Guide to planning an Antarctic cruise
Dear Traveller…

Antarctica is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, something many people have dreamt about for years. We understand how important it is, and the valuable role we can play in ensuring that it’s the very best it can be.

As Antarctic specialists we live and breathe this extraordinary region, which gives us a unique perspective. We’ve come to realise that there are five key decisions to planning an Antarctic journey:

1. Where should I go in Antarctica?
2. Which month should I travel?
3. Do I want to sail or fly?
4. What size and style of ship?
5. How important are the optional adventure activities?

If this guide helps you to answer these questions and provides the confidence to get in touch and start the all important planning process, then it’s done its job.

Alex Mudd
HEAD OF SWOOP ANTARCTICA
Meet the team

Together we have over 50 years of accumulated polar experience!

**John** spent 13 years living in Finland, just south of the Arctic Circle, working as a fisherman. Since then he’s deepened his polar knowledge with extensive travel in Antarctica, including walking in Shackleton’s footsteps and circumnavigating South Georgia. An inveterate traveller, he’s now visited an impressive 155 countries.

**Cassia** has had the good fortune of specialising in the Russian Arctic and Antarctica’s Ross Sea for over ten years, working for a ship operator. Her familiarity with the operational logistics of expedition voyages complements her deep knowledge for these little-travelled polar regions.

**Tennessee** has had a passion for exploration and the polar regions since childhood. A Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and keen history enthusiast, he’s currently writing a book about James Clark Ross, one of the most under-appreciated polar explorers.

**Jud** has polar travel running through his blood. His great-grandfather sewed sails for vessels voyaging up the coast of Labrador and into the Davis Strait, and a branch of his family tree contains one of Canada’s most recognized Arctic explorers: Captain Robert Bartlett. Inspired by history and innately drawn toward the poles, Jud carries on the family polar tradition.

**Molly** has crossed the Polar Circle and has camped out on the Antarctic continent. An avid traveller, she has spent over a decade exploring on five continents. She has extensive ship knowledge and loves sharing her experiences to help ensure customers get the best possible Antarctic experience.

**Ben** has been hooked on the planet’s cold places ever since his first Arctic adventure snowmobiling 500 miles across Svalbard at a formative age. Further polar trips followed, and since then he’s been evangelising about the joys of expeditionary cruising.
ANTARCTIC OVERVIEW

Incomprehensibly vast, remote and majestic, neither words nor pictures ever manage to truly capture the splendour of the White Continent. Antarctica has this mythic weight – it looms large in the collective unconscious of so many of us. It’s like going to the moon.
What can I expect?

Space
The size of the United States and Mexico combined yet with just 0.00008 people per km², Antarctica’s vast spaces and deafening silence is the ultimate antidote to our busy, modern world.

Adventure
Simply getting to Antarctica is a big enough adventure for many. But how many people can say they’ve camped out overnight on the ice or snowshoed with penguins? Expect adventure at every turn.

Wildlife
Antarctica and South Georgia’s menagerie of rich and diverse wildlife rarely fails to enthral. A dizzying cocktail of penguins, seals, whales and seabirds. Make sure you pack plenty of camera memory cards.

Unpredictability
Where you go and what you do each day will be influenced by changing local conditions in the ice, sea and weather. As such, spontaneity is the watchword and no two trips to Antarctica are ever the same.

Camaraderie
Forged by this shared immersive experience and fanned by a common passion for travel, a unique sense of camaraderie quickly develops on board an Antarctic cruise which is often an unexpected delight.

Learning
You’ll be accompanied throughout by Antarctica experts. These are the unsung heroes who are generous with their deep knowledge by day and who will then enthrall you with Polar tales at the bar in the evening.
Where to go in Antarctica

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA
The most accessible part of Antarctica, achingly beautiful and home to spectacular wildlife. Icebergs, penguins, seals and whales abound!

- Spectacular scenery & wildlife
- Most popular Antarctic experience
- Widest choice of dates & ships
- 8 - 12 days

When to visit
November - March

POLAR CIRCLE
The extra time needed to reach the Polar Circle at 66 degrees south is more than justified by having more days to explore Antarctica.

- Achieve 66 degrees south
- Forge deeper than most other visitors
- Experience navigating through heavy ice
- 10 - 13 days

When to visit
January - March

ROSS SEA
Experience one of the last truly remote bastions on earth. Emperor penguins, the Ross Ice Shelf and the Historic Huts of the early explorers await.

- An epic journey into true wilderness
- Follow in the footsteps of early explorers
- Fewer than 500 visitors a year
- 30 - 35 days

When to visit
January - February

FALKLANDS ISLANDS
The Falklands are a popular addition to longer Antarctic voyages, but they’re well worth seeing in their own right – particularly for their spectacular birdlife.

- Penguin, seal & albatross colonies
- Encounter 5 penguin species
- Visit Stanley & meet the locals
- 1 - 2 days to a week

When to visit
November - March

SOUTH GEORGIA
The ultimate destination for wildlife lovers, photographers and history buffs. The time and effort investment to reach this remote island is paid off in spades.

- The ‘Serengeti of the South’
- Spectacular settings & scenery
- Raise a glass at Shackleton’s grave
- 17 - 23 days

When to visit
November - March

www.swoop-antarctica.com
What is expedition cruising?

If the word ‘cruising’ typically conjures up images of vast ships, cocktail parties and evening floor shows, polar cruising couldn’t be more different. Expedition cruising (as it is also known) in the Antarctic is the very antithesis of a traditional cruise – it is active, adventurous and fully immersive.

Small ships with between 70 to 200 passengers follow flexible itineraries, responding to ice and climate conditions, accessing remote regions inaccessible by other means.

Each ship will have an expedition team, whose purpose is to get you off-ship whenever possible. Typically, this will be twice a day, ensuring that you experience the Antarctic environment up close and personal. Optional additional activities, such as kayaking, are also available.

Onboard activities are not limited to lectures and library facilities. Although education is a key part of an expedition voyage, many ships offer much more, from citizen science programmes to photography and cultural workshops. Each boat has its own team of experts making it imperative that you get the right ship for you.

There are no hotels in Antarctica – a vast area utterly devoid of infrastructure – so travelling by ship is the ideal way to comfortably explore.
What will I do in Antarctica?

1. EDUCATION
   Travelling in the company of passionate Polar Specialists, who provide fascinating onboard lectures, gives these voyages a strong educational focus.
   - OFF AND ONBOARD THE SHIP
   - 5-6 LECTURES PER VOYAGE
   - OPEN TO ALL
   - 1 HOUR
   - INCLUDED IN PRICE

2. POLAR PLUNGE
   Strictly for the brave or foolish, this is either a brief swim from the shore or a ‘plunge’ off the ship. Bragging rights guaranteed.
   - OFF THE SHIP
   - 10-15 SECONDS
   - ONLY FOR THE BRAVE!
   - ONCE PER VOYAGE
   - INCLUDED IN PRICE

3. ZODIAC SAFARIS
   Skimming along in a small rubber boat, weaving between icebergs in search of wildlife and dazzling photo opportunities - zodiac safaris are thrilling.
   - OFF THE SHIP
   - 1-2 DAILY
   - OPEN TO ALL
   - 2-3 HOURS (PER EXCURSION)
   - INCLUDED IN PRICE

4. OBSERVATION
   Keep your eyes peeled, the drama and beauty isn’t reserved just for time off-shore. Observation from the bridge or deck is a 24-hour activity.
   - ONBOARD THE SHIP
   - 24/7
   - OPEN TO ALL
   - UNLIMITED
   - INCLUDED IN PRICE

5. LANDINGS
   Daily land-based visits to penguin rookeries, places of historic interest & research stations - nothing beats actually setting foot on the 7th continent.
   - OFF THE SHIP
   - 1-2 DAILY
   - OPEN TO ALL
   - 2-3 HOURS (PER LANDING)
   - INCLUDED IN PRICE

6. ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES
   Where else but in Antarctica can you kayak past icebergs or sleep out on the ice? Upgrade your adventure with these once-in-a-lifetime activities.
   - OFF THE SHIP
   - FREQUENCY IS ACTIVITY-SPECIFIC
   - GROUPS OF 10-25
   - 2-3 HOURS
   - FROM $250 PER ACTIVITY
WHERE SHOULD I GO IN ANTARCTICA?

While most people conceive of Antarctica as a single homogenous entity, the traveller is in fact spoiled for choice, from the splendour of the Peninsula to the incalculable riot of wildlife on South Georgia.
Where should I go in Antarctica? / Antarctic Peninsula & Polar Circle

**Antarctic Peninsula & Polar Circle**

**Antarctic Peninsula**

- The Peninsula is the most accessible and popular part of Antarctica to visit, being just a short two-day journey by boat, or two hours by plane
- Set foot on mainland Antarctica, observe the hilarious antics of penguins and explore some of the most dramatic scenery in the whole of Antarctica
- The Peninsular also offers the widest choice of both voyages and ships, with options to suit every traveller and their budget
- For those looking for added adventure, many Peninsula voyages offer optional adventure activities, including camping and kayaking

**Polar Circle**

- Join that elite group of people who have set foot on the 7th Continent and crossed the intangible Polar Circle - bragging rights guaranteed
- For anyone looking to maximise their time in Antarctica, a Polar Circle cruise is ideal as you get to spend 2-3 extra days
- Trips to the Polar Circle are less frequent and only operate January to March once the break up of ice allows access to reach it
- As you get closer to the Polar Circle, the wildlife thins out and you’ll experience increasingly stark landscapes and heavier ice
The Falklands punch well above their diminutive size when it comes to wildlife, diverse scenery and the islanders’ friendliness.

A birdwatcher’s paradise, with 227 listed species of birds and more penguins on the islands than people!

Sparsely populated, unspoilt, raw and diverse, from a landscape point of view there is nowhere else quite like The Falklands.

The islands have a rich 500-year history with France, Spain and Argentina all having looked to exert authority at various times.

The statistics alone simply can’t do justice to how extraordinary the wildlife of South Georgia is - the Serengeti of the Southern Ocean.

At the height of the breeding season, there is said to be more wildlife per square foot here than any other place on the planet.

Spectacular mountains and pristine beaches, dense with thousands of king penguins, make it a mecca for photographers.

South Georgia is also rich in history, with a fascinating cast of characters including sealers, whalers and early explorers.
With each month of the season offering distinctive weather and wildlife characteristics, choosing when to visit is both a fun and crucial part of the planning process.
What’s the best time to visit Antarctica?

Antarctica’s open to visitors from November to March through the warmer summer months, when wildlife is at its busiest and there are up to 22 hours of daylight, but no two months are the same, so choose carefully.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• It’s spring and Antarctica opens its arms to the first visitors</td>
<td>• Summer’s arrival brings longer days and warmer temperatures</td>
<td>• High summer provides long days in which to explore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Extensive snow cloaks Antarctica in a pristine whiteness</td>
<td>• The first penguin chicks begin to hatch from late December</td>
<td>• Penguin chicks are at their fluffiest and most photogenic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penguins are busy with courtship displays and nest-building</td>
<td>• Hungry humpback whales arrive back from tropical waters</td>
<td>• The opening up of the ice allows the first Polar Circle trips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Photographers will appreciate the soft early season light</td>
<td>• Flights from Chile to Antarctica start operating</td>
<td>• Both whales &amp; seals of varying species are commonly sighted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• It’s the best month for snowshoeing and skiing</td>
<td>• Prices increase through December</td>
<td>• A very popular time with visitor numbers at their peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Good value time to travel, plus fewer ships around</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What’s the best time to visit Antarctica?

February

- Wildlife enthusiasts will love the ‘penguin creches’
- Penguin chicks start fledging and learning to swim
- It’s the ideal month to reach the Polar Circle
- Humpback whales are becoming more inquisitive
- The conditions are perfect for kayaking
- Fares are similar to January

March

- March marks the onset of early autumn
- You’re guaranteed amazing whale encounters
- March’s soft light is popular for photographers
- Shorter days are balanced by stunning sunsets
- The busiest part of the season is now over
- Fares drop offering good value

Swoop Says

“I spent eleven summer seasons in Antarctica and I genuinely don’t have a favourite time - it’s a place of such variety, constant wonder and excitement.”

Loli Figueroa Polar Specialist

“They say that life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away... In Antarctica there are many such moments. It exceeded expectations.”

Avivit, Georgia, February 2017

“Nothing will prepare you for the life-changing adventure... buckle up and take in the most amazing scenery and wildlife you won’t encounter anywhere else in the world, and that’s coming from someone who’s travelled to over 100 countries!”

George & Kelly Reichert, Canada, November 2018

“Swoop kept us informed at all times, always happy to deal with queries, the whole thing was pretty much seamless. You may have realised we are now Swoop fans.”

David Irwin, UK, February 2019
## Antarctic weather guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Weather</th>
<th>Average Temp</th>
<th>Average Temp</th>
<th>Daylight Hours</th>
<th>Ice Conditions</th>
<th>Swoop Says</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>28°F</td>
<td>37°F</td>
<td>18 HOURS</td>
<td>Heavy sea ice is prevalent</td>
<td>&quot;Although less predictable weather-wise, November is great for photography, snowshoeing and lower prices.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Early Summer</td>
<td>30°F</td>
<td>41°F</td>
<td>21 HOURS</td>
<td>Ice melting and channels starting to open up</td>
<td>&quot;We love the onset of summer - the warmer weather kick-starts a frenzy of wildlife activity.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>32°F</td>
<td>43°F</td>
<td>20 HOURS</td>
<td>Receding ice makes Polar Circle voyages possible</td>
<td>&quot;January prices are higher, but the favourable weather and off-the-scale wildlife justifies the investment.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
<td>33°F</td>
<td>44°F</td>
<td>16 HOURS</td>
<td>Receding ice makes Polar Circle voyages possible</td>
<td>&quot;We love February for its chicks and copious whales. It's also the best time to try and reach the Polar Circle.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>30°F</td>
<td>41°F</td>
<td>13 HOURS</td>
<td>Ice continues to recede, although pancake ice can form</td>
<td>&quot;Consider early March for spectacular whale sightings and Shoulder Season pricing.&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DO I WANT TO SAIL OR FLY?

Antarctica is exceptionally remote and it takes time to get there, but this is all part of what makes the experience so special and unique. Deciding whether to travel there by ship or plane is critical to your trip and a very personal decision.
Sail or fly?

Sailing

Sailing remains the most popular way to get to Antarctica, and for good reason:

• For purists, sailing to Antarctica is simply all part of the adventure. Nobody forgets spotting their first iceberg after two days at sea
• Sailing gives you the widest choice of voyage types, ships, departure dates and prices, with departures throughout November to March
• The Drake Passage is notorious, but in reality for the majority of travellers it’s rarely as bad as it sounds and it’s certainly a price worth paying

Flying

In recent years, choosing a ‘Fly & Cruise’ trip has become increasingly popular:

• It’s an alternative way to reach Antarctica quickly and comfortably in just two hours, rather than two days at sea, and avoids the Drake Passage
• Designed with ‘time poor’ travellers and anxious sailors in mind, but well-suited to anyone, and offering the same experience in Antarctica as sailing
• Operates from December to February only on a small selection of ships. More expensive than sailing, and opting to fly carries a higher risk of weather delay
How do I get to Antarctica?

The most popular jumping off point for the majority of cruises sailing to Antarctica is the port city of Ushuaia (Argentina) on the toe of South America, whereas flights to Antarctica all leave from Punta Arenas (Chile) over the border.

Getting to Ushuaia
There are no international flights to Ushuaia, so to get to the start point of your trip you’re likely to have to fly via the Argentine capital of Buenos Aires. From Buenos Aires there are regular flights to Ushuaia (approx 4 hours).

Buenos Aires is a vibrant, proud city and it’s well worth building in a day or two to explore one of the great cities of the world.

Getting to Punta Arenas
Similarly there are no international flights to Punta Arenas, so you’ll need to fly via Santiago in Chile. From Santiago there are regular flights to Punta Arenas (approx 4 hours).

Basking in a pleasant Mediterranean climate and ringed by wine growing valleys, there are a lot tougher places to spend a day or two.

“From the first moment we booked our trip to Antarctica with Swoop, everything went so well. You can read about Antarctica, people can tell you about it, you can look at countless images, but it is so much more beautiful in reality.”

Kim, Australia, January 2017
WHAT SIZE AND STYLE OF SHIP?

Given the extensive time you’ll spend onboard, choosing the right ship is crucial. Our first-hand knowledge of all the ships is unparalleled and we can help you find exactly the right one.
Choosing an Antarctic cruise ship

**Type of Ship**
- **Expedition**
  - An authentic experience
  - Former working ships
  - Experience over style
  - Convivial refectory meals
  - Approx number of passengers: 80
- **Luxury**
  - A comfortable experience
  - Modern and custom-built
  - Hotel rooms rather than cabins
  - Fine dining
  - Approx number of passengers: 160

**Stability**
- Stabilizers can reduce lateral roll by up to 90%

**Ice Strengthened Rating**
- 1A
- 1B
- 1C
- 1D

**On-Board Guides**
- Guide, narrator, raconteur - they are the rock stars of expedition cruising
- Each guide has their own expertise: history, geology, wildlife, etc
- Many have been travelling to Antarctica for 10 years+
- The calibre and size of the expedition team varies between ships

**Activities**
- Camping
- Kayaking
- Diving
- Paddle boarding
A selection of our favourite ships

We work with all the main Antarctic small ship operators, offering 20+ different ships which we know first hand and can help guide you in making the right decision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ship Name</th>
<th>Passengers</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Magellan Explorer (70 guests)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Magellan stands out from the crowd with her eye-catching livery and exclusivity - just 70 guests on board. The first purpose-designed ship for Fly &amp; Cruise trips, Antarctic exploration doesn’t get much more personal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plancius (109 guests)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plancius successfully combines the authenticity of a former working ship with all the amenities of a comfortable, no-frills hotel. She’s renowned for her quietness and broad range of exciting adventure activities, including diving.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebridean Sky (114 guests)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Easily identifiable with her elegant lines, Hebridean Sky is a class act, combining real comfort and top-of-the-line service with an adventurous spirit and one of the most experienced expedition teams in the business.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Mortimer (120 guests)</td>
<td></td>
<td>With her revolutionary X-bow and state-of-the-art technology, the Greg Mortimer is redefining the future of polar ship design. She benefits from only 120 guests and an exciting range of adventure activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Expedition (134 guests)</td>
<td></td>
<td>The MS Expedition has justly earned a loyal following from past travellers for her stability, spacious cabins, extensive outer decks, friendly Filippino staff and the views over the stern from the Polar Bear bar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Explorer (172 guests)</td>
<td></td>
<td>One of the new generation of new polar ships, World Explorer sets the bar high with her sleek contemporary design, fast average cruising speed, generously appointed all-balcony cabins and fun option to paddle board.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE OPTIONAL ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES?

Few people can say they’ve been to Antarctica, even fewer have camped out overnight on the ice, snowshoed with penguins or had a minke whale swim under their kayak. For those with a taste for adventure, maximise your Antarctic experience.
“I was really impressed with Swoop and so grateful for the helpful information, advice, support and assistance with all our travel and bookings. The staff were fantastic – so helpful, friendly, knowledgeable and efficient. It made for a trouble-free, well-organised and wonderful trip of a lifetime.”

Catherine Samuels, Australia, March 2019
ABOUT US

Between our team of dedicated polar specialists we’ve visited Antarctica over 145 times and have over 50 years of accumulated polar experience. Very few people know Antarctica better than we do.
About Us / Five reasons to choose Swoop

Five reasons to choose Swoop

We know the Antarctic.

We’re lucky enough to visit the Antarctic every year, so we know the strengths and weaknesses of every vessel and the ins and outs of every trip.

**What this means for you:**
We can help guide you through the maze of options, as well as giving you first-hand recommendations for where to go, when to travel and how to get there.

We offer you incredible choice.

We work with all the main Antarctic small ship operators, offering 20+ different vessels of varying sizes and 65 Antarctic voyages, which amounts to probably the widest choice offered by any agent. All backed up by first-hand knowledge to help guide you in making the right decision.

**What this means for you:**
Whatever kind of Antarctic adventure you’re looking for, we’ll work with you to plan your perfect trip – one that suits both your budget and appetite for adventure.

We’re not biased towards any expedition operator, vessel or voyage.

We are 100% independent and have no commitment to anyone but you.

**What this means for you:**
We’ll listen to what you want from your trip and suggest carefully selected ideas based on your exact requirements.

We offer free, impartial and expert advice.

We don’t charge for our advice and you won’t pay any extra by booking through us. We help Antarctic operators to market themselves and their voyages to the international market – when you book with us they will pay us a small commission.

**What this means for you:**
You’ll pay no more or less with us than if you booked directly with the operator and you benefit from our team’s 50 years of combined polar experience. Plus we can assist with booking flights and land arrangements in country.

We can arrange your pre and post-Antarctic travel.

With our own dedicated Flights Department, we can help you book your flights, as well as any pre- and/or post-voyage land-based arrangements in South America, which we know very well.

**What this means for you:**
Your entire adventure is taken care of and runs seamlessly.
Our Sustainability Manifesto

Here at Swoop, we love the outdoors. But we know our business makes an impact on the climate, and therefore the natural world. That’s why everyone at Swoop is committed to this sustainability journey.

For us, adventure has always been about finding our own path. The spirit of adventure has helped us succeed as a business, and we believe it’ll help us lead the way towards a sustainable future for the travel industry.

Our sustainability journey will evolve over time, but this is where it starts:

• By 2020 we’ll remove more emission than we create from the bookings we take.
• By the end of 2022, we aim to have addressed our historic emissions going back 10 years.
• At the same time, we will seek out a new path for our industry - setting the standard among our peers, and changing how people think, feel and behave as they travel this precious world.

Our sustainability strategy

• Reducing our carbon impact – we’re committed to reducing the impact of our carbon emissions (including those of our customers) by measuring and reducing wherever we can, and offsetting everything else.
• Travelling better – we’re starting by helping our customers reduce their impact in two ways: buying less new kit and avoiding single-use plastics.
• Leading by example – Getting our own house in order means addressing what and how Swoop buys, how we travel and how we run our offices. As we work towards our B-Corp certification, we’ll keep reporting on our progress and aim to bring everyone who comes into contact with us on the same journey.
• Working together – Swoop is one small business in a large, growing, industry. To tackle the challenge of sustainable travel, we will work with our three circles of influence: our customers, partners and industry.
• Backing positive change – We will identify and support the most impactful charities doing good work in all our destinations, while also continuing to build local partnerships that support our sustainability goals.
• Generous by design – We are working to structure our business model so that as we grow, so too do the benefits to the wider world. We’ll do this by placing sustainability principles at the heart of our business, through our governance structure and Articles.

Luke Errington
FOUNDER OF SWOOP ANTARCTICA
### FAQs

**How much will it cost?**

There are a lot of significant variables which influence price and no two ship operators are the same. Prices start from $6,000 per person. Learn more about [Antarctic trip costs.](#)

**When do I need to book to guarantee my first choice?**

We have two pointers here:
1) It’s never too early to book, and 2) ‘the early bird gets the worm’, or certainly your first choice!

**How do I get to Antarctica?**

To help you understand the two main access routes, look at page 18 of this guide for information about [getting to Antarctica.](#)

**Will I step foot on the Antarctic continent?**

Yes, at least one continental landing is always planned and is a big moment for most people on the ship as they tick off their seventh continent!

**How adventurous will my trip be?**

These expedition voyages have the flexibility to cater to almost everyone’s idea of adventure. Optional activities, including camping and kayaking, are offered for those with a taste for adventure.

**Are these trips suitable for solo travellers?**

Very much so – travel is at its best as a shared experience and this starts as soon as you walk up the gangway upon embarkation. It’s easy to strike up acquaintances quickly when travelling with like-minded people.

**Will you help me with what to pack and wear?**

Absolutely – we provide detailed notes on [what to wear and pack](#) to ensure you’re fully prepared for and comfortable during your trip.

**Is seasickness a concern?**

While crossing the Drake Passage can involve rough seas, medication and following a few simple rules while you get your sea legs will help. Alternatively you can simply choose to fly.

**Do I need previous kayaking experience to take part in this activity?**

It’s a good idea to have at least familiarity and some previous experience in a kayak so you can fully enjoy the experience.

**When the best month for penguin chicks?**

The old mantra ‘chicks for Christmas’ holds true, as this is around the time they first start hatching, but you’ll see chicks anytime from late December through to March.
It’s time to begin your journey

Contact us

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