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ANTARCTIC PENINSULA: FLY THE DRAKE 10 DAY EXPEDITION

Welcome to Aurora Expeditions' Antarctic Peninsula: Fly the Drake expedition.

Separating the southern tip of the South American continent from the Antarctic Peninsula region is the Drake Passage, where the mighty Pacific and Atlantic oceans converge. This narrow and impossibly deep waterway creates unpredictable conditions for navigators, who put their skills to the test when the passage is at its most turbulent.

For expeditioners who prefer to focus their energy on adventures in Antarctica, flying over the Drake Passage in both directions is the ideal way to reach the white continent. In the safe hands of experienced pilots, your pulse will quicken as you glimpse the first icebergs in the Southern Ocean, where your vessel awaits, ready to take you on an exhilarating adventure.



ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrive Punta Arenas

Arrive in Punta Arenas, where you will be met by a representative of Aurora Expeditions and transferred to our hotel. We ask that you arrive no later than 2.00 pm so that you may attend our important briefing this evening.

Please visit the Aurora Expeditions hospitality desk in the lobby between 2.00

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pm - 6.00 pm to collect your luggage cabin tags. Our team will confirm details regarding your embarkation day, answer any questions and provide you with information about where to dine or purchase last minute items.

Overlooking the Straits of Magellan, the city sits astride one of the world's most historic trade routes. Today, Punta Arenas reflects a great blend of cultural backgrounds, from English sheep ranchers to Portuguese sailors. It remains an utterly fascinating testament to Chile's rich history. Modern day Punta Arenas is home to many popular restaurants, and bars, offering a mix of local and international fare (meals at your own expense today).

At 7.00 pm this evening, meet your fellow expeditioners at a voyage briefing where we will reconfirm your transfer times for tomorrow, explain the procedures for your flight to King George Island and outline important IAATO regulations for visitors to Antarctica.

Day 2 Fly to King George Island, Embarkation

This morning we will be transferred to Punta Arenas airport for our charter flight to King George Island, Antarctica (weather permitting). The flight will take approximately one hour and forty-five minutes. On arrival into King George Island our expedition team is on hand to greet you and to prepare you for your Zodiac transfer to the vessel. You will have time to settle into your cabin before our important safety briefings.

Note: King George Island is located at the northern part 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. A contingency plan will be applied to your itinerary should your flights not proceed today. Your safety is our utmost priority. We apologise in advance for any delays caused due to this unpredictable situation. Please refer to our terms and conditions for a more detailed explanation.

Days 3-8 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 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. 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

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overnight stay.

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Accommodation: To be advised

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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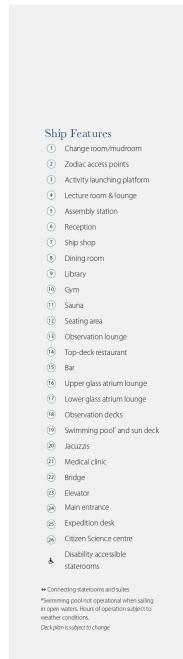
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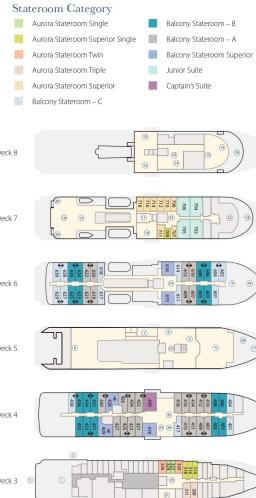
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Douglas Mawson

Deck Plan



Aurora Stateroom Single



Aurora Stateroom Superior



Aurora Stateroom Superior Single



Aurora Stateroom Triple



Aurora Stateroom Twin



Balcony Stateroom Category A



Balcony Stateroom Category B



Balcony Stateroom Category C



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PRICING

13-Jan-2027 to 22-Jan-2027

Aurora Stateroom Triple	24595 USD pp
Aurora Stateroom Twin	25395 USD pp
Aurora Stateroom Superior	26795 USD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category C	27495 USD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category B	28995 USD pp
Aurora Stateroom Single	29695 USD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category A	31195 USD pp
Aurora Stateroom Superior Single	32595 USD pp
Balcony Stateroom Superior	33995 USD pp
Junior Suite	40595 USD pp
Captain's Suite	46295 USD pp

Optional extras & upgrades

Sea Kayaking

Snorkelling

Paddling

10-Jan-2028 to 19-Jan-2028

Aurora Stateroom Twin	33976 AUD pp
Aurora Stateroom Superior	35994 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category C	36925 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category B	38787 AUD pp
Aurora Stateroom Single	39873 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Category A	41735 AUD pp
Aurora Stateroom Superior Single	43752 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom Superior	45615 AUD pp
Junior Suite	54304 AUD pp
Captain's Suite	62063 AUD pp

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