



## MS Fridtjof Nansen – Highlights of Antarctica

10 – 20.3.2026



Legend

— HX Expedition

200 km

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# Embarkation

The journey began with a flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world and gateway to Antarctica. Upon arrival, we were transferred to the expedition vessel, where we settled into our cabin and had time to explore our new surroundings. A mandatory safety drill introduced key procedures and ensured

everyone was prepared for the voyage ahead. Later, we gathered for a welcome presentation led by the Hotel Manager and the Expedition Leader, who outlined the journey and shared their excitement. As the ship readied for departure, a sense of anticipation marked the true beginning of the adventure.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Mar 11, 2026

529.5 km



## Drake Passage - first day at sea

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Our first full day was spent crossing the legendary Drake Passage, as we began the journey southward toward Antarctica. The motion of the ship and vast open ocean made for an unforgettable introduction to life at sea. Throughout the day, we attended a series of informative presentations covering expedition activities, photography tips, and the

science program on board. These sessions offered valuable insight into what lay ahead and how to make the most of the experience. Between briefings, we took time on deck, watching seabirds glide effortlessly over the waves.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Mar 12, 2026

498.1 km



## Getting closer

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Our second day at sea continued across the Drake Passage, with a full schedule of preparations for our arrival in Antarctica. We attended the mandatory IAATO briefing, learning about guidelines for responsible and safe visits to the region. Later, we received our rubber boots, essential gear for upcoming landings. The day also

included a fascinating lecture on the discovery of Antarctica, along with engaging science sessions. In quieter moments, we decorated our refillable bottles, adding a personal touch ahead of the adventures to come.

Dorian Bay / Damoy Point, Antarctica - Mar 13, 2026

261 km



## First Landing on Damoy Point

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By morning, we reached Antarctica and made our first landing at Damoy Point. Stepping ashore, we were greeted by our first gentoo penguins, their curious movements bringing the landscape to life. We also visited the historic Damoy Hut, gaining a glimpse into early field

operations in the region. Some of us took to the water for a sea kayaking adventure, experiencing the icy surroundings from a completely different perspective. It was an unforgettable introduction to the Antarctic wilderness.

Goudier Island, Antarctica - Mar 13, 2026

3.2 km



## Cruising at Port Lockroy

In the afternoon, we cruised around Goudier Island, observing penguins and seals in their natural habitats along the shores. The historic Port Lockroy came into view from the water, offering a glimpse of early Antarctic exploration and research. Wildlife sightings

were abundant, and the stunning scenery provided endless photo opportunities. Gliding through the calm waters, we appreciated the unique combination of history and nature that defines this remarkable region.

Pléneau Island, Antarctica - Mar 14, 2026

114.1 km



## Pleneau Island

In the morning, we arrived at Pleneau Island, surrounded by towering, sculpted icebergs. Stepping ashore, we had the chance to observe penguins up close, watching their lively colonies in action. Seals lounged nearby, adding to the wildlife spectacle. In between

landings, we cruised along the island's icy waters, marveling at the shapes and colors of the icebergs. It was a full day of exploration, combining close encounters with wildlife and the breathtaking Antarctic scenery.

Andvord Bay, Antarctica - Mar 15, 2026

160.9 km



## Andvord Bay

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Zodiac cruising in Andvord Bay today brought unforgettable moments despite the brisk wind sweeping across the water. We were rewarded with multiple whale encounters, watching these magnificent creatures

surface surprisingly close to us. The conditions added a sense of adventure to an already remarkable experience.

Neko Harbor, Antarctica - Mar 15, 2026

4.4 km



## Neko Harbour

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An afternoon attempt to land at Neko Harbour was called off due to strong wind gusts. Instead, we ventured deeper into Andvord Bay,

where whales revealed themselves against a backdrop of stunning glacial scenery.

Recess Cove, Antarctica - Mar 16, 2026

115 km



## Recess Cove

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The morning was spent on expedition boats, cruising through the icy waters of Recess Cove.

Whales were very active today, everywhere we looked there were whales. Whales even showed curiosity towards our Discovery

Kayakers. Some whales launched themselves out of the water, others clapped their fins against the water surface. Even a few chinstrap penguins were spotted.

Portal Point, Antarctica - Mar 16, 2026

9.5 km



## Portal Point

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In the afternoon, we made a continental landing at Portal Point on the Reclus Peninsula. Numerous penguins were resting along the shore,

with fur seals scattered nearby and stunning views all around. The remains of Reclus House were also visible.

Stancomb Cove, Antarctica - Mar 17, 2026

197.4 km



# Telefon Bay

At Telefon Bay and Stancomb Cove, we explored a striking volcanic landscape shaped by past eruptions, with dark sands contrasting against the surrounding ice and snow. The rugged terrain and

sweeping coastal views created a dramatic setting, while wildlife sightings brought life to this stark and fascinating environment.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Mar 18, 2026

481 km



## Drake Passage

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Our first day on the Drake Passage heading back was spent adjusting to the rolling seas and settling into the rhythm of the ship once again. The vast expanse of open ocean stretched endlessly in every direction, accompanied by seabirds gliding effortlessly above the

waves. It was a time to relax, reflect on the unforgettable moments of the expedition, and slowly transition from the wild Antarctic environment back toward the journey home.

Drake Passage, Antarctica - Mar 19, 2026

490.8 km



## Drake Passage into the Beagle Channel

Our final day at sea began with the last stretch across the Drake Passage, as we gradually left the open ocean behind. By the afternoon, we entered the Beagle Channel, where calmer, sheltered waters and the sight of land on either side created a welcome contrast

to the previous days at sea. Seabirds followed the ship as we cruised through this scenic passage, adding to the peaceful atmosphere. In the late evening, we arrived in Ushuaia, bringing an incredible journey through Antarctica to a memorable close.

Ushuaia, Argentina - Mar 20, 2026

143.9 km



## Disembarkation

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Disembarkation in Ushuaia marked the final chapter of our Antarctic expedition. Stepping ashore, we said our goodbyes to the ship and crew, carrying with us unforgettable memories of icy landscapes,

remarkable wildlife, and shared experiences. It was a bittersweet moment, closing an extraordinary journey while beginning the transition back to everyday life.



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