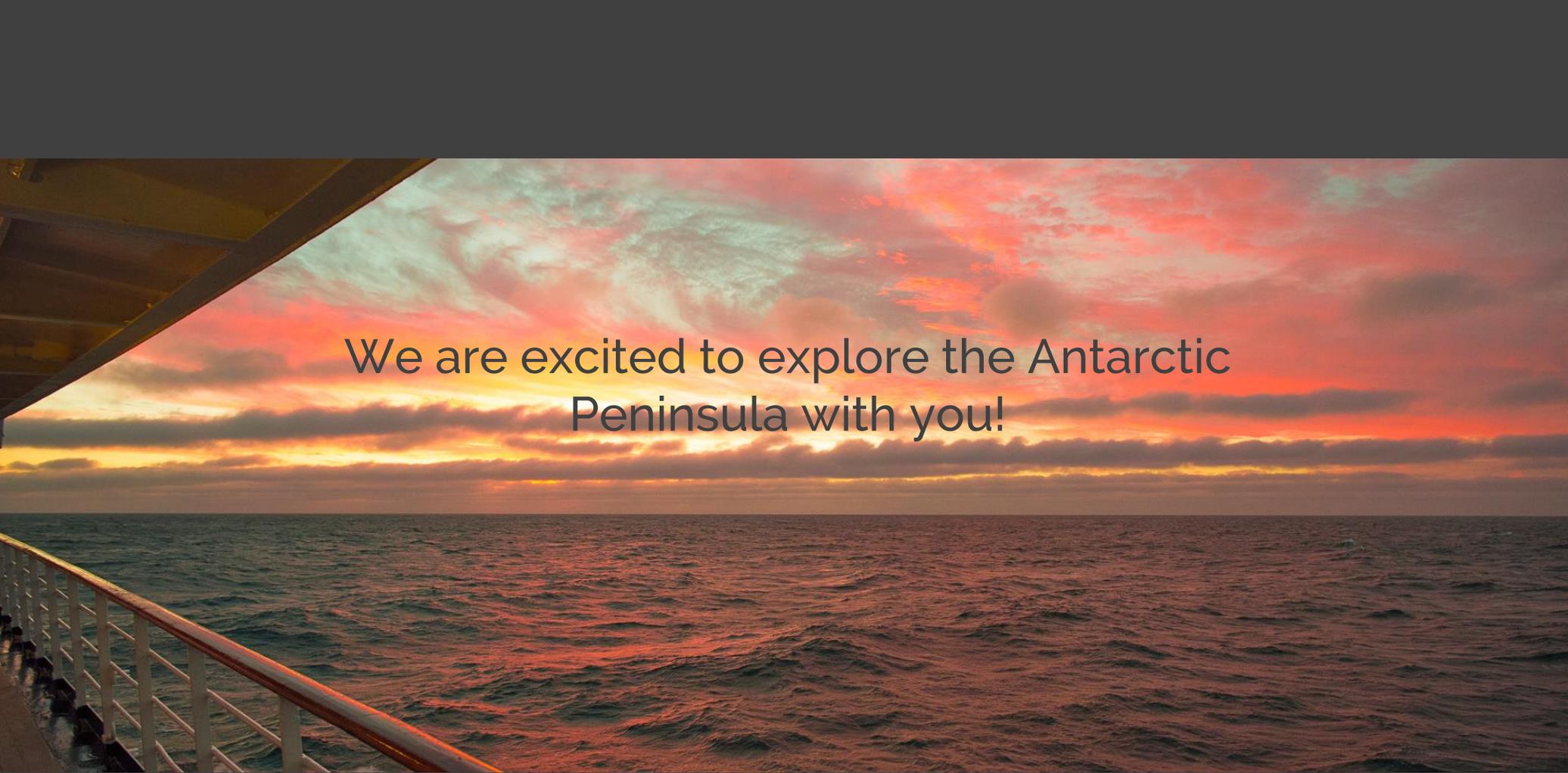


Don't forget your hat!



Wi-Fi connectivity – there is free WiFi from the public computers and a 200MB WiFi card for use on personal devices on board of the MS Seaventure



A photograph taken from the deck of a ship, looking out over the ocean at sunset. The sky is filled with vibrant orange, red, and pink clouds, with a bright yellow sun low on the horizon. The water is dark blue with small waves. A white metal railing is visible in the foreground on the left side.

We are excited to explore the Antarctic
Peninsula with you!

