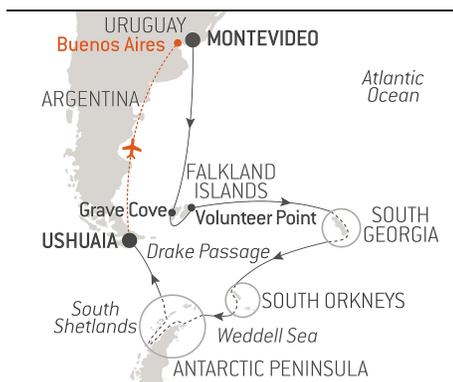


The Antarctic Odyssey

From **9/11/2020**
to **29/11/2020**

Ship: **LE LYRIAL**

From **Montevideo**
to **Ushuaia**



Transfer + flight Ushuaia/Buenos Aires

PONANT invites you on an extraordinary **21-day adventure in the Antarctic**. You will board *Le Lyrial* for a **polar expedition cruise** with an extremely rich itinerary that will take you from Montevideo to Ushuaia.

First, you will chart a course for the **Falkland Islands**, whose wild beauty and lush moors are sure to captivate you, before heading to **South Georgia**, its impressive glaciers and its black-sand beaches where large colonies of **king penguins** have taken up residence.

Your ship will then make its way to the **South Orkney Islands**. These mountainous islands where impressive glaciers dominate the landscape are a major nesting site for **chinstrap penguins** and a favourite hunting spot of **leopard seals**.

On the final leg of your epic adventure, discover the **Antarctic Peninsula**, realm of the unexpected. There, weather and ice conditions permitting, you will most likely get the chance to see **Gentoo, Adelle and chinstrap penguins, humpback whales, seals and seabirds**, against a grandiose backdrop of **icebergs, ice floe**, and ages-old **glaciers**.

After crossing the mythical **Drake Passage**, you will disembark in Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world.

We are privileged guests in these extreme lands where we are at the mercy of weather and ice conditions. Landings on certain sites and the observation of certain wildlife cannot be guaranteed. They vary from day to day, making each PONANT cruise a unique experience. The Captain and the Expedition Leader will make every effort to ensure that your experience is as rich as possible, while complying with the safety rules and instructions imposed by the IAATO.



The information in this document is valid as of 11/8/2020

The Antarctic Odyssey

YOUR STOPOVERS :

MONTEVIDEO

Embarkation 9/11/2020 from 16h00 to 17h00

Departure 9/11/2020 at 18h00

Perched on the far southern tip of Uruguay, **Montevideo** is a white city, and one of the loveliest capital cities of South America. Come and admire the beautiful historical remains dating from Spanish rule; you'll find the most interesting within the **Cuidad Vieja**, formerly fortified, its old town dates from the 18th century. The best preserved are the cathedral and the former governmental palace of the **Cabildo**, both listed historical monuments. In the crook of a vast blue bay, the city is also blessed with **beautiful beaches**.

AT SEA

Arrival 10/11/2020

Departure 12/11/2020

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

GRAVE COVE

Arrival 13/11/2020

Departure 13/11/2020

Make your way through the turbulent Woolly Gut strait and emerge in the stillness of **Grave Cove**. Located in the northern edge of **the Falkland Islands**, this bay owes its name to the vestiges of whalers' graves that overlook the beach. As you step off the boat and onto the white-sand beach, you might find yourself escorted by a few hospitable **Commerson's dolphins**, elegantly adorned in black and white. A stroll along the grassy dunes will lead you to a vast plain of lush green grass, tended by a few sheep. On the other side of the island you'll find one of the largest **gentoo penguin** colonies in the area. With some luck, you'll also glimpse a sea lion scouring the waves for his next meal.

THE NECK, SAUNDERS ISLAND

Arrival 13/11/2020

Departure 13/11/2020

The Neck is a narrow stretch of land connecting the two sides of **Saunders Island**, located on the north-western edge of the **Falklands**. You'll safely enter these blustery surroundings with the assistance of your naturalist guides. And once there, a reward awaits you: a veritable paradise of endless shoreline lapped by **turquoise waters**. Several bird species, also attracted to this stunning location, have settled here. At the other end of The Neck, you'll encounter Magellanic penguins, southern rockhopper penguins, **black-browed albatross** and **king penguins**, all basking in the beauty of their surroundings.

VOLUNTEER POINT

Arrival 14/11/2020

Departure 14/11/2020

A peninsula located at the far north-east of the **Falkland Islands**, Volunteer Point, named after the ship *The Volunteer* which called there in 1815, promises moving encounters in the heart of totally unspoiled nature. Due to its exceptional birdlife, the spot is identified as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) and is, above all, renowned as the home of the island's largest **king penguin** colony. These elegant birds, which are expressive and not particularly timid, will offer you moments of pure awe and the opportunity to take magnificent photos. You'll certainly be touched by the fledglings, dressed in their thick brown plumage.

AT SEA

Arrival 15/11/2020

Departure 16/11/2020

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

SOUTH GEORGIA

Arrival 17/11/2020

Departure 19/11/2020

Aboard your ship, discover South Georgia, a region formed by an underwater mountain chain that extends from the Andes to the Antarctic Peninsula. All the wildlife of the Far South can be found there: king and Gentoo penguins, elephant seals, fur seals... You might get the chance to discover the majestic glaciers of Gold Harbour and the vast plains of Fortuna Bay. If you are fortunate enough to land at Salisbury Plain, you can expect a wonderful spectacle:

more than 300,000 king penguins, which you will recognise by the bright orange mark on their head and neck, have taken up residence there.

AT SEA

Arrival 20/11/2020

Departure 20/11/2020

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS

Arrival 21/11/2020

Departure 22/11/2020

More than 85% glaciated, these remote mountainous islands are hidden in the Southern Ocean, some 600 km from the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula. The archipelago is composed of four main islands: Coronation Island, Signy Island, Powell Island and Laurie Island. Discovered in 1821 by seal hunters, they were also explored in 1823 by the British navigator James Weddell, who gave them their current name. Despite the ravages caused by whale and seal hunting, today a sizeable leopard seal population can be found there, along with chinstrap penguins and snow petrels. Laurie Island is home to an old scientific station that is still in operation.

AT SEA

Arrival 23/11/2020

Departure 23/11/2020

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

Arrival 24/11/2020
Departure 26/11/2020

Succumb to the magic of a place unlike any other. To this day, the mythical Antarctic Peninsula still holds real fascination and promises its visitors unforgettable moments. Throughout your adventure in this icy realm, you will find yourself in the heart of a spectacular decor in subtle shades of blue and white, surrounded by exceptional wildlife. Penguins, humpback whales, seals and giant petrels are at home here, as are elephant seals, fur seals, Antarctic minke whales, and orcas. Depending on which sites you will be lucky enough to visit, you may get the chance to observe them and share with them the beauty of these extreme parts.

Each day, based on ice conditions, the Captain and the Expedition Leader will suggest Zodiac[®] outings or landings to discover the infinite riches of the Antarctic Peninsula. Glaciers, ice floe, tabletop icebergs, mountain peaks that plunge straight into the sea, volcanic beaches, research stations, enchanting bays, and vestiges of the whaling industry: these are the faces of the Antarctic that will likely reveal themselves to you, in a hushed and surreal atmosphere. You will sail in the wake of Jean-Baptiste Charcot, Adrien de Gerlache and Sir Ernest Shackleton, great Antarctic explorers who, from the 19th century, set out to conquer these remote and uninhabited lands.

CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

Arrival 27/11/2020
Departure 28/11/2020

If there is one place, one sea, one waterway dreaded by tourists, researchers and hardened seafarers alike, it is undoubtedly **Drake Passage**. Situated at the latitude of the infamous Furious Fifties winds, between Cape Horn and the South Shetland Islands, it is **the shortest route to connect Antarctica to South America**. Seasoned navigators will tell you that you must earn your visit to the White Continent! As the Antarctic convergence zone where cold currents rising up from the South Pole meet warmer equatorial water masses, Drake Passage harbours a very diverse marine fauna. Don't forget to look to the sky to catch a glimpse of elegant albatross and **Cape petrels**, playfully floating about in the wind around your ship.

USHUAIA

Arrival 29/11/2020 early morning
Disembarkation 29/11/2020 at 07h00

Capital of Argentina's **Tierra del Fuego** province, Ushuaia is considered the gateway to the White Continent and the South Pole. Nicknamed "**El fin del mundo**" by the Argentinian people, this city at the end of the world nestles in the shelter of mountains surrounded by fertile plains that the wildlife seem to have chosen as the ultimate sanctuary. With its exceptional site, where the Andes plunge straight into the sea, Ushuaia is one of the most fascinating places on earth, its very name evocative of journeys to the unlikely and the inaccessible...