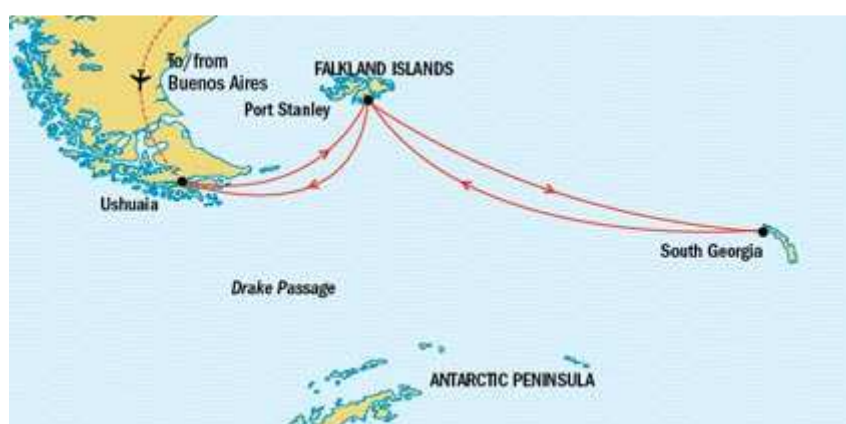




South Georgia and the Falklands

17 days-Ushuaia to Ushuaia (with optional Buenos Aires to Ushuaia charter flight)



DAY 1: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Check in to the excellent Caesar Park Hotel (MGallery) before having a guided overview of the city, seeing its Beaux Arts palaces and the famous balcony forever associated with Eva Peron.

NOTE: Guests traveling aboard *National Geographic Orion* will arrive today in Santiago, Chile instead of Buenos Aires. Please be sure to confirm departure and arrival cities prior to booking airfare. We check in to our fine hotel, centrally located in Santiago and have the morning to relax. Santiago is nearly surrounded by the Andes, which form an inspiring backdrop to our afternoon guided overview of this vibrant city. We explore the Plaza de Armas, the main square, and nearby Presidential Palace, enjoying wonderful views from the many hills that dot the city.



DAY 2: Buenos Aires/Ushuaia/Embark

Fly to Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world. Join a catamaran cruise of the Beagle Channel before embarking our ship. (B,L,D)

NOTE: Guests traveling aboard *National Geographic Orion* will fly by private charter today from Santiago, Chile to Ushuaia, Argentina to embark the *Orion*. Please confirm departure and arrival cities prior to booking airfare.



DAY 3: At Sea In The South Atlantic

Settle into shipboard life, listening to informal discussions from our naturalist staff to prepare us for the wildness ahead in the Falklands. Spend time on deck and on the bridge, scanning for seabirds, notably the albatross. (B,L,D)



DAY 4-5: Falkland Islands

Each Falkland Island is a variation on the theme of topographical beauty with white-sand beaches, vaulting cliffs, windswept moors and the sunlit yellows and sage greens of waving tussock grass. The Falklands boast thousands of irresistible gentoo, rockhopper and Magellanic penguins, as well as herds of fur and elephant seals. Our visit to Port Stanley offers a chance to meet the hospitable locals, and stroll around this remote Victorian town. (B,L,D)



DAY 6-7: At Sea

During our days at sea, we learn about the fascinating history of Antarctic exploration, as well as the flora, fauna and geology of South Georgia. A lookout is kept to identify the seabirds that follow us: wandering albatross, prions and black-browed albatross. (B,L,D)



DAY 8-12: South Georgia Island

Explore the spectacular coastline of South Georgia Island. In keeping with the nature of an expedition, our schedule is flexible with opportunities for walking, hiking, kayaking and Zodiac excursions. Leisurely circumnavigating the island, we plan to make stops every day including Grytviken, the final resting place of Shackleton, and Stromness Bay where Shackleton, Tom Crean and Frank Worsley finally reached aid at a whaling station. And, we visit a vast colony of tens of thousands of king penguins! (B,L,D)



DAY 13-14: At Sea

With whales beneath and birds above, head out on deck or up to the Bridge to observe expert navigation at work as our skilled Captain and officers sail these waters. There'll also be time to relax and enjoy a massage in the wellness center, work out in the gym, and browse in the library. (B,L,D)



DAY 15: Falkland Islands

Our journey across the South Atlantic Ocean takes us once more to the island archipelago that teems with nature and wildlife. Take a last walk along the beautiful white-sand beaches, meander through tussock grass or sit atop a cliff and ponder the views. (B,L,D)



DAY 16: At Sea

One last chance to send emails home saying "Don't want this to end." (B,L,D)



DAY 17: Ushuaia, Argentina/ Disembark/Buenos Aires

Disembark in Ushuaia with time to explore before flying to Buenos Aires by private charter if required. (B,L)

NOTE: Guests traveling aboard *National Geographic Orion* will fly from Ushuaia by private charter (if required) to Santiago, Chile instead of Buenos Aires. Please confirm departure and arrival cities prior to booking airfare.