



LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISES

Classic Antarctica 2019

13 days

Limited to 199 guests

Embark on an award-winning Luxury Expedition Cruise for the centerpiece of the Southern Hemisphere — extraordinary Antarctica, where towering icebergs, massive glaciers and abundant wildlife make for the ultimate adventure destination.

A&K Advantages

Cruise for 10 nights aboard luxurious 'Le Lyrial' with guaranteed balcony accommodations for all guests, only when exclusively chartered by A&K

Begin your journey with a two-night stay at the luxurious Palacio Duhaio — Park Hyatt on famed Alvear Avenue in Buenos Aires

Sail with an exceptional team curated by A&K, featuring our award-winning Expedition Team, an experienced service staff and crew, and one of the best personnel-to-guest ratios at 1 to 1.3

Enjoy all-inclusive cruising with included gratuities, unlimited house drinks, onboard meals, all Zodiac rides and excursions, expedition gear, port charges, and — our newest offerings — complimentary Wi-Fi and Traveller's Valet laundry service

Experience an enhanced photography departure, enjoying added programming led by dedicated A&K photo coaches

Explore the Antarctic Peninsula for five action-packed days with excursions led by the region's best guides

Discover some of the world's rarest wildlife on a voyage ideally timed with the peak of the austral summer and the arrival of the season's first penguin chicks

Learn about efforts to protect Antarctica's changing environment from experts at the forefront of conservation

Take advantage of A&K internal flights to and from Ushuaia, guaranteeing timely arrival to your ship

Itinerary

DEC 7 ARRIVE BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Arrive in Argentina's capital and transfer to your hotel, where you spend the rest of the day at leisure. Meet your fellow adventurers for a welcome cocktail reception this evening.

Palacio Duhau — Park Hyatt Buenos Aires

DEC 8 BUENOS AIRES | VIBRANT LATIN AMERICAN CITY

Latin passion and European Romance define the beautiful city of Buenos Aires, a dynamic mecca known for its wide-ranging architectural styles, contemporary and historic arts, and culinary pleasures and *parrillas* (steakhouses). Dive into its best treasures under the wing of expert A&K local guides, choosing from a selection of included excursions. Opt to explore the city on a guided tour complete with a tango demonstration; spend the day at an authentic *estancia* (ranch), where you pause for a traditional lunch; or discover a burgeoning art scene on a guided tour focused on Buenos Aires street art.

Palacio Duhau — Park Hyatt Buenos Aires | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DEC 9 USHUAIA | GATEWAY TO ANTARCTICA

Fly to the charming port town of Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world. On arrival, enjoy a gourmet lunch at the Arakur resort, enjoying panoramic city and mountain vistas while you dine. Time and weather permitting, take a guided walk in the Cerro Alarken Nature Reserve or simply relax with a cappuccino and enjoy scenic views of Ushuaia. This afternoon, transfer to your ship and settle in for your first night on board. Wander the decks to become acquainted with the ship, relax in the lounge and mingle with fellow guests in anticipation of your voyage. From your private balcony or the outside decks, take in views as you cruise the beautiful Beagle Channel before heading out to sea.

'Le Lyrial' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DEC 10-11 CRUISING THE DRAKE PASSAGE | EPIC PASSAGE

The journey south toward Antarctica is an exciting one, furthered by singular, voyage-long access to our knowledgeable Expedition Team and enrichment experts — both on board and on shore. Set out into the Drake Passage, a 600-mile-wide swath of water where the Southern Ocean currents are squeezed between South America's southern tip and Antarctica's northernmost reaches. An important trade route in the 19th and early 20th centuries, its stormy waters and icy conditions once made the journey a difficult one, though the stabilizer-equipped 'Le Lyrial' handles it with ease. After lunch, join your naturalists on the deck to look for various species of whales and abundant seabirds, which join other mammals in feasting on the krill-rich waters of the Drake Passage; it's all just a taste of the wildlife you will encounter in the days to come. Later in the evening, chat with experts about the wildlife spotted today and learn about the next day's itinerary.

'Le Lyrial' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DEC 12-16 ANTARCTICA | THE WHITE CONTINENT

As the Antarctic Peninsula and its offshore islands appear on the horizon, a sense of excitement begins to build. Travel in the comfort of your luxury cruiser, enjoying enriching lectures from members of the Expedition Team on topics ranging from birdlife to photography and history. Your Captain and Expedition Team carefully plan your active, curated itinerary, which is dependent on weather, sea, ice and wildlife conditions. With that in mind, daily excursions may include exploration of the following areas: **Antarctic Sound:** At the northernmost tip of the Antarctic mainland, this body of water features some of the best sightseeing on the peninsula and a proliferation of giant icebergs. Noted for its vast numbers of bird species, the sound is home to the largest breeding colonies of Adelie penguins in Antarctica. Landings here may include Paulet, Vortex or Terror islands. You may also make your first continental landing at sites such as Brown Bluff or Esperanza Station at Hope Bay. **South Shetland Islands:** Antarctic research stations, remarkable history, amazing geological features and abundant wildlife define these islands off the shore of the Antarctic Peninsula. Island visits may include Penguin, Half-Moon and Deception, where you may cruise into this flooded caldera to explore geothermal black sand beaches and abandoned whaling stations. **Danco Coast:** Bordering the South Shetland Islands along the Antarctic continent, the Danco Coast is famed for its scenic, jaw-dropping waterways. From the comfort of 'Le Lyrial,' you may sail through the Gerlache Strait, Paradise Bay and photogenic Lemaire Channel. Landings may include Neko Harbour, Cuverville Island and Wilhelmina Bay. Each cruise day begins with an early breakfast followed by a morning excursion on swift Zodiacs (sturdy inflatable boats). Guided by expert drivers, each Zodiac excursion is accompanied by lecturers and joined by groups of no more than 10 guests. After mornings discovering native species and striking terrain, return to 'Le Lyrial' for lunch, and time to relax and observe the wildlife-rich waters that surround you, searching for everything from fin whales, humpback whales and orcas, to Antarctic and imperial shags. By afternoon, set out for the day's second excursion, which may include visiting a working scientific research station, hiking on a sheltered beach packed with basking Southern elephant seals, or circumnavigating colossal icebergs that serve as floating homes to seals and penguins. After full days of adventure, evenings aboard your luxury cruiser invite you to unwind over cocktails in the cozy lounge before dinner in the elegant dining room. At night, choose to recap the day's discoveries with your naturalist guides; chat on deck with fellow guests; or seize the opportunity to capture photos in the stunning low light characteristic of Antarctica's long, ethereal twilight.

'Le Lyrial' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DEC 17-18 CRUISING THE DRAKE PASSAGE | MEMORABLE RETURN

Bid farewell to wondrous Antarctica and begin your cruise back to Ushuaia at the southernmost tip of Argentina. The ship's return through the Drake Passage is an interlude for recap and reflection, with time to compare notes with your expert lecturers on the wildlife, history and geology of the White Continent. Spend time on board with newfound friends in the comfortable common spaces of 'Le Lyrial,' enjoy quiet relaxation on your own private balcony or absorb more fascinating



lectures by your captivating Expedition Team. While cruising through this historic passage, you may spot various species of whales and seabirds, including the elusive albatross and the giant petrel, an opportunistic predator and scavenger nicknamed the "stinker." The immense albatross is an especially stunning sight to behold. These wandering birds boast a wingspan approaching 12 feet and are capable of gliding through the air for hours at a time in search of food.

'Le Lyrial' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DEC 19 DEPART USHUAIA

'Le Lyrial' docks at Ushuaia this morning. After breakfast, bid farewell to your crew and fellow guests before disembarking. Transfer to the airport for your return flight to Buenos Aires, where you connect to your international flight home.

Note: This cruise includes regular Zodiac boat excursions, walks over uneven terrain and optional, challenging hikes. Due to the nature of expedition cruising, this itinerary is subject to change and is for guidance purposes only.

Extensions



Iguazu Falls Pre-Tour Extension

4 days from \$2,495
Single Supplement from \$995
Internal air from \$450
✈ Buenos Aires/Iguazu/Buenos Aires

DEC 4

Arrive in Buenos Aires. You are transferred to your historic hotel in the heart of the city where you meet your A&K local guide, who joins your journey.

Palacio Duhau — Park Hyatt Buenos Aires

DEC 5

Fly to Iguazu Falls, and experience the Argentine side of the park, walking the trails above and along the falls. Choose to venture out on a suspended platform that extends 1,300 yards over the lush tropical basin at the very brink of the 'Garganta do Diablo' (Devil's Throat).

Belmond Hotel das Cataratas | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DEC 6

Today, explore the Brazilian side, with its cascading waterfalls along a gulf. Join your guide on a tour through the national park to a catwalk within arm's reach of the falls.

Belmond Hotel das Cataratas | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DEC 7

Fly to Buenos Aires. Begin your main program.

Dates & Prices

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

Journey Details

This journey contains some active elements.

Weather, wildlife, ice and other conditions beyond A&K's control may affect the final itinerary, which may be adjusted at the sole discretion of your Captain and Expedition Leader.

Minimum age is 10 years.

Categories 4-9 include suite accommodations at the hotel and butler service on board the ship.

First group event: welcome reception on Dec 7.

Last group event: disembarkation in Ushuaia at 9:00 a.m. on Dec 19.

Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Internal and international air not included. See complete terms and conditions [here](#).