

ANTARCTIC EXPRESS CRUISE: CROSSING THE CIRCLE

Check off a travel milestone by crossing the Antarctic Circle with the best expedition team in the industry. Our 11-day Antarctic Express: Crossing the Circle voyage enables you to skip the notorious Drake Passage sailing with a charter flight to and from King George Island, where your Antarctic adventure begins and ends. Cruise the stunning Antarctic Peninsula, then push farther to 66°33 south. Along the way, add bucket-list experiences like sea kayaking through iceberg-dotted channels and unforgettable wildlife encounters.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Arrive in Punta Arenas, Chile

Your adventure begins in Punta Arenas, Chile, the most populated city in southern Patagonia. If you arrive early, there are many museums, restaurants and shops to keep you busy for days. By early afternoon, a Quark Expeditions representative will meet you at the official starting point hotel, where you'll enjoy a welcome dinner and be briefed on preparations for your embarkation day.



Day 2 - Fly to King George Island and Embarkation

Your charter flight from Punta Arenas to Antarctica enables you to cross the legendary Drake Passage in only two hours, while far below your ship will approach King George Island for your arrival. Your first glimpse of dramatic Antarctic landscapes will be from a unique perspective, as your plane descends for landing in the South Shetland Islands. After landing, make your way to the shore, before being transferred by Zodiac to your ship to set sail for the Antarctic Peninsula!

Days 3 to 5 - Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands

There are few places in the world as evocative as Antarctica. The Antarctic Continent is indescribable and can only be fully appreciated through your own eyes.Even more exciting are your land excursions. Your first Zodiac landing is something you'll never forget! Setting foot on a beach inhabited by thousands of penguins is the most intimate way to experience the unique wildlife of Antarctica.Each landing is different and dependent on weather, but every day presents new sightings and photo opportunities, and it won't be long before you can tell the difference between an Adélie, gentoo and chinstrap penguin.You may take a Zodiac cruise in search of whales and icebergs one day, followed by a hike to a penguin rookery the next day. From the booming sound of a calving glacier to the thrill of spotting apex predators like leopard seals and orcas in action, you'll wake up early and welcome each day with a sense of adventure and a desire to explore this unrivaled wilderness experience.Your Expedition Team will accompany you along the way, ensuring safety and providing insights into the places you visit. Our expert education team will also provide in-depth explanations of the glaciology, history and wildlife of the region.

Days 6 and 7 - Antarctic Circle

Crossing the Antarctic Circle is both a memorable experience and impressive achievement, as few travelers reach so far south. If conditions allow us to cross this famed latitude of 66°33 S, we'll toast the first explorers who ventured here, and you can raise a glass and take pride in knowing you've made it to a part of the world visited by very few people. This is raw Antarctica, home of the midnight sun, Weddell seals, and your best chances of encountering sea ice – the foundation of the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

Days 8 and 9 - Northbound Along the Peninsula

If you haven't had your fill of Antarctic wildlife and icebergs by now, you'll surely be satisfied by the time you return to King George Island. You will continue to explore by Zodiac or on land as you travel north along the western Antarctic Peninsula.Your Expedition Team will always be on the lookout for species of seabirds, seals and whales that may have eluded you on your journey south.

Day 10 - Disembarkation and Fly to Punta Arenas

After your week of exploration, you'll say goodbye to your Expedition Team and disembark at King George Island. Your two-hour flight across the Drake Passage to Punta Arenas, Chile, brings your adventure to an end. After your group transfer to the hotel, you are free to explore and enjoy an evening on your own, in the city or at the hotel to reminisce about the sights and sounds of Antarctica.

Day 11 - Depart Punta Arenas

After breakfast, you are welcome to continue on your own travels or make your way to the Punta Arenas airport for your homeward flights.

Please Note:

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy - and excitement - of expedition travel. There are no guarantees that we can achieve everything we set out to accomplish. A measure of flexibility is something all of us must bring to a voyage. There are nearly 200 recognized sites in the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetlands and the places mentioned above may be changed to others equally as interesting.



YOUR SHIP: OCEAN EXPLORER

YOUR SHIP:	**Ocean Explorer**
VESSEL TYPE:	**Polar Expedition**
LENGTH:	**342 ft (104.4 m)**
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	**138**
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	**2021**

The Ocean Explorer is a modern, purpose-built expedition vessel combining contemporary elegance with advanced polar exploration technology. Accommodating up to 138 guests, this state-of-the-art ship features the innovative ULSTEIN X-BOW® design, which ensures smooth, stable sailing even in rough seas. A highlight of the vessel is its stunning two-story, glass-walled library located at the bow--perfect for quiet reflection with panoramic views of the polar landscapes. Almost all spacious cabins include private verandas, while the ship's sleek Scandinavian-inspired interiors create a sense of understated luxury. Guests can unwind in the fitness centre, sauna with large windows overlooking the ice, or one of two outdoor Jacuzzis while taking in the surrounding scenery.

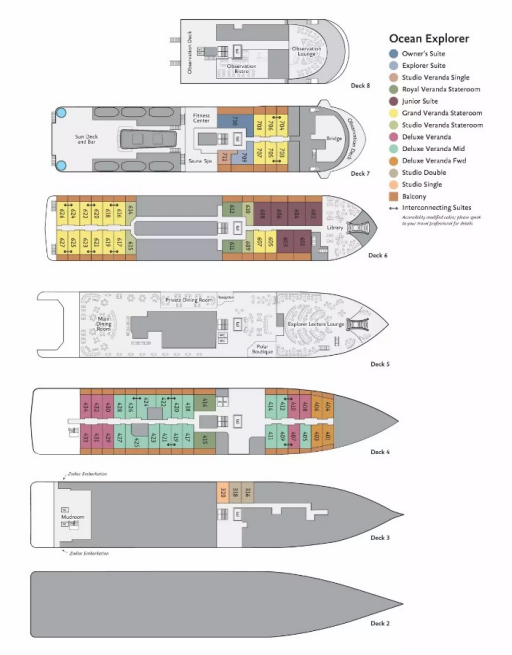
Designed with both exploration and comfort in mind, Ocean Explorer offers generous outdoor viewing spaces and elevated observation decks for exceptional photography and wildlife watching. A fleet of 15 Zodiacs ensures quick, safe embarkation for off-ship adventures. Social spaces such as the elegant Main Dining Room, Latitude Bar, and Observation Lounge provide a refined yet relaxed atmosphere, complemented by fuel-efficient Rolls-Royce engines and cutting-edge sustainability systems, including waste-to-energy technology. Every detail of the Ocean Explorer reflects innovation, comfort, and environmental consciousness--setting a new standard for luxury expedition cruising.



n cruising.



INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Deluxe Suite



Deluxe Veranda Forward



Infinity Suite



Junior Suite



Owner's Suite



Owners Suite





PRICING

22-Jan-2027 to 01-Feb-2027

Triple Suite	43295 AUD pp
Deluxe Veranda Forward	48295 AUD pp
Junior Suite	52150 AUD pp
Veranda Stateroom	50895 AUD pp
Veranda Suite	53795 AUD pp
Studio Single	69895 AUD pp
Penthouse Suite	73695 AUD pp
Studio Veranda Single	75495 AUD pp
Owners Suite	78795 AUD pp

17-Feb-2028 to 27-Feb-2028

Infinity Suite	53195 AUD pp
Veranda Suite	56095 AUD pp
Superior Suite	72795 AUD pp
Deluxe Suite	78495 AUD pp
Owner's Suite	83995 AUD pp

19-Dec-2028 to 29-Dec-2028

Infinity Suite	52195 AUD pp
Veranda Suite	54895 AUD pp
Superior Suite	71395 AUD pp
Deluxe Suite	76895 AUD pp
Owner's Suite	82395 AUD pp

Optional extras & upgrades

Paddling Excursion

Every sweep of the paddle as your craft glides through the pristine polar waters creates an incredible soundtrack: the jostle of glacial ice, the lapping of waves against the rocky shore, the perpetual drip from your paddle, the call of seabirds, and the occasional splash as wildlife break the surface of the water.

Kayaking

Kayaking in Antarctica is probably one of the most intimate and inspiring ways you can explore this incredible region. Glide through the quiet waters and take in the beauty of Antarctica. Paddle through astounding icebergs, watch penguins, seals and possibly whales swim around your kayak. Kayaking in the Polar Regions is highly weather-dependent, however we guarantee at least one outing during your voyage. Your kayak guides will always attempts to take you out as many times as possible throughout your voyage.

Stand-up Paddleboarding

Stand-up Paddleboarding, popularly known as SUPing, originated in Hawaii. Quark Expeditions is the first company to bring this watersport all the way to Antarctica.