

# ANTARCTICA GREETS THE SPRING

13 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS ON BOARD

USHUAIA TO USHUAIA

**An untouched Antarctica greets our season's first explorers.** Our very first voyage of the season, this expedition will give you a taste of what the first explorers must have felt, stepping foot into a pristine, untouched Antarctic environment. Prepare yourself for a trip into a lively environment populated by penguins courting mates, building nests, and tending to their eggs, as Antarctica's residents get to work after their winter slumber. Marvel at the passing of newly adrift icebergs, and be dazzled by colorful sunsets that most photographers only dream of. This is the time of year when your chance of spotting another ship in the water is at its lowest, giving you the sense that Antarctica is truly all yours.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- As close as you can get to feeling like the first explorers
- Explore a pristine continent just opening up after a long winter's nap
- Witness penguins choosing mates, building nests, and tending to their eggs
- Enjoy spectacular, colorful sunsets and encounter massive icebergs
- With fewer ships in the water, you'll feel like Antarctica is all yours

## EXPEDITION DATE ABOARD OCEAN ALBATROS

Arrive	Board	Disembark
Oct 25, 2026	Oct 26, 2026	Nov 5, 2026

### Day 1, Arrive in and explore Ushuaia

After a friendly welcome at the airport and a transfer to the luxurious Arakur Resort & Spa (or another of Ushuaia's top luxury hotels), take some time to unwind or explore the southernmost city in the world, Ushuaia.

Our evening briefing is your opportunity to ask questions and meet some of your fellow explorers.

### Day 2, All aboard!

Spend your morning relaxing at the hotel, visiting a museum, or exploring the shops in Ushuaia, before our mid-afternoon escort to the ship. Our Expedition Team and ship staff will welcome you on board and get you settled in, followed by a safety and orientation briefing and our Captain's welcome dinner. We're on our way to Antarctica!



### Days 3-4, Drake Passage

Join our Polar Experts as they share their vast knowledge of Antarctica, from its enchanting wildlife to its bold history. Participate in our pioneering Citizen Science program or sit back and take in this fabled journey while catching glimpses of rarely seen wildlife. Keep your binoculars handy to identify the many seabirds that escort our ship as we cross the Antarctic Convergence into Antarctica's waters and noticeably cooler temperatures.

### Day 5-7, Antarctic Sound and Weddell Sea

This area boasts some of Antarctica's most striking scenery, from the vast Adelie Penguin colonies at Hope Bay and Devil's Island, to the dramatic volcanic cliffs at Brown Bluff. Continuing southward into the Weddell Sea, we encounter immense tabular icebergs and the expansive icepack that nurtures Antarctic krill, the foundation of the food chain. The presence of krill attracts a diverse array of wildlife, including penguins, seals, seabirds, and humpback whales, all of which we hope to see while exploring this icy wilderness.

### Days 8-9, Antarctic Peninsula

In the days ahead, we venture further west along the Antarctic Peninsula into the Gerlache Strait region. Our Expedition Leader and Captain will plot a route to explore a variety of sites highlighting the area's staggering natural beauty.

The Gerlache Strait offers a dazzling array of iconic Antarctic experiences. From Zodiac cruises in Paradise Bay, to witnessing penguins nesting on Cuverville Island, each potential stop promises yet another unforgettable encounter. Our wish list includes exploring historic huts at Damoy Point, witnessing humpback whales in

Wilhelmina Bay, and marveling at the jaw-dropping scenery of the Lemaire Channel. Wherever we go on the Antarctic Peninsula, endemic wildlife, tantalizing history and breathtaking natural beauty abound.

#### **Day 10, South Shetland Islands**

This archipelago represents the northernmost tip of Antarctica, standing proud against the relentless force of the Southern Ocean. The ice-capped peaks of Livingstone, Greenwich, and King George Islands offer a stunning backdrop to explore. And despite the furious elements, the islands boast a remarkable richness of wildlife, with numerous colonies of Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguins dotting the island shores, accompanied by an array of formidable seabirds like the predatory Giant Petrels. Weather permitting, we'll

explore the eerie landscape of Deception Island, an active volcanic crater with black steaming sands and rusting ruins, immerse ourselves in the history of Yankee Harbour, once a vital anchorage for sealers.

#### **Days 11-12, Drake Passage**

We leave this magical place and make our way north, once again crossing the legendary Drake Passage. We have one last hurrah as we celebrate the conclusion of our expedition with a special slideshow and a final meal together.

#### **Day 13, Ushuaia disembarkation**

With huge smiles on weary, content faces, we disembark in the morning, letting you catch a flight to Buenos Aires or stay in Ushuaia for more sights and adventure.

