



F.A.Q.

What will the weather be like?

Austral summer weather in Antarctica will mean mostly mild temperatures (oscillating between -5°C and +5°C), but one may expect cold, sunny days and brisk winds which may turn into stormy weather and even a few snow flurries or snow. You should be prepared for quick changes in conditions.

What should I take in terms of clothing, etc.?

The essentials are:

- Gloves (well insulated)
- Woollen cap and a scarf
- Sunglasses with good anti UV protection
- Ski-style pants and upper Parka (waterproof and warmth retaining)
- Sweater/Fleece jacket
- Quick drying socks to wear over polypropylene socks
- Thermal, light underwear
- Swimsuit
- Sunscreen with a high protection factor
- Regular slacks/Jeans and comfortable shoes (for on board wear)

The best way to keep warm is to wear several layers, to make sure you remain warm and comfortable. Don't forget that "casual" is the word at all times.

Sundries:

- Lip balm with good protection factor
- Personal medication (for use throughout the trip)
- Camera & film. In the case of digital cameras, we offer back-up assistance on board.
- Batteries
- Binoculars

Do I need Travel Insurance?

It is mandatory that each passenger have Insurance that covers emergency medical attention, including evacuation. This is essential, because our expeditions are carried out in places where up to date and advanced medical services do not exist.

Is there an Infirmary on board?

Our ship has a small, well equipped infirmary for the attention of minor medical problems and is under the care of a licensed MD. Serious emergencies require evacuation to medical centres that are better equipped. For this it is essential to undertake a very costly air evacuation procedure. This is why we ask our passengers to have an Insurance Policy that covers this eventuality.

Are there any baggage restrictions for the trip?

The airline allows a maximum of 20 kg per person, including hand luggage. The remaining baggage may be left in Punta Arenas, where it will be safely stored, free of charge.

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Type of luggage to bring:

Considering the space limitation on the plane, we recommend not to bring hard suitcases, which are cumbersome and heavy. We suggest you bring canvas duffle bags or back packs, with a waterproof cover.

What about my airline schedules, especially after the voyage to Antarctica?

Since quick changes in weather may mean delays in getting back to Punta Arenas, we strongly recommend that you keep your airline reservations as flexible as possible.

What sort of exercise is carried out ashore in Antarctica?

Walks on the beach or further inland, with some low hill climbing are to be expected. You should be reasonably fit to be able to do so, but it is up to each person, really. Exercise will never be imposed and you can set your own pace. Getting on and off ship requires you have adequate mobility, of course, for the two daily landings and at Port.

In case of the need for a special diet, how can I request it?

These requests must be made on the form that we will send to you. It will, in turn, be handed over to our Staff, so that they may be informed of your needs.

If I suffer from a serious illness, should I duly inform you?

In the Medical Form which we will send you it is necessary to tell us all about your health problems, either past or present, including allergies, etc. This will allow our doctor to be aware of the medical needs of each one of our passengers.

Will I have to take rubber boots for landings?

No. We will provide Wellington boots (rubber) free of charge. These boots will be used at every landing. For this, we need your shoe size, so please indicate it on the form we will send you. For on board life, normal, comfortable shoes are sufficient.

What is the Voltage on board ship?

The vessel has her own electricity supply which is 220V – 50Hz. Electric outlets are equipped with a round, two pin plug or euro-plug. Please bring with you the necessary converters and adapters.

Are there hair driers available?

A hair drier is available in each cabin.

Credit Cards

On the eve of the last day of your voyage, you may want to cancel any outstanding expenses with a Credit Card. All international cards are accepted.

In case of Emergencies

Please contact the bridge or your Expedition Leader.

Gratuities

They are integrated into a “pot” at the end of the trip for distribution among the crew. Tipping is a personal decision and the amount given is at your discretion. The custom is about US\$10-12 per day, per passenger. You may make this contribution in cash or charge it to your ship’s account and pay with credit card.

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What means of communication are there on board?

Our aim is for you to enjoy your Antarctic experience we will share to the utmost, leaving all cares behind you. Despite this, we have satellite phone services on board, as well as email. Both can be used and they will be charged at the end of the expedition.

Lectures

Your Expedition Staff will deliver several interesting lectures during the voyage in order to give you a sound footing on the various places you will visit. Films and DVD presentations are also included for your entertainment and general knowledge.

Meals and drinks (alcoholic and beverages)

They are all included in the price. We have an open Bar policy on board.

Safety at Sea

Your safety is our main concern. Please, never smoke in bed, in your cabin or in any part of the ship, other than in the outside designated smoking areas. Never throw anything overboard, please. Always turn on the lights upon entering your cabin. Use non-slip shoes when on deck, as it can be slippery at times.

During rough weather, do not walk in large, open areas and brace yourself, using handrails both outside and inside the vessel. Always use door handles and never hold doors by their frames, as a sudden lurch may prove very dangerous.

Weather permitting

We are always subject to sudden changes in weather conditions. All excursions and other activities are structured taking this into consideration.

Sightings

Whenever an interesting event happens (whales or birds, etc.), an announcement will be made over the ship's Public Address system. This will permit you to get your parka, camera and binoculars and move rapidly, but with utmost care to the best viewing spot.

Meals

Our international chefs will prepare a delicious selection of different cuisines during the trip. Please let us, know ahead of time, your dietary restrictions. The kitchen will not be able to prepare Kosher or Vegan meals.

Handicapped passengers

The ship has no special provisions for severely handicapped persons. Doors are heavy and not too wide. Outside doors have sills. Metal decks can be slippery and icy.

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