



Overview

12-day Antarctic Explorer: Discovering the 7th Continent


Antarctica is an incredible destination with the power to transform those who are fortunate enough to experience its many natural wonders. At Quark Expeditions, we've been delivering transformational polar experiences for over three decades, and in that time we've realized that the more personalized an expedition is, the more enriching the experience will be. That's why we've designed this guide: to help you plan your perfect expedition to the 7th continent.

We've been creating transformational polar experiences in Antarctica for over three decades. In that time, we've realized that personalized expeditions—that match your travel goals and tastes—are more enriching. That's why we're offering this 12-day *Antarctic Explorer: Discovering the 7th Continent* itinerary that enables guests to maximize the helicopter experiences available on our newest ship, *Ultramarine*. Our ultimate goal is to help you plan your perfect polar expedition.

Antarctica has been inspiring explorers for centuries—now it's your turn. Our expedition team—the best in the Polar Regions—will do everything possible to ensure you have the expedition of a lifetime, and that you do it your way. We're excited to host you on your unforgettable adventure! Please feel free to reach out to our team of Polar Travel Advisers, who are happy to answer your questions and provide assistance at any time.



EXPEDITION IN BRIEF

-  Explore the Antarctic Peninsula with the best team in the polar industry
-  Arrive in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and enjoy the tango capital of the world
-  Enjoy flightseeing on *Ultramarine's* two twin-engine helicopters
-  Enjoy presentations on wildlife, history, glaciology and geology by our onboard polar experts
-  Observe abundant wildlife, such as penguins, seals and whales
-  Explore Antarctica on an optional paddling excursion.



Itinerary

DAY 1 | ARRIVE IN BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Upon arriving in this splendid city, known for its vibrant Argentinian culture, European architecture and cosmopolitan vibe, you will independently transfer to your group hotel (pre-expedition hotel night included as part of the mandatory transfer package).

DAY 2 | FLY TO USHUAIA AND EMBARK

After an early breakfast at the hotel, the group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Ushuaia, Argentina.

Upon arrival, you will be transferred from the airport to a central downtown location to explore this quaint port town

on your own before making your way to the designated meeting spot pier.

After a late afternoon embarkation, you will sail along the historic Beagle Channel, which transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America. Excitement builds in anticipation of your next stop: the Antarctic!

DAYS 3 & 4 | CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

The unpredictable and exciting Drake Passage is an adventure unto itself. While being well taken care of by our expert onboard staff and leaders, you'll have plenty of time to gaze out at the ocean, take pictures of seabirds swooping around the ship, and get to know your Expedition Team and fellow travelers.



ANTARCTIC EXPLORER Discovering the 7th Continent

— On board the *Ultramarine*
- - - Flights to/from Buenos Aires

DAYS 5-9 | SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS AND ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

Once the Drake Passage is left in our wake and the South Shetland Islands come into view, your Antarctic adventure truly begins. You will begin to appreciate why this region has long captivated the attention of explorers and travelers alike. On every visit to Antarctica, we witness something new or unexpected, which means your expedition will be unlike any other—a unique, personal experience.

Each day, you will take Zodiac excursions from the ship to explore local bays, channels and landing sites. With wildlife always at the forefront of our minds, you will visit penguin rookeries, scout for humpback and minke whales, and search for a number of southern seal species, including the cunning leopard seal.

The majesty of the Antarctic Peninsula's mountains will enchant as you hike snowy pathways to vantage points offering panoramic views of your surroundings. You will discover that Antarctica is a land of extremes. At one moment you'll be overcome with a feeling of complete isolation and silence, and the next you'll be inspired by nature as a calving glacier crashes into a brilliant blue sea or a penguin waddles by to inspect your footwear.

Amid the serene silence of Antarctica, noisy interludes—such as penguins squabbling over prized pebbles—become indelible memories.

Each day will be different, carefully crafted by your Expedition Team to inspire and educate you about this wonderful part of the world.

DAYS 10 & 11 | CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

The journey back across the Drake Passage provides a final opportunity to enjoy the invigorating Southern Ocean air. Spend time on the deck watching for seabirds and scouting for whales, enjoy presentations by your Expedition Team, and celebrate the experiences you've shared exploring the remarkable world of Antarctica.

DAY 12 | DISEMBARK IN USHUAIA AND FLY TO BUENOS AIRES

You will arrive in Ushuaia in the morning and disembark after breakfast. You will then make your way towards your group charter flight to Buenos Aires.



EXPEDITION SPIRIT

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team must consider the sea, ice and weather to guide the route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you may experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. By the same token, wildlife encounters as described are expected, but not guaranteed. Your Expedition Team will use their considerable experience to seek out wildlife in known habitats, but the presence of any particular species of bird or marine wildlife is not guaranteed.



Arrival and Departure Details, and International Flight Planning

		 AM			 PM	
DAY 1	DAY 2	EXPEDITION DAYS		FINAL DAY		
<i>In-bound international flight*</i> Arrival and independent transfer to hotel night	Group transfer to airport, flight to embarkation point, and embarkation	On ship or landing days		Disembarkation, free airport transfer, and flight to Buenos Aires, <i>International flight onward**</i>		
<p>* Arrive anytime on Day 1 or earlier. Day 1 includes an optional briefing.</p> <p>** Consider booking your international flight home after the Final Day as charter flight times may vary.</p> <p> International flights are not included in the cost of the voyage.</p>						

As you prepare for your journey, you may be interested in your arrival and departure details. Since international air transportation is not included in the cost of your expedition, you have some flexibility in planning your flights.

Arrival Day and Embarkation

DAY 1 — ARRIVING IN BUENOS AIRES AND HOTEL NIGHT

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you will make your way to the included group hotel. A presentation room will be open from 12 pm to 8 pm for luggage weighing and tagging. A Quark Expeditions representative will be available to answer your questions and give information about the next day's flight and ship embarkation. After an early breakfast the following morning, your group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Ushuaia, Argentina, the southernmost city in the world.

DAY 2 — USHUAIA AND EMBARKATION

In Ushuaia your mandatory transfer package will provide some free time to explore this quaint port town, and also (when flight schedules allow) a tour of Tierra del Fuego National Park. Note: The tour (if available) may take place on either the embarkation or disembarkation day.

We will transfer the group to the ship for embarkation around 4 pm.

PLEASE NOTE

Luggage will be limited to one checked luggage and one cabin baggage on the flights between Buenos Aires and Ushuaia. Luggage weight restrictions will be confirmed in your final documents received 30 days prior to your trip. Should you have additional luggage, it can be stored at the hotel in Buenos Aires. There is NO option to pay for additional luggage.



Final Day and Departure

DISEMBARKATION IN USHUAIA

The ship is scheduled to arrive back at the pier in Ushuaia between 7 am and 8 am. After breakfast you will bid farewell to your Expedition Team before completing your disembarkation. This process takes approximately one hour.

DEPARTING FROM BUENOS AIRES

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you may be able to connect directly with your homeward flight, as we will land at Ministro Pistarini International Airport (also known as Ezeiza International Airport, EZE) at 5 pm. Please allow a minimum of three hours between our charter arrival and your international departure. We recommend four hours.

If your plans will take you onward in South America, please check your flight schedule to confirm your connection before booking. Upon arrival in Buenos Aires, you may need to transfer from the international airport (EZE) to the domestic airport, Jorge Newbery (also known as Aeroparque, AEP), which is located about a one-hour drive away under normal traffic conditions. If you must transfer between airports on the final day of the voyage, you can choose to use the efficient airport shuttle service, Manuel Tienda León, or take a *remis* (a pre-paid taxi booked inside the airport). If you prefer, your Polar Travel Adviser can also arrange for a private transfer. As traffic can add time to the commute, we recommend that you allow at least five hours between flights arriving and departing from the different airports in Buenos Aires to allow for transit, check-in, and security clearance.

For the absolute safest travel plans, we recommend that you book an extra hotel night in Buenos Aires between flights.

Arrival and Departure Transfers

BUENOS AIRES AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Arrival transfers from your international flights in Buenos Aires are not included; however, your Travel Professional or Polar Travel Advisor can arrange them for you.

We request that you provide your flight details to Quark Expeditions at least 30 days prior to traveling.

PLEASE NOTE

Included Hotel Accommodations:

Your included accommodation begins on Day 1 of your itinerary. The specific hotel will be indicated on your final voyage confirmation. If you are arriving prior to Day 1 of your expedition or are staying after the disembarkation day and would like help booking a pre- or post-stay, please contact your preferred travel agent or Quark Expeditions for hotel options. As accommodation space is limited, you are encouraged to request any extra nights as early as possible.

Weather conditions may occasionally delay our arrival, and airline schedule changes have also been known to occur in Argentina. Booking flexible tickets is always encouraged, as we cannot be held responsible for delays due to unforeseen circumstances.

