

# Wild Earth Travel

*Small Ships, Big Adventures*

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

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

## ANTARCTICA DIRECT: FLY THE DRAKE PASSAGE 8-DAY

Experience the wild grandeur of the White Continent in a more efficient, expedient way. On this new itinerary, bypass the traditional Drake Passage crossing on a two-hour flight to and from Antarctica and discover all of the highlights without sacrificing the extra time. Travel with a diverse team of experts aboard National Geographic Explorer, the definitive expedition ship. Venture into channels and coves framed by towering peaks. Watch for whales off the bow; Zodiac cruise around enormous icebergs; and hike, kayak, and (in November) even possibly cross-country ski in complete tranquility. Choose an active agenda or surrender to the pleasures of relaxing downtime and shipboard camaraderie. Plus, get top shots with the help of a National Geographic Photography Expert.



### ITINERARY

#### DAY 1 Puerto Natales, Chile

Arrive in Puerto Natales. Originally a small fishing port, the town is nestled on the Last Hope Sound and boasts a stunning view of the sea surrounded by the Cerro Benitez Mountains—the gateway to Torres del Paine. Transfer from the airport to your hotel, where you'll enjoy dinner and attend a briefing on the following day's activities.

Ask your expedition specialist about joining an immersive 5-day pre-voyage

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extension to explore Torres del Paine National Park, an incredible UNESCO biosphere reserve.

Arrival Time: Arrive to the hotel in Puerto Natales by 3:00 p.m. local time.  
Arrival City: Puerto Natales, Chile

Meals Included: Dinner

## DAY 2 Puerto Natales / King George Island / Embark Ship

Following breakfast, check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport for our 2-hour direct flight to King George Island and the thrilling start to our Antarctic adventure. Home to a diverse assortment of wildlife--Weddell and elephant seals, Adelie, chinstrap and gentoo penguins--King George Island also has a human presence. Researchers from a wide range of countries, including the US, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil, call the various stations home. Our flight will land at the Chilean research station where the National Geographic Explorer will be waiting offshore. Board Zodiacs to embark the ship and set sail.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAYS 3-6 Exploring Antarctica

With long hours of daylight at this time of year, we have ample opportunities to explore. Our schedule is flexible, allowing us to take advantage of the unexpected, whether we're watching whales at play off the bow of our ship, hiking alongside penguin highways, or enjoying an evening Zodiac cruise amid porpoising penguins.

While wildlife is magnificent, ice defines the Antarctic. You'll get to know ice up close and personal--from icebergs the size of islands, bergy bits and near-vertical glaciers, to the fragile, nearly invisible layers that have just begun to freeze. One day, we might set out by kayak to encounter towering icebergs at water level; embark on a Zodiac excursion in search of seals and blue-eyed shags; or walk amid thousands of Adelie and gentoo penguins. The next, we might experience the thrill of the ship crunching through pack ice.

Everywhere we go in Antarctica we're surrounded by opportunities to capture

uniquely beautiful images. Along the way your expert expedition team will enrich every experience.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 7 King George Island / Disembark Ship / Puerto Natales

This morning, the ship will be moored off of King George Island once again. Following disembarkation and Zodiac rides to shore, our flight departs the White Continent and returns to Puerto Natales where we overnight at Hotel Costaustralis or Remota Patagonia Lodge (or similar).

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 8 Puerto Natales

Check out of your hotel and transfer to the airport to begin your journey homeward.

Departure Time: Outbound flights from Puerto Natales should depart no earlier than 1:00 p.m. local time (or as late in the day as possible).  
Departure City: Puerto Natales, Chile

Meals Included: Breakfast

### Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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## YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER

<b>YOUR SHIP:</b>	<b>National Geographic Explorer</b>
<b>VESSEL TYPE:</b>	<b>Luxury Expedition</b>
<b>LENGTH:</b>	<b>108 meters</b>
<b>PASSENGER CAPACITY:</b>	<b>148 (single &amp; twin cabins)</b>
<b>BUILT/REFURBISHED:</b>	<b>1982 / 2008</b>



Originally constructed for Norway's renowned Hurtigruten Coastal Express, National Geographic Explorer was a natural fit for the Lindblad Expeditions fleet thanks to her exceptional manoeuvrability, ice-strengthened hull, and purpose-built expedition design. Now fully stabilised and refitted with over five decades of exploration expertise, she is ideally suited for navigating the most remote corners of the globe--from the rugged coasts of Europe to the icy passages of the polar regions. With vast windows throughout and a Scandinavian-inspired interior, the ship invites guests to stay connected with their environment at every turn.

Aboard National Geographic Explorer, every feature is tailored to enhance discovery. From the open Bridge and observation deck to the Chart Room and mudroom for expedition gear, the ship is an authentic platform for adventure. Her recently updated suites offer comfort and understated elegance, while public spaces such as the library, Global Gallery, and multiple dining areas encourage camaraderie and relaxation. Carrying expert guides, state-of-the-art tools, and a fleet of Zodiacs and kayaks, this 148-guest ship brings guests closer to nature with all the style and substance expected of a flagship expedition vessel.

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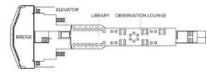


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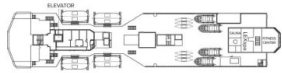
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP

### Bridge Deck



### Wellness Deck



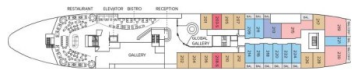
### Veranda Deck

- Category 4
- Category 6
- Category B Solo



### Upper Deck

- Category 4
- Category 5
- Category 6
- Category 7
- Category B Solo



### Main Deck

- Category 1
- Category 2
- Category 3
- Category 2 Solo



### B Deck





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## PRICING

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