

# **ANTARCTICA**

# The Offer

Prepare for an awe-inspiring adventure to some of the most remote destinations in the world. Glide through Antarctica's seascapes where research stations, penguin colonies and glaciers await.

Arrive in Buenos Aires where you'll catch a charter flight to Ushuaia, one of the world's southernmost cities. Board Swan Hellenic's 5-star SH Minerva, a purpose-built ship featuring a special PC5 ice-strengthened hull and extra-large stabilisers for smooth sailing. Prepare for thrilling Zodiac excursions, informative lectures in the Expedition Lab, world-class menus at onboard restaurants and more.

Look for the unoccupied Argentine refuge hut in Mikkelsen Harbour, chance upon calving glaciers in Curtiss Bay and spot resident Gentoo penguin colonies around Paradise Harbor. Learn about early Antarctic logistics at Damoy Point and send a letter from the world's southernmost public post office on Port Lockroy. Keep an eye out for the shipwreck near Enterprise Island, come across Weddell seals around Portal Point and observe geothermal activity on Deception Island. Overnight in Ushuaia before disembarking and flying back to Buenos Aires. With time at leisure here, you can soak up the tango spirit of this colourful city.

Antarctica is calling your name with return international full-service flights, a return charter flight, a 10-night 5-star Swan Hellenic cruise, 5-star accommodation, 33 meals and more.

Want more? Choose Itinerary 2 to explore the Weddell Sea on an 11-night cruise and upgrade to a Balcony Stateroom.

Offer available for a limited time or until sold out. TRIP A DEAL PTY LTD: 50149240433





# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 1**

# Day 1 Australia (or New Zealand) - Buenos Aires, Argentina

Today, at the appropriate time, make your own way to the airport to board your flight to Buenos Aires. Upon arrival, be welcomed and transferred to the hotel.

Buenos Aires is one of the largest cities in Latin America. With a wide range of cultural offerings and stunning sights, it is generally the starting point for most Argentinian experiences. Let yourself be seduced by its beautiful busy streets with its unique mixture of European and Latin cultures. Enjoy grand European palaces, cute cafés and abundant parks.

Please note: Due to flight times and scheduling some customers may be required to depart day 0. Flight times will be confirmed on your final documentation which you will receive at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure.

Overnight: Alvear Art hotel or similar, Buenos Aires Meals included: In-Flight

# Day 2 Buenos Aires - Ushuaia, Argentina - Embark 10-Night Antarctica Cruise

Early this morning, you'll be picked up and transferred to the airport for the internal flight to Ushuaia. Due to its location near the South Pole, it has approximately 18 hours of sunlight in the summer, whereas in the winter only around 8.

Upon arrival, you'll be transferred to your boutique ship before departing for your journey through one of the most captivating wilderness regions of the world.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

### **Day 3 Cruising**

Sea days are rarely dull so enjoy taking time to sit back and let the world go by from the ship's observation deck. A day at sea also gives you the opportunity to mingle with other passengers and share your experiences of this incredible trip. Head to the library to browse reference books, get an expert's view in one of the onboard lectures or perfect your photography skills with the onboard professional photographers.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

### **Day 4 Cruising**

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

# Day 5 Antarctic Peninsula: Mikkelsen Harbour & Curtiss Bay

Mikkelsen Harbour, nestled on the south side of Trinity Island in the Palmer Archipelago, is a picturesque bay known for its excellent anchorage which historically drew seal hunting vessels and early 20th-century Norwegian whalers.

Today, it offers visitors a chance to witness a ruggedly beautiful landscape that's often strewn with whale bones. Look out for colonies of Gentoo penguins, particularly on D'Hainaut Island

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# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 1**

within the harbour. An unoccupied Argentine refuge hut and an old radio mast further add to its intriguing historical and natural appeal.

Curtiss Bay is characterised by its often large icebergs, impressive glacier-lined coves where calving events are common, and the possibility of spotting whales and seals. It offers a rewarding Zodiac cruising experience, providing stunning views and possibly glimpses of small Chinstrap penguin and blue-eyed shag colonies.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

### Day 6 Antarctic Peninsula: Neko Harbour & Brown Station

Neko Harbour, located in Andvord Bay off the Antarctic Peninsula, is a stunning inlet renowned for its dramatic glacial scenery and abundant wildlife. It was discovered by a Belgian expedition in the early 1900s and named after a Scottish whaling vessel. Visitors often witness impressive glacier calving events here, which can generate significant waves.

Further along the Danco Coast within the picturesque Paradise Harbor, lies Brown Station, an Argentine scientific research station. Established in 1951, it serves as a summer-only base for various scientific studies including biology and oceanography. While not always staffed, its scenic location at the foot of a large mountain, coupled with the resident Gentoo penguin colonies, makes it a popular stop for tourist expedition ships to Antarctica.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

# Day 7 Antarctic Peninsula: Damoy Point & Port Lockroy

Damoy Point, on Wiencke Island in the Antarctic Peninsula, holds significant historical value as Antarctica's only protected historic transit facility and skiway. From 1975 to 1993, the bright orange Damoy Hut served as a crucial summer air facility and waiting room for scientists being flown to and from more southerly research stations when sea ice prevented ship access. Today, preserved by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT), it's a "living museum" offering a glimpse into early Antarctic logistics, with its interior frozen in time as if the researchers had just departed.

Nearby, nestled on Goudier Island in a natural harbor, lies Port Lockroy. Originally a secret British military base during WWII's Operation Tabarin, it later became a scientific research station before being abandoned. Since 1996, also managed by the UKAHT, Port Lockroy operates as a museum and the world's southernmost public post office, affectionately known as the "Penguin Post Office".

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

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# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 1**

# Day 8 Antarctic Peninsula: Enterprise Island & Portal Point

Enterprise Island, situated in Wilhelmina Bay off the Antarctic Peninsula, holds a poignant reminder of Antarctica's whaling past. Its primary attraction is the striking wreck of the Norwegian whaling factory ship, the Gouvernoren. Deliberately run aground in 1915 after catching fire during a crew party, its bow and bridge remain above water as a ghostly testament to an era when these waters were heavily exploited for whale oil. Today, the wreck is often frequented by Antarctic terns and offers a unique historical counterpoint to the region's stunning natural beauty, with various other whaling artifacts scattered around the shoreline.

Portal Point, a narrow stretch of land on the Reclus Peninsula of Graham Land, serves as a significant gateway to the Antarctic continent. Named for its role in providing a route to the high polar plateau, it once housed a British refuge hut (Cape Reclus Refuge). This was established in 1956 to facilitate survey work and provide shelter for explorers. Though the hut was later dismantled and moved to the Falkland Islands Museum, the point itself remains a popular landing site offering panoramic views and the occasional Weddell seal sighting.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

# Day 9 Antarctic Peninsula: Deception Island, Whalers Bay & Half Moon Island

Deception Island, part of the South Shetland Islands, is a unique, horseshoe-shaped active volcano with a flooded caldera forming a natural harbor called Port Foster. Its volcanic activity is evident in the steaming beaches and barren, ash-layered landscapes, with significant eruptions recorded as recently as 1967 and 1969, leading to the abandonment of scientific stations. Despite its turbulent past, including a history as a whaling station, it's now a popular tourist destination where visitors can witness geothermal activity and explore the remnants of its dramatic history. Nestled within the caldera of an active volcano is Whalers Bay, with its unique horseshoe shape in sheltered waters that made it a prime location for early 20th century whaling operations. The bay provides safe anchorage for ships and offers a unique glimpse of maritime history. Half Moon Island, a smaller, crescent-shaped island in the South Shetlands between Livingston and Greenwich Islands, is a haven for wildlife. It's home to a significant breeding colony of Chinstrap penguins, along with various other seabirds like Antarctic terns, skuas, and blue-eyed shags. Weddell and fur seals are also frequent visitors to its cobbled beaches.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

# Day 10 Cruising

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

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# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 1**

# Day 11 Ushuaia (Overnight), Argentina

This evening, arrive into Ushuaia.

Nestled in the foothills of the snow-capped Martial Range, Ushuaia's colourful streets and mismatched buildings cascade from the imposing mountains before coming to an abrupt halt at the shores of the Beagle Channel. As one of the world's southernmost cities, Ushuaia carries its 'end of the world' reputation well. The moody weather and dramatic surroundings certainly help.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

### Day 12 Disembark Ushuaia - Buenos Aires

This morning, you'll disembark your cruise in Ushuaia. At the appropriate time, you will be transferred to the airport for the return flight back to Buenos Aires.

Upon arrival into Buenos Aires, you will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel. Here, you can enjoy the next 3 nights in this captivating city.

Overnight: Palladio Hotel Mcgallery or similar, Buenos Aires Meals included: Breakfast

### **Day 13 Buenos Aires Free Day**

Today is your chance to relish a day at your own pace.

Delight in the sights of The May Square, or Plaza de Mayo, a pivotal and iconic square in Buenos Aires. Take a leisurely stroll down Avenue 9th of July, celebrated as one of Buenos Aires' primary thoroughfares and renowned as the widest avenue

globally. This area offers access to numerous significant landmarks including the iconic Obelisk, the bustling Corrientes Avenue and the prestigious Colón Theater. Why not wander through La Boca to see the legendary vividly painted houses and the picturesque El Caminito?

Overnight: Palladio Hotel Mcgallery or similar, Buenos Aires Meals included: Breakfast

### Day 14 Buenos Aires Free Day

Today, continue your exploration of this vibrant and passionate city at your own leisurely pace.

Why not begin by admiring Floralis Generica, an imposing metal flower sculpture nestled in the Recoleta neighbourhood? This magnificent artwork gracefully opens during the day and gracefully closes at night. On sunny days, it casts enchanting reflections in the shimmering water pool beneath its petals.

Make your way to Puerto Madero, a transformed district situated within the historic harbour of Buenos Aires. Today, it stands as a chic and upscale enclave that boasts a plethora of restaurants, cafes, corporate headquarters and impressive skyscrapers. While here, you must visit Puente de la Mujer, also known as the Woman's Bridge.

Venture into the charming neighbourhood of San Telmo where you'll encounter a treasure trove of beautiful old buildings and traditional coffee shops. This historic neighbourhood extends from Plaza de Mayo, branching out to the right of this central square. With each step, you'll delve deeper into the city's rich cultural tapestry.

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# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 1**

Overnight: Palladio Hotel Mcgallery or similar, Buenos Aires Meals included: Breakfast

# Day 15 Buenos Aires, Argentina - Australia (Or New Zealand)

The time has come to begin your journey back home. At the appropriate time, you will be picked up and transferred to the airport for your flight home.

Meals included: Breakfast; In-Flight

Day 16 In Transit

Meals included: None

Day 17 Arrive Australia (Or New Zealand)

Meals included: None





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# The Map

# **Itinerary 1**



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# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 2**

# Day 1 Australia (or New Zealand) - Buenos Aires, Argentina

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### **Day 3 Cruising**

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### **Day 4 Cruising**

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# Day 5 Antarctic Peninsula: Danger Island & Paulet Island

The Danger Islands were aptly named by James Clark Ross in 1842 due to their hazardous concealment by heavy ice. Despite their formidable name, these islands are a crucial biodiversity hotspot, particularly for Adelie penguins. The area boasts one of the largest "supercolonies" in the Antarctic with over 750,000 breeding pairs. Their remote and often ice-bound nature has historically limited human access, helping to preserve their pristine environment.

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# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 2**

Paulet Island, a roughly circular island southeast of Dundee Island, is a significant volcanic landform and prominent site in Antarctic history and wildlife. It is home to a massive breeding colony of approximately 100,000 pairs of Adelie penguins, making it an important bird area.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

#### Day 6 Antarctic Peninsula: Penguin Point

Penguin Point is a particular site renowned for supporting a significant breeding colony of Adelie penguins, numbering around 16,000 pairs. It's an important bird area where visitors have the chance to observe these lively birds in their natural habitat, often alongside Weddell and Antarctic fur seals.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast: Lunch: Dinner

# Day 7 Antarctic Peninsula: Brown Bluff & Hope Bay

Brown Bluff, a distinctive volcanic mountain on Tabarin Peninsula, stands as a dramatic example of a "tuya". This is a volcano that's erupted beneath a glacier, creating its unique shape. Its striking reddish-brown cliffs, composed of volcanic ash and embedded with "volcanic bombs", offer a starkly beautiful landscape. Beyond its fascinating geology, Brown Bluff is a major wildlife haven as it's home to Adelie penguins, Gentoo penguins, seabirds and Leopard seals.

Hope Bay, located at the northern tip of the Antarctic Peninsula, is a historically significant and biologically rich inlet. It gained fame as the wintering site for three members of the Swedish Antarctic Expedition in 1903 after their ship was lost. Their makeshift stone hut now stands as a historic monument. Today, Hope Bay is home to Argentina's Esperanza Base, a year-round scientific station and one of only two civilian settlements in Antarctica, notable for being the birthplace of the first person born on the continent.

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### Day 8 Antarctic Peninsula: Mikkelsen Harbour

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Today, it offers visitors a chance to witness a ruggedly beautiful landscape that's often strewn with whale bones. Look out for colonies of Gentoo penguins, particularly on D'Hainaut Island within the harbour. An unoccupied Argentine refuge hut and an old radio mast further add to its intriguing historical and natural appeal.

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# The Itinerary

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# Day 10 Antarctic Peninsula: Deception Island, Whalers Bay & Elephant Point, South Shetland Islands

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Nestled within the caldera of an active volcano is Whalers Bay, with its unique horseshoe shape in sheltered waters that made it a prime location for early 20th century whaling operations. The bay provides safe anchorage for ships and offers a unique glimpse of maritime history.

Elephant Point is a small, ice-free promontory on Livingston Island in the South Shetland Islands. It's well known for its population of elephant seals which are the inspiration for its name. Its an ecologically significant area and a site of interest for scientific research and Antarctic expeditions.

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Day 11 Cruising

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# The Itinerary

# **Itinerary 2**

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# The Itinerary

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Overnight: Palladio Hotel Mcgallery or similar, Buenos Aires Meals included: Breakfast

# Day 16 Buenos Aires, Argentina - Australia (Or New Zealand)

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Meals included: Breakfast; In-Flight

Day 17 In Transit

Meals included: None

Day 18 Arrive Australia (Or New Zealand)

Meals included: None

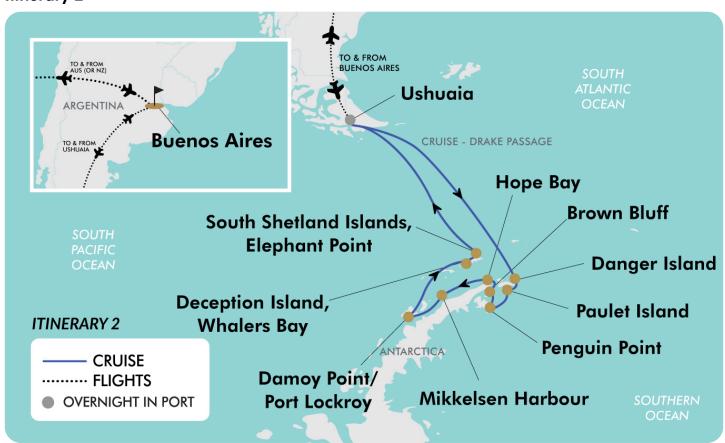
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# The Map

# **Itinerary 2**



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# **Tour Inclusions**

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

Take the voyage of a lifetime with Swan Hellenic

Cruise on a purpose built 5-star expedition ship to Antarctica

Get up close to your majestic surroundings with all Zodiac landings included

Explore this frozen wonderland with the expedition team

Encounter impressive landscapes and extraordinary wildlife

Set sail to the most remote and pristine destinations on Earth

Listen to Swan Hellenic's polar experts at in-depth onboard lectures

Learn tips from the ship's experienced photographers

Witness dramatic coastlines and uncover fascinating history

Glide past giant icebergs, glaciers and soaring mountaintops

Discover the rich history of explorers, whalers and scientists

Sail through crystal-clear fjords and visit remote places with expert guides

### **FLIGHTS**

Return international full-service flights (economy class), surcharges may

Return internal charter flights (economy class) from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia

#### **CRUISE**

Itinerary 1: 10-night Antarctica Peninsula cruise

Itinerary 2: 11-night Weddell Sea cruise

Get up close on Swan Hellenic's 12 person hard-hulled Zodiacs

All-inclusive cruise including selecte alcoholic beverages and wine during meals

Illy espresso Kusmi tea and mini-bar stocked with soft drinks and beer in staterooms

Use of a branded Swan Hellenic expedition parka and rubber boots in polar regions

One selecte shore excursion or expedition activity per port of call (kayak not included, bookable for a fee on board)

Lecture programs by an experienced expedition team and guest speakers

Gratuities included for the ship's crew

24-hour room service

Self-service laundry

Standard Wi-Fi

## **ACCOMMODATION**

4 nights of 5-star hotel accommodation

### **DINING**

Itinerary 1: 33 meals, including all while cruising

Itinerary 2: 36 meals, including all while cruising

Around-the-clock access to coffee, tea, soft drinks and a curated selection of alcoholic beverages while cruising

24-hour room service at sea

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# **Tour Inclusions**

# **ESSENTIALS**

Cruise port charges, taxes and gratuities

Airline taxes and surcharges

# **TRANSPORT**

Transportation by private air-conditioned vehicles

# **TRANSFERS**

Return airport and cruise transfers

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\*Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.

# **Booking Information**

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. You must complete the Passenger Information Form within 72 hours of purchase.

Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

Please note: All countries and territories have different entry requirements in relation to vaccinations, quarantine/isolation periods and travel restrictions. Due to the evolving nature, we would ask all of our customers to monitor, meet and adhere to the specific requirements of their intended destination(s) in the lead-up to and immediately before travel, as well as any requirements post-travel upon their return.

# **Our Policies**

### **Cancellation & Refund Policy**

By placing a booking with us, you acknowledge the following important information:

# • we act as your booking agent;

TripADeal is a booking services provider, and curates the Travel Offers available on our website. We act as your booking agent, and we receive payment for the Booking Services as part of the booking price, however, we do not provide any of the Travel Services (flights, accommodation, tours or other products or services) included in your booking – the Travel Services are provided by a number of third party Travel Suppliers.

- each booking is unique; our Travel
   Offers are made up of a variety of different components and are, during the booking process, uniquely tailored to suit your requirements, for example, departure dates and ports, flight and room upgrades, tour inclusions, etc.
- changes/modifications to your booking may not be possible; once your booking has been made, changes or modifications may not be possible, and where possible, may incur a fee. It is important to ensure that the information you provide during the booking process is accurate and up to date, and that you read the Travel
   Offer carefully before placing your order.
- Travel Offers are a package; our Travel
   Offers have been curated into package
   offerings and must be used as a package
   - individual components cannot be used
   independently of the full package
   offering.
- our Travel Offers are generally nonrefundable; in order to provide great value Travel Offers, we work with a variety of Travel Suppliers to find the best deals – this often means the Travel Suppliers' offerings are non-refundable to ensure the best price. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance as soon as you make a booking with us.

To read more about our Cancellation and Refund Policy, please click here.

### **General Terms & Conditions**

By placing your booking with us, you acknowledge and agree to our <u>Terms & Conditions</u>, <u>Privacy Policy</u> and <u>Cancellation Policy</u>.

### Offer Essentials

This Travel Offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 22nd January 2027.

This Travel Offer is priced per person based on a twin share.

# **Departure Dates & Surcharges**

See checkout for live dates and availability.

**Single Traveller Supplement** 

For solo travellers, a mandatory single supplement applies:

## Itinerary 1

Oceanview Stateroom: \$14,500 Balcony Stateroom: \$15,000

### Itinerary 2

Oceanview Stateroom: \$15,000 Balcony Stateroom: \$17,000

Please note: Accommodation for single customers who are travelling on a tour or cruise package may be in a single room, depending on availability.

# **Child Policy**

- No child discounts are offered. The full price applies to all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for children 8 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors are allowed.

# **Flights**

## **Departure Cities**

Sydney, Melbourne, \*Brisbane, \*Adelaide, \*Perth or Auckland

# **Departure City Surcharges**

Brisbane: \$100 per personAdelaide: \$100 per personPerth: \$400 per person

# International Flight(s)

Full-Service Airline(s) Used

• Cabin Class: Economy Class

Please note: We cannot accommodate oneway flights. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.

## Internal Charter Flight(s) Used

• Cabin Class: Economy Class

• Route: Buenos Aires - Ushuaia

## **Domestic Flight Information**

Baggage allowance per:

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- 1 x 20kg of checked baggage
- 1 x 7kg of carry on baggage

### **Preferred Airline Surcharge**

Not available

# **Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options**

Fly out and return home up to 60 days pre and post your tour dates.

#### **Arrive Early**

Buenos Aires, Argentina - From \$300 per person, subject to availability.

### Stay Behind

Buenos Aires, Argentina - From \$300 per person, subject to availability.

#### Please note:

#### Exclusions

: This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals or airport transfers.

Please note: If you request to fly into cities not listed in our "Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options", we may be able to customise your itinerary. If possible, the flight's cost will be charged as an extra.

# Cancellations & Changes

: Flight booking changes or cancellations after air tickets have been issued are not guaranteed and may incur additional fees and fare difference, subject to the airline cancellation and change policies. Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

### • High Season

: A high-season Arrive Early or Stay Behind can be purchased for an additional charge, subject to availability. For pricing, please refer to the cart.

## • + 60 Days

: You can fly out up to 60 days before your package's start date, and/or return home 60 days after your package's end date. Should you wish to fly out or return home for more than 60 days from the tour, please contact us to request availability. Additional costs may apply.

#### Estimated Dates

: Your estimated departure, return, and arrival dates are all subject to availability and may vary. The confirmed schedule for all flights will be provided when you receive your flight tickets.

• High season surcharges apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:

1st December 2025 - 31st January 2026 3rd April 2026 - 20th April 2026 26th June 2026 - 17th July 2026 18th September 2026 - 9th October 2026 12th December 2026 - 26th January 2027 19th March 2027 - 28th April 2027 19th June 2027 - 18th July 2027 11th September 2027 - 10th October

10th December 2027 - 3rd January 2028

### **Stopover Packages**

- Santiago, Chile Includes:
- 2, 3 or 5 nights in 4-star accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- Return airport transfers
   For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.
- When a pre and post-tour stopover is chosen, the same stopover location must be chosen each way, due to the airline
- When selecting to Arrive Early for your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your fly out date from home will take place before the stopover.
- When selecting to Stay Behind after your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your stopover will take place before your final flight home.
- Stopover packages are subject to availability.
- In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.
- Blackout dates apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:

Christmas and New Years Eve: 22nd December 2025 - 2nd January 2026 Christmas and New Years Eve: 18th December 2026 - 3rd January 2027

### Flight Class Upgrades

Business Class: For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

#### Please note:

- Flight upgrades are subject to availability and pricing changes (if we cannot fulfil your request, the upgrade cost will be refunded).
- On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed.

# **Outbound Flights**

Please note: Due to flight scheduling and availability, some departures may occur on Day 0. Affected customers must be available to depart the day before. Flight times will be indicated on your final documents, issued 4-6 weeks before departure.

#### Missed Flights

If you fail to arrive for your outbound flight, you risk all flight and land arrangements in your destination being automatically cancelled by the airlines and land operator, respectively. Additional fees may apply to reinstate these services. If you miss your flight for whatever reason, please contact us as soon as possible to make arrangements.

### **Cruise**

### **Medical Disclaimer**

Travel to Antarctica is physically demanding, and our Travel Suppliers require all guests to obtain medical clearance before departure even if you don't intend to disembark at Antarctica. This involves completing a medical form and may require medical clearance from a doctor, which could incur additional costs. Any guests who fail to provide the necessary medical documentation will be denied boarding.

#### Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva

The SH Minerva, part of the relaunched



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Swan Hellenic fleet, is a purpose-built cultural expedition cruise ship designed for immersive exploration of remote and inspiring destinations. Launched in 2021, she is a modern vessel with a PC5 ice-strengthened hull, allowing her to navigate polar regions comfortably.

#### **Ship Size & Passengers**

At 113 meters long and weighing 10,500 gross tons, SH Minerva is an intimate ship. She accommodates a maximum of 152 guests in 76 spacious cabins and suites, with the vast majority featuring large balconies. This results in a high crew-to-passenger ratio (around 120 crew), ensuring highly personalized service.

#### **Restaurants & Facilities**

Dining on board revolves around two main complimentary venues. The Swan Restaurant serves international and regional cuisine with an open seating policy, emphasizing quality local ingredients from the destinations visited. For a more casual setting, The Club Lounge offers 24-hour tapas-inspired dining, fresh pizzas, salads, and light bites, often with panoramic ocean views. In-cabin dining is also available 24/7.

Facilities are designed to enhance the expedition experience. Guests can enjoy a heated outdoor pool, a state-of-the-art gym, and a panoramic sauna with stunning views. There's also a spa for treatments, a marine life library, and an Expedition Lab for educational purposes. The Observation Lounge provides a comfortable space for lectures by expert expedition leaders and specialists. Expedition day trips using Zodiacs and kayaks are central to the experience.

### **Onboard Currency**

\$ USD

### Cabins/Staterooms

Oceanview Staterooms: 19m2 - 20m2

Light, bright and crafted from natural materials, Oceanview staterooms feature 2 single beds, a bedroom and living room

and a luxurious ensuite bathroom. All feature panoramic sea views, original works of art, plush couches, premium pocket-sprung mattresses, ensuite bathrooms with glass-enclosed rain showers, and Egyptian cotton towels, bathrobes, and sheets. A pillow menu offers customised head and neck comfort during rest. At the same time, a large flatscreen TV, an espresso machine with Illy premium coffee, tea-making facilities with the finest Kusmi teas, and a minibar with refreshments enhance relaxation at any time. In-room dining is, of course, available at all hours.

## Balcony Staterooms: 25m<sup>2</sup>

Staterooms feature 2 single beds, a bedroom, a living room, a luxurious bathroom and your own 5m<sup>2</sup> balcony. All feature panoramic sea views, original works of art, plush couches, premium pocket-sprung mattresses, ensuite bathrooms with glass-enclosed rain showers, and Egyptian cotton towels, bathrobes, and sheets. A pillow menu offers customised head and neck comfort during rest. At the same time, a large flatscreen TV, an espresso machine with Illy premium coffee, tea-making facilities with the finest Kusmi teas, and a minibar with refreshments enhance relaxation at any time. In-room dining is, of course, available at all hours.

Please note: All cabins are subject to availability; some cabins may have restricted views.

## PACKING LIST

As Antarctica is one of the most remote, rarely visited, parts of the world, knowing what to pack for your voyage isn't always easy. So, in case you're unsure what clothes to pack for a cruise to Antarctica, below is a simple cruise outfit planner.

### Plan Ahead

It's best to pack thoughtfully for Antarctica's climate. Unless you travel there frequently, there's no reason you'd know what clothes to bring on a cruise to Antarctica. Everyone experiences the cold (and warmth) differently, but it pays to bear in mind daily temperatures in the Antarctic Peninsula can range from well below freezing to 4°C. Plus, windchill can make things feel much colder, especially as you'll be spending a lot of your time outdoors in places that are subject to strong winds.

#### Stay Warm

When you're thinking about what clothes to take on a cruise, it's worth remembering that the outside temperature in Antarctica can feel much colder than the reading on a thermometer. So it's recommended you wrap up extra warm. Layering is a great way to do this. Wearing several lightweight, loose-fitting layers is better than opting for one heavier layer. This is because the different layers allow for pockets of air between each item of clothing, which provides extra insulation, and it means you can remove or add layers when your body temperature changes.

### **Choosing Clothes**

A lot of the action on an expedition cruise happens outside, so dress codes are very relaxed on these voyages. Pack clothes that are comfortable and easy to wash. And it pays to consider how you're going to pack everything. For instance, do you know how to pack a cocktail dress in a suitcase? Is a cocktail dress something you'll definitely need? Some guests find it helpful to choose their clothes, then go back and edit their choices after an hour or so.

### What To Pack

For the polar regions you'll need casual trousers, jeans, long-sleeved t-shirts and a thin jumper or bodywarmer. You'll be cosy and comfortable when you're inside the ship, but it's always good to have warm clothes handy for when something out on deck takes your interest. Waterproof trousers, to wear over your pants or thermal underwear, are essential for Zodiac trips and land excursions. You'll need to bring a warm, windproof hat that covers your head and ears, and a collar scarf to protect your neck and chin from the elements. Polarised sunglasses will

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help reduce the glare from the snow and ice, protect your eyes from UV rays, and help you see the details of the Antarctic scenery better. It's also worth packing mittens, ski gloves and insulated glove liners to keep your hands warm and dry. Also, you might want to pack swimming and fitness gear if you plan to visit the spa, pool or fitness centre. Evenings are informal, but maybe pack a couple of casual shirts, and skirts or dresses for dinner, and something stylish for special occasions, such as cocktails with the Captain. When it comes to footwear, keep it light and easy to pack. Swan Hellenic will provide a pair of rubber Muck boots for Zodiac excursions and onshore landings, so a pair of lightweight trainers will be fine. Steer clear of bringing high-heels, especially stilettos, as the seas can get rough at times, and you'll need to keep your balance.

**Expedition Extras** 

When you travel to the polar regions, a Swan Hellenic expedition parka will be waiting for you in your stateroom on the first day of the cruise. This is yours to keep after your voyage. Your parka is water and windproof, and features an adjustable hood with fleece lining for added warmth, a visor for optimal visibility in all conditions, and a high collar and elongated cuffs to give you extra protection. You'll also receive a branded waterproof backpack, which will be useful for protecting your camera and any other electronic gear that you want to bring for shore landings.

# **Cruise Arrival & Departure Times**

Please keep in mind that the provided cruise arrival and departure times are an approximate and will be finalised upon receipt of your cruise tickets.

## **Accommodation**

### **Accommodation Used**

5-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

 Buenos Aires, Argentina: Palladio Hotel Buenos Aires • Buenos Aires, Argentina: Alvear Art Hotel

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type and are subject to availability based on seasonality. In the instance a property is not available, a similar standard of accommodation will be provided. Properties will be confirmed and included in your travel pack, which you will receive 4-6 weeks before travel.

# **Extra Nights**

Not available.

Please note: If you are interested in booking additional nights of accommodation pre or post-tour, please wait until you receive your travel documentation approximately 4-6 weeks before departure for the confirmed list of hotels. If booking your own additional accommodation directly with the hotel, please be aware that you may be required to change rooms at the start/end of your tour.

#### **Maximum Room Capacity**

2 people

### **Triple Share**

Not available.

## **Bedding Configuration**

Twin or double (subject to availability).

# **Optional Tours/activities**

Please note:

- Prices are based per person, are subject to availability, time permitting and weather conditions
- Some tours or shore excursions require minimum numbers to operate.
- Shore excursions can be booked/reserved directly with the cruise line before travel (subject to availability)
- Shore excursions can also be booked whilst onboard (subject to availability).

 Shore excursion programmes and itineraries may vary depending on local conditions and/or any unforeseen events concerning the timing on the day of the tour. Some excursions are very popular, and therefore availability cannot always be guaranteed, it is advisable to book in advance to avoid disappointment.

### **Exclusions**

- Visa fees and requirements
- Domestic transfers and flights not stated in the deal offer
- Meals/beverages not stated in the deal offer
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Any costs associated with an interruption to your tour as a result of an airline schedule change or cancellation
- Mandatory city tax

# **Gratuities/tipping**

### Land

Please note: Tipping for services provided is always a matter of personal discretion; however, please be aware that many locals consider tipping part of their normal remuneration, and they may approach you for payment; there's no need to be intimidated by the request.

## Cruise

Gratuities (tips) are included for the cruise staff's services throughout this tour's cruise component.

### Other Important Information

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

### **Tour Guide**

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on the history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction where they are

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guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves it at the end of the tour; they do not travel with the group.

#### **Tour Leader**

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides at each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village and offer information on the place visited on the bus. However, they are not required to have specific art, architecture, or historical knowledge. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and, if caught doing so, can be fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

# **CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES**

# **Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Buenos Aires experiences its summer season from November to February, characterized by warm to hot and humid conditions with frequent thunderstorms. In November, as spring transitions to summer, average temperatures range from around 16 C to 25 C, becoming progressively warmer towards the end of the month. December brings a noticeable increase in heat, with average temperatures around 23 C, and highs often reaching 27 C - 29 C and lows around 20 C. January is the hottest month, with average temperatures hovering around 25 C, and daily highs frequently exceeding 29 C and lows around 19-20 C. February maintains similar warm temperatures, with averages around 22 C and highs generally between 25C and 31 C, and lows between 16 C and 24 C, though temperatures tend to slightly decline towards the end of the

month. Throughout this period, humidity levels are generally high, and rainfall, often in the form of afternoon thunderstorms, is common.

#### Antarctica

From November to February, Antarctica experiences its austral summer, offering the mildest temperatures and extended daylight, making it the primary window for cruises. November, the start of the season, sees temperatures on the Antarctic Peninsula averaging around -1 C to -4 C, with abundant snow and ice. December brings a rise in temperatures, often reaching 1C, with diminishing sea ice allowing for greater accessibility. January is typically the warmest month, with averages around 0C to 1C and nearly 24 hours of daylight, while February maintains similar mild temperatures of  $0 \, \text{C}$  to  $-3 \, \text{C}$ , with excellent opportunities for whale watching as the ice recedes further. While these temperatures are for the more frequently visited Peninsula, the continent's interior remains significantly colder, and the weather throughout this period is always unpredictable, with rapid shifts in conditions common.

### Weather

We always suggest referring to an online source for the most up-to-date weather information for your destination/s.

#### **FLIGHTS**

# **Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points**

We do not arrange seat selection. It is essential to highlight that some airlines do not allow pre-selected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the airline directly with seating allocation requirements and/or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the airline once you have your flight information.

## **Dietary Requests**

Meal options and availability differ between airlines and routes therefore not all dietary requests can be accommodated. If your flight includes meals we will select the most suitable option available based on the dietary requirements you have specified. All meal requests are subject to airline approval and are not guaranteed, therefore we recommend preparing for your flight by bringing appropriate food for yourself, as required.

### **Passport Validity**

Customers must provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase or no later than 90 days before the departure date. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the booking. Customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred in this instance.

### **CRUISE**

### **Embarkation/Disembarkation**

- Begins approximately 2 hours after docking.
- Due to security reasons, all guests must be on board 2 hours before sailing.
- Itineraries are subject to change at any time without notice.
- Check your specific sailing for exact departure and arrival times. All times are local to the port.

Please note: Strict Covid-19 terms may also apply regarding proof of insurance covering Covid-19 and/or vaccination. Please refer to the cruise lines' terms and conditions for further information before boarding.

### **Cruise Loyalty Discounts**

Please note: Travellers must contact the cruise line directly upon receiving their travel documents in order to request any membership benefits they may be entitled to.

## **COACH TOUR**

### Meals

For meals not included, the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify us of any dietary requests/requirements.

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Please note: We will do our best to meet your requests/requirements; however, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

### Luggage

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on tour. You must carry your own luggage from the vehicle to the hotel room and back to the vehicle. The driver will assist with the uploading and unloading of bags from the vehicle.

#### **OTHER**

### Mobility

If you require wheelchair access please contact our friendly sales and service team to inquire on your behalf.

### **Fitness Level Required**

Adventure (and spontaneity) create some of the best travel memories. Bear in mind, your home schedules and timings might not be adhered to on tour - it's all part of the fun!

A moderate level of fitness will be required. Expect a moderate pace of touring with a focus on guided tours that may include full days with extended activity, guided city tours or nature walks. You will require a general level of fitness for unassisted navigation of stairs and inclines, longer distances with possible periods of standing when visiting sites, walking on sloping, uneven ground or elevations. You will be responsible for your own luggage and have the ability to board all modes of transport without assistance.

# Please note:

 Many areas may be inaccessible to wheelchairs or mobility scooters, where the unassisted use of personal walking sticks and other aids may be required. Although some assistance may be available, every traveller should be self-reliant during all aspects of their travel.

- It is expected that every traveller must be self-reliant and able to undertake all aspects of their own travel. Please speak to your booking agent about your personal circumstances and any assistance requirements to ensure this tour is right for you.
- If you have any concerns, please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/ travel

#### **Yellow Fever**

A valid international certificate of vaccination against Yellow Fever is required in many countries. You may need to present this on arrival at the airport or border crossing. Some countries will refuse entry if you are unable to present your certificate. It's also common for your home country to request a Yellow Fever certificate upon arrival. You must check with your doctor well before leaving home about the Yellow Fever requirements for the countries you'll be visiting.

#### Sightseeing

Please note: If entry to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary, where possible, may be adjusted, or a similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).

#### **Shopping**

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all your receipts. Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader. Please refer to our Terms and Conditions regarding shopping for further information.

### Visas

### **Argentina**

Australian passport holders are visa exempt for a stay of up to 3 months.

Please note: Effective immediately, all international travellers to Argentina must hold valid travel insurance with medical coverage. This insurance may be requested and verified upon arrival in the country. Argentina's public healthcare system will no longer provide free medical services to foreign nationals. It is therefore essential that you obtain appropriate insurance before your departure.

#### Chile

As of 17th September 2025 tourist visas for Chile are not required if travelling on an Australian Passport. You can stay in Chile for up to 90 days without a visa. If you're unsure whether you need a visa, contact the nearest embassy or consulate of Chile.

#### Important:

- Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.
- Visa rules are subject to change. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination/s you are visiting once you receive your travel documentation to ensure you have the most up to date information.
- It is your responsibility to be travel-ready and ensure that you are aware and comply with any destination or travel requirements, including the validity of all required travel documents.
- Passengers who are not Australian citizens must also check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required.
- It is also important to note that some areas of employment, such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations, may have additional restrictions in applying for visas. This may, in turn, affect the type of application required.

Travel Insurance



Embarking on your next trip is exciting, and while you hope the unexpected does not happen, it is best to be prepared. We strongly recommend you take out travel insurance when making your booking. Whether it's a potential medical emergency, a flight cancellation, a delayed suitcase, or an unforeseen event, it's important to ensure you're adequately protected. For more information or advice visit <a href="https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance">https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance</a>.

## **Schedule Of Fees**

### **Voluntary Changes**

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

 Changes - \$100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

### **Name Changes Due To Passenger Error**

If the incorrect name has been provided, charges of \$100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

### **Supplier Fees**

In the event the tour package you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/or a Travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to nonrefundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/ accommodation partners. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event we are unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee.

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