

Antarctica 2019

Organizer: Chief One: Expeditions



See the beauty of the world of ice. Meet penguins, whales, leopard seals. Push icebergs, climb a glacier. Antarctica is waiting but there's less and less of it each year - so act now!

A cruise to Antarctica

We start our cruises to Antarctica in the city of Ushuaia.

Ushuaia is located in southern Argentina in Tierra del Fuego, on the Beagle Channel, near the border with Chile. Starting the cruises to Antarctica with us from this city, you can safely say that you are going to the end of the world. Ushuaia holds the status of the southernmost city not only in South America, but also in the entire world. This is also emphasized by its name, deriving from the Indian language, meaning a bay on the outskirts.



This title is disputed by Chile which is developing Puerto Williams, a fishing settlement, on the island of Navarino. Puerto Williams currently has around 2000 inhabitants and does not have a full urban infrastructure. There is also the Puerto Toro settlement inhabited by 100 people.

From Ushuaia, we will sail to Antarctica through the Drake Passage

With favorable winds, on the way to Antarctica, we plan to cut through Drake Passage and the 67°14'W meridian, which divides the passage in half, marking the border between the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

After passing Horn and through the legendary Drake Passage, we will reach the Antarctic waters

The first stop during our trip will be Admiralty Bay near King George Island. This is where the Henryk Arctowski Polish Antarctic Station is located.

We will see here an active Polish Lighthouse which is the furthest one away from the borders of our country. It was built on a rock. The lighthouse is located approximately 220 m east of the station's buildings. The construction of the lighthouse began in December 1977 as part of the second Antarctic expedition, and was put into service on March 16, 1978.



From "Arctowski" to the inside of a volcano

Then we will reach Deception Island. This island is in the shape of a horseshoe and is the tip of a volcano caldera filled with water. It covers an area with a diameter of 12 km. Its highest point is Mount Pond, 542m above sea level. To enter the "inside of the island", one must pass through the narrow Neptune's Bellows channel with a width of 230m. On the island near Whaler's Bay, there are hot springs and volcanic beaches.

On the island, we can find such animals as: chinstrap penguins, skuas, seagull or eared seals. In addition, one can also spot krill and other crustaceans in the warm coastal waters. Jellylike fish eggs from the lampreys family are often thrown onto the beach. In addition, there are also two stations which are open during the summer season – an Argentinean one (Decepcion) and a Spanish one (Gabriel de Castilla).

Antarctica – Other islands in the area

Then we will go to Trinity island and visit Enterprise island (North Nansnen) which is 2.8 km long and which is located in Wilhelmina Bay. The island got its name from a company dealing with whaling. The wreck of the Guvernøren ship, where we plan to berth, is located in Foyen harbor.

Next, we will go to Couverville island which lies within the Errera channel. It was discovered by the Belgian Antarctic Escapade in the years 1897 – 1899. It is here where we will be able to see the largest gentoo penguin colony in the Antarctic Peninsula.



Museum in Antarctica

We will also head to Port Lockroy, a historical polar base, currently serving as a museum, located at Goudier island in the Palmer Archipelago. During World War II, the station was an observation point for observing the activity of the Axis powers. After the war, the station has been handed over to the British Antarctic Survey government organization. It is here where we will be able to see the gentoo penguins.

The Lemaire Channel strait and the Melchior Island

During the cruise, we want to cross the Lemaire Channel strait over which icebergs are drifting. It is 11 km long and only 1.6 km wide at its narrowest point. An unforgettable view is created by the banks which surround it, in the form of steep cliffs descending into the water.

From this wonderful place, we will travel to Melchior island, where there is an Argentinean summer polar station (closed from March until December). It is here where we make our last stop and say goodbye to this beautiful region before heading back.

However, this is not the end of our adventure. If the weather conditions are favorable, we will sail towards Horn so that we can have a close look at this legendary rock and cut the 67°14' meridian once again, a meridian which divides Drake Passage in half and which marks the border between the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

The Antarctic cruise is not over yet

Before we reach Ushuaia, we will make our last stop in the Bay, next to the Estancia Harberton farm. This is one of the oldest Argentinean farms in the Tierra del Fuego. It was founded by Thomas Bridges, who was an orphan found on a bridge somewhere in England and later adopted by an Anglican missionary, Rev. GP Despard.



Harberton currently belongs to the grandchildren of Thomas Bridges, Will and Lucas, and is open to tourists from October 15 until March 31, excluding Christmas and New Year.

Antarctica – a trip to the end of the world

We will have a chance to see the least discovered and at the same time most interesting continent on the globe. We will peep the lives of penguins, leopard seals and other animals living in these extreme conditions. Perhaps we will have a chance to have a "face to face" encounter with the largest marine mammal and see the most beautiful sunsets and sunrises reflecting in the ice. We will have an unforgettable adventure which will remain in our memory forever.



Date: 05/12/2019 - 26/12/2019

Price: USD 8000

Difficulty level: hard - requires fitness, endurance

Number of participants: 12

The price includes:

- a place on the yacht, your own bunk/bed
- additional overnight accommodation on the day before and after the yacht cruise
- food products + beverages (we will prepare the meals together)
- port dues
- yacht/pontoon/heating fuel and gas
- the care of the Captain and of the permanent crew (e.g. 2 captains are sailing to Antarctica)
- a starter pack - Chief One gadgets
- fishing gear for use
- motorized pontoons
- a sports camera and a drone
- an opinion from the cruise and a certificate of the circumnavigation of Cape Horn, participation in the cruise in Antarctica.

The price does not include:

- transportation to and from the place of the start and end of the cruise
- the participant's individual insurance
- additional expenses on shore (souvenirs, restaurants, own purchases)