



Trip Dossier

12 Day Spirit of Antarctica Expedition Cruise



Ushuaia to Ushuaia 2019:

30 October to 10 November
09 November to 20 November
19 November to 30 November

Itinerary Highlights:

- Delight in the Miracle of Penguin Chicks hatching
- Hone your ice and wildlife photography skills
- Zodiac cruise amongst water-sculpted icebergs
- Step ashore the Antarctic continent!
- Visit historic huts and scientific stations
- Antarctic marine life - seals and whales
- Kayak (extra cost) or camp ashore (need to book in advance) for added adventure!
- See Antarctica at its most pristine

Visiting Antarctica is on most peoples bucket list and this tour offers you a great opportunity to cross the Drake Passage and follow in the footsteps of the great adventurers and explore Antarctica at its most pristine. Experience whales, penguins and seals as they find the best places to court, feed and breed. For the even more adventurous, combine continental landings and vista to historic sites with the chance to kayak* amid pack ice; climb*, ski* or snow shoe* on untracked peaks; camp out and photograph polar pastel landscapes beneath a near-midnight sun.

*Surcharges apply

Itinerary

DAY 1 Arrive in Ushuaia, renowned for its exquisite chocolates and breathtaking scenery where you will be met by an Aurora Expeditions representative. Transfer to your downtown hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

DAY 2 After checking out of your hotel, explore Ushuaia and surrounds. Mid-afternoon, settle on board Greg Mortimer, for early evening departure down the Beagle Channel.

DAYS 3–4 Watch for albatross and your first icebergs during your trip on the Drake Passage. In the afternoon of Day 4, there is the possibility of a landing at Aitcho, Robert or Deception Islands in the South Shetlands.

DAYS 5–9 Minke whales, crabeater seals and pack ice in southern Gerlache Strait; penguin colonies and continental landing. Northbound along the peninsula, shore excursions and adventure activities continue, possibly at Paradise or Neko Harbours, the Melchior Islands or historic Port Lockroy. During this voyage, there will be an opportunity to camp ashore (weather and time permitting). This will give you the chance to sample the style of adventure that Scott, Shackleton and other legendary Antarctic explorers experienced, although with a modern day spin on it.

DAYS 10–11 Enjoy seabirds and whales on second Drake crossing. Share photos, tall tales and final night celebrations with new friends!

DAY 12 After a hearty breakfast, bid farewell to your fellow passengers, before disembarking in Ushuaia.

Itinerary is a guide only and is subject to ice and weather conditions.

Cruise Costs Per Person Twin Share

Cost: USD	\$9,9000.00	Aurora Stateroom with private bathroom
	\$10,900.00	Balcony Stateroom with private bathroom
	\$13,900.00	Balcony Suite with private bathroom

Prices quoted are per person and in US dollars, based on twin share. Single occupancy is 1.7 times the twin share price. (We offer a limited amount of 1.25, these are selected staterooms. After these are sold out it reverts to 1.7) No single travel fees apply if you are willing to share your cabin (twin cabins only). Fuel surcharge may apply in the event of significant fuel price increases. No refund for unused services.

Tour Payments

Non-refundable deposit: At time of booking USD\$3,000.00

Aurora Stateroom

- Room 23.2 m²
- Twin or Double Bed
- Private En-suite
- Porthole window
- Desk area
- Closet space
- Sofa bed (can sleep 3rd passenger in select cabins)
- Safe for storing valuables
- USB outlets
- 42" flat screen TV

Balcony Stateroom

- Room 16.5 - 20.7 m²
- Balcony 6.6 - 7.2 m²
- Twin or Double Bed
- Private En-suite
- Floor to ceiling window
- Desk area
- Closet space
- Safe for storing valuables
- USB outlets
- 42" flat screen TV
- sofa bed also available in this class in selected staterooms

Balcony Suite

- Room 25.4 - 26.1 m²
- Balcony 9.1 - 10.8 m²
- Twin or Double Bed
- Private En-suite
- Full size window
- Desk area
- Closet space
- Safe for storing valuables
- USB outlets
- 42" flat screen TV

Special Offers

Receive US\$1,250pp travel credit booked in a Balcony Stateroom or above.

Available until 31 October 2018 or until sold out.

Expeditions Inclusions

- Arrival transfer from airport to hotel on Day 1 (preferred flights only)
- One night's hotel accommodation with breakfast in Ushuaia
- Luggage transfer from your hotel in Ushuaia to ship
- On-board accommodation during voyage including daily cabin service
- All meals, snacks, tea and coffee during voyage
- Beer, house wine and soft drinks with dinner
- All shore excursions and Zodiac cruises
- Educational lectures and guiding services from expedition team
- Access to our onboard doctor and basic medical services
- A 3-in-1 waterproof polar expedition jacket
- Complimentary use of muck boots during the voyage
- Comprehensive pre-departure information
- A printed photo book produced with photos from your voyage
- Gratuities for crew will automatically be added to your bill. Please advise at the time of settlement if you would like this to be removed
- Port surcharges, permits and landing fees
- Transfer from pier to downtown Ushuaia or to airport

Expedition Exclusions

- International or domestic flights to or within South America, unless specified
- Transfers not mentioned in the itinerary
- Airport arrival or departure taxes
- Passport, visa, reciprocity and vaccination charges
- Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges
- Hotels and meals not included in itinerary
- Optional excursions not included in the itinerary
- Optional activity surcharges
- All items of a personal nature including but not limited to: alcoholic beverages and soft drinks (outside of dinner service), laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, gratuities, Wi-Fi, email or phone charges.

Cruise Information

Greg Mortimer

Proudly named after Aurora's adventurous co-founder, this 104-metre ship is our very first, purpose-built expedition vessel. Capable of negotiating the strongest winds and waves, the *Greg Mortimer* is built to world-class polar standards – designed in close consultation with our expedition specialists, taking advantage of our more than 25 years of experience.

The *Greg Mortimer* redefines expedition cruising for the future, with just 120 passengers on board in the polar regions. Not only is the ship bigger to contend with adverse weather conditions, its added creature comforts make for a more enjoyable journey out on the open ocean. The *Greg Mortimer* remains true to Aurora's ethos and focus on multiple landings, flexible itineraries and a family atmosphere – just with an improved home base!

Dining

From the moment you step onto the *Greg Mortimer*, Aurora Expeditions aim to give you the best hospitality service possible. Starting with the official Captain's welcome, as guests, you're welcome to 24 hours complimentary coffee, tea and snack facilities in addition to the range of different menu options and courses for each meal.

Meals are served in a large dining room/restaurant with family style dining, perfect to swap stories with your new expedition family. Enjoy the range of house wine, beers and soft drinks included with dinner after a long day in the wild, preparing yourself for another exciting day to follow.

On the last day of your trip, the team on the *Greg Mortimer* put on a special farewell four-course dinner and cocktails – a perfect way to reflect on your time on the ship and consolidate lifelong friendships with the people you've met on-board.

Observation points

Let's face it – you don't want windowless rooms when travelling around some of the most beautiful locations around the world. This is why the *Greg Mortimer* is designed with plenty of dedicated observation spaces – ideal for keen bird spotters, wildlife watchers and those wanting to watch the scenery go past.

From the indoor 180-degree lounge and outdoor 360-degree open deck, both on deck 8, to the 270-degree open sundeck on level 7, there are plenty of observation points to share around the ship! If these are full, then you can take up a spot on one of the two hydraulic viewing platforms on deck 5.

Aurora Expeditions also has an open bridge policy, which means at any point you can come up to the bridge and check out what the captain and officers are up to. From watching navigational practices to observing mapping techniques, you can get a firsthand look at the inner workings of the *Greg Mortimer*.

On-board entertainment

On all of Aurora's expeditions, there are experts who lead presentations in the spacious lecture room so you can understand the region a little better. These often include topics as broad as history and culture to biology and climate change. These presentations aim to educate and entertain.

If you're keen to just watch the surroundings and keep your eyes peeled for wildlife, you have access to two bars/lounges where the views are just stunning.

The *Greg Mortimer* is also decked out with other facilities for your enjoyment. There is a library on Deck 5 with books and maps and a Wellness Centre complete with gym equipment, sauna and spa. Feeling a little sore after walking around all day? Treat yourself to a massage at the Wellness Centre and feel the aches disappear! Keen photographers and artists will revel in the multimedia room on Deck 5.

Shore excursion

Although the ship is fun, the real enjoyment comes from the many shore excursions that are available. Depending on the weather and itinerary, it's possible to take two to three landings daily, taking a look at everything from rock formations and ancient ruins to cute groups of penguins. We know time is of the essence in these wild locations, so the *Greg Mortimer* has been designed with more Zodiacs (15) which means you can maximise your time on shore.

From four dedicated sea level launching platforms, transfers are quicker, safer and enable you to get closer to the action for a longer period of time. Just remember to charge your camera before you step onto the Zodiac!

Fitness Requirements

This voyage is suitable for people of most ages and physical abilities. We offer a variety of soft and harder walking options, some of which may be over uneven and/or slippery surfaces. You are free to choose which activities and outings you would like to participate in, and less nimble passengers are given the choice whether to land or not.

To fully enjoy your expedition, we recommend that you are able to walk up and down the ships gangway (the equivalent to a steep set of stairs), and are able to get in and out of Zodiacs (inflatable rubber boats) with some assistance from the staff.



**To make a booking or for further information please contact
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