



[wildearth-travel.com](http://wildearth-travel.com)

[info@wildearth-travel.com](mailto:info@wildearth-travel.com)

## ANTARCTIC EXPLORER: A CULINARY QUEST CRUISE

Welcome to Aurora Expeditions' Antarctic Explorer: A Culinary Quest Sail/Fly expedition.

Travelling to one of the most remote regions on the planet doesn't mean sacrificing culinary excellence. Dine on exquisitely prepared dishes crafted from the finest ingredients, served with panoramic views of glaciers, towering icebergs, and wildlife-rich shores. During the height of the Antarctic summer, experience long, sunlit days, unforgettable wildlife encounters, and a journey that delights all the senses! Reduce your time on the high seas by soaring over the Drake Passage with a charter flight back to South America.



### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 Ushuaia

Arrive in Ushuaia, where you will be met by a representative of Aurora Expeditions and transferred with your fellow expeditioners to your assigned pre-voyage hotel. If you are already in Ushuaia, we ask you to make your way to your hotel. Check-in is from 3.00 pm. This afternoon, visit the Aurora Expeditions hospitality desk in the hotel lobby, between 3.00 pm and 7.00 pm, to collect your luggage tags, and confirm if you wish to join our

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pre-embarkation tour tomorrow. Our team will confirm details regarding your embarkation day, answer any questions and provide you with information on where to dine or purchase last minute items.

We encourage all expeditioners to arrive by 5.00 pm to enjoy our group welcome dinner this evening. Expeditioners arriving after 7.00 pm will find a welcome pack waiting for them at check-in. We ask you to visit our hospitality desk tomorrow between 8.00 am - 10.00 am.

This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at La Cravia restaurant, located at Arakur Resort & Spa. At Arakur, the "Haute Cuisine" shines in a unique environment with an unparalleled view of the bay and the city, the Beagle Channel, valleys, mountains, and the Vinciguerra Glacier. La Cravia delivers typical flavours from Tierra del Fuego, offering Argentine and international meals.

Assigned accommodation: Arakur Resort & Spa

## Day 2 Embarkation

This morning, enjoy breakfast and check-out. Please ensure your cabin luggage is fitted with cabin tags clearly labelled with your name and cabin number. Take your cabin luggage to hotel reception, prior to, or at check-out. Your luggage will be stored and transferred directly to the port for clearance, to be placed in your cabin ahead of your arrival on board. Please keep any valuables or personal items with you throughout the day.

Those wishing to join our tour today, please meet in the hotel lobby at 8.45 am. Enjoy some free time there before returning to Ushuaia for ship embarkation.

Alternatively, enjoy your day at leisure and meet at your hotel lobby or from the meeting point at the parking lot near the pier (details will be given by our ground staff at the hotel), to be transferred to the pier for embarkation.

Once onboard, you'll have time to settle into your cabin before our important mandatory briefings. As the ship pulls away from port, we'll gather on the deck to commence our adventure with spectacular views over Ushuaia and Tierra del Fuego.

This evening get to know your fellow expeditioners and friendly expedition team and crew at a welcome dinner to celebrate the start of a thrilling adventure to Antarctica.

## Day 3-4 Drake Passage crossing

As we commence the Drake Passage crossing, we make the most of our time getting comfortable with the motions of the sea. Our expedition team prepare you for our first landing with important wildlife guidelines and biosecurity procedures and start our lecture program to help you learn more about Antarctica's history, wildlife and environment.

Our wildlife experiences begin as we enjoy watching and photographing the many seabirds, including majestic albatrosses and giant petrels following our vessel. On sea days, you may enjoy the facilities on board the vessel including the gym, wellness centre or the relaxing in one of the observation lounges.

Nearing the South Shetland Islands and the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula on the afternoon of day four, the excitement is palpable with everyone converging on one of the observation decks watching for our first iceberg. The ocean takes on a whole new perspective once we are below the Antarctic Convergence and are surrounded by the surreal presence of floating ice sculptures. The memory of your first big iceberg sighting is likely to remain with you for a lifetime.

Time and weather permitting, we may attempt our first landing in Antarctica by late afternoon.

## Days 5-8 Antarctic Peninsula

It's almost impossible to describe the feeling of arriving in Antarctica. Spotting your first iceberg and taking a deep breath of some of the most fresh, crisp air on earth is an experience that will stay with you forever.

Once we arrive, the western side of the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland Islands are ours to explore, and we have a host of choices available to us. Because we are so far south, we will experience approximately 18-24 hours of daylight and the days can be as busy as you wish.

Your experienced expedition team, who have made countless journeys to this area, will use their expertise to design your voyage from day to day, choosing the best options based on the prevailing weather, ice conditions and wildlife opportunities.

We generally make landings or Zodiac excursions twice a day. You will want to rug up before joining Zodiac cruises along spectacular ice cliffs or among

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grounded icebergs, keeping watch for whales, seals and porpoising penguins. Zodiacs will also transport you from the ship to land, where you can visit penguin rookeries, discover historic huts and explore some of our favourite spots along the peninsula.

While ashore we aim to stretch our legs, wandering along pebbly beaches or perhaps up snow-covered ridgelines to vantage points with mountains towering overhead and ice-speckled oceans below. If you have chosen an optional activity, you will have the option to do that whenever conditions allow, and of course keen polar plungers will have the chance to fully immerse themselves in polar waters - conditions permitting!

In addition to Zodiac cruises and shore excursions, we may ship cruise some of the narrow, dramatic straits separating offshore islands from the mainland, or linger in scenic bays to watch whales travelling or feeding.

This is a great time to enjoy the observation lounge or make your way to the bridge for uninterrupted views of Antarctica in all its splendour. Keep an ear out for the creak and deep rumble of glaciers as they carve their way from summit to sea. Take a quiet moment to experience the wonder of this incredible white continent.

## Day 9 Fly King George Island to Punta Arenas

As we approach Frei Base on King George Island, it is time to farewell Antarctica and our amazing adventure before boarding our flight (approximately one hour and forty-five minutes) to Punta Arenas, Chile. There is time for reflection and discussion about what we have seen and experienced. We hope you become ambassadors for Antarctica telling your family, friends and colleagues about your journey to this magical place, advocating for its conservation and preservation so that they might one day visit the region to experience what you have been lucky to see and do here.

From Punta Arenas airport, you will be transferred to our group hotel for an overnight stay.

Note: King George Island is located at the northern tip of the Antarctic Peninsula in the South Shetland Islands and is one of the most remote places on Earth. A clear sky with perfect visibility is required for safe take-off and landing. We apologise in advance for any possible delays.

## Day 10 Depart Punta Arenas

After breakfast, bid a fond farewell to your fellow travellers as we continue our onward journeys, hopefully with a newfound sense of the immense power of nature (breakfast included). A transfer to the airport is included in the voyage fare.

Note: Should your flight not proceed due to local conditions; you will remain on the ship until it is deemed achievable to return to Punta Arenas. Refer to our terms and conditions for further details.

### Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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## YOUR SHIP: DOUGLAS MAWSON

**YOUR SHIP:** **Douglas Mawson**

**VESSEL TYPE:** **Small Ship Expedition**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:** **154**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** **2025**

Length: 104.4 m

Setting sail in 2025, the Douglas Mawson is the latest addition to Aurora Expeditions' fleet of purpose-built small ships, designed for global discovery and adventure in comfort. Named after the pioneering Australian geologist and explorer, this state-of-the-art vessel combines cutting-edge technology with elegant design, featuring the revolutionary Ulstein X-BOW® for smoother sailing and enhanced sustainability. With space for up to 154 guests (130 on expedition voyages), it offers an intimate and environmentally conscious cruising experience. Multiple observation areas, a heated pool, Jacuzzis, and a sauna ensure guests enjoy both exploration and relaxation in equal measure. On board, passengers can delve deeper into their destinations through engaging lectures in the theatre, hands-on learning in the Citizen Science Centre, and peaceful moments in the library or observation lounge. Dining is relaxed and sociable, with open seating, hearty cuisine, and complimentary beverages with dinner. Accommodation options range from luxurious suites with private balconies to well-appointed solo staterooms, catering to every traveller's style and comfort. Whether navigating the polar regions or exploring the British Isles and Mediterranean, the

Douglas Mawson delivers the perfect balance of adventure, discovery, and refined small-ship luxury.

### Wild Earth Travel attends the launch of this new expedition ship



dition ship

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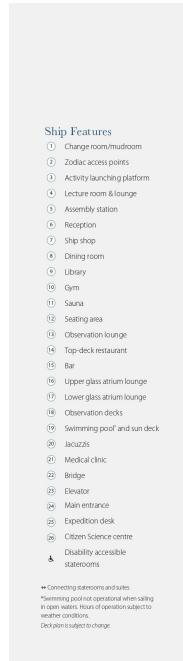
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP



*Douglas Mawson*

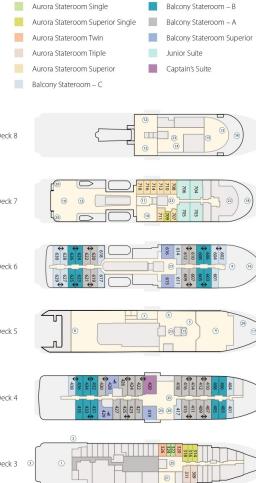
Deck Plan

Ship Features

- ① Change room/mudroom
- ② Zodiac access points
- ③ Activity launching platform
- ④ Lecture room & lounge
- ⑤ Assembly station
- ⑥ Reception
- ⑦ Ship shop
- ⑧ Dining room
- ⑨ Library
- ⑩ Gym
- ⑪ Sauna
- ⑫ Seating area
- ⑬ Observation lounge
- ⑭ Top-deck restaurant
- ⑮ Bar
- ⑯ Upper glass atrium lounge
- ⑰ Lower glass atrium lounge
- ⑱ Observation decks
- ⑲ Swimming pool and sun deck
- ⑳ Jacuzzis
- ㉑ Medical clinic
- ㉒ Bridge
- ㉓ Elevator
- ㉔ Main entrance
- ㉕ Expedition desk
- ㉖ Citizen Science centre
- ㉗ Disability accessible staterooms

\*Connecting balconies and suites  
\*Swimming pool not operational when sailing in open waters. Hours of operation subject to weather conditions.  
See terms subject to change.

Stateroom Category



Aurora Stateroom Single



Aurora Stateroom Superior



Aurora Stateroom Superior Single



Aurora Stateroom Twin



Balcony Stateroom Category A



Balcony Stateroom Category B



Balcony Stateroom Category C



Balcony Stateroom Superior



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## PRICING

03-Jan-2028 to 12-Jan-2028

Aurora Stateroom Twin	30562 AUD pp
Aurora Stateroom Superior	32425 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category C	33200 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category B	34907 AUD pp
Aurora Stateroom Single	35838 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category A	37545 AUD pp
Aurora Stateroom Superior Single	39407 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Superior	41114 AUD pp
Junior Suite	48873 AUD pp
Captain's Suite	55856 AUD pp