



MS Fridtjof Nansen

18 – 28.2.2026



Punta Arenas

Ushuaia

Scotia
Sea

Drake
Passage

Legend

— HX Expedition

200 km

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Ushuaia and Embarkation

Our guests' adventure began with a flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world and the gateway to Antarctica. Excitement filled the air as the guests settled into their cabins and explored the ship's beautiful observation decks and lounges. Before departure, they participated in a mandatory safety

drill, an important step before sailing into remote polar waters. As evening fell, we began navigating the legendary Beagle Channel, watching the last lights of Ushuaia fade into the crisp southern twilight.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Feb 19, 2026

548 km



Crossing the Drake Passage

Our first full day at sea carried us deeper into the vast waters of the Drake Passage. The crossing was gentler than its reputation suggests, with steady swells and a cool breeze sweeping across the outer decks. There was enough wind to make us hold onto our hats, but it only added to the excitement of the journey south. The day was filled with important briefings and gatherings that prepared our guests for

the days ahead, giving everyone time to settle into the rhythm of life on board. Large windows framed endless views of open ocean as seabirds occasionally followed in our wake. In the evening, we came together for the Captain's Welcome, raising a glass as we officially began our Antarctic expedition together.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Feb 20, 2026

507.2 km



Approaching the South Shetland Islands

Another day at sea brought us steadily southward across the mighty Drake Passage, with a rhythm that now felt somewhat familiar. The morning included the important IAATO briefing, ensuring our guests understood how to responsibly visit one of the most pristine environments on Earth. They were fitted with our sturdy expedition rubber boots, a small but symbolic step closer to our first landing.

The remainder of the day offered more opportunities to gather in the lounge and watch the endless horizon roll by. By late afternoon, excitement rippled through the ship as the first faint outlines of land appeared in the distance. The rugged peaks of the South Shetland Islands emerged from the mist, signalling that Antarctica was finally within reach.

Wilhemina Bay, Antarctica - Feb 21, 2026

200.9 km



Wilhelmina Bay

This morning, we awoke to breathtaking views as we entered Wilhelmina Bay, often called 'Whale-Minna Bay' for good reason! The sea was calm and scattered with towering icebergs that shimmered in shades of blue and white. Boarding the expedition boats, we set out for an unforgettable cruise among the ice. It was not long before we

spotted numerous whales surfacing gracefully around us, their blows rising like mist in the cold air. We caught sight of seals resting peacefully on drifting floes as we passed them by at a respectful distance. Surrounded by ice, wildlife, and silence, it truly felt like stepping into another world.

Hovgaard Island, Antarctica - Feb 22, 2026

180.2 km



Hovgaard Island

The morning brought us to beautiful Hovgaard Island, surrounded by calm waters and distant ice-covered peaks. Many guests set out on expedition boat cruises, weaving quietly between floating ice and rocky shoreline. Others chose to go ashore for a snowshoe hike, climbing gently upward to take in sweeping panoramic views of the Antarctic landscape. From the water, we encountered Weddell seals

resting on the ice and several young elephant seals along the shore, not yet the massive giants they will one day become. We observed a colony of gentoo penguins gathered along the coastline, while impressive icebergs stood far off in the distance against the horizon. The stillness of the scene, framed by snow and sea, made the morning feel both serene and unforgettable.

Pléneau Island, Antarctica - Feb 22, 2026

2.3 km



Afternoon at Pleneau Island

In the afternoon, we arrived at Pleneau Island for our landing of the day. A lively colony of gentoo penguins greeted us along the shore, their chatter filling the crisp air. Nearby, a curious crabeater seal lounged on the ice, seemingly welcoming our group to this remote corner of Antarctica. Some guests explored the area on foot, taking in

the rugged beauty and icy formations. Others chose to paddle quietly in kayaks, gliding across the calm waters for a unique perspective of the island and its wildlife. The combination of penguins, seals, and frozen scenery made the landing a truly magical experience.

Lemaire Channel, Antarctica - Feb 22, 2026

10 km



Evening Passage through the Lemaire Channel

As evening approached, the ship glided into the narrow and dramatic Lemaire Channel. Towering cliffs rose sharply on either side, the dark rock contrasting with the brilliant whites and blues of the glaciers and icebergs below. The calm waters reflected the fading light, creating a mirror-like surface that made the passage feel almost otherworldly.

Guests lined the decks, cameras in hand, captivated by the breathtaking scenery unfolding around them. Silence fell over the ship as we slowly navigated this iconic Antarctic channel, the landscape leaving a lasting impression on everyone aboard.

Peltier Channel, Antarctica - Feb 23, 2026

113.7 km



Expedition Boat Cruising in Peltier Channel

The morning was filled with expedition boat cruises through the Peltier Channel. Towering glaciers framed the channel, their icy faces glinting in the crisp light. Majestic icebergs floated nearby, their

sculpted forms drifting silently in the calm waters. Several whales surfaced gracefully in our midst.

Dorian Bay, Antarctica - Feb 23, 2026

6.3 km



Damoy Point

In the afternoon, we visited Damoy Point and Dorian Bay, a place rich in history and wildlife. Guests explored a thriving gentoo penguin colony, watching the birds move busily across the rocky shore. Nearby, the historic Damoy Hut stood as a reminder of earlier Antarctic expeditions, preserved against the harsh climate. While some explored on foot, others joined the discovery kayaking

programme, paddling quietly across the calm waters for a closer look at the surrounding scenery. The combination of wildlife, history, and serene ice-filled waters made the afternoon unforgettable. Every perspective offered a unique view of this remarkable Antarctic landscape.

Danco Island, Antarctica - Feb 24, 2026

91.6 km



Danco Island

We arrived at Danco Island where little snow remained, revealing the rocky terrain beneath. The gentoo penguins thrive here, their energetic movements and calls creating a lively atmosphere across the island. Guests explored the colony on foot, observing the birds up

close while respecting their space. Alongside the landing, expedition boat cruises offered opportunity to glide among towering icebergs and spot whales surfacing in the cold waters.

Paradise Harbour, Antarctica - Feb 24, 2026

27.5 km



Evening Sailing to Paradise Harbour

As evening approached, we made our way to Paradise Harbour, the waters glowing in the soft light of the late afternoon. Calm seas allowed clear views of the surrounding cliffs and glaciers, making the passage especially scenic. At one point, a huge pod of orcas appeared, moving powerfully and elegantly through the water. Guests

gathered along the decks, captivated by their synchronized movements and striking black-and-white markings. We watched in awe, enjoying the rare spectacle of these magnificent predators up close. The encounter left a lasting impression, closing the day on an exhilarating and unforgettable note.

Portal Point, Antarctica - Feb 25, 2026

104 km



Portal Point Landing

On our final day in Antarctica, we landed at Portal Point, stepping onto the continental landmass for the first time. The views were spectacular, with sweeping vistas of ice-covered mountains and the open sea stretching into the distance. Guests wandered along the shore and upon the slopes, soaking in the pristine surroundings and

crisp Antarctic air. A few fur seals lounged lazily nearby, occasionally raising their heads to observe the visitors. The sense of quiet grandeur made this landing a perfect farewell to the continent. Every glance reminded us of the vastness and beauty of this remote world.

Recess Cove, Antarctica - Feb 25, 2026

7 km



Afternoon Farewell Expedition Boat Cruise

In the afternoon, we set out for one final expedition boat cruise among drifting icebergs and scattered ice floes. Chinstrap penguins moved energetically across the ice, their calls echoing over the calm waters. Seals rested on the floes, occasionally slipping into the sea. Whales appeared once more, breaching and surfacing near the

expedition boats as if to bid us farewell. The combination of wildlife and sparkling ice created a serene and unforgettable scene. It was a perfect ending to our Antarctic adventure, leaving everyone with lasting memories of this extraordinary place.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Feb 26, 2026

460.2 km



Heading Back across the Drake

After our final Antarctic experiences, we began our journey north across the Drake Passage. The ship slipped steadily through open waters, leaving the ice and mountains behind. Guests attended lectures and workshops, learning more about the polar regions and their unique ecosystems. Many also took the opportunity to visit the

bridge, watching the crew navigate through the open ocean. From the decks, seabirds followed the ship, a final touch of Antarctic wildlife. The day offered a calm contrast to the excitement of the past week, allowing time to reflect on the journey so far.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Feb 27, 2026

615.9 km



Final Day at Sea

On the second day crossing the Drake Passage, we spent most of the day surrounded by open ocean, with endless swells stretching to the horizon. Late in the afternoon, the rugged coastline of Tierra del Fuego finally appeared, signalling that our Antarctic adventure was drawing to a close. Before entering the calmer waters near land, the

Captain and crew gathered everyone to say farewell, sharing warm words of thanks and guidance for disembarkation. Guests used the remaining time to pack and reflect on the remarkable experiences of the past ten days. The sight of land after so many days at sea brought a mix of relief and nostalgia, as well as a time of quiet reflection .

Ushuaia, Argentina - Feb 28, 2026

144.9 km



Return to Ushuaia

Thank you for joining us on this extraordinary journey. It has been our honour to guide you through Antarctica and share its wonders with you. We wish you safe travels as you return home and hope that the memories you carry will inspire many future adventures. We look

forward to welcoming you aboard again soon, to explore more of this magnificent world together. Until then, fair winds and calm seas. Safe travels!



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