Itinerary

16 Day Iconic Antarctica Expedition

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.**

Day 1: Arrive Buenos Aires, Argentina

Welcome to Buenos Aires, the vibrant gateway to your Antarctic adventure. On arrival, make your own way to your hotel. Information regarding your flight to Ushuaia will be available at the hotel reception or provided by a HX representative.

Spend the remainder of the day at leisure exploring this energetic and culturally rich city. Often referred to as the Paris of South America, Buenos Aires blends European style with a passionate Latin spirit. You may wish to stroll through Palermo, known for its leafy streets, boutique shops and cafes, or visit San Telmo, famous for its colonial charm and traditional tango culture.

Food lovers will enjoy the city's renowned dining scene, particularly its traditional parrillas serving Argentina's world famous steak. Alternatively, take the opportunity to experience a live tango show, offering a glimpse into one of the country's most iconic traditions.

If time permits, consider arriving a few days early to fully experience the city or join an optional pre tour to explore more of the region.

MEALS: Nil

OVERNIGHT: Alvear Icon Hotel, Buenos Aires or similar

Day 2: Buenos Aires ~ Ushuaia ~ Embark Ship

Your adventure truly begins today as you depart Buenos Aires on a morning flight to Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world. Flight schedules are typically early morning, and hotel transfers will be arranged accordingly, generally a few hours prior to departure.

Located at the edge of Argentina's Tierra del Fuego Province, Ushuaia is the gateway to Antarctica. Surrounded by dramatic mountain scenery and the Beagle Channel, this remote port city sets the stage for the journey ahead.

On arrival, you will be transferred to your expedition ship, where you will be welcomed on board by the Expedition Team. After a detailed briefing, take time to settle into your cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship's facilities.

Enjoy the remainder of the day exploring the vessel, meeting fellow travellers and preparing for the incredible adventure ahead as your Antarctic expedition begins.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Roald Amundsen or MS Fridtjof Nansen

Days 3-4: Crossing the Drake Passage

Over the next two days, sail across the legendary Drake Passage as you make your way towards Antarctica. This stretch of ocean is renowned for its raw beauty and powerful seas, offering a true sense of expedition travel.

During the crossing, your Expedition Team will deliver a series of engaging presentations designed to deepen your understanding of Antarctica. Learn about the region's unique wildlife, fragile ecosystems and the history of polar exploration, as well as the ongoing challenges of climate change and conservation.

Spend time in the onboard Science Centre, where interactive displays and expert insights bring the Antarctic environment to life. You will also have the opportunity to take part in Citizen Science programs, contributing to real research during your journey.

In between sessions, relax and enjoy the ship's facilities. Unwind in the wellness area, enjoy meals in the restaurant, or take in the views from the Explorer Lounge as seabirds glide across the open ocean.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Roald Amundsen or MS Fridtjof Nansen

Days 5-13: Antarctica – The Frozen Continent

Welcome to Antarctica, one of the most remote and awe inspiring places on earth. As you enter expedition mode, prepare for a truly unforgettable experience. Sail through calm, icy waters surrounded by towering glaciers and immense icebergs, with every moment offering something new and remarkable.

Wildlife encounters are a highlight of your time here. Watch penguin colonies gathered along the shoreline, spot seals resting on the ice and keep an eye out for whales feeding in the nutrient rich waters. Overhead, seabirds such as petrels and skuas glide effortlessly across the polar skies.

Your Captain and Expedition Team will continually assess conditions to create the best possible experience. This is a true expedition voyage, meaning your itinerary remains flexible to take advantage of weather, sea and ice conditions. Over the coming days, you will explore a range of landing sites, with opportunities for guided shore landings and Zodiac cruises.

Exploration may include the stunning **South Shetland Islands**, known for dramatic landscapes and abundant wildlife, and the striking **Antarctic Sound**, home to towering tabular icebergs and Adélie penguins. Venture into the remote **Weddell Sea**, rich in exploration history, and cruise through the spectacular **Gerlache Strait**, where calm waters offer incredible scenic views and frequent whale sightings.

If conditions allow, you may also explore the breathtaking **Penola Strait** or transit the famous **Lemaire Channel**, often considered one of the most beautiful passages in the world. Each day brings new discoveries, from dramatic landscapes to close up wildlife encounters.

Back on board, continue learning through engaging lectures and presentations from your Expedition Team, providing deeper insight into Antarctica's environment, wildlife and history.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Roald Amundsen or MS Fridtjof Nansen

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

Bookable onboard only. Pre booking is not available.

Guided Sea Kayaking Adventure

Experience Antarctica from a completely different perspective with a guided sea kayaking adventure. Paddle through calm waters surrounded by glaciers and icebergs, taking in the silence and scale of this incredible environment at water level.

Led by experienced guides, this immersive activity allows you to explore remote areas up close while learning about the region's wildlife and landscapes. With no engine noise, you may have the chance to quietly observe seals, seabirds and other wildlife in their natural habitat.

Duration: Approx. 3 hours

Important Information:

- This is an optional activity at an additional cost
- Can only be booked onboard, subject to availability
- All equipment is provided, including kayak, paddle, boots, life jacket and dry suit
- Two person kayaks are used, solo travellers will be paired
- Participants must be able to swim and get in and out of the kayak independently
- A reasonable level of fitness is required
- Activity is weather and ice dependent
- Not suitable for wheelchair users
- Basic English is required to follow safety instructions

Antarctic Camping Experience – Bivvy Bag

Spend a night in the heart of Antarctica with this once in a lifetime camping experience. Sleep under the open sky surrounded by snow, ice and complete silence, with nothing between you and the elements.

After a briefing and dinner onboard, head ashore to set up camp with your Expedition Team. Depending on conditions, there may be time for short walks before settling into your bivvy bag for the night. This is a rare opportunity to truly disconnect and experience Antarctica in its purest form.

In the morning, return to the ship for a special breakfast as you reflect on this unforgettable experience.

Duration: Overnight experience (approx. 9 to 10 hours)

Important Information:

- This is an optional activity at an additional cost
- Can only be booked onboard, subject to availability
- All camping equipment is provided, including bivvy bag, sleeping bag, mats and head torch

- Pre camp briefing and waiver are required prior to participation
- Basic level of fitness required with walking on snow and uneven terrain
- Activity is weather, snow and ice dependent
- Food cannot be taken ashore and strict environmental guidelines apply
- Not suitable for wheelchair users
- Conducted in English

Antarctica Discovery Kayak

Explore Antarctica at your own pace with this flexible and immersive kayaking experience. Paddle quietly through icy waters, surrounded by glaciers, icebergs and untouched wilderness.

Unlike guided kayaking, this experience allows you to move freely within a designated area, with no set route. Take your time to absorb the scenery, enjoy the silence and keep an eye out for wildlife in their natural environment.

This is a unique way to connect with Antarctica, offering a peaceful and personal perspective of this incredible landscape.

Duration: Approx. 1 to 1.5 hours

Important Information:

- This is an optional activity at an additional cost
- Can only be booked onboard, subject to availability
- All equipment is provided, including inflatable kayak, paddle, boots and life jacket
- Participants must be able to swim and get in and out of the kayak independently
- A reasonable level of fitness is required
- Solo paddling may be available, subject to equipment availability
- Activity is weather and ice dependent
- Not suitable for wheelchair users

Antarctic Camping Experience – Tent

Spend a night in Antarctica with this unique tent camping experience. Sleep on the ice surrounded by silence, with only your tent separating you from the elements.

After dinner onboard, head ashore with the Expedition Team to set up camp. Settle into your tent and take in the sounds of the polar wilderness, from shifting ice to distant wildlife. Early risers may step ???? to witness the soft Antarctic light before returning to the ship for breakfast.

This is a rare opportunity to experience Antarctica as early explorers once did, in a raw and unforgettable setting.

Duration: Overnight experience (approx. 9 to 10 hours)

Important Information:

- This is an optional activity at an additional cost
- Can only be booked onboard, subject to availability
- All camping equipment is provided, including tent, sleeping bag, mats and headlamp
- Guests are required to assist with setting up and packing down their tent
- Pre camp briefing and waiver are required prior to participation

- A moderate level of fitness is required with walking on snow and uneven terrain
- Guests may be required to pull camping equipment across snow
- Activity is weather, snow and ice dependent
- Strict environmental guidelines apply
- Not suitable for wheelchair users
- Conducted in English

Days 14-15: Crossing the Drake Passage

As your expedition begins its journey back towards South America, spend the next two days crossing the Drake Passage. This is a time to relax, reflect and take in the final moments of your Antarctic adventure.

Revisit the onboard Science Centre to deepen your understanding of the regions you have explored, or continue contributing to Citizen Science projects. Your Expedition Team will also deliver additional presentations, offering further insight into Antarctica's wildlife, environment and history.

Take advantage of the ship's facilities during your time at sea. Unwind in the wellness area, enjoy the on deck hot tubs or simply take in the fresh ocean air. The Explorer Lounge is the perfect place to relax with fellow travellers and share stories from the incredible journey you have just experienced.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Roald Amundsen or MS Fridtjof Nansen

Day 16: Ushuaia ~ Disembark Ship ~ Buenos Aires

Your expedition comes to an end this morning in Ushuaia. After disembarkation, you will be transferred to the airport for your included flight back to Buenos Aires.

Flight arrival into Buenos Aires is typically mid afternoon, however exact timings will be confirmed onboard during your voyage. If you are planning onward travel, it is recommended to allow sufficient connection time.

On arrival, your journey concludes at the airport. For more adventure, consider an optional extension to explore Buenos Aires, Iguazu Falls and/or Rio De Janeiro before heading home.

MEALS: Breakfast

IGUAZU FALLS AND BUENOS AIRES EXTENSION

Day 16: Ushuaia ~ Buenos Aires

As your expedition cruise concludes in Ushuaia, the vibrant hub of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina's southernmost province. You'll then catch a flight back to Buenos Aires for your return home. Upon arrival you will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel where you can spend the rest of the day at leisure.

NOTE: Charter flight details will only be provided once you are onboard the HX ship. As soon as you receive your flight information, please send these details via WhatsApp to the contact listed on your

voucher. If you are unable to use WhatsApp, you may email the details to info@myholiday2.com.au, and they will be forwarded on your behalf. Please note that transfers cannot be confirmed without your flight details—if this information is not provided, you will need to arrange your own transportation to the hotel.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Libertador Hotel, Buenos Aires or similar

Day 17: Buenos Aires ~ Iguazu Falls - Triple Frontier

Begin your day with a delicious breakfast before making your way to the airport for your flight to the magnificent Iguazu Falls. Upon arrival, your friendly driver will greet you at the airport and ensure a smooth, comfortable transfer to your accommodation. After settling in, your adventure continues with a visit to the iconic Triple Frontier—the remarkable point where Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina converge. Here, you'll experience the vibrant energy and cultural diversity that comes from three nations meeting at a single landmark.

Spend a relaxing evening at your hotel, resting up for the unforgettable exploration of one of the world's greatest natural wonders that awaits you in the days ahead.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Orquídeas Palace, Iguazu Falls or similar

Day 18: Iguazu Falls - Argentinian Side

After breakfast, you'll set out for a full-day adventure exploring one of the world's most awe-inspiring natural wonders: Iguazu Falls. Today's itinerary takes you to the Argentinian side of the National Park, where entrance fees are not included and should be purchased directly at the park entrance. Accompanied by bilingual guides (English/Spanish), you'll enjoy a scenic open train ride to the heart of the park and back, taking in lush rainforest scenery along the way.

Your guided tour covers both the upper and lower circuits, giving you a comprehensive perspective of the falls' stunning beauty. The highlight of the day is a visit to the dramatic Devil's Throat Falls, where you'll witness the immense power and grandeur of the cascading water up close. Expect an unforgettable day filled with natural wonder, incredible photo opportunities, and immersive experiences at every turn.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Orquídeas Palace or similar

Day 19: Iguazu Falls - Brazilian Side ~ Buenos Aires

After breakfast, you'll enjoy a guided tour of the Brazilian side of Iguazu Falls, where you'll experience breathtaking panoramic views and unique perspectives of this natural wonder. Transfers will be provided as you cross the border into Brazil for your visit. Please note that entrance fees to the national park are not included and must be purchased directly at the park entrance.

APPROXIMATE TIMES: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Following your tour, you'll be transferred back to the airport for your return flight to Buenos Aires. Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you will be transferred to your hotel.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Libertador Hotel, Buenos Aires or similar

NOTE: As this tour crosses into Brazil, please be aware that from 30 July 2025, Australian passport holders will require a visa to enter Brazil. It is your responsibility to check and confirm all current visa requirements via www.smartraveller.gov.au

Day 20: Buenos Aires – City Tour

Today, you'll set out on an immersive city tour of Buenos Aires, exploring its rich history, vibrant culture, and unique neighbourhoods. Begin in the historic centre, where grand colonial buildings and landmarks like the Plaza de Mayo, Casa Rosada, and the Metropolitan Cathedral showcase the city's heritage. Wander through San Telmo, known for its cobblestone streets and artistic vibe, before heading to the colourful neighbourhood of La Boca, famous for its tango heritage and brightly painted buildings along Caminito Street. Then, enjoy the elegance of Recoleta, home to boutique cafes and the renowned Recoleta Cemetery (entrance fee not included), the resting place of Eva Perón. Conclude the tour in Palermo, a lively area filled with parks, trendy shops, and bustling eateries, capturing the modern pulse of Buenos Aires.

APPROXIMATE TIMES: 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Libertador Hotel, Buenos Aires or similar

Day 21: Depart Buenos Aires

Today you will transferred to the airport for your return journey home. Due to flight availability and scheduling you may be required to spend an extra night in Buenos Aires at your own cost.

MEALS: Breakfast

IGUAZU FALLS, BUENOS AIRES AND RIO DE JANEIRO EXTENSION

Day 16: Ushuaia ~ Buenos Aires

As your expedition cruise concludes in Ushuaia, the vibrant hub of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina's southernmost province. You'll then catch a flight back to Buenos Aires for your return home. Upon arrival you will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel where you can spend the rest of the day at leisure.

NOTE: Charter flight details will only be provided once you are onboard the HX ship. As soon as you receive your flight information, please send these details via WhatsApp to the contact listed on your voucher. If you are unable to use WhatsApp, you may email the details to info@myholiday2.com.au, and they will be forwarded on your behalf. Please note that transfers cannot be confirmed without your flight

details—if this information is not provided, you will need to arrange your own transportation to the hotel.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Libertador Hotel, Buenos Aires or similar

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APPROXIMATE TIMES: 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Libertador Hotel, Buenos Aires or similar

Day 18: Buenos Aires ~ Iguazu Falls - Triple Frontier

Begin your day with a delicious breakfast before making your way to the airport for your flight to the magnificent Iguazu Falls. Upon arrival, your friendly driver will greet you at the airport and ensure a smooth, comfortable transfer to your accommodation. After settling in, your adventure continues with a visit to the iconic Triple Frontier—the remarkable point where Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina converge. Here, you'll experience the vibrant energy and cultural diversity that comes from three nations meeting at a single landmark.

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MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Orquídeas Palace, Iguazu Falls or similar

Day 19: Iguazu Falls - Argentinian Side

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MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Orquídeas Palace or similar

Day 20: Iguazu Falls - Brazilian Side ~ Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

After breakfast, you'll enjoy a guided tour of the Brazilian side of Iguazu Falls, where you'll experience breathtaking panoramic views and unique perspectives of this natural wonder. Transfers will be provided as you cross the border into Brazil for your visit. Please note that entrance fees to the national park are not included and must be purchased directly at the park entrance.

Approximate Tour Duration: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

In the evening, take your flight to Rio de Janeiro. Upon arrival, you'll be transferred from the airport to your hotel, where you can check in and relax for the night.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Copacabana Premier Hotel, Rio de Janeiro or similar

Day 21: Rio de Janeiro - City Tour

Today you can immerse yourself in the vibrant culture and breathtaking beauty of Rio de Janeiro, home to some of the world's most iconic landmarks. Stand in awe of the majestic Christ the Redeemer statue, a symbol of peace and faith perched high above the city on Corcovado Mountain. Stroll along the famous golden sands of Copacabana Beach, where the lively atmosphere and stunning ocean views capture the heart of Brazil's beach culture. Finally, take a cable car ride up Sugarloaf Mountain for panoramic views of the city, coastline, and lush surrounding landscapes. Rio promises a blend of natural beauty, cultural richness, and unforgettable experiences.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Copacabana Premier Hotel, Rio de Janeiro or similar

Day 22: Rio de Janeiro - Free Day

Enjoy a day a leisure or contact MyHoliday2 for some optional excursions.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Copacabana Premier Hotel, Rio de Janeiro or similar

Day 23: Depart Rio de Janeiro

Your unforgettable journey comes to an end today. After enjoying your morning at leisure, transfer from your hotel to the airport in time for your departing flight.

Take with you the incredible memories of the breathtaking landscapes, vibrant cities, and extraordinary experiences from your adventure. Safe travels, and we hope to welcome you back for another incredible journey in the future.

MEALS: Breakfast