

2025.03.11 AMANT 2505

March 2025



### Departure

At last, the day has arrived! Excitement and anticipation fill the air as we embark on this extraordinary journey. Check-in is seamless, and before long, we're settling into what will be our floating home for the days ahead. The mandatory safety drill follows shortly after, ensuring

we're well-prepared for the adventure. Outside, the weather looks promising—an encouraging sign for a smooth crossing. With a warm welcome from the ship, we set sail toward an unforgettable expedition. Antarctica, here we come!





# Sea Day

Our first full day at sea is filled with essential briefings—covering everything from ship orientation to IAATO regulations and hiking guidelines. The calm waters make for an easy adjustment, and we're grateful to avoid the infamous 'Drake Shake' this time. Aboard the

Roald Amundsen, our remarkable expedition vessel, we quickly feel at home. With each passing hour, excitement builds, and the thought of reaching Antarctica makes it hard to sit still.





# Sea Day Two

Another day on the open ocean, and some of us begin to wonder—when will we see land again? But any restlessness is eased by an engaging onboard program. Guest scientists and the expedition team introduce themselves, while a series of fascinating lectures keeps us

informed and inspired. This perfect mix of education and adventure shapes our experience ahead, enriching our journey toward the icy frontier.





### Pleneau

Our first day of landings—and what an introduction to Antarctica! We are greeted by towering icebergs and surprisingly fair weather (at least by Antarctic standards). Time to test our boots. The first steps feel uncertain, but soon we walk with the confidence of true

explorers. And then, the stars of the south make their entrance—penguins! Adorable, if not a bit smelly, these creatures steal the show. The day is nothing short of magical, and the expedition team senses this journey will be something special.









### Damoy

Today, we reach Damoy—an iconic expedition stop. This site offers a bit of everything: a historic hut, lounging seals, waddling penguins, a thrilling snowshoe trek, and an exhilarating Zodiac ride back through choppy waters. This is expedition travel at its finest—challenging yet

endlessly rewarding. The surrounding mountains, like a painting against the sky, enhance the breathtaking scenery. With such an incredible start, we can't help but wonder, what could possibly top this?





#### Neko Harbor

Neko Harbour is simply spectacular. Surrounded by immense glaciers, it fully embodies the beauty of Paradise Bay. This marks our mainland landing, making an already unforgettable journey even more remarkable. The expedition team struggles to capture in words just how incredible this experience has been—abundant wildlife, perfect weather, and endless wonder. A climb to Neko's viewpoint

offers a rewarding panorama, and as we take in the view, we feel like true explorers. Nearby, massive glacier walls echo with eerie booms, a haunting reminder of the ever-changing ice. More whales appear, and while we wonder if the journey could get any better, each moment continues to surpass the last. Sharing these experiences with one another makes them all the more special.





## Orne Harbor & Fournier Bay

Though our expedition nears its end, the adventure isn't over yet. The past few days have been a whirlwind of awe-inspiring encounters, and it shows in the wonder and excitement on every face. Orne Harbour and Fournier Bay take our breath away once more. A Zodiac cruise through catabatic winds pushes us to our limits—Poseidon himself would be proud. A splash of seawater is a small price to pay

for the extraordinary sights that unfold before us. And then, Fournier Bay delivers a spectacle unlike anything we've seen—more than 45 whales in one place. Blows, flukes, and graceful movements surround us, leaving the entire expedition team speechless. The ship buzzes with excitement. How do we even begin to process so many extraordinary moments?









# Heading Back

What a journey. There are no words to do it justice. Antarctica has revealed its wonders, and now we turn toward home. The infamous Drake Passage is ready to remind us of its power, and as we leave the continent's sheltered waters, we feel its might. Onboard, we shift into reflection mode—final lectures help us process the significance of our

visit, while some opt to simply rest, stretched out horizontally. The Expedition Team secretly enjoys this part—watching a group of wide-eyed adventurers transform into seasoned travellers, already dreaming of their next great expedition.





## Approaching the Horn

Outside, the wind howls, and the waves rise as we approach the legendary Cape Horn. There is no denying it now—our journey is drawing to a close. But the Drake has one last farewell for us, sending us off with a proper seafaring adventure. By now, we've earned our sea legs. Bags are packed, and thoughts drift toward the transition

back to everyday life—airport security lines, airplane meals, and the return to routine. But first, a final onboard program reminds us of the spirit of exploration that has been awakened within us. With one last wish for calmer seas, we brace ourselves for the return.

Drake Passage - Mar 20, 2025

Ushuaia, Argentina - Mar 20, 2025

### Ushuaia and the Beagle

As we cross the serene Beagle Channel, we are grateful for the calm waters and the shelter of the coastline. Soon, Ushuaia appears on the horizon, bringing our adventure full circle. Before stepping ashore, we gather for a final farewell with the captain and crew of Roald Amundsen. A ship is like a small village, with every piece working together in perfect harmony to make this experience possible. A

slideshow of unforgettable moments reminds us just how fortunate we have been. Exploration changes you—if this journey hasn't, what will? As we take our final steps off the ship and wander through Ushuaia one last time, we say farewell. Until we meet again—somewhere, someday. After all, the world is small, and adventure is endless.

