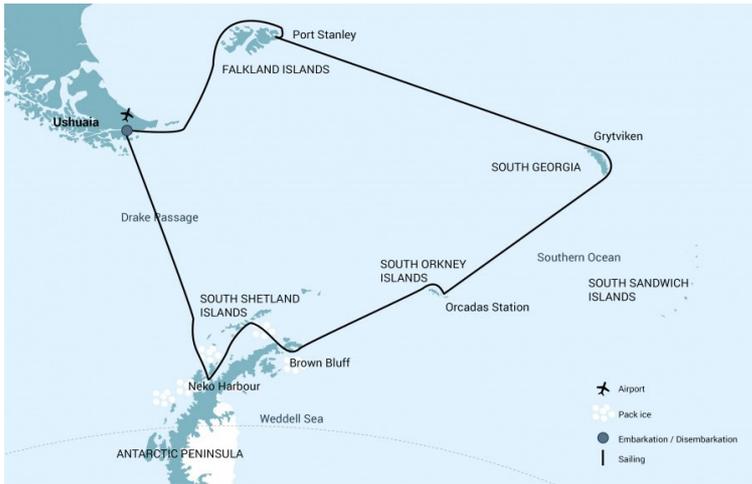


# Falkland Islands - South Georgia - Antarctica

Meet at least six penguin species



Title:	Falkland Islands - South Georgia - Antarctica
Dates:	13 Dec, 2021 - 3 Jan, 2022
Tripcode:	OTL24-21
Duration:	21 nights
Ship:	m/v Ortelius
Embarkation:	Ushuaia
Disembarkation:	Ushuaia
Language:	English speaking voyage

## ITINERARY

*PLEASE NOTE: All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on local ice and weather conditions and in order to take advantage of opportunities to see wildlife. The on-board expedition leader determines the final itinerary. Itineraries may mention places that require permission to land, which must be granted by the relevant national authorities. Such permission is not granted prior to the publishing of these itineraries. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises. Average cruising speed of m/v Ortelius is 10,5 knots.*

This Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctic Peninsula cruise is an animal-lover's dream come true. The expedition explores one of the last untamed areas on Earth – a land of ruggedly beautiful landscapes and amazingly varied wildlife.

### Day 1: End of the world, start of a journey

Your voyage begins where the world drops off. Ushuaia, Argentina, reputed to be the southernmost city on the planet, is located on the far southern tip of South America. Starting in the afternoon, you embark from this small resort town on Tierra del Fuego, nicknamed "The End of the World," and sail the mountain-fringed Beagle Channel for the remainder of the evening.

### Day 2: The winged life of the westerlies

Several species of albatross follow the vessel into the westerlies, along with storm petrels, shearwaters, and diving petrels.

### Day 3 - 4: Finding the Falklands

The Falkland Islands offer an abundance of wildlife that is easily approachable, though caution is always advised. These islands are largely unknown gems, the site of a 1982 war between the UK and Argentina. Not only do various species of bird live here, but chances are great you'll see both Peale's dolphins and Commerson's dolphins in the surrounding waters.

During this segment of the voyage, you may visit the following sites:

**Westpoint Island** – Thick with black-browed albatrosses and rockhopper penguins.

**Grave Cove** – Nesting gentoo penguins and excellent hiking opportunities abound here.

**New Island, Coffin's Harbour** – This location is a reasonable walk from the landing site at the New Island South Wildlife Reserve, providing views of nesting black-browed albatrosses and rockhopper penguins. A more strenuous hike to Landsend Bluff may also show you some South American fur seals. The site of the only land-based whaling station on the Falkland Islands is south of the landing beach.

**New Island North Nature Reserve** – Landing here requires a special permit. If received, you can make a farewell visit to the black-browed albatrosses (among other bird species) and South American fur seals that make the Falklands their home.

**Carcass Island** – Despite its name, this island is pleasantly rodent-free and hence bounteous with birdlife. Anything from breeding Magellanic penguins and gentoos to numerous waders and passerine birds (including Cobb's wrens and tussock-birds) live here.

**Saunders Island** – On Saunders Island you can see the black-browed albatross and its sometimes-clumsy landings, along with

breeding imperial shags and rockhopper penguins. King penguins, Magellanic penguins, and gentoos are also found here.

## Day 5: The seat of Falklands culture

The capital of the Falklands and center of its culture, Stanley has some Victorian-era charm: colorful houses, well-tended gardens, and English-style pubs are all to be found here. You can also see several century-old clipper ships nearby, silent witnesses to the hardships of 19th century sailors. The small but interesting museum is also worth a visit, covering the early days of settlement up to the Falklands War. Approximately 2,100 people live in Stanley. Admission to the museum is included.

## Day 6 - 7: Once more to the sea

En route to South Georgia, you now cross the Antarctic Convergence. The temperature cools considerably within the space of a few hours, and nutritious water rises to the surface of the sea due to colliding water columns. This phenomenon attracts a multitude of seabirds near the ship, including several species of albatross, shearwaters, petrels, prions, and skuas.

## Day 8 - 12: South Georgia Journey

Today you arrive at the first South Georgia activity site. Please keep in mind that weather conditions in this area can be challenging, largely dictating the program.

Over the next several days, you have a chance to visit the following sites:

**Prion Island** – This location is closed during the early part of the wandering albatross breeding season (November 20 – January 7). From January on, the breeding adults have found their partners and are sitting on eggs or nursing their chicks. Enjoy witnessing the gentle nature of these animals, which possess the largest wingspan of any birds in the world.

**Fortuna Bay** – A beautiful outwash plain from Fortuna Glacier is home to a large number of king penguins and seals. You may have the chance to follow the final leg of Shackleton's route to the abandoned whaling village of Stromness. This path cuts across the mountain pass beyond Shackleton's Waterfall, and as the terrain is partly swampy, be prepared to cross a few small streams.

**Salisbury Plain, St. Andrews Bay, Gold Harbour** – These sites not only house the three largest king penguin colonies in South Georgia, they're also three of the world's largest breeding beaches for Antarctic fur seals. Literally millions breed on South Georgia during December and January. Only during the mid-season do they peak in their breeding cycle. Watch the large bulls keep a constant vigil (and occasionally fight) over territories where dozens of females have just given birth or are about to deliver. Watch your step and stay cool when walking the beaches during this time.

**Grytviken** – In this abandoned whaling station, king penguins walk the streets and elephant seals lie around like they own the place – because they basically do. Here you might be able to see the South Georgia Museum as well as Shackleton's grave.

**Cobblers Cove, Godthul** – At Cobblers Cove we aim for Rookery Point to see macaroni penguins. Light-mantled sooty albatrosses nest along the coastline and giant petrels can be observed as well. Godthul (Norwegian for "good cove") was named by Norwegian whalers and seal-hunters and remains such as bones can still be found along the shore line. Beaches are the home of gentoo penguins.

**Cooper Bay** – Offers the largest chinstrap penguin population and gentoo and also macaroni penguins are present. Antarctic terns, white-chinned petrels, blue-eyed shags and light-mantled sooty albatrosses can be spotted too.

In the afternoon of day 12 and depending on the conditions, we will start sailing southwards in the direction of the South Orkney Islands.

## Day 13: Southward bound

There may be sea ice on this route, and at the edge of the ice some south polar skuas and snow petrels could join the other seabirds trailing the vessel south.

## Day 14: The scenic vistas of South Orkney

Depending on the conditions, you might visit Orcadas Base, an Argentine scientific station on Laurie Island in the South Orkney archipelago. The personnel here will happily show you their facility, where you can enjoy expansive views of the surrounding glaciers. If a visit isn't possible, you may instead land in Coronation Island's Shingle Cove.

## Day 15: Last push to the Antarctic

Enormous icebergs and a fair chance of fin whale sightings ensure there's never a dull moment on this last sea voyage south. Also, your best chance to spot Antarctic petrels is here.

## Day 16 - 19: Awe-inspiring Antarctica

If the ice conditions permit, you now sail into the Weddell Sea. Here colossal tabular icebergs herald your arrival to the eastern side of the Antarctic Peninsula. You might also visit Brown Bluff, located in the ice-clogged Antarctic Sound, where you could get the chance to set foot on the Antarctic Continent itself.

We sail further in the Antarctic Peninsula. Sites we may visit are:

**Wilhelmina Bay** – A likely spot to see feeding humpback whales. If conditions allow, you may even embark on a Zodiac cruise to the ghostly wreck of the *Guvernøren*, a whaling vessel that caught fire here in 1915.

**Neko Harbour** – An epic landscape of mammoth glaciers and endless wind-carved snow, Neko Harbour offers opportunities for a Zodiac cruise and landing that afford the closest views of the surrounding alpine peaks.

**Paradise Bay** – You may be able to take a Zodiac cruise in these sprawling, ice-flecked waters, where there's a good chance you'll encounter humpback and minke whales.

The breathtaking scenery continues in the Bransfield Strait and, if conditions allow further South in the Gerlache Strait. Conditions on the Drake Passage determine the exact time of departure.

## Day 20 - 21: Familiar seas, familiar friends

Your return voyage is far from lonely. While crossing the Drake, you're again greeted by the vast array of seabirds remembered from the passage south. But they seem a little more familiar to you now, and you to them.

## Day 22: There and back again

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. It's now time to disembark in Ushuaia, but with memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.

### Included in this voyage

- Voyage aboard the indicated vessel as indicated in the itinerary
- All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.
- All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.
- Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.
- Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes.
- Luggage transfer from pick-up point to the vessel on the day of embarkation, in Ushuaia.
- Pre-scheduled group transfer from the vessel to the airport in Ushuaia (directly after disembarkation).
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.
- Comprehensive pre-departure material.

### Excluded from this voyage

- Any airfare, whether on scheduled or charter flights.
- Pre- and post- land arrangements.
- Passport and visa expenses.
- Government arrival and departure taxes.
- Meals ashore.
- Baggage, cancellation and personal insurance (which is strongly recommended).
- Excess baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and telecommunication charges.
- The customary gratuity at the end of the voyages for stewards and other service personnel aboard (guidelines will be provided).

# CABINS & PRICES

## Quadruple Porthole



2 portholes  
 2 upper / lower berths  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

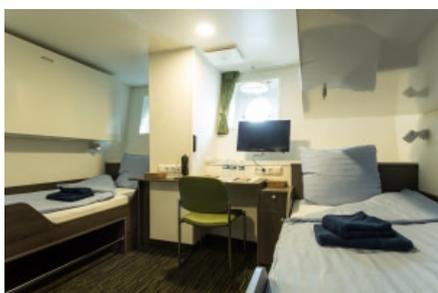
62000 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

15500 USD

## Triple Porthole



2 portholes  
 1 upper / lower berth + 1 single lower berth  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

56100 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

18700 USD

## Twin Porthole



2 portholes  
 2 lower berths  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

37400 USD



Single cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

31790 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

18700 USD

## Twin Window



2 windows  
2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

39000 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

33150 USD



Sharing berth  
Share your cabin with others for the best price

19500 USD

## Twin Deluxe



3 windows  
2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Small sofa  
Refrigerator  
Coffee & tea maker  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

41600 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

35360 USD



Sharing berth  
Share your cabin with others for the best price

20800 USD

## Superior



2 windows (minimum)  
1 double bed  
1 single (sofa) bed  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Refrigerator  
Coffee & tea maker  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

44800 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

38080 USD