

ANTARCTIC SOLAR ECLIPSE ABOARD THE OCEAN ENDEAVOUR

To experience a total solar eclipse anywhere on earth is something truly spectacular. But to see the Earth's moon conceal our sun while surrounded by the seabirds, rugged ocean and wild islands of the Antarctic is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Solar Eclipse 2021 is a truly unique itinerary and a rare glimpse of a dark Antarctica contrasted with its gleaming, icy shores.

Live for today ...

DEPARTS: 29 NOV 2021 DURATION: 14 DAYS

Highlights and inclusions:

- View a rare total solar eclipse in the Antarctic from the deck of the Ocean Endeavour
- Hear from world–leading experts on the significance of this event in our on–board presentation series
- Explore the Peninsula's rugged and remote east side including the Weddell Sea and Erebus & Terror Gulf
- Witness the historic Elephant Island a focal point of Sir Ernest Shackleton's epic Endurance saga
- Visit the Peninsula's western shores abundant in penguin colonies and stunning marine life
- Explore the sweeping vistas of landing sites on the South Shetland Islands
- View albatross and spot for whales at sea en route to the eclipse zone
- We provide all guests with their own pair of Eclipse goggles – ensuring the safest and most effective way to view this rare event and a keepsake to remember your viewing of the phenomenon
- Our on-board experts in astrophysics, photography and meteorology will ensure you make the most of this special occasion by learning about the events leading to an eclipse and how to capture your own stunning image of it
- Take advantage of optional activities during the voyage such as kayaking, camping, photography workshops and snowshoeing. See below for more information.





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DAY 1: USHUAIA, ARGENTINA

Ushuaia is the most southerly city in the world and the capital of Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire). It has a dramatic setting, surrounded by mountains to the north and the Beagle Channel to the south, making it a spectacular departure point for your Antarctic adventure.

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office.

Your cruise itinerary begins with an overnight stay in Ushuaia. If you arrive into Ushuaia early enough, the day is yours to explore. Avenida San Martin and the surrounding streets are where most hotels, shops, restaurants, cafes and tourist services are located. Why not check out the artisan markets whilst you are here?

The **Museo Marítimo y del Presidio de Ushuaia** (Maritime & the Prison of Ushuaia Museum) is well worth a visit. Located in the former prison of Ushuaia, the prison buildings now house four museums – the Maritime Museum, the Prison Museum, the Antarctic Museum and the Marine Museum of Art. The buildings date back to 1906 when convicts were transferred from Isla de los Estados to Ushuaia to build this national prison. Construction was completed in 1920 and the cells that were designed for 380 inmates, held up to 800 prisoners before closing in 1947.

Tierra del Fuego National Park is a short bus ride from Ushuaia and was the first shoreline national park established in Argentina. It is a rugged, mountainous park with great views of Lapataia Bay and dramatic scenery of waterfalls, mountains, glaciers and lakes. There are many hiking trails within the park including the Coastal Path (Senda Costera) that connects Ensenada Bay to Lapataia Bay on Lago Roca. The park is home to many species of animal including the guanaco, Andean fox, North American beaver, European rabbit and muskrat. There are also many species of birds including the torrent duck, kelp goose, austral parakeet, Andean condor and the Magellanic oystercatcher.

The **Fin del Mundo Train** (End of the World Train) is a steam train that runs from Ushuaia to Tierra del Fuego National Park, providing an alternative way to get to the park.

DAY 2: EMBARKATION IN USHUAIA

This morning is free for you to explore Ushuaia, giving you time to wander the streets of this quaint port town, or discover Tierra del Fuego National Park.

Transfer to the pier of Ushuaia for embarkation in the late afternoon. You will be welcomed on board the Ocean Endeavour by the Expedition Team and the Ship's Officers.

This evening we set sail through the Beagle Channel that was named after the British ship the HMS Beagle. This famous channel transects the Tierra del Fuego archipelago in the extreme south of South America, and is rich in wildlife. Keep a look out for Magellanic penguins, rock cormorants, petrels and black-browed albatross from the deck as well as sea lion colonies.

DAYS 3 - 5: AT SEA

En route to the Eclipse location, your time at sea can be filled with presentations from our onboard team of experts or enjoy photography and bird watching from the warmth of the viewing space on the Ocean Endeavour's spacious bridge as albatross and other seabirds circle the ship and we spot for whales. On this special voyage, talks from our resident astrophysicists and meteorologists will prepare you for the incredibly rare event that lays ahead and evening programming will see a chance for a casual drink at the bar while you get to know your shipmates and guides.

DAY 6: TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

During the early hours of our fifth expedition day, you will be invited onto the deck of the Ocean Endeavour to view the incredibly rare spectacle that is an Antarctic Total Solar Eclipse. During the night, our ship will have sailed well into the zone of 100% obscuration, our navigators precisely measuring longitude in conjunction with local weather events to allow a viewing for approximately 1 and a half minutes – the longest possible for the region. Also on deck will be our resident experts in astrophysics and meteorology as well as our team of photography guides to interpret this astronomical phenomenon and instruct on how best to capture a once-in-a-lifetime moment. Following the early start to the day, the ship will turn back to face the west and we'll give you an opportunity to rest and review your photographs while we aim to reach the historic Elephant Island.

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DAY 7: ELEPHANT ISLAND

Join us on the bridge this morning as we scan the horizon for our first sighting of land since South America, when icebergs may well appear in numbers and when we first lay eyes on the continent of Antarctica. The Ocean Endeavour's navigators will be aiming for the historic Elephant Island – a place central to the incredible survival story of Sir Ernest Shackleton and his men who used this very island as a camp and rendezvous point during the final and harrowing legs of their epic Endurance saga. Either from the ship or from zodiacs, we'll witness Point Wild – the very place where Shackleton's men clung to rocks for several months in anticipation of his return from South Georgia. Ashore, a monument marks this site and the incredible feat of survival that surmises their astonishing journey.

DAY 8: WEDDELL SEA

The eighth day of our voyage will see us turn south and sail toward the eastern side of Joinville Island, at the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula. Far less trodden than the western shores, this area affords us time to truly explore some of the world's most remote and rugged beaches and islands. This area is home to some of the largest Adelie penguin colonies on Earth which attracts an abundance of leopard seals and other marine fauna. On this day, we'll be in true expedition mode as we take the opportunity to reconnoitre this remote region on our way further south.

DAY 9, 10: ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

Perhaps the most profound experience and when the sights and sounds of the Antarctic really come to life is upon visiting one's first gentoo penguin colony. Here, on the Peninsula's western side, we'll explore some of the continent's most famous locations where tens of thousands of penguins find a rare piece of bare rock on which to nest for the summer months. At this time of year, penguins will be sharing incubating responsibilities and perhaps a few tiny penguin chicks will be appearing. Jumping out of a zodiac onto a beach laden with these vast congregations of birds makes for an unforgettable immersion into the Antarctic ecosystem and a sensory experience like none other!

In addition to the penguins, on this voyage we will be exploring glacial faces, channels and bays of the Peninsula offering us the chance to witness icebergs of every description and to get up close and personal with the various seal species that call this part of the continent home.Along the way, our expedition team will be constantly scouting for those leviathans of the ocean – the thousands of humpback whales that migrate to this part of the world at this time of year to feed on krill.

DAYS 11: SHETLAND ISLANDS

After turning north again, our voyage will take us to the rugged, windswept vistas of the South Shetland Islands. Home to some peculiar species including elephant seals and fur seals, these islands also boast a water-bound volcano, a string of scientific bases and some of the best sunsets the Antarctic has to offer – making for a fantastic way to round out our excursions and take to the deck of the Ocean Endeavour for a toast to the Antarctic at sundown.

DAYS 12, 13: AT SEA

Looking back at the 10 days of Antarctic experiences behind us, we'll sail north across the Drake Passage with South America again in out sights. This stretch of water offers good chances to spot for orca, seabirds and whales but also a great opportunity to recap the journey with your guides, partake in workshops for photo editing or simply gaze out the window in contemplation of what the Antarctic has just delivered us. Our guides will be out on deck spotting birds and other wildlife but you can also find them in the lounge at night for a last few chances to share stories about the polar regions and swap photos of the incredible event that marked the start of our journey.

DAYS 14: USHUAIA

The last morning of our voyage will begin with a final breakfast on board the Ocean Endeavour before we wave goodbye to the ship and its crew from Ushuaia's mountain-backgrounded pier. Enjoy a final view of the Beagle Channel on your transfer to the airport or opt to recap your voyage while enjoying the scenic surrounds of and cosy cafes of Ushuaia.

Please Note: You are advised not to book a flight out of Ushuaia before midday on disembarkation day, in case of delays caused by unfavourable weather conditions. Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.

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OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

The following activities are available, subject to availability. Prices are per person:

KAYAKING - FROM US\$1,299

Kayaking in the far-flung corners of the world is an experience guaranteed to refresh your soul. Paddling in small groups, you'll glide between ice floes, brash ice and icebergs dotted with wildlife. Previous kayaking experience is required.

SNOWSHOEING - US\$150

A unique way to explore Antarctica. It makes walking up gentle slopes a breeze, allowing you to explore places others struggle to reach in boots alone.

CAMPING - US\$349

A true outdoor adventure, experience the sights and sounds during your opportunity to fully immerse youreself when you camp overnight in Antarctica.

PHOTOGRAPHY PRIVATE WORKSHOP - FROM US\$1,299

Includes workshops prior to arrival in Antarctica, critiquing sessions while in Antarctica and editing workshops on the return journey. Some zodiac excursions on dedicated zodiac and dedicated to Photography guide on landings. Return with the best capture memories posible.

HIKING - NO COST

Explore the surroundings by foot as you actively hike on Antarctica. Only available in some locations. Weather dependant.

YOGA - NO COST

Experience Yoga in a way like no other. On board the ship you will find yoga avaialble to you. This is however, weather and swell dependent.

EXPEDITION GEAR

Insulated rubber boots are provided for zodiac and shore excursions. Your Expedition Jacket is two-fold. A polar grade water-proof outer shell will be provided on board <u>on</u> <u>loan</u> for the duration of the cruise, in addition to a highquality insulated mid layer to keep you warm, which is yours to keep.

EXTENSIONS TO YOUR ANTARCTIC CRUISE

There are many incredible places to explore in South America either before or after your Antarctic cruise.

We offer a huge range of personalised tailor-made itineraries with daily departures, as well as a range of Small Group Tours that connect with your cruise.

Please refer to our Beyond Antarctica, South America Add–Ons brochure or speak to your booking agent for more information.

THE WILDLIFE OF ANTARCTICA

This frozen Frontier is home to an incredible variety of wildlife. Penguin species include Adélie, chinstrap, macaroni and gentoo. You should encounter Weddell, crabeater and leopard seals as well as minke, orca (killer) and humpback whales, Antarctic fur seals and Southern elephant seals. Then of course there is the huge variety of seabirds including kelp gulls, blue–eyed cormorants, Antarctic terns, Southern giant petrels, shearwaters and the wandering albatross with a wing span reaching up to 3 metres.



