



MS Fridtjof Nansen

2025.10.17 - 2025.10.31



Legend
HX Expedition

300 km © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Valparaiso

Our guests arrived at the port of the colorful city of Valparaíso under a warm sun and an even warmer welcome from the crew.





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100 km

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At Sea

We sailed along the Pacific coast, making the most of the good weather to spot wildlife around our ship. The expedition team

prepared guests for what was to come on our voyage and enriched their knowledge of the area.



Niebla

After sailing through the Chacao Channel, we arrived at the port of Niebla. The town welcomed us with a wonderfully clear and sunny day.

For the more adventurous, a kayak excursion was organized on the Angachilla River, part of the Valdivia wetlands. The hikers followed the

Onco Trail, which led them through the lush Valdivian forest to the top of the highest hill in the range for a splendid view of the Chilean rainforest. Meanwhile, those interested in the history of earthquake-stricken Valdivia explored the city with a specialized guide.





Castro

Even though the fjords seemed windy and cold before reaching our anchorage point, Castro received us with open arms and blue skies. From the port, some of us explored the city to learn about its history and see the distinctive Chilotan architecture known as palafitos. Others traveled through the countryside to see another architectural

wonder of this land: the Chilotan wooden churches, which were built entirely of wood without a single nail and inspired by European design. Finally, those seeking more greenery trekked through Chiloé National Park, where they witnessed the same local flora that Charles Darwin observed two centuries ago.



Sea Day

After leaving the big island of Chiloé behind, we continued sailing through the labyrinth of channels and islands that make up southern Chile.



Caleta Tortel

The Golfo de Penas, a frequent destination for westerly Pacific storms, was surprisingly calm as we passed through. We took the first eastern fjord we encountered and arrived at the secluded Caleta Tortel. As is common in this part of the country, the town—with its boardwalks instead of streets—welcomed us with dense rain. Despite

this, many adventurers went for a hike to immerse themselves in the local beech forest, while others wandered the picturesque walkways and experienced the warm hospitality of locals who shared their food, dance, and music with the newcomers.





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Pio Glacier

We continued our southbound voyage and entered one of the narrowest fjords in Chile: the English Channel. From the bow, our guests watched as the ship executed two sharp 90° turns to navigate the passage. Crossing the mere 1,825 meters that separate its shores, we were silently observed by a statue of the Virgin Mary standing watch from the middle of the channel.

In the afternoon, we sailed through another channel until we reached the vast Pío XI Glacier. Flowing directly from the Southern Patagonian Icefield, Pío XI displayed its brightest shades of blue along a 6-kilometer-wide ice wall. From the ship, we could only marvel at the immensity before us.



White Narrows & Puerto Natales

Early in the morning, the sun shone on our ship as we sailed through the White Narrows. After docking in Puerto Natales, many went ashore immediately for a first look at the town. Some followed in the footsteps of our ornithologists along the coast in search of interesting

sightings, while others took a short walk around town—even as the sun disappeared and the wind blew a frozen breath—to learn about the local history and culture.





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Puerto Natales

The day began early with two hiking excursions. While some enjoyed a walk to see the famous Cuernos del Paine, others preferred a path that brought them closer to the Grey Glacier. Meanwhile, those more

interested in the cultural and natural history of the area took a bus tour to the Milodón Cave.



Bernal Glacier

Our ship headed north into the Fiordo de las Montañas. The wind began to calm and the skies cleared. When we reached the middle of the fjord, the Bernal Glacier was illuminated by brilliant sunlight. We walked from the coast along a small river to the glacier's front and

saw the small lake formed by its melting ice.

In the evening, our ship glided calmly through the Patagonian fjords as the sea turned to glass, reflecting icy mountains that seemed to sail alongside us.



De Agostini Fjord

We navigated through the innumerable islands of the Chilean fjords until we reached the western arm of the Strait of Magellan. Early in the day we passed Carlos III Island, a seasonal gathering place for humpback whales, and spotted Cape Froward, the southernmost tip of the continental landmass.

Before continuing our journey, we slipped into the icy De Agostini

Fjord, where a series of glaciers flowed downhill like rivers toward the wide fjord. At this time the sun shone its brightest and the wind almost stopped—indeed a rare occurrence in Patagonia. This day also allowed us to see the beautiful Mount Sarmiento, a landmark of Tierra del Fuego that is usually hidden behind constant cloud cover.



Pia Glacier

We entered the Beagle Channel and quickly took a long fjord that led us to the Garibaldi Glacier. From our ship we admired this vast glacier, which revealed its intense blue ice that often hides from view. Afterwards, we returned to the Beagle Channel and entered the Pia Fjord. There, the skies opened almost completely and the sun warmed

our faces as we approached the Pia Glacier up close in our zodiacs. We navigated through brash ice and icebits, awed by this natural wonder. Once again, the Beagle Channel served as our main route, offering views of a series of glaciers sliding downhill toward the water—an area commonly known as Glacier Alley.





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Cape Horn

Patagonia continued to be remarkably kind to us, as the seas were calm enough to allow a landing on Cape Horn. For much of the day, we felt warm—almost hot—under the sun after reaching the coast and climbing up to the upper part of the island. There we saw the

Albatross Monument overlooking the southernmost point of the island, Cape Horn, and we met the Chilean family who lives at the island's lighthouse.



Puerto Williams

We visited the town of Puerto Williams, the southernmost town in the world, located on Navarino Island and home to the Yagans, the southernmost Indigenous people. The museum was open and the

locals welcomed us warmly. Some took a walk through town, while others hiked through the nearby forest.





Ushuaia, Argentina - Oct 31, 2025

Ushuaia

After a mostly sunny and warm voyage filled with glaciers and Argentine city of Ushuaia.
stunning bird sightings, our adventurous travelers disembarked in the

HX

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