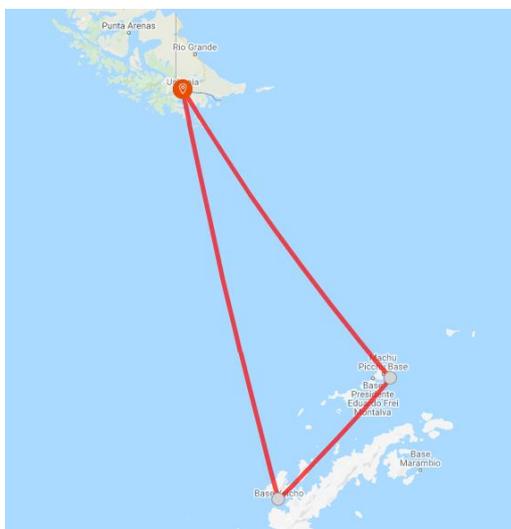


# Discover Antarctica cruise | 11 days

A fantastic introduction to the wild frontier that is Antarctica, our 11-day expedition cruise aboard the Ocean Endeavour is one of the most comprehensive and best value-for-money Antarctica tours available. Chock-full of exciting optional activities like Zodiac outings, ice-trekking, kayaking, snow-shoeing and ice camping (yes, really!) this unique Antarctica travel experience is for the explorer who wants to have it all – waddle with penguins, sunbake with seals and gently kayak alongside a pod of whales.

Aboard the Ocean Endeavour, you'll find a wealth of indulgences: yoga classes, pool, Jacuzzi, gym, spa facilities and sauna. For more leisurely R&R, a well-stocked library, two restaurants, bar and outdoor sundeck will keep you busy and entertained in-between on-land explorations and daily presentations by experts will enlighten and inform you on the wilderness and wildlife you'll see on your visit to Antarctica. Recently renovated and boasting a 1:8 crew to guest ratio (about the best in the business) the Ocean Endeavour is a fantastic choice for your Antarctica travels and this 11-day itinerary about as good as a visit to the White Continent could ever be.

## From Ushuaia to Ushuaia



11-day Roundtrip cruise from Ushuaia, Argentina

On board Ocean Endeavour

Departures

04, 13 and 22 November 2020

01, 18 & 27 December 2020

05 & 14 February 2021

11 & 20 November 2021

11 December 2021

08 & 29 January 2022

From NZ\$8,765 per person twin share

## Day 1

### Arrive in Ushuaia, Argentina

Explore the Southernmost city in the world set in dramatic scenery surrounded by mountains and connected to the ocean via the Beagle Channel. This is the most famous and must-do departure ports to reach Antarctica on your cruise.

Representatives will be waiting for you at the airport to transfer you to your accommodation where

you will stay overnight in Ushuaia. If you plan your trip right, you'll have some free time to explore the museums, shops and restaurants. A Viva recommendation, check out the Museo Marítimo y del Presidio de Ushuaia. It's well worth the visit. Alternatively, if you have even more time and prefer the outdoors, you can explore the dramatic scenery of waterfalls, mountains, glaciers and lakes of Tierra del Fuego National Park. You may also choose to take a tour on the Fin del Mundo Train (End of the World Train); a steam train that takes you to Tierra del Fuego.

### **Day 2**

#### **Embarkation in Ushuaia**

Today you will be transferred to the pier to start your Antarctica cruise in the late afternoon. Here you will be welcomed aboard the Ocean Endeavour.

This evening you will enjoy a cruise through the Beagle Channel as you depart for Antarctica. Here you could spot Magellanic penguins, rock cormorants, petrels and black-browed albatross. Heading towards the Drake Passage, the next continent to be sighted will be Antarctica.

### **Day 3-4**

#### **At sea crossing the Drake Passage**

It's time to prepare for some potentially rough but exciting seas as your cruise crosses the Drake Passage, named after the explorer Sir Francis Drake.

This is a great time to really settle in, relax, enjoy the cruise, get to know your shipmates and expedition team. There will be many presentations about Antarctica including the history, geology and wildlife.

As the cruise enters Antarctic waters, the temperatures will drop, and the excitement starts to build. At the Antarctic Convergence lookout for a variety of seabirds, whales and other species attracted by the nutrient-rich waters.

There is a chance your Antarctica cruise will reach landfall early evening of day 4 and the true beginning of your Antarctic expedition.

### **Day 5-8**

#### **South Shetland Islands Antarctic Peninsula**

These next four days your cruise will explore the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula. Enjoy majestic mountains, glaciers, imposing icebergs, ice-strewn waters and abundance of wildlife.

The core of your adventure will be on the Antarctic Peninsula. Each day will be different filled with zodiac cruises amongst icebergs, snowshoeing trips (please note there is an extra cost for snowshoeing) and photography workshops with experts. There's plenty of wildlife here with thousands of penguins, seals and the chance to see whales cruising past your zodiac or kayak.

Spend your time exploring local bays, channels and landing sites. We will visit penguin rookeries, seal and bird colonies, whale feeding areas, sites of historical and scientific interest and climb to some of the best vantage points. Please be aware; the itinerary will need to be flexible due to unpredictable weather conditions.

The cruise continues through the Antarctica Peninsula providing spectacular views on the ships outer decks.

### **Day 9-10**

#### **Cruising back across the Drake Passage**

Hopefully, there will be time and suitable weather conditions to make one final shore landing on Antarctica before we depart, heading out across the Drake Passage. Enjoy your time on deck spotting whales and seabirds with the help of your expedition team. On the evening of day 10, we will hopefully reach the calmer waters of the Beagle Channel.

### **Day 11**

#### **Disembarkation in Ushuaia**

Your Antarctica cruise is scheduled to arrive in port at Ushuaia in the early hours of the morning. You will have a final breakfast aboard the Ocean Endeavour before your transfer back to the airport.

Alternatively, explore Patagonia on one of our extended packages. Visit the mighty Torres del Paine, the Perito Moreno Glacier and hike some of the best trails in El Chaltén.

## What's Included

### ACCOMMODATION

- 1-night hotel accommodation with breakfast in Ushuaia
- 9 nights' accommodation aboard the Ocean Endeavour

### FOOD

- All meals including snacks whilst aboard the Ocean Endeavour
- Beverages (other than water, coffee and tea)

### FEES & SERVICES

- Group transfer from hotel to pier
  - All shore excursions excluding the specially designed forward facing zodiacs
  - Guiding and lectures
  - English-speaking expedition team
  - Rubber boots whilst exploring Antarctica
  - Use of the sauna, gym and the Jacuzzi
  - Yoga
  - Clients will be provided with a wind and water resistant jacket, provided for the voyage
  - All port taxes
  - Transfer airport to hotel on day 1 and pier to airport on day of disembarkation
  - **What is not included**
  - Airfares to/from embarkation and disembarkation city
  - Visa fees (if applicable)
  - Travel Insurance
  - Personal expenses such as laundry, on-board communication (telephone calls, faxes, email service)
  - Gratuities for the crew (recommended US\$15.00 per person per day)
  - Optional Activities whilst on-board
- Activities
- Wildlife viewing
  - Zodiac expeditions
  - Explore the South Shetland Islands
  - Optional hiking
  - Optional kayaking
  - Optional snowshoeing
- Optional photography workshops
  - Relax or workout in the wellness centre



4/433 Dominion Road

Mt Eden

Auckland 1024

Phone 09 6304931

[robert@cruisecompany.co.nz](mailto:robert@cruisecompany.co.nz)



Australia's Chimu Adventures and New Zealand's Viva Expeditions have combined with Intrepid Travel to operate their own cruises to Antarctica on Ocean Endeavour. Selected for its uncompromised outer deck space, comfortable interiors and reliability, the ice-class ship has served in polar expedition cruising for several decades. Refurbished in 2014 it will be effectively relaunched in November 2020.

It is a purpose-built expedition vessel, Ocean Endeavour has key design features like a spacious mudroom for passengers' expedition clothing and equipment and two zodiac gangways on each side of the ship that allows the expedition team to quickly disembark people for excursions.

There are three bars: Nautilus on Deck 6, Aurora on Deck 7 and the Meridian Club for cocktail events at the top of the ship on Deck 9. The Polaris restaurant can seat everyone at the same time and

has large panoramic windows of the scenery. A wellness centre includes a gym, sauna and spa.

Fewer than 200 guests are served by a crew of 110 plus 25 staff including expeditions leaders, specialist guides, kayak guides and presenters. When weather permits, staff will take you camping ashore or for the chilling 'polar plunge'.

Ocean Endeavour has a strong focus on sustainability, serving only sustainably sourced seafood, eliminating single-use plastics and using biodegradable and phosphate-free cleaning products onboard. The vessel is leading the expedition industry by double-offsetting carbon emissions for all its trips to Antarctica to make these voyages "life-changing, without being earth-changing".

#### Dining

The main dining room is Polaris, which extends down both sides of the ship with large windows so it's almost like two long restaurants with good views. Hearty breakfasts and lunches are served buffet-style with some a la carte options, while dinner is more refined and entirely a la carte. The ship also has the Compass Club Café.

#### Cabins

Ocean Endeavour has 10 classes of cabins and each has its own washroom. The Owner's suite (30 square metres) is on Deck 7, directly below the bridge. There are four Junior Suites (15 to 30 square metres), 10 Superior Doubles (17 to 21 square metres) and seven Select Twins (18 to 20 square metres) on Decks 5 and 7. The 22 Comfort Twins (18 to 20 square metres) are located on Deck 4, while the 18 Main Twins (13 to 20 square metres) are on Decks 7 and 8. Decks 4 and 5 have 29 Twins/Singles (10 square metres). Three Interior Twins (10 square metres) and four Interior Triples (20 square metres) are also on Deck 4, with 10 Single Interiors (10 square metres) on Deck 5.

#### Top-Deck Attractions

The emphasis will be on making the most of every passenger's time in Antarctica or the Arctic. An optional dedicated photography program for up to 20 guests will be led by expert photographic guides on dedicated expedition boats.

#### Entertainment

Ocean Endeavour will feature expedition briefings and onboard lectures from naturalists, glaciologists and historians.

