

WILDLIFE

WORLDWIDE

2026 | 2027

Wildlife Voyages



Alaska - Antarctica - Arctic - Canada - Dominican Republic - Falklands - South Georgia - Galápagos Islands - Hawaii - Indonesia - Mexico - New Zealand - Norway - Peru - Scotland

Welcome

There's nothing quite like being out on the water, surrounded by wildlife, immersed in nature, and sharing moments of pure wonder. Our Wildlife Voyages have been designed with that very feeling in mind.

We work with some of the most capable and characterful small ships in the world – vessels purpose-built for exploration and equipped for adventure. Each of our expeditions is the result of comprehensive research, thoughtful planning and a deep respect for the natural world.

From gliding silently through ice-strewn waters to the extraordinary privilege of descending into the ocean alongside majestic marine mammals – these are moments that stay with you forever.

Among our upcoming adventures, The Ultimate Snow Hill Expedition stands as a true once-in-a-lifetime experience. It's a rare chance to encounter emperor penguins in one of the planet's most remote and awe-inspiring locations. With places filling fast, early booking is essential.

We're equally excited to unveil Wildlife Wonders of South Georgia & Antarctica, a new and exclusive voyage aboard the beautifully refurbished Polar Athena. Privately chartered for November 2028, this promises to be an epic expedition in every sense.

Read on to discover where your next adventure might take you.

Wildlife Worldwide

Chris Breen, Dan Free and the Wildlife Worldwide team



All holiday prices in this brochure are based on two people sharing a room/cabin, and include wildlife activities, accommodation and transfers. Prices are correct at time of going to print. For full details and quotations contact our expert wildlife team.



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About Us

Our Exclusive Wildlife Voyages

Our collection of Wildlife Voyages includes specially-chartered exclusive trips which are highlighted in this brochure. These departures offer a unique opportunity to travel with an expert Wildlife Worldwide tour leader (or team) together with an onboard team of experts.

E-Newsletter

Subscribe to our regular e-newsletters to keep up to date with all our latest holidays, news, offers and events.

wildlifeworldwide.com/subscribe

Opening Hours

We're open from 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday, and also on Saturdays from 9am to 1pm in January, February and March.

More Online

Our brochure features many of our newly launched tours to inspire your next wildlife adventure, but visit our website to view our extensive range of small group and tailor-made holidays, day-to-day itineraries, availability, tour reports, blogs and much more!

Special Offers

Many of our voyages offer exclusive early bird discounts, special offers, and reduced or no single supplements. Also, take advantage of last-minute deals on selected voyages. Contact our expert team for details.

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Snorkelling with Humpbacks on Silver Bank



Few experiences surpass the profound feeling of swimming alongside a humpback whale – it's a truly life-changing marine encounter.

Between January and April each year, the largest gathering of North Atlantic humpback whales takes place at Silver Bank, just north of the Dominican Republic. During this time, thousands of humpback whales converge to court, mate and give birth.

We're thrilled to offer an exclusive small group experience, chartered solely for our clients and led cetacean enthusiast, Helen Bryon or Wildlife Worldwide Founder, Chris Breen.

On the trip, we learn fascinating insights into whale behaviour and marine ecology. However, the highlight is undoubtedly swimming with these curious 'big-winged' whales!

Little can prepare you for the wonders that lie beneath the surface, as a humpback passes

alongside you, their immense body gliding gracefully through the water. It evokes a profound sense of awe – especially when witnessing the bond between a mother and calf or hearing haunting whale song echo through the water.

Equipped with our snorkelling gear, we embark on twice-daily excursions to observe and swim with the whales. As Silver Bank is a designated whale sanctuary, visitor numbers are strictly controlled, ensuring minimal disturbance to the whales and providing genuine and respectful interactions.

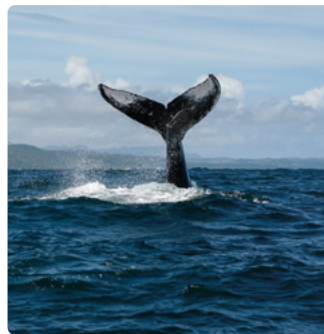
In January, there's intense competition when males vie for the attention of females. But come February, the waters are calmer with many humpbacks having given birth, adding a sense of excitement to this captivating experience.

Beyond the whales, we indulge in the various amenities aboard our vessel. Panoramic ocean views can be enjoyed from the

sun deck, or we can unwind in the comfortable lounge area. With our small group size, the atmosphere onboard is warm, friendly and relaxed.

This expedition is more than a wildlife adventure – it's an

opportunity to connect with the ocean's magnificent giants, up close, eye-to-eye, in their natural environment, leaving you with unforgettable memories and a renewed appreciation for the ocean's delicate ecosystems.




[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: We embark in Puerto Plata and set sail.

Days 2-6: We spend the next five days on the Silver Bank enjoying twice-daily excursions to observe and swim with the whales. Excursions usually vary from 90-minutes to three hours, depending on weather conditions and whale behaviour. Our aim, of course, is to spend as much time in the water as possible, but we may also simply sit and watch the whales from the tender.

Day 7: Final excursion in the water before departing Silver Bank. Enjoy a free afternoon in Puerto Plata.

Day 8: Disembark in Puerto Plata.

8 days, from £4,845 (voyage only)

Departure dates: 7 Feb 2026; 6 Feb 2027; 5 Feb 2028

Embark/Disembark:

Puerto Plata/Puerto Plata

Vessel: Turks & Caicos Explorer II, accommodating a maximum of 20 passengers, or Turks & Caicos Aggressor II, accommodating a maximum of 18 passengers.

Tour leaders:

Chris Breen & Helen Bryon

Why book Snorkelling with Humpbacks?

Enjoy intimate interactions with North Atlantic humpback whales amidst the turquoise Caribbean Sea.

- Bucket-list adventure
- Intimate encounters
- Small group
- Knowledgeable guides

Wildlife Highlights

- North Atlantic humpback whale
- Bottlenose dolphin
- Spinner dolphin
- Manta ray

Activities

Whale watching, swimming & snorkelling, boat excursions

“Listening to a whale sing underwater and being about four to five feet away from two swimming whales was just fantastic! The thing I enjoyed the most was that from end to end, it was well-organised and easy to get there.”

Caroline N, Jan 2025



Alaska's Inside Passage: Whales & Glaciers Expedition



The Inside Passage, with its intricate network of sheltered bays, fjords and islands, is home to an astonishing array of wildlife, making it an oasis for nature enthusiasts.

In Alaska, it's a pristine wilderness, best explored by water. On this journey aboard a small expedition vessel, you are rewarded with unparalleled access to remote areas where larger ships simply cannot venture. Uncover hidden coves and navigate narrow channels, all while enjoying the company of an ensemble of wonderful wildlife.

As you navigate these secluded waters, the grandeur of Alaska's wilderness unfolds before you. Towering glaciers plunge into the sea, while dense forests and snow-capped mountains rise majestically above, forming a stunning backdrop.

This unique environment teems with wildlife – humpback whale, orca, Steller sea lion and harbour seal frequent these waters, while bald eagles soar overhead, and

brown bears patrol the shoreline in search of food.

In addition to marine mammals, the region boasts a vibrant bird population. As you explore, you are likely to encounter characterful puffins, black oystercatchers with their vibrant orange beaks, and kittiwakes nesting along the cliffs.

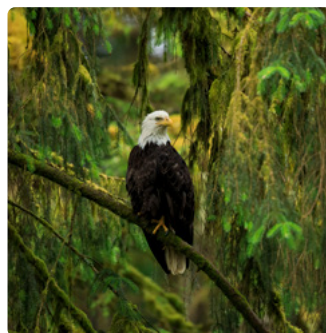
With the vessel's agility you anchor in remote coves, where you have opportunities to observe wildlife up close and explore areas untouched by large tourist crowds. Each day presents new chances for discovery. Whether you are watching whales breach or observing brown bear forage along the shoreline, the intimate wildlife encounters make each day unique.

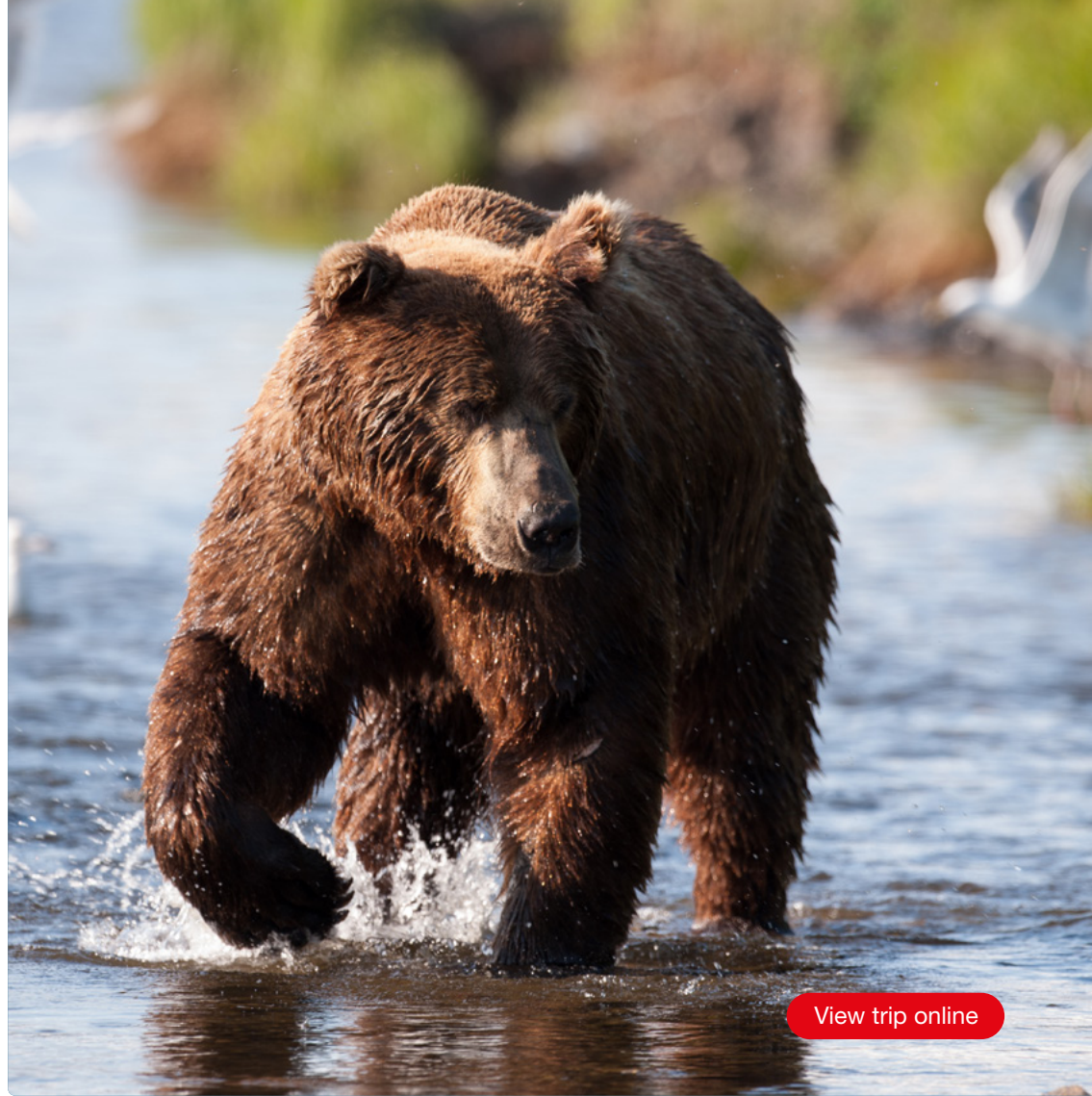
This voyage also allows for a deeper connection with the environment through guided walks, kayaking, and Zodiac excursions. These activities offer the chance to explore glacial fjords and untouched forests, where the silence of the wilderness is broken only by the sounds of nature. Your expert naturalist guides provide insights into the

region's unique ecosystems and share their knowledge of Alaska's flora and fauna.

This small-ship experience offers not only comfort but also flexibility, ensuring that each

day is tailored around wildlife sightings and the interests of those onboard. It's a rare opportunity for you to witness the raw beauty of Alaska, far from the beaten path, in one of the most spectacular marine environments on Earth.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Board your expedition vessel in Juneau.

Days 2-7: Over the next six days, explore the waters of the Inside Passage, visiting areas such as Glacier Bay National Park with its thriving ecosystem, Chichagof Island boasting one of the world's largest populations of brown bear, and Fredrick Sound often home to pods of feeding humpback whales. Daily adventures include shore landings, guided hikes, kayak excursions and exploration by Zodiac.

Day 8: Disembark in Juneau.

8 days, from £3,850 (voyage only)

Departure dates:

Regular departures between Apr & Sep

Embark/Disembark:

Juneau/Juneau

Vessel: Wilderness Discoverer, a comfortable small ship, with a maximum of 76 passengers, or Wilderness Adventurer accommodating just 60 guests.

Why book Alaska's Inside Passage?

Embark on a unique Alaskan adventure that offers up-close wildlife encounters, exclusive access to remote areas, & the freedom to explore untouched wilderness.

- Two full days in Glacier Bay National Park
- Abundant marine mammals
- Diverse array of birdlife
- Secluded wildlife habitats

Wildlife Highlights

- Humpback whale
- Orca
- Grizzly bear
- Black bear
- Steller sea lion

Activities

Whale watching, bear watching, sea kayaking, guided hikes

“Whether you love birds, bears, or whales, I urge you to visit this wild paradise. The stunning fjords, forest-clad slopes and rugged peaks all play host to a staggering diversity of wildlife. This has got to be one of the most magical wilderness areas on Earth.”

Bret Charman, Product Executive & Tour Leader



Hawaii Wildlife Cruise

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Imagine sailing alongside a pod of spinner dolphins, spotting humpback whales breaching in the distance, and night snorkelling with manta rays. This island-hopping adventure has it all!

Now, picture yourself sailing through Hawaii's Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, where pristine waters teem with wildlife. Aboard a small ship with only a limited number of guests, you explore hidden bays and unspoiled islands, and find yourself face-to-face with Hawaii's most iconic marine wildlife.

The sanctuary's tranquil waters are home to migrating humpback whales, offering you a front-row seat to witness their awe-inspiring behaviours, from mating rituals to nursing calves.

Feel the thrill of spotting these giants, and hear their distant songs resonating through the ocean depths. Spinner and bottlenose dolphins often join the journey, their playful antics

a captivating display against Hawaii's warm turquoise waters.

Each day brings new snorkelling adventures, revealing an underwater world alive with colour and activity. Swim through coral gardens that pulse with exotic reef fish darting in every direction, creating a vibrant seascape.

You can also enjoy the privilege of snorkelling in a protected sea turtle habitat, where these graceful creatures glide close by as you float in their realm – a rare moment of connection with Hawaii's ancient guardians.

As dusk falls, prepare for the magical experience of night snorkelling with giant Pacific manta rays. Under the glow of soft lights, these elegant giants glide effortlessly through the water, their movements a captivating, almost ethereal dance. This thrilling spectacle will stay with you long after you've returned to the surface.

Designed for intimate

exploration, this small ship offers both freedom and flexibility, with ample opportunities to encounter wildlife in untouched environments.

Between the ship's open-air

decks and guided excursions, you experience Hawaii's natural wonders up close and without crowds, making this expedition a perfect match for wildlife enthusiasts ready for an immersive adventure.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Kailua-Kona and embark your vessel.

Days 2-7: Over the next six days, discover the magic of Hawaii as you explore hidden coves ideal for snorkelling and kayaking. Encounter an array of marine life, from vibrant tropical fish and gentle sea turtles to playful dolphins, and enjoy adventurous hikes along secluded trails over ancient lava flows and rugged landscapes. Another highlight is an evening excursion snorkelling with giant Pacific manta rays. Spend time exploring the waters of the Humpback National Marine Sanctuary where you have excellent opportunities to encounter both humpback whales and dolphins.

Day 8: Disembark and transfer to Molokai airport.

8 days, from £5,870 (voyage only)

Departure dates: Regular departures between Nov & Apr

Embark/Disembark: Kailua-Kona/Moloka'i (or reverse)

Vessel: Safari Quest, an intimate expedition vessel, accommodating 36 guests.

Why book Hawaii Wildlife Cruise?

Experience Hawaii's incredible marine life – from humpback whales to sea turtles – on this small-ship expedition.

- Visit the Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary
- Snorkel, kayak & paddleboard
- Hike Hualalai Volcano

Wildlife Highlights

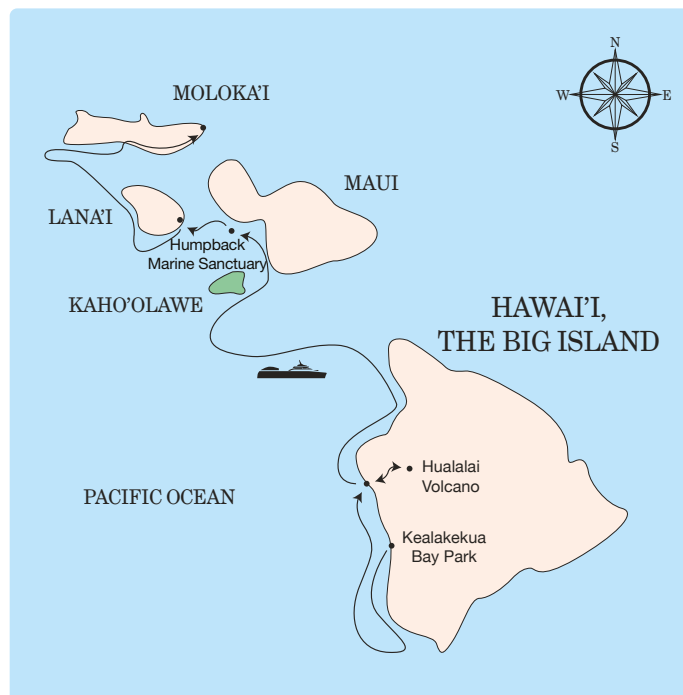
- Humpback whale
- Spinner & bottlenose dolphin
- Giant Pacific manta ray
- Hawksbill & green sea turtle
- Diverse bird species

Activities

Snorkelling, kayaking, paddleboarding, guided hikes, skiff exploration

“Hawaii’s warm, turquoise waters are a tropical paradise alive with marine life. From kayaking in secluded coves to spotting dolphins and whales, this trip is a dream! Swimming alongside sea turtles is unforgettable – their calm grace offers a rare glimpse into the ocean’s beauty.”

Lauren Boyd, Product Manager



Great Bear Rainforest



Journey to the northeast Pacific to discover the incredible wildlife of British Columbia's true wilderness, including the extraordinary honey-coloured spirit bear.

Spread over 70,000 square kilometres of British Columbia's west coast – that's more than three times the size of Wales – the Great Bear Rainforest is the world's most intact temperate rainforest.

And while renowned for its wildlife that includes predators such as wolves and pumas on land, and humpback whales and orcas in the seemingly endless network of sea channels, this area is most famous for one very rare and special inhabitant – the Kermode or spirit bear.

The spirit bear is a striking, creamy-white 'morph' of the black bear that's found on a few islands off British Columbia's coast. An estimated 10 percent of these bears possess a double recessive gene that produces their unlikely coloured offspring,

up to 500 individuals in total.

Our trip takes us right into the heart of the rainforest, where moss and lichen-clad Sitka spruces and 1,000-year-old western red cedars create a primeval environment for our adventure.

The best chance of finding bears is from viewing platforms beside salmon streams where during the late summer and early autumn, all bears (black, brown and white) feast on salmon in preparation for their winter hibernation. This is the most critical time of year for all of them because, in just a few short weeks, the huge influx of spawning salmon provides an incredible 30-60 percent of their annual calorie intake.

We explore around the islands of the Great Bear Rainforest aboard one of three beautiful motor sail boats. Though there's no strict schedule, we visit both Princess Royal Island and the Fjordland Conservancy at some point during the trip.

While cruising, we're constantly on the lookout for humpback whales which come here to feed on krill that proliferate in the cold, rich waters, orcas, Dall's porpoises and Pacific white-sided dolphins.

Looking upwards, we should see plenty of bald eagles, in addition to woodpeckers, owls and seabirds such as common murre and rhinoceros auklets.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Board your vessel in Terrace or Bella Bella & set sail for the Great Bear Rainforest.

Days 2-4: Explore Fjordland Conservancy, looking for bears feeding on salmon.

Days 5-6: Sail around the Central Coast visiting places such as Campania Sound & Whale Channel – excellent areas for spotting humpback whales & Steller sea lions.

Day 7: Navigate the Princess Royal Island coastline for bears & whales. Visit platforms within the forest to see spirit bears.

Day 8: Return to Terrace or Bella Bella & disembark.

8 days, from £5,310 (voyage only)

Departure dates: Regular departures between Aug & Oct

Embark/Disembark: Terrace/Bella Bella (or reverse) or Terrace/Terrace

Vessels: Island Solitude, Island Roamer & Island Odyssey

Why book Great Bear Rainforest?

To cruise the myriad sea channels in the world's most intact temperate rainforest & to see the rare spirit bear, as well as a host of other wildlife.

- True wilderness
- Dramatic scenery
- Wildlife of the northeast Pacific
- Intimate small vessel

Wildlife Highlights

- Spirit or Kermode bear
- Grizzly & black bears
- Humpback whales
- Orcas & other dolphins
- Bald eagles

Activities

Shore & forest excursions, bear watching, sea kayaking, First Nations village visit

“ We had a wonderful wildlife experience throughout, including an excellent sighting of wolves howling and a spirit bear. We also had good grizzly and black bear sightings including cubs. From the yacht we had numerous encounters with humpback whales breaching, fin whales and sea otters. ”

Robert H, Sep 2025



Baja's Ultimate Whale Safari



Encounter magnificent blue, grey, fin and humpback whales, plus whale sharks, on this remarkable journey combining ocean exploration with a luxury camp on the ocean's edge.

This pioneering expedition builds on over 20 years of our Baja California expertise, including more than a decade of specialist whale charters, and offers extraordinary encounters with some of the planet's most impressive marine wildlife.

Set against the backdrop of Baja California's diverse seascapes, this safari presents wonderful opportunities to encounter blue whale mothers and calves, acrobatic humpback whales, majestic fin whales and the gentle giants of the sea – whale sharks.

Expertly crafted, this new itinerary combines ship-based exploration with splendid stays ashore, balancing adventure and comfort. With chances to snorkel alongside whale sharks, explore varied marine habitats, and

appreciate diverse ecosystems, this unique journey provides us with truly intimate wildlife experiences.

We spend three nights aboard Gallant Lady, venturing into the heart of whale territory to observe numerous species up close. Supported by our exclusive spotter plane, we aim to locate multiple whale species and active viewing areas.

Our primary goal here is to observe blue whale mothers and their calves, which frequent the area each winter and often approach our boats for close encounters – an incredible sight! We also look out for pods of dolphins, fin whales, mobula rays, orcas and sperm whales. Daily excursions take us into areas renowned for whale activity, where our knowledgeable naturalists provide insights into whale behaviour and migration patterns.

After our adventures at sea, we take a charter flight to San Ignacio Lagoon, where we stay in the heart of this natural

sanctuary at a luxury camp. Here, we enjoy up to three whale watching excursions each day, experiencing intimate moments with majestic grey whales.

Seeing these gentle giants so

close you could almost reach out and touch them, or making eye contact with a curious calf, creates a rare, life-changing moment, leaving us with a lasting connection to these awe-inspiring creatures.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Baja California.
Day 2: Enjoy humpback whale watching. Transfer to La Paz.
Day 3: This morning, swim with whale sharks. Later, we board our expedition yacht.
Days 4-5: Our primary goal is to observe blue whale mothers and calves. Our exclusive spotter plane maximises our chances of locating whales and active viewing areas.
Day 6: Disembark and enjoy a scenic charter flight to San Ignacio Lagoon.
Days 7-8: Over the next two days, we have the opportunity to enjoy up to three whale watching excursions each day. Delight in intimate encounters with majestic grey whales and by night, experience stargazing under the Mexican night sky.
Day 9: We enjoy a final whale watch followed by a return flight to Los Cabos.

9 days, from £6,595 (voyage only)

Departure dates: 2 & 27 Feb 2027; 14 & 23 Feb 2028
Arrive/depart: Los Cabos/Los Cabos
Vessel: Gallant Lady

Why book Baja's Ultimate Whale Safari?

Discover Baja's marine wildlife on this exclusive expedition, offering unique encounters with whale sharks, blue whales & grey whales in extraordinary seascapes.

- Observe blue whales
- Snorkel with whale sharks
- Intimate encounters with grey whales
- Exclusive spotter plane

Wildlife Highlights

- Blue whale
- Whale shark
- Grey whale
- Dolphin & mobula ray

Activities

Whale watching, snorkelling, boat exploration, shore landings, guided hikes, kayaking

“Baja really is the ultimate whale watching destination, with numbers of humpback whales breaching off the southern tip, blue whales and whale sharks in the Sea of Cortez, friendly grey whales in San Ignacio that approach our small boats to play, and huge pods of common dolphins.”

Chris Breen, Wildlife Worldwide Founder



Peru's Amazon Cruise



Discover the Amazon from Peru, the birthplace of the mighty river, on an unforgettable expedition through the pristine depths of the world's largest rainforest.

As one of only 17 mega diverse countries, Peru offers a unique gateway to the Amazon and supports a remarkable range of biodiversity. With an astounding number of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and wild plants, you'll need your binoculars handy at all times!

Onboard your luxurious vessel, you delve into remote corners of the Amazon with the comfort of spacious cabins, panoramic decks and authentic Peruvian cuisine. Daily excursions, led by local experts, reveal the secrets of the rainforest as you search for pink river dolphin, spider monkey and even the elusive harpy eagle perched high in the canopy.

After each adventure-filled day, unwind in style with onboard amenities such as the outdoor hot tub and comfortable observation deck, offering the perfect space to

relax among the sounds of the jungle.

An abundance of fascinating creatures await your discovery. During high-water season (November to May), rising river levels allow access to deeper parts of the rainforest, with the advantage of close-up views of treetop species, such as three-toed sloth and vibrant macaws, in addition to reptiles and amphibians such as caimans and poison dart frogs.

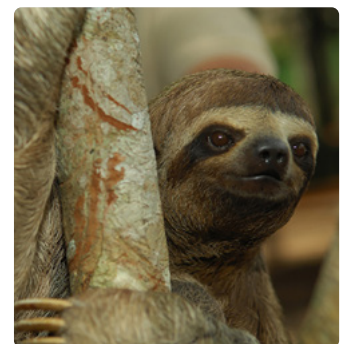
Meanwhile, low-water season (June to October) brings a different perspective, with shifting habitats and increased chances of seeing pink river dolphins, giant river otters, and if you are lucky, even jaguar. For birdwatchers, dozens of migratory bird species are also in flight during this time.

All things considered, most species can be seen throughout the year. The only difference is how they are seen – from the ground of the lush rainforest or aboard a skiff.

Each day offers new opportunities

for exploration, from tranquil kayak excursions to walking treks through the verdant Amazon basin. With local guides sharing insights into the ecology and behaviour of the rainforest's inhabitants, every encounter provides an enriching experience.

For nature enthusiasts, the Amazon holds an endless fascination, and this voyage provides an authentic look into the river's life and rhythms – reserved for those willing to venture beyond the typical routes.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Iquitos and transfer to Nauta for embarkation.

Day 2: Start the day birdwatching on the Amazon River. Later explore the Yacapana Islands followed by an evening excursion on the Nauta Caño River.

Day 3: Cruise along the Yanayacu Pucate River by skiff. This afternoon, enjoy a village visit and jungle walk to look for flora and fauna.

Day 4: Visit the birthplace of the Amazon River.

Day 5: Search for wildlife along the Ucayali River and explore by skiff. This evening, search for nocturnal wildlife at Dorado Lake.

Day 6: Enjoy a full-day river safari along the Puinahua River and Zapote River.

Day 7: This morning, canoe, kayak or swim in the Clavero Lake. Later explore the Yarapa River.

Day 8: Today, disembark and transfer to the airport.

8 days, from £6,720 (voyage only)

Departure dates:

Weekly departures, year-round

Embark/Disembark:

Nauta/Nauta

Vessel: Aria Amazon

Why book Peru's Amazon Cruise?

Experience the Amazon's incredible biodiversity with expert guides, exploring remote waterways to encounter rare species up close.

- Unique Amazonian biodiversity
- Travel off the beaten track
- Exceptional vessel & naturalist guides

Wildlife Highlights

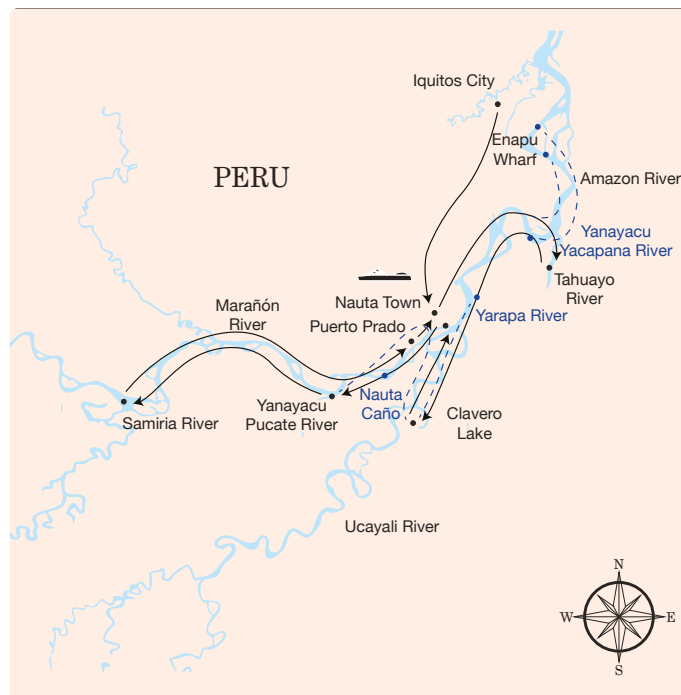
- Pink river dolphin
- Three-toed sloth
- Harpy eagle
- Giant river otter
- Scarlet macaw

Activities

River cruising, skiff, kayak and canoe, village visits, guided hikes, swimming

“Exploring the heart of the Amazon is a humbling journey and this unique expedition delivers beyond the ordinary – from adventure to luxury! Every wildlife sighting, from playful river dolphins to vibrant scarlet macaws reveals an untouched world, away from the busy tourist routes.”

Lauren Boyd, Product Manager



Untamed New Zealand: A Fiordland Wildlife Cruise



New Zealand is a spectacular country by land and sea. This trip explores both, immersing you in the breathtaking scenery, incredible wildlife and vibrant history of Fiordland and beyond.

Few places capture the raw, elemental beauty of nature like Fiordland. In this remote corner of the world, mountains rise from the sea, waterfalls pour from mist-draped cliffs, and dense rainforests cloak the landscape. The land feels ancient and unspoiled, preserved in remote isolation and home to some of the rarest wildlife on Earth.

Aboard our small expedition vessel, we explore this awe-inspiring region in a way that few ever experience. Venturing deep into Preservation, Chalky, Dusky and Doubtful Sounds, our voyage takes us through Fiordland's wildest and hardest-to-reach areas. Accessible only by sea, these fiords remain among the most isolated and pristine areas of New Zealand, their silence broken only by birdsong and waterfalls.

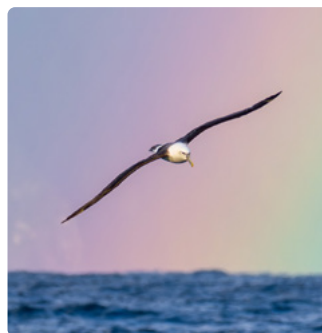
Each day brings new opportunities for discovery. In Preservation Inlet, the southernmost fiord in Fiordland National Park, history gives way to untamed wilderness where remnants of gold-rush settlements and whaling stations lie hidden beneath regenerating forest. Offshore, the deep waters above Puysegur Trench offer exciting opportunities to seek elusive beaked whales. New Zealand is a hotspot for these deep-diving mammals, with 13 of the known 24 species having been observed in its surrounding waters. A remarkable diversity of seabirds can also be encountered here, including northern royal, wandering, shy and Buller's albatross, along with a variety of shearwater, petrel and prion species.

Further north, Chalky Inlet and Dusky Sound are indicators of Fiordland's vital role in New Zealand's conservation story. Predator-free islands such as Anchor, Resolution and Chalky shelter some of the nation's most endangered species, including

the southern brown kiwi and a host of bird species found nowhere else on Earth. While sailing these tranquil waters, we may encounter New Zealand fur seals and bottlenose dolphins weaving through our wake, or perhaps even a Fiordland

crested penguin preening itself just above the shoreline.

For those seeking unspoiled landscapes and rare wildlife, this exclusive and pioneering expedition offers nature on the grandest scale.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

- Day 1:** Arrive in Queenstown.
- Day 2:** Embark and set sail.
- Day 3:** Enjoy a coastal walk at Preservation Inlet.
- Day 4:** Explore Chalky Inlet. Nearby islands are home to critically endangered species such as the little spotted kiwi, Kākāpō and endemic Te Kakahu skink.
- Days 5-6:** Sail through Dusky Sound, visiting significant conservation sites.
- Day 7:** Observe seabird species, including wandering and Buller's albatross, as we pass Breaksea Island and sail to the open ocean.
- Days 8-10:** Survey the deep waters above Puysegur Trench with exciting opportunities to seek elusive beaked whales.
- Day 11:** Navigate to Doubtful Sound.
- Day 12:** Disembark and travel to Queenstown.
- Day 13:** Transfer to the airport.

13 days, from £7,295 (voyage only)

Departure date: 12 Mar 2028
Embark/Disembark: Preservation Inlet/ Doubtful Sound
Vessel: Heritage Explorer

Why book Untamed New Zealand?

Experience the natural beauty and incredible wildlife of New Zealand, exploring rarely visited offshore waters in search of beaked whales.

- Unique birdlife
- Beautiful, unspoiled wilderness
- Fantastic small expedition vessel
- Dedicated single cabins with no single supplement

Wildlife Highlights

- Endemic bird species
- New Zealand fur seals
- Elusive beaked whales
- A variety of seabirds

Activities

Shore landings, Zodiac excursions, coastal walks, expedition cruising

“The region of Fiordland is arguably the most scenic area of New Zealand; it will leave you in awe. Remarkable wildlife – much of it endemic – and the tantalising possibility of spotting elusive beaked whales, make this a truly unique trip.”

Hazel Pittwood, Operations Executive & Tour Leader



Indonesia Wildlife Highlights



An authentic expedition voyage in every sense, this journey explores Indonesia's rarely visited and little-known biodiverse archipelago scattered across pristine waters beyond traditional tourist routes.

Discover a true paradise where untouched dense jungles – home to some of the rarest flora and fauna on the planet – meet translucent tropical seas teeming with colourful marine life and some of the world's finest coral reefs. It's a land steeped in history and rich in traditions.

Swim with whale sharks in West Papua, visit Komodo National Park, home to the famed 'dragon', discover Jacques Cousteau's 'underwater nirvana' at Wakatobi National Park and explore the turquoise waters and rainbow corals of Raja Ampat as you traverse powdery white beaches and pristine jungles. During your voyage from Bali to Madang, including a post-cruise flight to Cairns, you'll have opportunities to see birds of

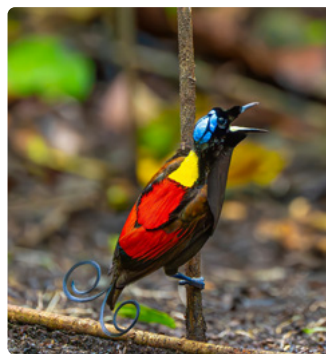
paradise and many more endemic species, explore Second World War relics and visit tribes and villages off the beaten track.

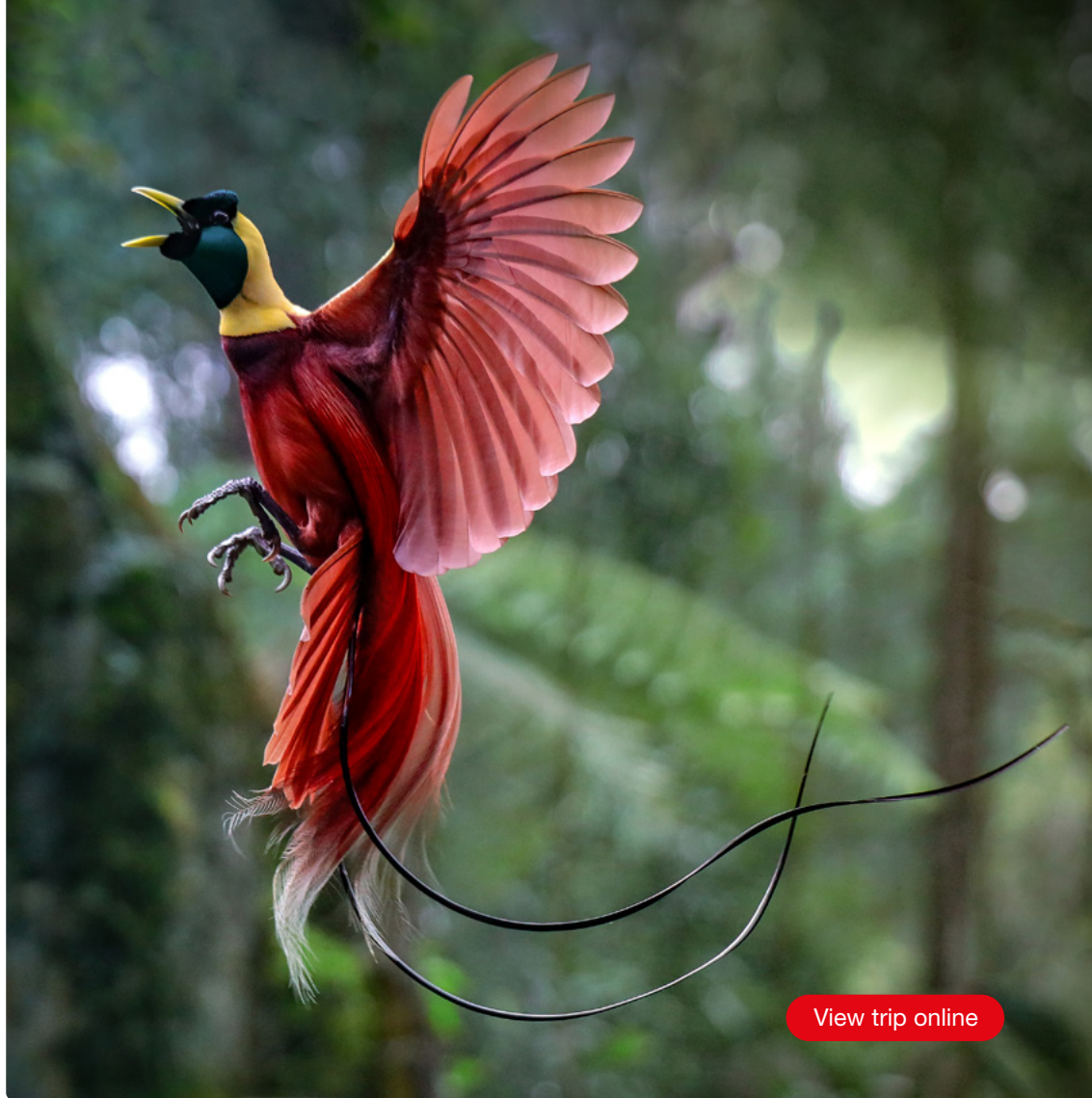
Comprised of some 18,000 islands, this Southeast Asian archipelago's fascinating human history dates back almost two million years. European arrival saw Portuguese spice traders chasing fragrant bounties in the 16th century, followed by Dutch colonisation, then Japanese occupation during the Second World War, before Indonesia regained its independence in 1949.

Whilst still a big wheel on the spice trading scene, Indonesia has been attracting attention for its biodiversity since the naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace travelled through here in the 19th century and wrote about it so captivatingly. One of the world's 17 mega diverse countries, Indonesia is home to two of the planet's 25 biodiversity hotspots, 18 of the WWF's Global 200 ecoregions and 24 of BirdLife International's Endemic Bird Areas.

For botanists, birders and nature lovers alike, this unique expedition offers many opportunities to see once-in-a-lifetime species and experience rare wildlife encounters on remote and unfamiliar islands. Those wishing to join a sea-

kayaking excursion with an expert guide will be rewarded with tranquil, tropical settings and be a source of fascination to the locals, who often paddle their canoes out to invite them back to their villages.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Embark Denpasar, Bali.
Day 2: Denpasar.
Day 3: Sumbawa Island.
Day 4: Komodo National Park.
Day 5: Kodia Island.
Day 6: Wakatobi National Park.
Day 7: Buru Island.
Day 8: Seram Island.
Day 9: Misool Island.
Days 10-11: Raja Ampat.
Day 12: Manokwari and Arfak Mountains.
Day 13: Cenderawasih Marine Park.
Day 14: Biak and Rusbasbedas Islands.
Day 15: Liki Island.
Day 16: Jayapura.
Day 17: Sepik River, Papua New Guinea.
Day 18: Disembark in Madang and fly to Cairns.

18 days, from £12,610 (voyage only)

Departure date: 6 Oct 2026
Embark/Disembark: Denpasar/Madang or Denpasar/Port Moresby
Vessel: Heritage Adventurer

Why book Indonesia Wildlife Highlights?

A mega diverse country, Indonesia is bursting with untamed jungles, dense forests & rare endemic species, including vibrant birds of paradise & the Komodo dragon.

- Untouched wilderness
- Extraordinary bird diversity
- Naturalist-guided explorations
- Dramatic landscapes

Wildlife Highlights

- Birds of paradise
- Komodo dragon
- Whale shark
- Salmon-crested cockatoo

Activities

Swimming with whale sharks, Komodo National Park, kayaking, snorkelling, shore landings, Zodiac cruises

“Venture far off the beaten track, crossing the infamous Wallace line, on this journey through remote Indonesian and Melanesian islands. Komodo dragons and birds of paradise vie for attention in one of the world's most diverse marine hotspots, home to whale sharks, rays, reefs and other vibrant sea creatures.”

Helen Bryon, Tour Leader & Product Executive



Isle of Mull Wildlife Cruise



Discover exceptional wildlife closer to home on this intimate expedition, with abundant birdlife and marvellous marine wonders awaiting exploration along Scotland's beautiful coastlines.

Set sail on a charming Scottish wildlife adventure where tremendous birdlife and rich marine wildlife await. This voyage offers a unique chance to encounter Scotland's remarkable biodiversity along its stunning coastlines and islands, all from the comfort of a nimble and characterful vessel.

For birders, this journey is particularly rewarding, with seabird colonies comprising puffins, guillemots, razorbills and shags, a throng of activity along the rugged cliffs. A variety of habitats, from coastal islands to sheltered coves, draws a colourful array of migratory and resident birds and each season brings its own star species. From impressive white-tailed eagles soaring majestically overhead to rafts of Manx shearwater gliding across the waves.

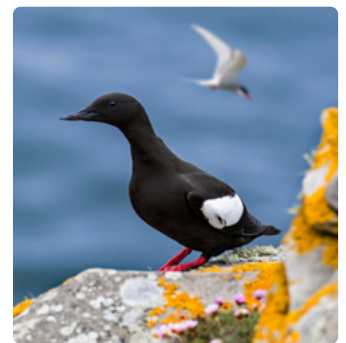
Whether scanning the shorelines or gazing over open water, you can find endless opportunities to observe rare and diverse bird species in their natural habitats. You may encounter a circus of puffins, delighting you with their comical landings and bold dives as they fish along the rocky cliffs. You could also witness a plunge of northern gannets, whose synchronised diving creates a mesmerising spectacle as they hunt together in the open ocean, their sharp beaks piercing the water with precision.

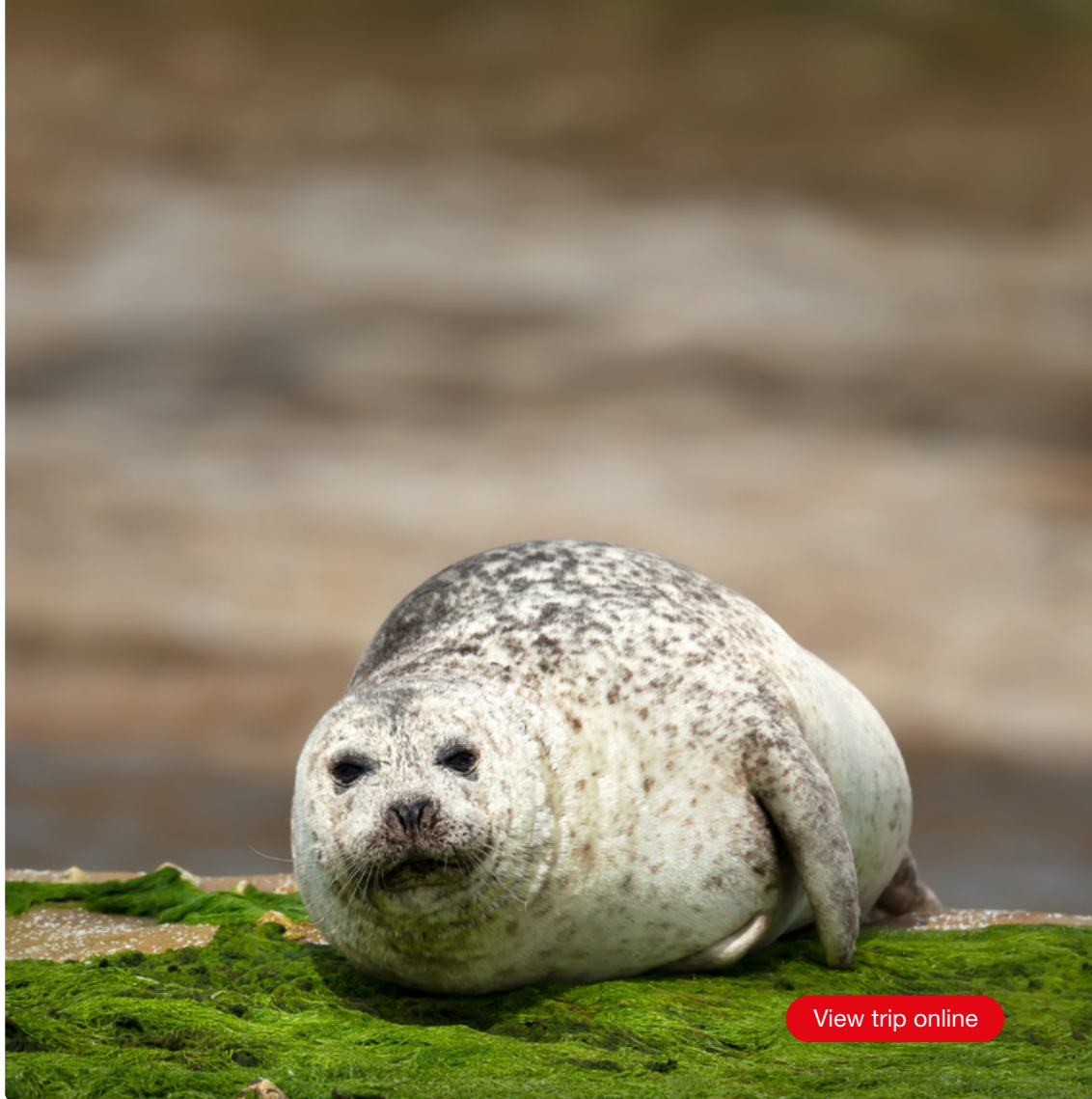
Complementing the avian spectacle, Scotland's seas are alive with marine life. Playful dolphins can often be spotted while curious seals frequently pop up to investigate their surrounds, and majestic minke whales glide deep beneath the surface. The coastal waters and small islands offer rich feeding grounds for marine mammals, making for thrilling encounters.

During daily outings, you are likely to encounter grey and common seals basking in the

sun and resident otters hunting in the dense kelp forests. Thanks to the smaller vessel size, you can enjoy intimate wildlife sightings in a way that feels personal and responsible. We invite you to explore the exceptional

biodiversity of Scotland, without the need for far-flung travel. Discover awe-inspiring wildlife on your doorstep and enjoy the natural wonders that make Scotland a world-class destination for nature lovers.





Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Oban and embark on your vessel.

Days 2-6: Over the next five days, explore the delights of the Isle of Mull and the Small Isles. Some of the locations you may visit include Loch Aline, Loch Drumbuie, Canna, Muck, Eigg, Rum, Tobermory and Loch Spelve. While the focus of your expedition is on wildlife watching, there are also opportunities to enjoy woodland walks, coastal strolls, sea kayaking and refreshing swims! Wildlife highlights include puffin, golden and white-tailed eagle, otter, common seal, and chances to spot minke whales and basking sharks.

Day 8: Disembark in Oban.

7 days, from £2,050 (voyage only)

Departure dates:

14 Apr, 1, 27 Sep 2026; 13, 21 April, 19 Sep 2027

Embark/Disembark:

Oban/Oban

Vessel:

Seahorse II, accommodating a maximum of 11 guests.

Why book Isle of Mull Wildlife Cruise?

Nature & wildlife take centre-stage on this adventure through the Sound of Mull & Small Isles, revealing hidden coastal treasures.

- Abundance of birdlife
- Wild & remote islands
- Array of marine wildlife
- Charming small vessel

Wildlife Highlights

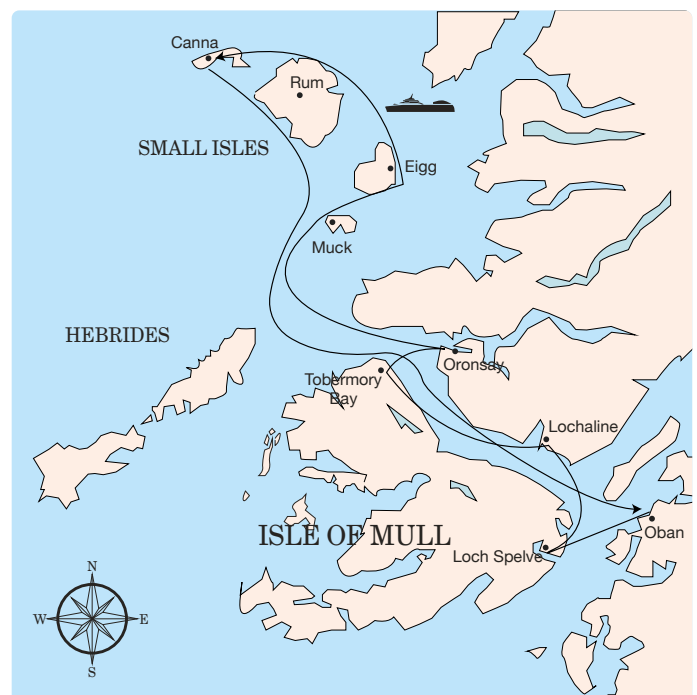
- Puffins, guillemots & gannets
- Grey, harbour & common seal
- Golden & white-tailed eagle
- Dolphin, minke whale & basking shark

Activities

Woodland & coastal walks, bird watching, sea kayaking, wild swimming, island visits

“Discover the charming isles of Scotland on this intimate small-ship adventure. Spend time observing playful puffins, enjoy close encounters with resident otters and dolphins, and appreciate the freedom of this flexible itinerary aboard this sprightly vessel.”

Lauren Boyd, Product Manager





The Galápagos Islands

[View all Galápagos trips](#)

Located approximately 1,000 kilometres west of continental South America and straddling the equator, the Galápagos Islands are one of the most sought-after wildlife travel destinations in the world. Here, the intimacy of wildlife encounters is unrivalled as you weave your way through colonies of blue-footed boobies performing their elaborate courtship dance or swim with playful, young Galápagos sea lions. Famous too as a location that helped Charles Darwin produce his theory of evolution, the Galápagos Islands hold a significant place in human history.



The Islands

The archipelago consists of 18 major islands spread over more than 200 kilometres. All the islands are rich in wildlife but some have particular strengths and you're likely to visit about half of them.

Isabela

The largest of the islands, and a good location for encountering giant tortoises on its volcanic slopes.

Santa Cruz

Eight out of the 13 species of endemic finches live on Santa Cruz. Off the coast, you may see turtles, sharks and rays.

Santiago & Bartolomé

Expect to see endemics such as the Galápagos dove, hawk and mockingbird, plus land iguanas on Santiago and Galápagos penguins on Bartolomé.

Fernandina

An active volcano, Fernandina is renowned for its large population of land iguanas. Floreana has one of the best snorkelling sites in the archipelago – the Devil's Crown.

San Cristóbal

The first of the Galápagos Islands Charles Darwin landed on. Home to blue-footed boobies.

Genovesa

Good for breeding fur seals and sea lions and the world's rarest gull – the lava gull.

Española

Waved albatrosses breed here from April-December. Other seabirds include blue-footed boobies.

Wildlife

Much of the wildlife in the Galápagos is found nowhere else on Earth – including marine iguanas, three species of land iguana, nine species of racer snake, ten species of lava lizard, eight species of gecko and 14 species of giant tortoise (in fact 'galápagos' is a Spanish term for tortoise).

Other important endemics include many birds such as Galápagos penguin, Galápagos dove, Galápagos hawk, Galápagos flamingo and several mockingbirds and finches which Darwin made famous through his theory of evolution.

But much of the wildlife that the islands are famous for is not endemic. Three species of booby nest here in large colonies and can be approached without alarming them.

All the native mammals you're likely to see are marine mammals – most notably Galápagos sea lions and Galápagos fur seals, but there's also an endemic species of rice rat that we occasionally see too. And beneath the waves, there's a rich array of fish, sharks and rays to add to the long list of exceptional wildlife that calls this archipelago home.

Getting There

Getting to the Galápagos is easy with all flights departing from Quito in mainland Ecuador and stopping en route at Guayaquil to refuel and collect passengers. There are two commercial airports in the Galápagos: one on Baltra, just north of Santa Cruz, and the other on San Cristóbal. Voyages start and end at either of these airports.

What to Expect

All voyages in the Galápagos follow the same blueprint, visiting different islands each day. To enable you to visit various islands the vessels often sail overnight, so you arrive at your new destination in the morning. There are generally two excursions each day

which may include island landings (both wet and dry) and exploring in the small pangas (dinghies) that each of the boats has.

You're always accompanied on excursions by an experienced naturalist guide, and the landings are strictly controlled, with marked trails showing where you can and can't go.

As for dining, all meals are onboard, with plenty of fresh fish, fruit and vegetables, and it's possible to cater for virtually all dietary requirements.

Tea and coffee are available whenever you want them, and there's free time to read or relax in shared spaces above deck or in your cabin.

Experiences & Activities

Wildlife watching is the primary activity in the Galápagos, but there are plenty of different ways to enjoy the natural cornucopia. Wildlife photography is popular with most visitors, and you'll find much of the wildlife remarkably habituated to humans – it simply isn't concerned by our presence at all.

Most vessels offer snorkelling every day, which is the trip's highlight for many. Turtles, sharks, rays and a huge variety of fish species can be seen safely and quite easily.

Kayaking is also possible in many of the seas around the islands, which tend to be relatively calm and safe, making this activity something that even novices can enjoy.



The Galápagos Islands Wildlife Calendar

The Galápagos is an incredible location, with most of the animals and birds visible year-round. From lizards and iguanas to giant tortoises, sea lions and fur seals, cormorants, flamingos and boobies, to frigatebirds and penguins, the islands are rich with magnificent wildlife. There's so much to see, and there really is no 'best time' to visit; it's fabulous throughout the year. The archipelago is generally warmer and wetter between December and May, and between June and November, it's cooler and drier, during which cooler ocean currents attract more marine life.

[View more online](#)



January

- On Española, adult marine iguanas are at their most brightly coloured
- Green sea turtles arrive on the beaches to lay their eggs
- Land birds begin their courtship and nesting rituals
- Galápagos sea lions are at the end of their mating season
- Giant tortoises begin to hatch



February

- Flamingos begin to nest on Floreana
- Start of the black-tailed pintail breeding season
- Marine iguanas begin to nest on Santa Cruz
- Courtship of magnificent frigatebirds begins on North Seymour
- The optimum time to see nesting Galápagos doves



March

- Marine iguanas nest on Fernandina
- On 21st March, the equinox heralds the arrival of the first waved albatross on Española
- Frigatebirds nest on San Cristóbal and Genovesa
- Start of the nesting period for Galápagos penguins and flightless cormorants



April

- Wildflowers bloom in the highlands
- Waved albatrosses arrive en masse on Española to start their courtship
- Giant tortoise hatching season comes to an end
- Green sea turtle eggs start to hatch
- Land iguana eggs hatch on Isabela
- The best time to see Galápagos penguins on Isabela



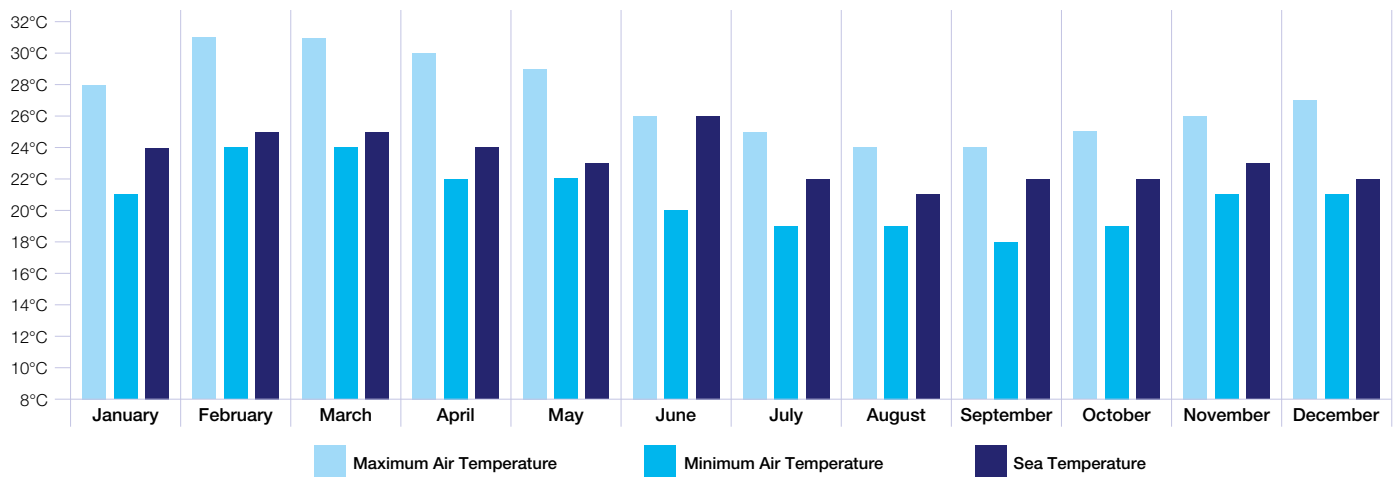
May

- North Seymour's blue-footed boobies begin their courtship
- Green sea turtles hatch at Gardner Bay (Hood), Punta Cormorant (Floreana) and Puerto Egas (Santiago)
- Waved albatross on Española begin laying their eggs
- Band-rumped storm petrels begin their first nesting period



June

- Migrating humpback whales are seen between now and September
- Giant tortoises migrate from the Santa Cruz highlands in search of nesting sites
- Southern migrant birds begin their northward journey – Galápagos is an important landfall
- Blue-footed boobies begin their courtship rituals on North Seymour



July

- The peak nesting season for seabirds
- A great time to see all four stages of nesting blue-footed boobies on Española – eggs, chicks, juveniles and sub-adults
- Flightless cormorants perform beautiful courtship rituals and nest on Fernandina
- Lava lizards begin mating rituals
- One of the best months to see whales and dolphins



August

- Galápagos hawks begin courtship displays on Española and Santiago
- Nazca boobies and swallow-tailed gulls nest on Genovesa
- Migrant waders begin to arrive, and stay until March
- Giant tortoises return to the highlands on Santa Cruz after laying their eggs
- Galápagos sea lions begin to give birth



September

- Galápagos penguins are at their most active on Bartolomé with courtship
- Galápagos sea lions are very active – females are in season, and males constantly bark and fight
- Blue-footed boobies are nesting on some of the islands
- A good month for migrating humpbacks off the coast



October

- Lava herons start nest building and continue until March
- Galápagos fur seals begin mating
- Blue-footed boobies raise their chicks on Española and Isabela
- Giant tortoises still lay eggs in some places
- The beaches are teeming with sea lions and their pups



November

- Galápagos sea lion pupping continues
- The breeding season for brown noddies begins
- Jellyfish can be seen in the water around the islands
- Band-rumped storm petrels begin their second nesting period.
- Migrating waders begin arriving from North America in good numbers



December

- Giant tortoise's eggs begin to hatch, lasting until April
- Green sea turtles begin their mating display
- The first young waved albatrosses fledge and won't return until April
- Marine iguanas and land iguanas begin their mating rituals

Highlights of the Galápagos Islands



A small-ship expedition is unquestionably the best way to experience the Galápagos Islands. For anyone looking to travel outside April and May (when our exclusive voyages operate) we've carefully selected a variety of fantastic itineraries.

Traditionally, cruise options were limited to east or west. The eastern islands are smaller and older than the western islands and boast lush vegetation. Meanwhile, the west offers lava landscapes, wonderful beaches and giant uplifted coral beds. These well-established itineraries promise a dazzling array of exotic creatures and take place onboard Beluga, a charming yacht featuring just eight cabins.

A choice of contemporary vessels are also available on stylish expedition yachts, such as Origin, Theory and Evolve. These luxurious vessels showcase the south and north of the islands. On the southern route, you can expect to see waved albatross flying over glorious beaches and bays. The northern route offers remote islands and unique wildlife, such as the red-footed booby and flightless cormorant.

Each itinerary is unique, but all offer shore landings, guided walks and Zodiac excursions.

Eastern Galápagos Highlights

Day 1: Arrive in Baltra and board your vessel. Later visit the Charles Darwin Research Station and enjoy a couple of landing sites.

Day 2: Visit the South Plaza Islands and Santa Fe, home to beautiful white sand and calm turquoise waters. South Plaza Island is home to a healthy population of land iguanas.

Day 3: At Cerro Brujo on San Cristóbal, swim with Galápagos sea lions and encounter blue-footed boobies and brown pelicans.

Day 4: Visit Española where highlights include a waved albatross breeding colony and marine iguanas.

Day 5: Snorkel at Champion Islet on Floreana with fish, rays, sharks and sea lions.

Day 6: Visit Dragon Hill with its hypersaline lagoon, which is frequented by flamingos. Nearby James Island offers a wide variety of wildlife.

Day 7: The steep cliffs of Darwin Bay on Genovesa dominate the island, home to thousands of birds, frigatebirds, red-footed boobies and Noddy terns, to name a few.

Day 8: Return to Baltra on Santa Cruz via Black Turtle Cove.

8 days, from £4,725 (voyage only)

Departure dates: Jan-Dec (weekly)

Embark/Disembark: Baltra/Baltra

Vessel: Beluga

[View trip online](#)

Western Galápagos Highlights

Day 1: Arrive in Baltra and board your vessel. Later visit the Charles Darwin Research Station.

Day 2: Visit Sombrero Chino for wildlife spotting, including sea lion and marine iguana, followed by Rabida Island to see flamingos and pelican nesting sites.

Days 3-5: Three days visiting Isabela Island, the largest in the archipelago, where highlights include sightings of Galápagos penguins, green turtles, flamingos and rays. Endemic land iguanas and giant tortoises may also be encountered.

Day 6: A still active volcano, Fernandina has good populations of must-see species such as Galápagos sea lions and marine iguanas, plus nesting blue-footed and Nazca boobies.

Day 7: Visit Santiago for a variety of seabirds, marine iguanas and fur seals. Continue to Bartolomé for swimming and snorkelling.

Day 8: Return to Santa Cruz via North Seymour for blue-footed booby colonies, magnificent frigatebirds and endemic Palo Santo trees.

8 days, from £4,725 (voyage only)

Departure dates: Jan-Dec (weekly)

Embark/Disembark: Baltra/Baltra

Vessel: Beluga

[View trip online](#)



Northern Galápagos Highlights

- Day 1:** Arrive on San Cristóbal Island and board your vessel. Set sail and admire the sunset as you circumnavigate 'Kicker Rock'.
- Day 2:** Discover Prince Philip's Steps on Genovesa, a superb spot for birdwatching. This afternoon at Darwin Bay, possible sightings include lava and swallow-tailed gulls, great frigatebirds and playful sea lions.
- Day 3:** This morning, spot dozens of bright pink flamingos on Santa Cruz. Later step ashore on Cerro Dragon, home to Darwin's finches, Galápagos flycatchers, yellow warblers and Audubon shearwaters.
- Day 4:** Witness Sally Lightfoot crabs, playful penguins and iguanas on Isabela Island.
- Day 5:** Observe the pristine ecosystem on Fernandina Island, with its sea lion harems, countless marine iguanas, flightless cormorants and large sea turtles.
- Day 6:** Rabida is one of the Galápagos' most colourful islands, with several different types of lava. Visit a saltwater lagoon filled with greater flamingos and look out for marine iguanas, mockingbirds and yellow warblers.
- Day 7:** On Santa Cruz, visit the breeding centre and Charles Darwin Research Station.
- Day 8:** After breakfast, disembark.

8 days, from £8,140 (voyage only)

Departure dates: Regular departures Jan-Dec
Embark/Disembark: San Cristóbal/San Cristóbal
Vessel: Origin, Theory or Evolve

[View trip online](#)

Southern Galápagos Highlights

- Day 1:** Arrive on San Cristóbal Island and board your vessel.
- Day 2:** Explore San Cristóbal Island. Likely species include brown pelicans, brown noddy terns and blue-footed boobies. This afternoon, visit Punta Pitt for a hike and more birdwatching.
- Day 3:** Visit Punta Suarez, home to a large number of endemic species, including the waved albatross. As you walk, look out for marine iguanas, Darwin's finches, Galápagos hawks and swallow-tailed gulls.
- Day 4:** Walk to a brackish lagoon on Floreana Island and witness Galápagos flycatchers and bright pink flamingos.
- Day 5:** Explore Santa Cruz, visiting the Charles Darwin Research Station, Los Gemelos, and a ranch where tortoises roam free.
- Day 6:** On Bartolomé Island, climb up the 400 wooden steps to enjoy wonderful panoramic views of Pinnacle Rock.
- Day 7:** Look for a variety of bird nests on South Plaza, then on North Seymour a spectacular sight awaits – frigatebirds with red inflated sacs on their chests.
- Day 8:** Disembark on San Cristóbal.

8 days, from £8,140 (voyage only)

Departure dates: Regular departures Jan-Dec
Embark/Disembark: San Cristóbal/San Cristóbal
Vessel: Origin, Theory or Evolve

[View trip online](#)

Galápagos Wildlife Cruise



Head for the world's most famous wildlife islands for remarkable encounters with iconic wildlife and follow in the footsteps of one of the greatest naturalists of all time.

While the Galápagos Islands are best known for the plethora of species that can be found nowhere else in the world, and as the living laboratory that helped Charles Darwin formulate his theory of evolution, any visit here is arguably most memorable for the fantastic intimacy of these wildlife encounters. This is because many species have evolved without natural predators and have little fear of other animals – including humans.

Fauna falls into two main categories. First and foremost are the endemics, many of which are unique in their appearance and behaviour. These include marine iguanas, the only lizards in the world that forage in the sea and are renowned for the row of spines along their backs that give them a fearsome and utterly unique appearance.

On Fernandina, there's an opportunity to snorkel with these amazing reptiles as they feed on underwater algae.

Other notable endemics are giant tortoises, flightless cormorants and the 17 species of finch that so critically influenced Darwin's thinking. Everything from the Galápagos penguin (the only penguin found in the Northern Hemisphere) to the Galápagos mockingbird are likely to be seen.

And that's not forgetting the Galápagos sea lions and fur seals, like much of the wildlife so unafraid of humans you can swim with them from some beaches. Snorkelling is also a must-do daily activity, allowing you to glide over schools of huge rays and other tropical fish.

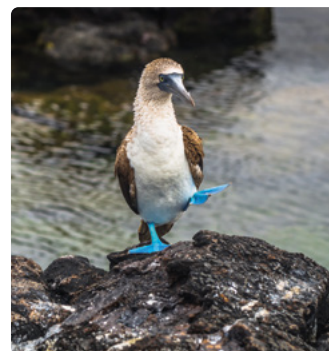
Then there are the creatures that are found in other parts of the world but which you can observe here with unparalleled ease. One of the great joys of a trip to the Galápagos is meandering slowly through nesting colonies of blue-footed, red-footed and Nazca

boobies, watching their tender, elaborate courtship dances.

We visit ten different islands during this exceptional 12-night voyage aboard the 36-metre MV Beluga – the perfect place

to relax after a busy day on the wildlife trail.

We offer two departures for this trip, one led by Helen Bryon and the other with Mark Carwardine and Chris Breen.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

- Day 1:** Depart UK & arrive Quito.
- Day 2:** Depart Quito & arrive San Cristóbal. Board MV Beluga.
- Day 3:** Española Island.
- Day 4:** Floreana.
- Day 5:** Santa Cruz & Santiago.
- Day 6:** Genovesa.
- Days 7-8:** Santa Cruz & Rabida.
- Days 9-12:** Isabela & Fernandina.
- Day 13:** Santiago & Bartolomé.
- Day 14:** Depart Baltra Airport.
- Day 15:** Arrive in the UK.

Embark/Disembark:
San Cristóbal/Baltra
Vessel: Beluga

Galápagos Wildlife Cruise
15 days, from £11,495
(incl. flights)
£10,695 (excl. flights)

Departure dates:
16 Apr 2026; 15 Apr 2027
Tour leader: Helen Bryon

Galápagos Exclusive with Mark Carwardine 15 days,
from £14,395 (incl. flights)
£13,595 (excl. flights)

Departure dates:
27 May 2027
Tour leaders:
Mark Carwardine & Chris Breen

Why book Galápagos Wildlife Cruise?

To observe the iconic wildlife of this famous archipelago in the company of a passionate & knowledgeable wildlife guide and aboard a comfortable and spacious motor cruiser.

- Endemic species
- Close encounters
- Fascinating history
- Expert-led departures

Wildlife Highlights

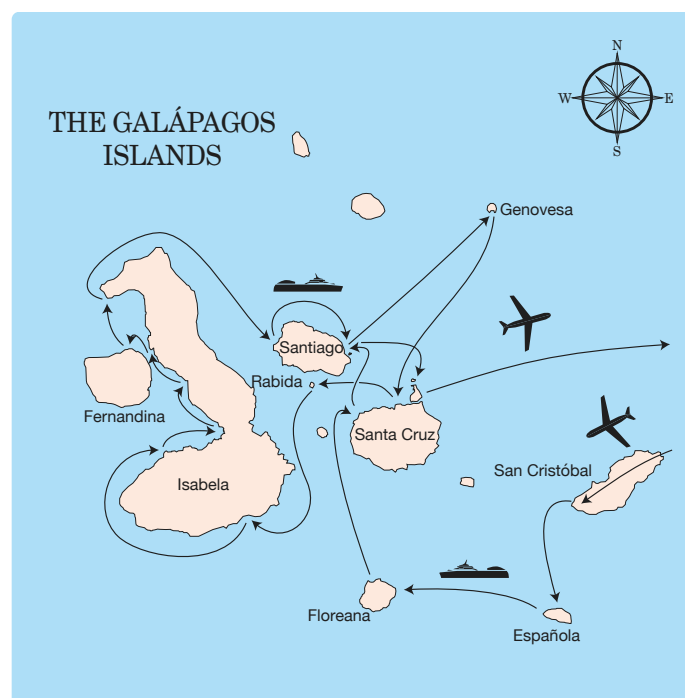
- Galápagos sea lion
- Marine & land iguana
- Red, blue-footed & Nazca boobies
- Giant tortoise

Activities

Wildlife watching, snorkelling, swimming, photography, walking

“ The diversity of each island is amazing, ranging from lush green flora to black lava flows. The minute I got off the panga, wildlife could be found without having to search for it. The seas were also full of amazing marine life. It was such a wonderful holiday. ”

Christine L, Apr 2025



Ultimate Galápagos Luxury Expedition



This bucket-list expedition combines the lush easterly islands and the volcanic westerly islands for the ultimate wildlife voyage onboard a luxury expedition superyacht.

Sea lions are ubiquitous across the entire archipelago and numerous other endemic species inhabit the islands. Flocks of bright pink flamingos feed in brackish lagoons, giant tortoises roam the highlands, and messes of iguana camouflage the volcanic rockscape.

Combining the east and west offers a plethora of exotic wildlife for the ultimate once-in-a-lifetime voyage. In the east, you can expect to see waved albatross, red-footed booby and Galápagos penguin amidst well-developed, greener vegetation, while in the west, you can expect large colonies of marine iguana, sea turtle, blue-footed booby and flightless cormorant among fantastic lava landscapes and giant uplifted coral beds. Playful sea lions are likely companions,

and you can anticipate close encounters with golden-coloured land iguanas.

First you sail north to Genovesa, superb for birdwatching, then you visit Santiago, Santa Cruz and Española, before exploring the western islands of Floreana, Isabela, Fernandina and Rabida, famed for its maroon-coloured sand.

There are opportunities to witness a magnificent array of marine life – from cetaceans and pinnipeds to marine iguanas. You can also encounter a variety of bird species from frigatebirds to endemic Darwin's finches – so named because Darwin developed his Theory of Evolution after observing them. At the opposite extreme, in terms of size, is the waved albatross, with its handsome yellow bill and impressive wingspan.

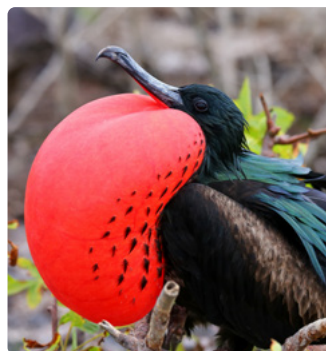
This epic 14-night voyage takes place aboard the luxury expedition superyacht, Aqua Mare, which accommodates only 16 guests. Sail in comfort with an exclusive one-to-one ratio

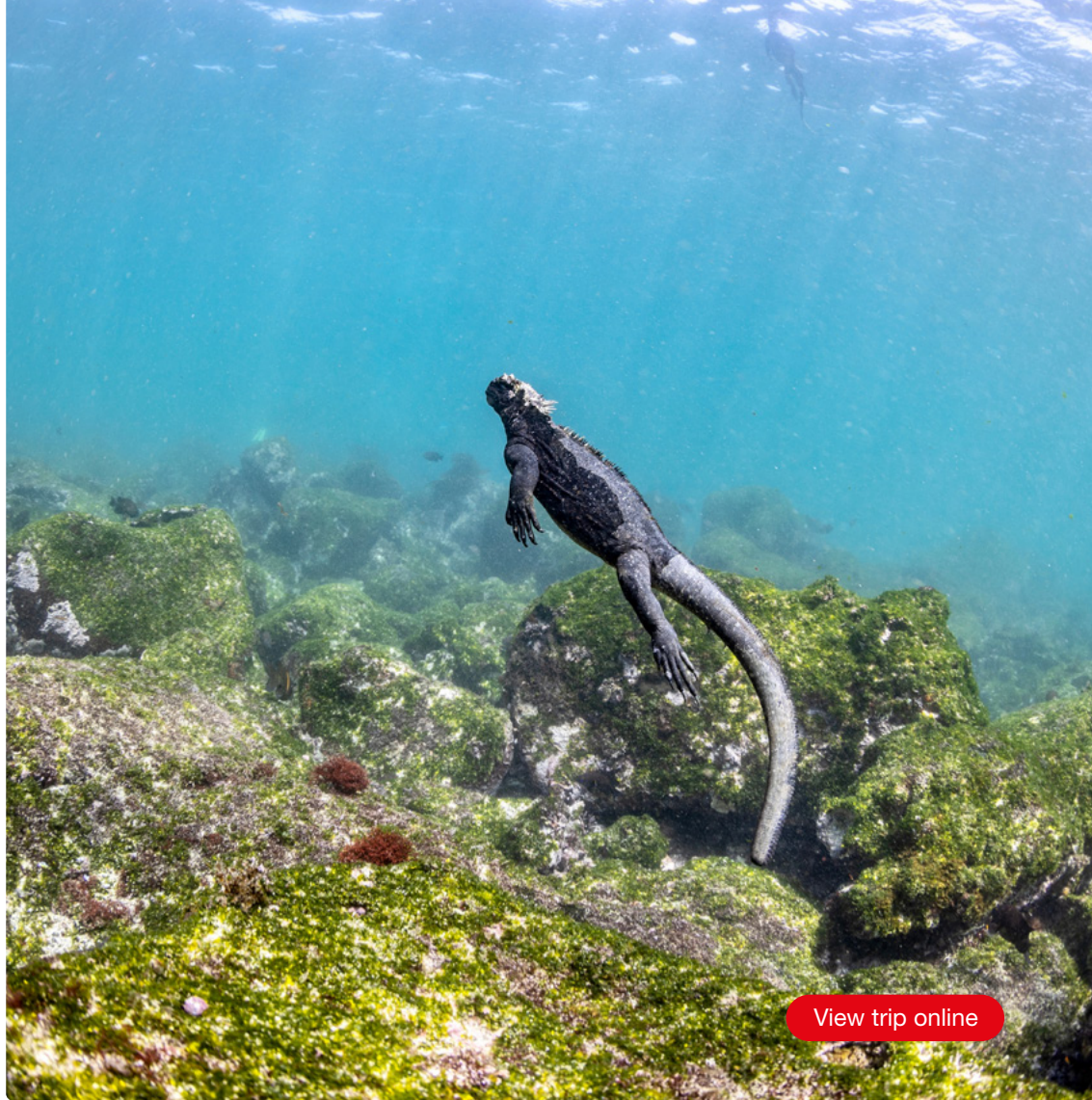
of crew and guests.

The vessel's numerous features include a six-person hot tub, impressive panoramic dining room, and a lower deck swim-platform for daily excursions such as snorkelling,

kayaking and paddleboarding.

Enjoy remarkable wildlife encounters, numerous adventure options, daily Zodiac cruises and guided hikes, and the comfort of a contemporary vessel.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

- Day 1:** Arrive and board your vessel on Santa Cruz.
- Day 2:** Discover Genovesa Island.
- Day 3:** Explore Santiago Island and Sombrero Chino Island.
- Day 4:** Visit Bartolomé and Santa Cruz Islands.
- Day 5:** Return to Santa Cruz to see giant tortoise and visit the Darwin Research Station.
- Day 6:** Explore Española.
- Day 7:** Visit Santa Fe and Plaza Sur Island.
- Day 8:** Santa Cruz Island.
- Day 9:** Visit Punta Cormorant and Post Office Bay on Floreana Island.
- Day 10:** Explore Punta Moreno and Bahía Urbina, Isabela Island.
- Day 11:** Discover Fernandina.
- Day 12:** Santiago Island.
- Day 13:** Rabida Island & Santa Cruz.
- Day 14:** Visit North Seymour Island and Mosquera Island.
- Day 15:** Disembark.

15 days, from £17,725 (voyage only)

Departure dates:

Jan-Dec (weekly)

Embark/Disembark:

Puerto Ayora/Puerto Ayora or Balta/Baltra

Vessel: Aqua Mare

Why book Ultimate Galápagos?

The ultimate bucket-list expedition, onboard a luxury superyacht, combining east & west for a comprehensive exploration of the Galápagos Islands.

- Luxury expedition
- Comprehensive itinerary
- Exotic wildlife
- Dramatic landscapes
- Small yacht

Wildlife Highlights

- Waved albatross
- Flightless cormorant
- Red & blue-footed boobies
- Land & marine iguanas
- Giant tortoise

Activities

Guided walks, Zodiac excursions, snorkelling, kayaking, paddleboarding

“The allure of the Galápagos is legendary, boasting incredible wildlife, marine delights and volcanic landscapes. Travel in absolute style on an extended voyage and discover epicurean magic! ”

Lauren Boyd - Product Manager



Our Galápagos Islands Vessels

This is a selection of the vessels that we use for our Galápagos voyages. For further details on all the vessels we can offer, please visit our website or speak to our expert team.

[View all online](#)



Beluga

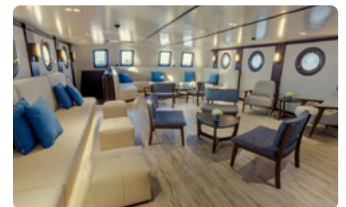
Passengers: 16
Type: Superior Motor Yacht
Length: 34 m
Cruising speed: 12 knots

The Beluga is a charming and surprisingly spacious motor cruiser featuring eight cabins, a delightful bar and dining area, and a large sundeck, perfect for sightseeing.

Origin, Theory & Evolve

Passengers: 20
Type: Luxury Expedition Yacht
Length: 43 m
Cruising speed: 12 knots

Three identical luxury expedition yachts, boasting superb social areas, each with a stylish lounge, bar and library. Cabins are sophisticated and spacious and offer panoramic views.



Passion

Passengers: 14
Type: Luxury Yacht
Length: 49 m
Cruising speed: 10 knots

A luxury yacht, Passion offers seven boutique-style cabins, a panoramic sky lounge and bar, and original teakwood decks. The vessel is air-conditioned throughout.

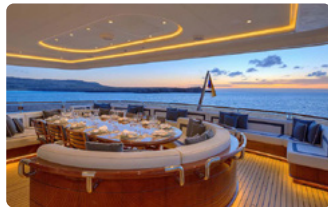
Evolution

Passengers: 32
Type: Motor Yacht
Length: 58.5 m
Cruising speed: 10 knots

With a maximum capacity of 32 guests, the Evolution yacht boasts spacious and tastefully decorated social areas. Cabins come with portholes or windows.

“Beluga was excellent – nothing was too much trouble for the crew, the food was superb with plenty of choice, and it was exceptionally clean and tidy. All the crew, from the captain down to the maintenance men, are there to help with whatever you need.”

Christine L, April 2025



Aqua Mare

Passengers: 16
Type: Luxury Superyacht
Length: 50 m
Cruising speed: 17 knots

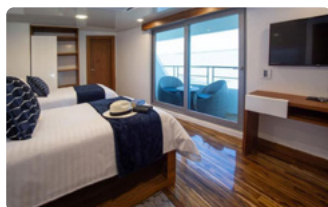
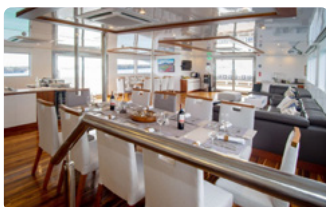
This elegant superyacht accommodates guests in seven luxurious suites. Offering ample deck space, a hot tub and panoramic dining, Aqua Mare is contemporary, yet timeless.



La Pinta

Passengers: 48
Type: Luxury Motor Cruiser
Length: 64 m
Cruising speed: 10 knots

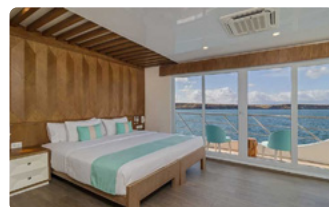
La Pinta boasts 24 spacious cabins with floor-to-ceiling windows, a well-stocked library, a lecture area with cinema screen, inside and outside dining areas and a choice of bars.



Infinity

Passengers: 20
Type: Luxury Motor Yacht
Length: 49 m
Cruising speed: 10 knots

Infinity accommodates a maximum of 20 passengers across eight cabins and two suites. All cabins have private balconies. The sundeck offers a space for al fresco dining and relaxation.



Endemic

Passengers: 16
Type: Luxury Catamaran
Length: 35 m
Cruising speed: 12 knots

The Endemic is a spacious and stylish catamaran, offering tastefully decorated social areas and inviting panoramic suites with floor-to-ceiling glass doors and balconies.



Polar Expedition Voyages

To visit the Arctic and Antarctic is to travel to regions like nowhere else on Earth. These frozen lands are home to some of the world's most unique wildlife and offer unforgettable wildlife encounters, from seeing the iconic polar bear, to sitting amidst huge colonies of penguins in a vast, icy wilderness. We arrange dedicated charters to the Arctic and Antarctic, in addition to tailor-made options on hand-picked vessels and recommended itineraries.



Visiting the Polar Regions

As the most remote locations on the planet, trips to both the Arctic and Antarctic can be time-consuming and complex adventures. But the rewards once you are there are out of this world. The Arctic is home to the world's largest terrestrial predator, the polar bear, plus gargantuan marine species such as walrus. Penguins – from emperor to Adélie – are the specialities of Antarctica, but it's also a feeding ground for a multitude of great whales, most notably humpback, minke and blue. Seal-predating orcas are also common. Perhaps best of all, there's rarely a dull moment – if there's no wildlife to be seen, then there's always the stupendous landscape to gaze upon in awe.

How to Choose Your Polar Voyage

All of our trips take place on specialist polar vessels that are comfortable for those onboard while being able to access the remotest areas.

Our shortest trip to Antarctica (in which you fly across the Drake Passage) lasts seven days, excluding the days required to reach the departure point of Punta Arenas in southern Chile. Our longest, the Ross Sea Expedition Voyage, which stops at the Subantarctic Islands en route to the Ross Sea, is up to 28 days. The shortest Arctic trip, our Fjords, Orcas and Aurora Photography Expedition lasts six days.

Then you must decide what you want to see on your voyage – is it penguins or polar bears? Orcas or auks? Most of our Arctic trips are centred on the Svalbard archipelago, though one takes you to the heavily fjorded east coast of Greenland (see pages 44-45 for our Spitsbergen, Greenland & Iceland trip).

Fitness

You don't need to be a marathon runner, but you do need the stamina to walk medium distances over sometimes rough, uneven ground. Probably the most important requirement is reasonable agility so that you can climb in and out of Zodiacs.

Best Time to Visit

Our trips only take place during the polar summers and early autumns – for the Arctic, that's June to early September, and for Antarctica, it's October through to March. However, Emperor Penguins of the Weddell Sea is a one-off that only departs in November because that's the best time to see the large Snow Hill Island colony with their chicks.

What to Expect on a Polar Voyage

Expect the unexpected! Or, at the very least, be prepared for something to happen at any time. Remember, because these trips take place during the polar summers, you experience long hours of daylight, often 24 hours.

There are generally two excursions on the Zodiacs each day, but some of the voyages offer other activities such as sea kayaking, hiking, snowshoeing and overnight camping. The expert and experienced guides will constantly be on hand to point out wildlife and interpret what you are watching.

Life Onboard

Life on your voyage will be busy, comfortable and fun. Your first outing of the day – assuming reasonable weather conditions – usually departs after breakfast, with lunch sandwiched between that and your afternoon excursion.

Food is varied, healthy and filling, with freshly prepared breakfast, lunch and dinner each day, and tea and coffee available at all times.

Most evenings, there's the option to attend lectures given by the onboard team, and these give you more details on polar wildlife, landscapes, history and exploration. Many of our guests use any spare time to watch out for wildlife on deck, whether marine mammals or seabirds. Just to make sure you don't miss out, announcements will alert you to anything worth grabbing your binoculars and camera for.

[View more online](#)



The Arctic

Home to some of the most spectacular landscapes and charismatic wildlife on the planet, the Arctic is a bucket-list destination for many people. It's a harsh environment, where even during the summer, temperatures rarely rise more than a few degrees above freezing. At this time of year, there's still a great deal of broken sea ice in the fjords and permanent glaciers inland. On the coast however, the relative warmth has opened up a snow-free tundra habitat where mosses and a few hardy wildflowers grow.



Wildlife Calendar

	Polar bears	Cetaceans	Pinnipeds	Birdlife
May	Polar bears on pack-ice along the northern coast of Spitsbergen.	Cetaceans in the waters of the High Arctic after annual migration.	Pinnipeds, especially walrus around the west coast of Spitsbergen.	The Arctic's birdlife begins to arrive in preparation for the short breeding season.
Jun	Polar bears make landfall, particularly on Spitsbergen.	More cetaceans arrive from the south, increasing frequency of sightings.	Pinnipeds, including harp and bearded seals give birth.	Huge numbers of seabirds – little auks, guillemots and puffins start to breed.
Jul	Sea ice retreats, polar bears become isolated on land across the High Arctic.	Cetacean numbers peak across the Arctic, both in abundance and variety.	Walrus haul out on the beaches, seals are attracted to the ice floes.	Peak of breeding season. Fledglings leave the nest, attracting predators like Arctic fox.
Aug	Polar bear sightings are less frequent as summer ends with lower prey density.	Cetaceans continue to feed, but some begin the migration south.	Sea ice retreats, pinnipeds are less frequently found as they follow the ice.	Last fledglings leave the nest, and some species begin to migrate south.

Where to Go

Our Arctic voyages mainly visit the Norwegian archipelago of Svalbard, centring on the biggest island, Spitsbergen. This is a land of incredibly beautiful indented fjords, glaciers and icebergs. For people based in the UK or Europe, it's relatively quick to reach the departure port of Longyearbyen. One trip also runs to Greenland, the world's largest island, where you can find equally jaw-dropping scenery but a different suite of terrestrial wildlife and a rich indigenous culture.

Wildlife

The most sought-after Arctic species are usually found in or near the water. These include polar bears, which are as at home in the sea as they are on land, though ice is of greatest importance to them because it's here that they hunt seals, their most significant prey. Don't be surprised to see them swimming however as they have incredible stamina and can travel huge distances this way.

During the Arctic summer, the opportunities for predation on ice are limited, and many wander Svalbard's shores looking for dead whales or reindeer to eat as carrion. Some individuals have learned to raid nesting bird colonies for eggs or chicks.

You may see walrus hauled out on the shore, and ringed and bearded seals on

ice floes. Cetacean sightings could include humpback whales, belugas and narwhals, with a possibility of the only whale endemic to the Arctic, the bowhead, in the waters off Greenland.

Inland, you have an excellent chance of encountering reindeer and Arctic foxes. The latter must use the short summer months to bring up litters of eight or more pups, frequently by raiding accessible bird colonies. On Greenland, you may come across musk ox and Arctic hares, species not found on Svalbard.

Summer birdlife is abundant, with little auks, black guillemots and razorbills easily seen, along with kittiwakes, skuas and terns. Pink-footed and barnacle geese breed on the archipelago, and eider ducks are common.

What to Expect

We offer a wide range of polar vessels including purpose-built and converted research boats. From the moment you step aboard, there's an extensive programme of excursions, lectures and other activities such as photography or cultural workshops to keep you fully occupied. In your spare time head out on deck – after all, you never know when a polar bear may hove into view.

Meals are served three times a day, with a full range of food including plenty of fresh fruit

and vegetables, and tea, coffee and biscuits available throughout the day.

When to Go

We only run trips to Spitsbergen during the summer months of May to August, when the seas surrounding the island, and the rest of Svalbard, are sufficiently ice-free. This allows us to access fjords and reach the best locations to ensure you make the most of your Arctic adventure.

[View more online](#)



Swimming with Whales in Norway



Imagine the thrill of plunging into Norway's icy Arctic fjords, snorkelling alongside enormous humpback whales, or watching the sleek, black-and-white form of an orca gliding past effortlessly.

The first rush of cold takes your breath away, but as your body adjusts, a deep calm settles in – the only sounds are your heartbeat and the distant calls and clicks of whales. Few experiences compare to the awe of sharing the ocean with these mighty creatures in their natural habitat.

This experience is certainly not for everyone – it's cold, it's wild and it's unpredictable. But if you are getting goosebumps reading this, it might just be for you. Even after countless marine wildlife expeditions, this voyage feels like something truly special: raw, real and deeply immersive.

Aboard our small expedition vessel, we'll explore the spectacular fjords of Northern Norway, following the migration of herring that attracts both

orca and humpback whales in vast numbers. Life on board is relaxed and comfortable, with cosy cabins and plenty of space on deck to soak in the Arctic scenery. The bridge is always open, inviting guests to join the crew as we navigate through snow-covered peaks and inky waters, ever watchful for the telltale blows of whales in the distance.

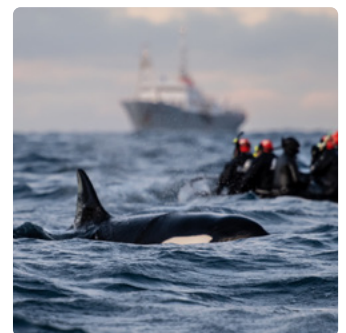
When activity is spotted, we don our drysuits and set off on Zodiacs to observe the whales at close range. Under the careful guidance of our expert team, we position ourselves respectfully to witness these extraordinary predators as they corral shoals of herring into tight bait balls.

Should the conditions and whale behaviour allow, we'll slip quietly into the water for an unforgettable snorkelling encounter, drifting in the Arctic sea as these incredible mammals move gracefully through the depths below. Even when we remain onboard the ship or Zodiac, the sight of dozens

of whales feeding, with their tails lifting against a backdrop of snow-clad mountains and swirling seabirds, is utterly mesmerising.

Evenings bring the warmth of hearty food and the chance

to watch the Northern Lights ripple across the sky. This is a journey that demands a sense of adventure and rewards you tenfold – a chance to experience nature at its rawest, most elemental best.





NEW &
EXCLUSIVE
VOYAGE

[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Tromso, overnight.
Days 2-7: Embark and set sail on our adventure. Days are spent scanning for blows from deck or Zodiac, preparing for those moments when we can enter the water safely and respectfully. We'll witness these magnificent creatures beneath the water's surface – seeing the world from their perspective. White-tailed eagles soar overhead and there's also the chance to spot fin and sperm whales. By night, we look for the Northern Lights.
Day 8: Disembark and return to the UK.

8 days, from £5,495 (voyage only)

Departure dates:
27 Nov 2026; 28 Oct 2027

Embark/Disembark:
Tromso/Tromso

Vessel: Virgo



Why book Swimming with Whales in Norway?

This thrilling, small vessel adventure combines Arctic scenery, whale encounters & snorkelling in inky Arctic waters.

- Unique in-water experience
- Observe fascinating whale behaviour
- Dedicated single cabins with no single supplement
- Possible Northern Lights

Wildlife Highlights

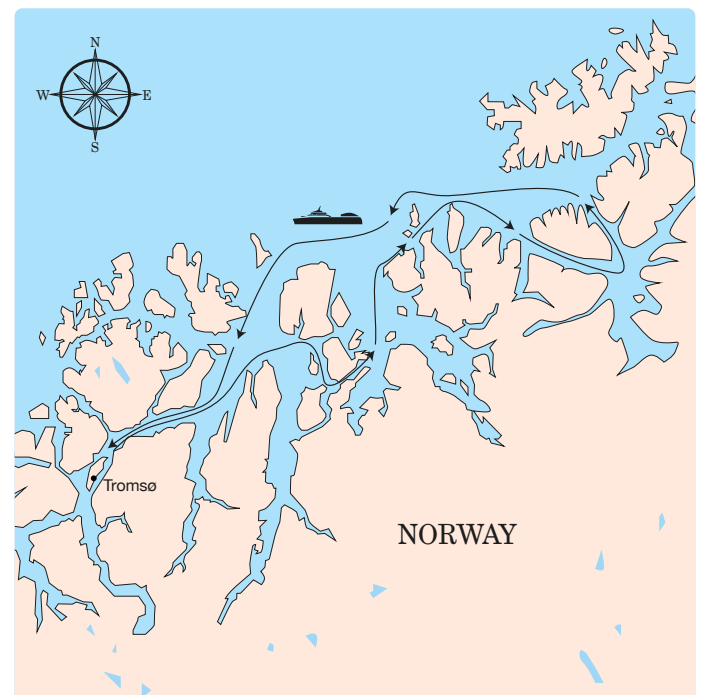
- Humpback whale
- Orca
- White-tailed eagle
- Chance of fin & sperm whales

Activities

Whale watching, Zodiac excursions, swimming & snorkelling, expedition cruising

“If watching orca and humpback whales fish in Norway’s fjords under a wintry, Northern Lights-ridden sky is not enough, how about slipping into the depths with them on this adventure of a lifetime? Yes, really! We literally cannot wait to experience the magic!”

Helen Bryon, Tour Leader & Product Executive



Svalbard Wildlife Expedition



Explore the Svalbard archipelago in exclusive company aboard one of the smaller vessels that regularly cruises these wildlife-rich waters and frozen islands.

Travelling to the Arctic is an adventure however you choose to do it, but aboard the 40-metre M/S Stockholm and with just 12 passengers in total, our small vessel expedition adds a greater sense of intimacy and uniqueness to the experience.

The exact itinerary is dictated by the weather and ice conditions, but wherever we go, we aim to undertake Zodiac landings and excursions every day. Our main goal is to find the iconic wildlife for which this polar region is world-renowned.

Like all Svalbard trips, our voyage starts in Longyearbyen, from where we set off down Isfjorden and then north to Prins Karls Forland. We should see our first walrus colonies here, along with abundant breeding seabirds and harbour seals.

Sailing in a clockwise direction we investigate Kongsfjorden and make landfall at Ny Ålesund, a small town originally founded to service a nascent mining operation, now entirely given over to scientific research and said to be the most northerly civilian settlement in the world. Amundsen set off from here in what's considered the first successful attempt to reach the North Pole. There's a good chance of seeing Arctic foxes hunting among the houses and reindeer grazing on the surrounding tundra here.

If possible, we carry on right around the top of Svalbard and even push on into the southern edge of the pack ice, where the chances of encounters with polar bears are high. On the east side, we enter inlets such as Liefdefjorden and cruise along the face of the Monaco Glacier in search of nesting pink-footed geese and rare king eiders.

Another likely destination is Hornsund, in the southwest, an area of spectacular glaciers

and Svalbard's highest peak, Hornsundtind. This is another area where we have a good chance of seeing polar bears, and bearded seals hauled out on the sea ice. Travelling in a relatively small boat, we can

adopt a flexible approach to where we go, always responding to what will yield the best results.

We also offer this expedition as a photographic departure, led by Bret Charman or Sean Weekly.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Longyearbyen, the capital of Svalbard. Board our exclusively chartered vessel for a 7-night expedition.

Days 2-7: Over the coming days we explore icy Arctic waters, witness spectacular glaciers & navigate numerous magnificent fjords. We search for wildlife such as polar bear, Arctic fox, Svalbard reindeer, walrus & several species of seal, as well as various cetaceans & numerous seabirds.

Day 8: Our expedition comes to an end & we disembark in Longyearbyen.

8 days, from £8,195 (voyage only)

Departure date: 10 Jun 2027
Embark/Disembark: Longyearbyen (on Svalbard)/ Longyearbyen
Vessel: M/S Stockholm, a comfortable and characterful ship accommodating a maximum of 12 passengers.
Tour leader: Helen Bryon

Why book Svalbard Wildlife Expedition?

For an Arctic cruise with a difference – you'll enjoy all the classic Arctic sights & sounds but from a ship less than half the size of a usual expedition craft.

- Intimate experiences
- Iconic wildlife
- Expedition cruising
- Beautiful glaciers

Wildlife Highlights

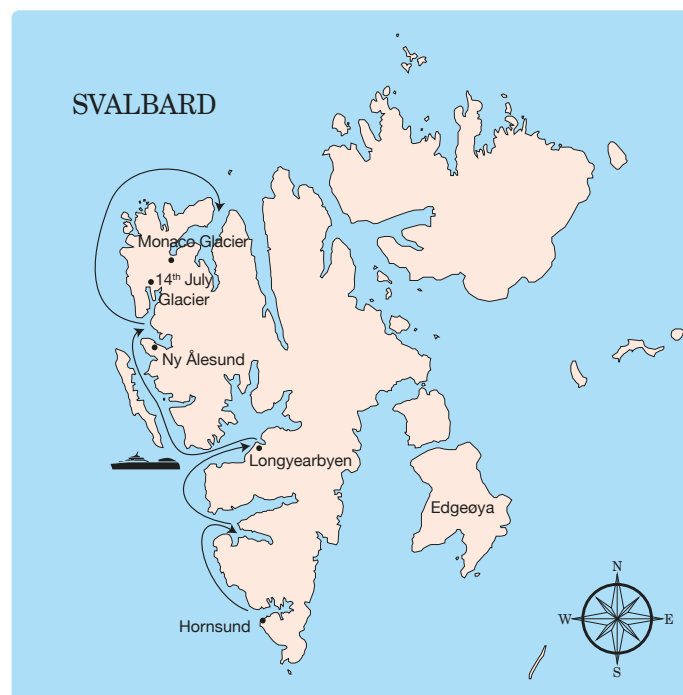
- Polar bear
- Arctic fox
- Walrus & other pinnipeds
- King eider
- Seabirds including Brünnich's guillemot

Activities

Zodiac excursions, island landings, wood-fired hot tub

“I enjoyed the small-ship experience, the feeling of true isolation in the wilderness and being able to view wildlife without intrusion. It was great to see Arctic wildlife in its stunning natural habitat. We had multiple encounters with nearly all the mammals and birds seen on the trip.”

Barry B, Jun 2025



Around Spitsbergen



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latest offers
call us on
01962 302055

Head north to the Norwegian archipelago of Svalbard for an epic Arctic adventure in search of polar bears, walrus, reindeer and a wide variety of seabirds.

For most visitors to the Arctic, the region's apex land predator is top of their list of must-see species. Thankfully, in a cruise around the island of Spitsbergen, polar bears can be seen at any time in almost any location.

Indeed, you are as likely to encounter polar bears out at sea, patrolling the sea ice or swimming doggedly through the frigid seas, as you're on land, where they go during the summer months in search of a washed-up whale carcass or reindeer carrion.

But polar bears are only the icing on the proverbial Arctic cake. Here, charismatic wildlife is always just behind the next glacier or perhaps across the tundra. You'll love seeing walrus hauled out on the beaches, but watching them

in the water – where they're reborn as lithe and agile sea wolves – is magnificent.

You may also see reindeer in their slightly scruffy summer coats, as well as seabirds everywhere such as kittiwakes, little auks and of course, skuas.

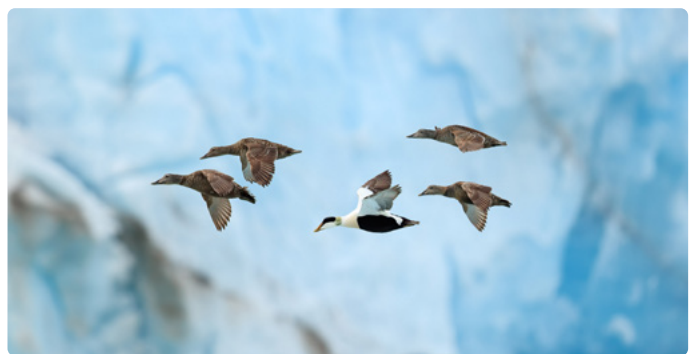
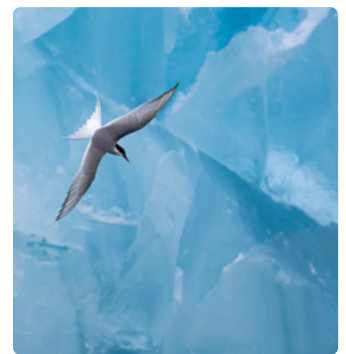
Our cruise begins in Longyearbyen, the archipelago's largest town (still fewer than 2,500 people), and from there, we head north along the west coast towards the tiny research settlement of Ny Ålesund, where breeding pink-footed geese and Arctic terns attract predatory Arctic foxes.

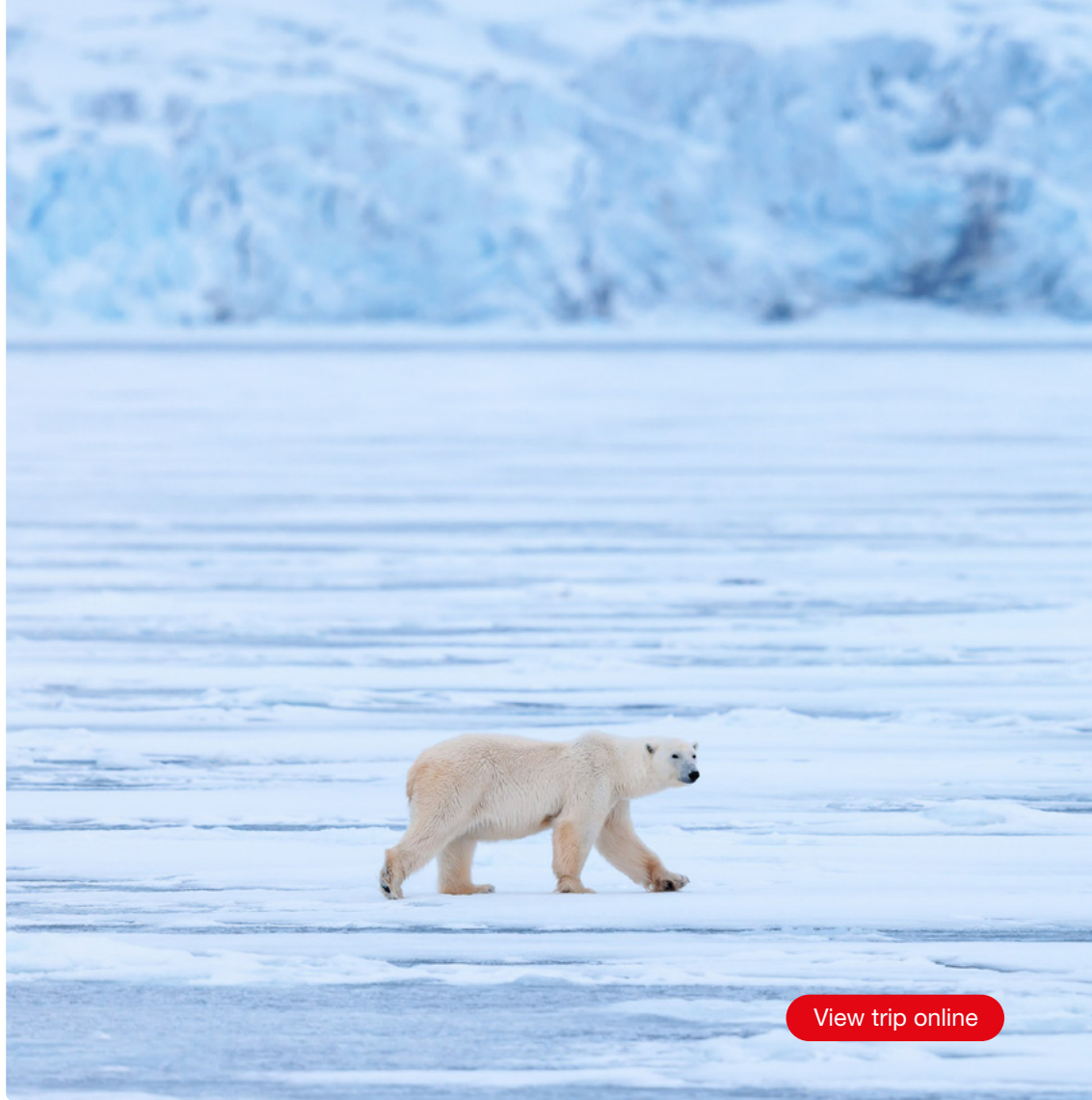
The voyage continues in a clockwise direction, with plenty of opportunity to see all the Arctic's iconic species. Other notable highlights include the remarkable kittiwake breeding colony at Diskobukta, where they nest on ledges in a narrow inland gorge, and Ahlstrandhalvøya, in the south of Svalbard, where piles of beluga skeletons lie in this

marine wilderness.

Cruising into nearby Recherchefjorden gives us a good opportunity to encounter living belugas, sometimes called canaries of the Arctic because

of their high-pitched whistles. And this, and indeed all of these experiences, takes place at a time of year of almost perpetual daylight, in the land of the midnight sun.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Embark in Longyearbyen.

Days 2-9: Spend the coming days exploring the Arctic wilderness of Svalbard. You'll encounter phenomenal fjords, magnificent mountains & a plethora of wildlife, with opportunities to see cetaceans, pinnipeds, an array of birdlife & possibly even the majestic polar bear.

Day 10: Disembark in Longyearbyen.

10 days, from £6,995 (voyage only)

Departures: Regular departures, May-Aug

Embark/Disembark: Longyearbyen (on Svalbard)/ Longyearbyen

Vessels: Plancius, Hondius, Ortelius, Ocean Explorer, Ultramarine & Greg Mortimer



Why book Around Spitsbergen?

The Svalbard archipelago provides the best all-round Arctic experience anywhere on the planet, with excellent odds of encounters with iconic polar species.

- Island cruise
- Wilderness adventure
- Polar landscape
- Spectacular wildlife encounters

Wildlife Highlights

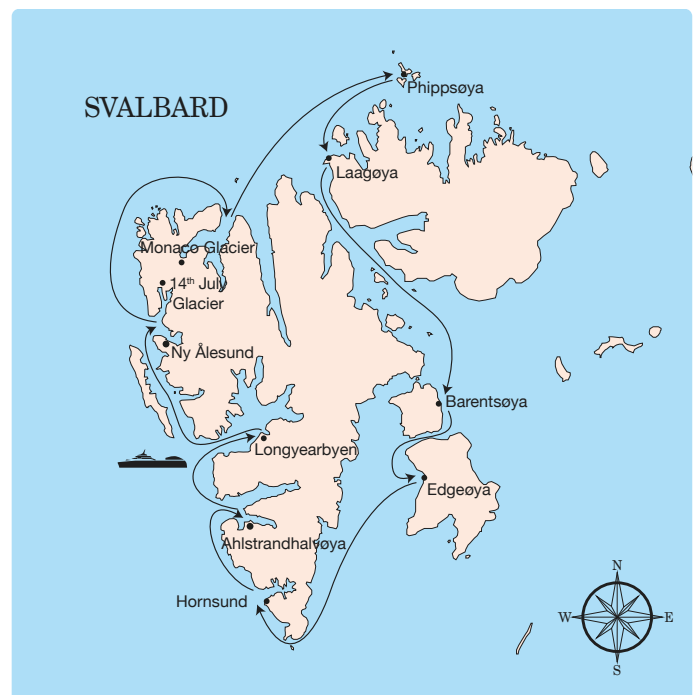
- Polar bear
- Walrus
- Ringed & bearded seal
- Arctic reindeer
- Vast seabird colonies

Activities

Zodiac excursions, island hikes, nature walks, sea kayaking

“This was a once-in-a-lifetime holiday – the Arctic is otherworldly. It's so diverse and so beautiful. The expedition leaders and ship crew work non-stop to ensure you have the very best experience. We saw all the wildlife we wanted to and were given the time to watch it. This trip is amazing and awesome!”

Catherine E, Jul 2024



Spitsbergen, Greenland & Iceland

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latest offers
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This ultimate European Arctic experience takes you from Spitsbergen's 'pointed mountains' to Greenland's spectacular fjords, with Iceland as the final destination.

The largest island of the Svalbard archipelago, Spitsbergen – where you begin this trip – is rightly one of the most popular Arctic destinations.

Easy to access from the UK, it has the world's largest population of polar bears, which may be seen on land. There's a multitude of equally iconic wildlife in the shape of walrus, reindeer and thousands upon thousands of seabirds.

After cruising the west coast of Spitsbergen, you spend two days crossing the Greenland Sea while keeping an eye out for fin whales and belugas, the Arctic's unmistakable white whales.

Though less well-travelled than Svalbard, Greenland is today acquiring a reputation for its glittering icebergs and

glaciers, vast empty spaces and fabulous wildlife.

On your arrival at Greenland's heavily fjorded east coast, you land at Myggebugten for a first glimpse of a species you won't have seen in Svalbard, the hardy musk ox – one of the largest remaining members of the sheep and goat family.

Though owned by Denmark, Greenland is geologically part of the North American continent, and species such as the musk ox and Arctic hare betray this fact.

You carry on sailing south, taking in more spectacular, deeply cut fjords, advancing armies of glaciers and abandoned Inuit settlements. Hundreds of years ago, these tiny villages were inhabited by Greenlanders hunting bowhead whales, the only baleen whale endemic to the Arctic and subarctic. In one village, we see how the hunters used vertebrae from the bowheads to build their houses.

After visiting the inhabited

town of Ittoqqortoormiut, the final leg of the journey takes us across the Denmark Strait towards Iceland, and if weather conditions allow, there may be a chance to see the famed aurora borealis, the Northern Lights.

The voyage ends in Reykjavik or Akureyri in Iceland – by which time you'll have sailed several thousand kilometres in less than two weeks and had the experiences of a lifetime.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Helsinki and stay overnight.

Day 2: Fly to Longyearbyen and embark on your vessel.

Days 3-6: Discover Spitsbergen and its abundant wildlife, from walrus, Arctic reindeer and polar bear to Arctic tern, skuas, Brünnich's guillemot, black-legged kittiwake and ivory gulls.

Days 7-8:

Sailing towards Greenland.

Days 9-12: Explore East Greenland including the incredible fjord system of Scoresbysund.

Days 13-14: Cruise the Denmark Strait towards Iceland.

Day 15: Disembark in Reykjavik.

14 days, from £12,895 (voyage incl. flight from Helsinki to Longyearbyen)

Departures:

Regular departures, Jun-Aug

Embark/Disembark:

Longyearbyen (Spitsbergen)/ Reykjavik/Akureyri (Iceland)

Vessels: Ultramarine, Greg Mortimer, Sylvia Earle & Douglas Mawson

Why book Spitsbergen, Greenland & Iceland?

This is an epic voyage that takes you to three iconic Arctic islands in search of the charismatic wildlife that inhabits this frozen region.

- Fjords & glaciers
- Arctic wildlife
- Inuit settlements
- Northern Lights (September)

Wildlife Highlights

- Cetaceans
- Musk ox
- Arctic hare
- Walrus
- Variety of seabirds

Activities

Tundra walks, Zodiac cruises, visiting indigenous communities

“ We loved the stunning landscapes including glaciers and icebergs, together with wildlife sightings. We were lucky to see muskox, a couple of polar bears, walrus, bearded seal, harbour seals and reindeer. ”

Steven D, Aug 2024



Fjords, Orcas & Aurora Photography Expedition



Discover Northern Norway's spectacular fjords, home to pods of orca and humpback whales, and marvel at the magical aurora borealis on our exclusive photography expedition.

Accompanied by professional wildlife and astrophotographer Sean Weekly, and a dedicated expedition team, this voyage navigates some of the region's most remarkable fjords and waterways as we focus on photographing spectacular wildlife, impressive scenery and magnificent Arctic skies.

Since 2010, huge shoals of herring have overwintered in the fjords, around Norway's northern coast, attracting humpback whales and orcas. As they are usually seen from late October through to the end of November, we've chosen to conduct our voyage in mid-November, thereby maximising our opportunities to see these incredible mammals. At this time of year, white-tailed eagles can also be seen, often soaring

high overhead using their impressive wings.

Besides the enchanting wildlife, another spectacle we hope to admire is the Northern Lights. Alta is perfectly situated, offering one of the best possibilities of witnessing this natural phenomenon.

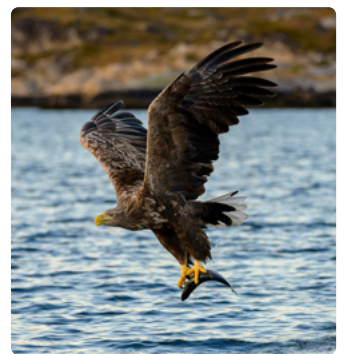
The result of a cosmic reaction, the aurora borealis has long-fascinated humans. Created when charged particles from the sun collide with the Earth's magnetic field, the northern lights appear as vibrant bands of coloured light, illuminating the night sky.

Crisp dawns and enchanting dusks provide captivating light conditions for photography. As with any expedition, impromptu excursions are not uncommon, so a degree of flexibility is needed to make the most of unpredictable wildlife sightings. With two Zodiacs, there's plenty of capacity to enable daily cruises and landings. While onboard,

we can use the ship's communal areas to work on our imagery, or attend informal workshops and tutorials.

The delightful M/S Stockholm provides an ideal base for our

photography charter. It's full of character and historic charm. With such a small group, we hope the expedition feels like travelling with friends, and look forward to capturing a stunning portfolio of imagery.





EXCLUSIVE VOYAGE

[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Alta, located within the Arctic Circle. This afternoon board the M/S Stockholm and set sail.

Days 2-5: Over the next four days, we explore the very best of Northern Norway. Each day we head out on exciting Zodiac cruises, enjoy shore landings and hikes, and marvel at the incredible scenery, home to beautiful fjords and soaring mountain peaks. We hope to encounter orca and humpback whale, as well as white-tailed eagle. With luck, we may also see the magical Northern Lights. Kvænangen, Loppa and Vannøya are examples of places we hope to explore. Back onboard our comfortable vessel, we listen to inspiring lectures and enjoy informal photography workshops.

Day 6: After breakfast, disembark in Alta.

6 days, from £5,295 (voyage only)

Departure dates:

18 Nov 2026 & 8 Nov 2027

Embark/Disembark: Alta/Alta

Vessel: Stockholm

Tour leader: Sean Weekly

Why book Fjords, Orcas & Aurora?

Encounter pods of orca & watch humpback whales as they feed in the herring-rich waters of the fjords. With clear weather, witness the spectacular Northern Lights.

- Led by photographer Sean Weekly
- Iconic wildlife
- Northern Lights
- Intimate experience

Wildlife Highlights

- Orca & humpback whale
- White-tailed eagle
- Giant rafts of eider

Activities

Expert-led photography workshops & tutorials, Zodiac cruises, wildlife watching

“ Sean interacted with everyone offering excellent photography advice, and nothing was too much trouble. He ensured the trip was one none of us would ever forget. We most enjoyed the fantastic Zodiac experience which brought us so close to orcas and humpback whales. ”

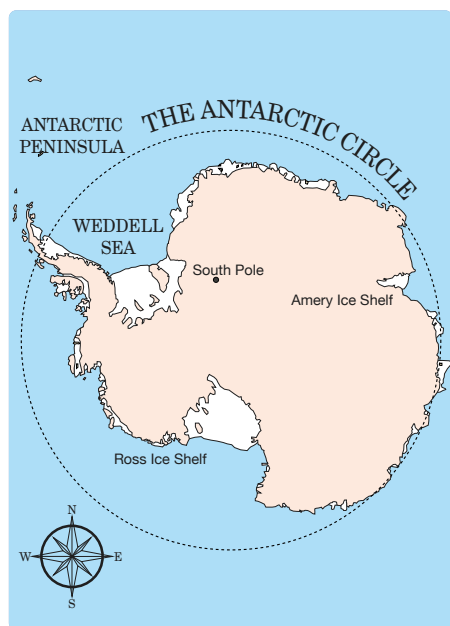
John C, Nov 2025





Antarctica & the Southern Ocean

Reaching the Antarctic Peninsula is an adventure in itself. Most trips depart from the southern tip of South America and cross the 800-kilometre Drake Passage until they arrive at the South Shetland Islands and then the Antarctic Peninsula, a long finger of land that snakes out from the main body of the continent. Here, you encounter huge icebergs and other floating sea ice, vast glaciers and towering sea cliffs, in addition to the marine mammals and seabirds which are the primary attraction for many visitors.



Wildlife Calendar

	Penguins	Cetaceans	Pinnipeds	Birdlife
Nov	Beginning of the breeding season. Only chance to visit emperor penguin colony.	A variety of cetaceans start arriving in the Antarctic after their annual migration.	Leopard seals seen around the Peninsula and southern elephant seals on South Georgia.	Young wandering albatross begin to stretch their wings before their first flight.
Dec	Penguin rookeries grow, with chicks starting to hatch across the Antarctic.	More cetaceans arrive from the north, with humpback sightings being the most frequent.	Antarctic fur seals give birth on South Georgia, and Weddell seals are seen on the Peninsula.	Wandering, grey-headed and black-browed albatrosses around South Georgia.
Jan	Opportunities to see and photograph multiple species across the Antarctic region.	Watch cetaceans as they feed on krill in the fertile waters of the Southern Ocean.	Adult male fur seals and elephant seals return to sea, leaving females and pups.	Many bird species have chicks on South Georgia and albatross species incubate their eggs.
Feb & Mar	Chicks of macaroni, gentoo and chinstrap penguins congregate on South Georgia.	Southern right, fin, minke, humpback and blue whales can all be seen at this time.	Best time to see leopard seal along the Peninsula; remaining southern elephant seals on South Georgia begin to moult.	Many chicks start to fledge, leaving albatross species to raise young through the winter.

Where to Go

Most of our voyages head down the west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula, taking in the Gerlache Strait, Paradise Bay and the Lemaire Channel. The South Shetland Islands, including the flooded caldera of Deception Island, are other likely destinations, as is Elephant Island, the location where Sir Ernest Shackleton abandoned the crew of *Endurance* before famously sailing to South Georgia in a boat just six metres long. He eventually returned to rescue all his men without a single loss of life.

For emperor penguins (which can only be seen on a specially scheduled voyage), we must visit Snow Hill Island in the ice-bound Weddell Sea.

Wildlife

Penguins are one of the biggest draws of visiting Antarctica. Adélie, chinstrap and gentoo penguins are all numerous and easily seen, while emperor penguins – the largest species in this seabird family – are only likely to be encountered if you sign onto the Weddell Sea special.

Where you find penguins, there are also leopard seals, one of the top predators of Antarctica. Females, the bigger of the two sexes, can grow to nearly four metres long and weigh 600 kilogrammes, and their

massive front flippers help propel them through the water at 40 kilometres an hour. They feed on a wide variety of prey, including other seals, penguins, fish, cephalopods and krill, which makes up nearly half their diet.

There's only one species that sits above leopard seals in the Antarctic food chain, and that's the orca, which in this part of the world has evolved to hunt minke whales and both elephant and Weddell seals.

Antarctica is also the bread basket for many of the world's whales which migrate down from their breeding and calving grounds to fatten up. The waters here are rich in krill, the primary diet of blue, fin, sei, humpback and Antarctic minke whales, and you should have good encounters with at least some of these mighty creatures of the deep at some point on your voyage.

Last but not least, there are the seabirds. The journey across the Drake Passage should give sightings of albatrosses among other birds, while petrels and prions are also commonly sighted. With luck, you'll see the wandering albatross, the species widely considered to have the longest wingspan of any bird on the planet.

What to Expect

Our voyages to Antarctica all take place aboard ships specially adapted or constructed for cruising the polar regions. No comfort is spared while you're on your ship, and the state-of-the-art, 90-metre long Magellan Explorer includes a library, gym and sauna.

Generally, you can expect to go on excursions from the ship in the morning and the afternoon, returning for lunch. These are in Zodiac dinghies, and can involve a landing or simply cruising on the water searching for whales and other wildlife.

Usually, at least one trip ashore is to an international scientific base, where researchers can tell you about their work. Some of the bases have museums that tell the story of Antarctic science or exploration.

When to Go

All Antarctic trips take place during the Southern Hemisphere summer and early autumn – so, November through to March. They can run any time during that period, except for 'Emperor Penguins of the Weddell Sea', which only takes place in November, because it's the best time to see the emperors at their breeding colony on Snow Hill Island.

[View more online](#)

Wildlife Wonders of South Georgia & Antarctica



South Georgia is extraordinary. Its dazzling and cacophonous wildlife provides wonder at every turn, from king penguins and albatross to bellowing elephant seals. It's gloriously and unequivocally unique.

Putting it simply, South Georgia will blow you away. The sheer scale of its ruggedly alluring and spectacular wildlife-filled shores is difficult to comprehend in advance. Experiencing it and assimilating its majesty will be a joy aboard the beautifully redesigned micro-ship, Polar Athena.

Our private charter of this small, but mighty, lovingly refurbished vessel will result in a very special journey. Combining extended time in South Georgia with the dramatic wilderness of the Antarctic Peninsula, it promises to be one of the most exciting itineraries out there, offering more time where it truly matters – off ship and out in the phenomenal wilderness.

Join us as we fly from Santiago, Chile, to Stanley in the Falkland Islands, bypassing long sea days

and heading straight into the heart of the Southern Ocean as we set sail for South Georgia.

King penguins stretch in endless lines along the beaches, elephant seals belch, grumble and jostle for space, while the skies pulse with seabirds. It's remote, breathtaking and veritably brimming with life.

What makes this voyage truly special is how long we spend there. With a small group of just 44 passengers, we'll disembark swiftly and seize every precious hour, Zodiac cruising amongst glittering icebergs, wilderness hiking above vast penguin colonies, and absorbing the quiet serenity as golden spring light sweeps across the shore. These are memories to treasure forever.

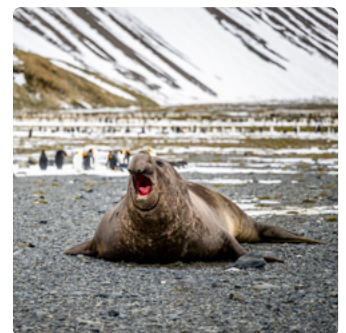
From South Georgia, we'll continue to the Antarctic Peninsula, a realm of towering icebergs, sculpted glaciers and mirror-still bays. As spring awakens, gentoo, Adélie and chinstrap penguins march across the snow, while leopard and

Weddell seals rest on drifting ice. Seabirds dance overhead, and we keep watch for early-season whales, including humpback, minke and sei, as well as orca.

When our epic adventure comes to an end, we'll fly from King

George Island to Puerto Natales. It's the perfect finale.

This is expedition cruising at its most authentic – small, flexible and full of heart. We very much look forward to sharing this exceptional journey with you.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Depart UK.

Day 2:

Arrive in Santiago, overnight.

Days 3: Fly to Stanley, embark.

Days 4-5:

At sea / arrive South Georgia.

Days 6-10: Explore the spring delights of South Georgia, among king penguins and elephant seals.

Days 11-12: At sea

Days 13-16: Discover the Antarctic Peninsula, abundant with remarkable wildlife: penguin rookeries, seals on ice floes and whales beneath icy seas.

Day 17: Fly from King George Island to Puerto Natales, overnight.

Day 18: Fly to Santiago, overnight.

Days 19-20: Return to UK, arriving the next day.

20 days, from £22,745 (incl. flights)

£20,495 (excl. flights)

Departure date: 2 Nov 2028

Embark/Disembark:

Stanley/King George Island

Vessel: Polar Athena

Tour leaders: Helen Bryon, Emma Healey, Kevin Morgans & Sean Weekly

Why book Wildlife Wonders of South Georgia & Antarctica?

Experience unmatched wildlife encounters aboard this micro-expedition, offering unforgettable moments in the company of our superb tour leaders & photographers.

- Extended time in South Georgia
- Pristine spring landscapes
- Exceptional photographic opportunities
- Dedicated single cabins with no single supplement

Wildlife Highlights

- King penguins
- Elephant seals
- Abundant birdlife

Activities

Fly-cruise, landings ashore, Zodiac excursions, photography, lectures

“The photography opportunities in South Georgia are just incredible. Vast colonies of king penguins, dramatic landscapes, the atmosphere, the energy, the light ... it's simply off the scale.”

Sean Weekly, Tour Leader



Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari



Join us as we cross the Antarctic Circle and journey through surreal ice-bound landscapes, encountering playful penguin chicks, magnificent whales, and an explosion of extraordinary wildlife on our first-ever penguin and whale safari!

This once-in-a-lifetime voyage follows in the footsteps of legendary explorers but enjoys the luxury of a modern expedition vessel. Our purpose-built ship, the Greg Mortimer, accommodates a maximum of 130 guests, ensuring an intimate experience for our small group of 14.

As we venture south, crossing the Antarctic Circle, our two dedicated Zodiacs provide us with unparalleled access to icy shores, glittering icebergs and pristine snowscapes. Emma, our expert photographer, will provide guidance on the best positions for capturing the drama of this frozen realm, while Helen will focus on the abundant wildlife and incredible scenery surrounding us.

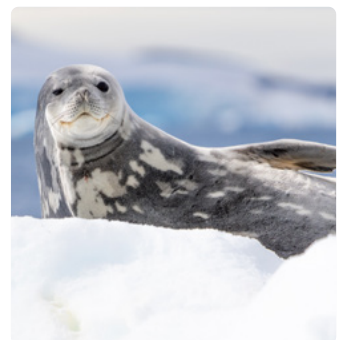
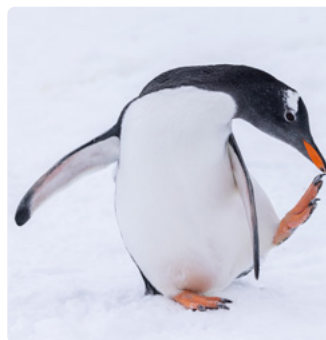
With a February departure, the midsummer light illuminates the nutrient-rich waters, which are teeming with cetaceans gorging themselves in readiness to migrate north. With their focus on feeding, we hope for close encounters with humpbacks, minke and even blue whales, while orcas may also make an appearance. From bow-riding dusky dolphins to the world's southernmost breeding mammal, the Weddell seal, we are sure to be kept fully occupied.

At bustling penguin rookeries, thousands of curious chicks – including gentoo, Adélie and chinstrap – unbothered by our presence, approach to show off their irresistible charm. Playful yet fearless, these downy chicks tumble from their nests and waddle over ice-packed shores calling out for their parents. Yet, nature's balance looms, as leopard seals patrol the icy waters, and skuas hover above, reminding us of Antarctica's uncompromising wilderness.

Back onboard, we can join Emma for photo workshops or simply relax and take in the breathtaking landscapes unfolding outside.

Floor-to-ceiling windows, expansive decks and hydraulic viewing

platforms offer panoramic views of the mesmerising icescapes and distant mountain peaks. The outside-facing gym and sauna allow you to stay connected even when relaxing onboard.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Ushuaia.
Day 2: Embark and set sail.
Day 3: Cross the Drake Passage.
Day 4: South Shetland Islands.
Days 5-10: Over the next six days we sail along ice-filled fjords and among spectacular icebergs, while enjoying the company of penguins, seals, whales and a variety of seabirds. On a typical day, we enjoy two excursions with time ashore visiting penguin rookeries. We also explore by Zodiac, cruising along ice cliffs and among grounded icebergs, keeping watch for whales, seals and porpoising penguins.
Day 11: South Shetland Islands.
Day 12: Cross the Drake Passage.
Day 13: Disembark in Ushuaia.

13 days, from £15,375 (incl. flights) £12,865 (excl. flights)

Departure dates:
 21 Feb 2026; 28 Feb 2027
Embark/Disembark:
 Ushuaia/Ushuaia
Vessel: Greg Mortimer
Tour leaders: Helen Bryon & Emma Healey

Why book the Penguin & Whale Safari?

Encounter an array of penguin species & travel in peak whale watching season.

- Opportunity to encounter a variety of cetaceans
- Penguin chick-rearing season
- Accompanied by Helen Bryon & Emma Healey

Wildlife Highlights

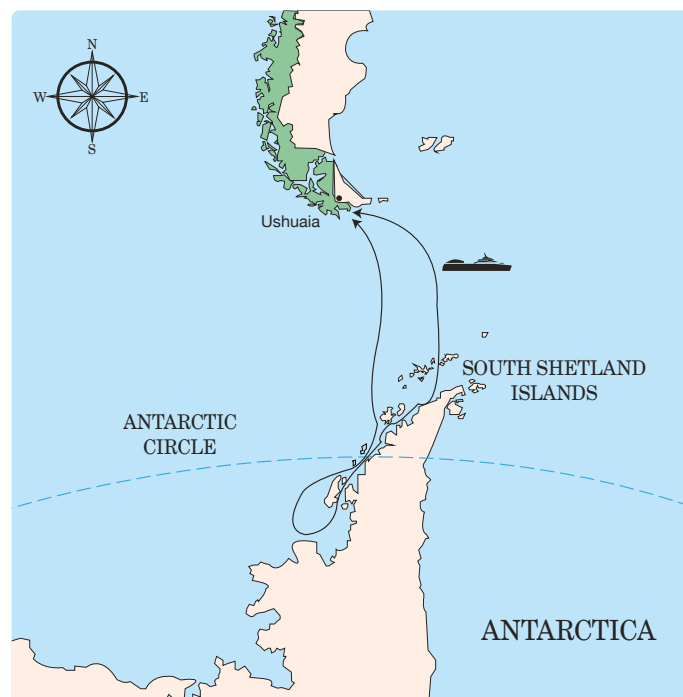
- Adélie, chinstrap & gentoo penguin
- Humpback, fin & sei whale
- Leopard, Weddell & crabeater seal
- Numerous albatross, petrel & skua

Activities

Dedicated Zodiac excursions, shore landings, photography guidance, hydraulic viewing platforms

“Just the very word ‘Antarctica’ conjures up images of a mystical, untouched land epitomised by rugged, magnificent icescapes and irrepressible, downright tough, not to mention hardy, inhabitants. It’s the final frontier. The last continent.”

Helen Bryon, Wildlife Worldwide Tour Leader



Classic Antarctica

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The Antarctic Peninsula is the most readily accessible area of the White Continent with some of the best wildlife and scenery. Our Antarctic Peninsula voyages include as much wildlife viewing as possible while allowing you plenty of time to enjoy the breathtaking scenery, glaciers, blue and white icebergs, and towering mountains.

Your journey begins and ends in the southernmost town in the world – Ushuaia, in Tierra del Fuego – which is nestled between the spectacular snowcapped mountains of the Andes and the Beagle Channel. The first stage of the voyage is across the infamous Drake Passage, accompanied by whales, dolphins, albatrosses and other seabirds.

Your first stop is the Shetland Islands, where you visit enormous penguin rookeries, land on beaches ruled by Antarctic fur seals and observe wallowing elephant seals.

One of the many highlights here is sailing into the flooded caldera of Deception Island where the brave can take a dip in the warm thermal waters.

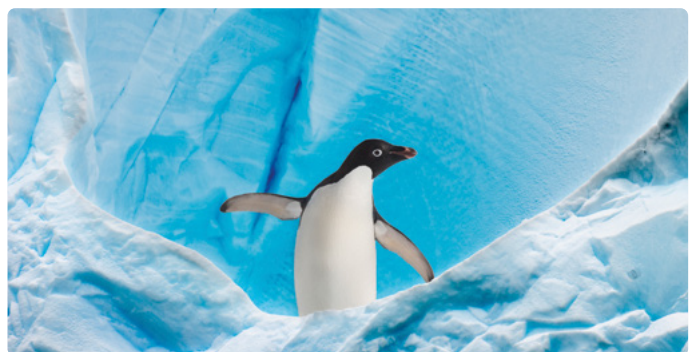
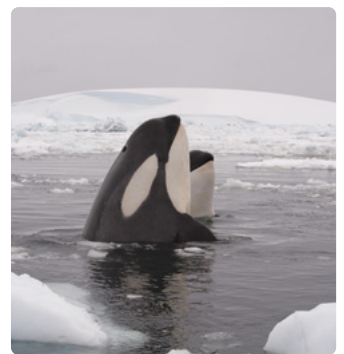
Next, you move on to the Antarctic Peninsula, where you have plenty of time to experience the special magic of this awe-inspiring wilderness. You visit enormous gentoo, chinstrap, and Adélie penguin rookeries and see blue-eyed shags, kelp gulls, Cape petrels, snowy sheathbills and many other birds. You're also likely to see Weddell, crabeater and leopard seals, while orcas, humpback and minke whales are often encountered at close range depending on ice and weather conditions.

In fact, there are more cetaceans here than almost anywhere else in the world. From deck you may notice you are being accompanied by a school of boisterous hourglass dolphins, following a pod of orca as they hunt among the ice floes or watching humpback whales

breaching in front of a wilderness of icebergs.

Itineraries vary, but some visit Paradise Harbour, filled with a mind-boggling array of icebergs; the Neumayer and Lemaire

Channels, with their towering rock faces and spectacular glaciers; Port Lockroy, with its thriving colonies of penguins; and Petermann Island, with Adélie and gentoo penguins, skuas and blue-eyed shags.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Board your ship & leave Ushuaia.

Days 2-3: Cross the Drake Passage.

Days 4-8: First explore the South Shetland Islands, including Deception Island. Next journey through the Gerlache coastline of the Antarctic Peninsula, in search of whales, seals & penguins.

Days 9-10: Head north on the Drake Passage.

Day 11: Arrive Ushuaia.

11 days, from £5,645 (voyage only)

Departures: Regular departures, Nov-Mar

Embark/Disembark: Ushuaia/Ushuaia

Vessels: Hondius, Ortelius, Plancius, Greg Mortimer, Seaventure, Ocean Explorer, Sylvia Earle & Ultramarine



Why book Classic Antarctica?

For a chance to savour the extraordinary world of Antarctica & its unique wildlife populations.

- Polar wilderness
- Once-in-a-lifetime experience
- Close wildlife encounters

Wildlife Highlights

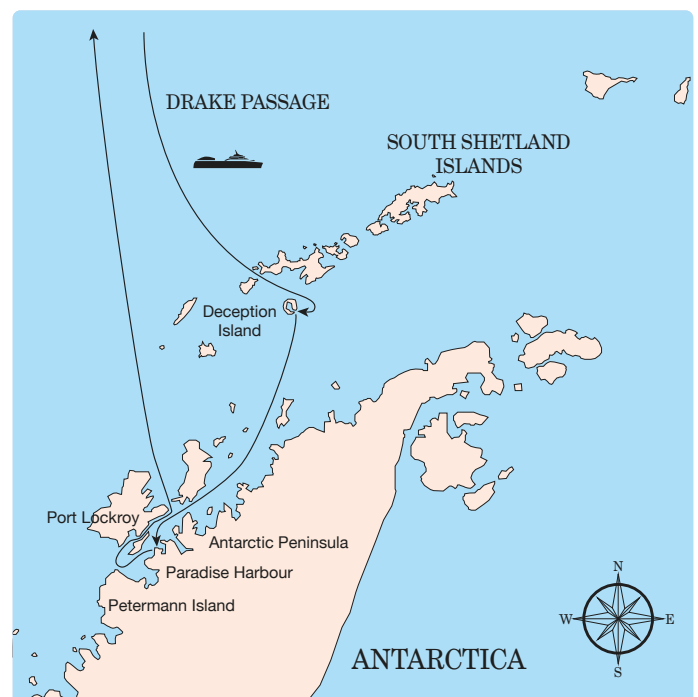
- Gentoo & chinstrap penguins
- Humpback, minke & fin whales
- Orcas
- Southern giant petrels & other seabirds

Activities

Bird & whale watching, Zodiac cruises, sea kayaking, camping, exploring old whaling stations

“ Seeing the penguins so close up and using their highways was just amazing – it was a totally unforgettable experience. I most enjoyed the excursions ashore. The expedition team on the ship were also brilliant! ”

Julie R, Jan 2025



Great Antarctic Voyage



For our latest offers call us on 01962 302055

This is the ultimate voyage to the southern polar region, taking in the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, the Antarctic Peninsula and the Drake Passage. It's the Antarctic adventure to end all Antarctic adventures.

Home to great colonies of sub-Antarctic penguins such as Magellanics and southern rockhoppers, the Falkland Islands is your first destination. You spend two days here watching birds such as giant petrel, Falkland's steamer duck and black-browed albatross. As you sail from island to island, you are accompanied by bow-riding Peale's and Commerson's dolphins, with their intriguing markings.

Your next destination, South Georgia, has some of the greatest concentrations of wildlife on the planet, perhaps best demonstrated by Salisbury Plain, home to an estimated half a million king penguins during the breeding season. Southern elephant seal bulls

face off against each other in sustained and bloody battles for dominance, and the world's largest flying bird – the wandering albatross – nests here too.

Continuing to the Antarctic Peninsula, the 2-day crossing provides plenty of time to watch for humpbacks, blue whales and albatrosses riding the waves in their epic journeys around the pole. If weather and sea conditions permit, there will be a stop at the remote and jaw-droppingly scenic South Orkney Islands.

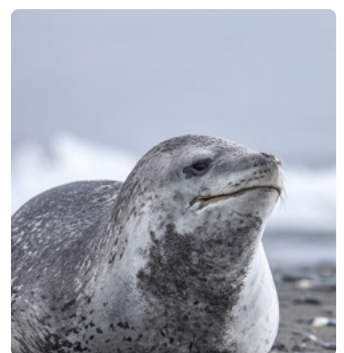
Upon reaching the Antarctic Peninsula, a 1,300-kilometre talon of land sticking out from the continent, you spend four days exploring its rugged west coast. The summer snow melt provides breeding grounds for various birds, including the diminutive chinstrap and gentoo penguins, and numerous other seabirds.

Sailing from the peninsula, you arrive at Elephant Island, the location made famous by Sir Ernest Shackleton.

It was here he left the crew of the *Endurance* after his ship had sunk to sail with five other men across the Southern Ocean to South Georgia.

Returning across the Drake

Passage there are yet more opportunities to view a variety of petrels, prions and albatrosses, either from the outer deck or the warmth of the bridge. With luck, an array of cetaceans are also possible.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

- Day 1:** Embark in Ushuaia.
- Day 2:** At sea, towards the Falkland Islands.
- Days 3-4:** The Falkland Islands.
- Days 5-6:** At sea, towards South Georgia.
- Days 7-10:** Explore South Georgia.
- Day 11:** At sea, towards the Antarctic Peninsula.
- Day 12:** South Orkney Islands.
- Days 13-16:** Explore the Antarctic Peninsula.
- Days 17-18:** Drake Passage.
- Day 19:** Disembark in Ushuaia.

19 days, from £12,900 (voyage only)

Departures:
Regular departures, Oct-Mar
Embark/Disembark:
Ushuaia/Ushuaia
Vessels: Plancius, Ortelius, Hondius, Magellan Explorer, Seaventure, Ocean Explorer, Greg Mortimer & Sylvia Earle



Why book Great Antarctic Voyage?

A comprehensive Antarctic experience with time in the Falklands, South Georgia & on the peninsula.

- Intimate wildlife encounters
- Breeding penguins
- Sculpted icebergs
- In the footsteps of history

Wildlife Highlights

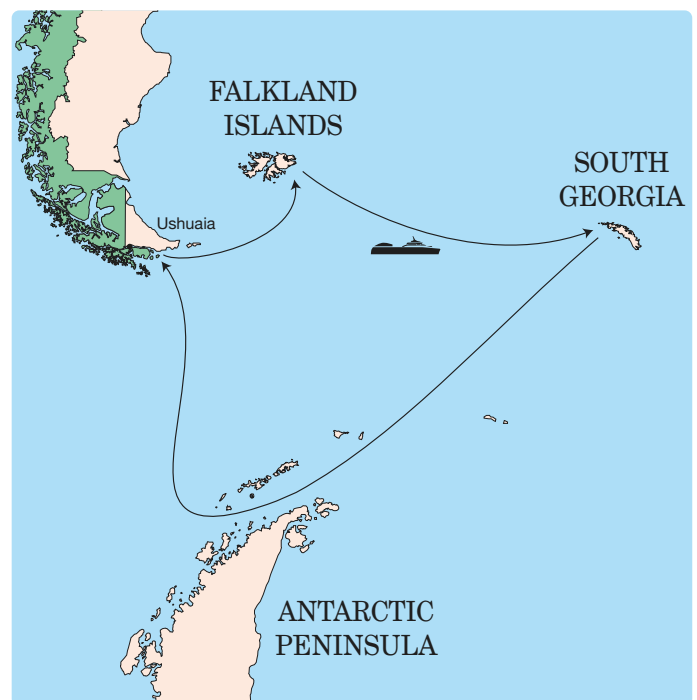
- Seven species of penguin possible
- Leopard seal
- Southern elephant seal
- Wandering albatross & many other seabird species
- A variety of cetacean species

Activities

Ocean cruising, Zodiac trips, island landings, sea kayaking, photography

“ There are so many highlights! The one that still stands out was the first view of the beach at Saunders Island when I realised it was full of penguins. It was an adventure full of one surprise after another. ”

Janet S, Feb 2025



The Ultimate Snow Hill Expedition



Experience unforgettable wildlife encounters on this exclusive voyage to Snow Hill, where you'll witness the majestic emperor penguin colony in one of the most remote and breathtaking corners of Antarctica.

This is the moment you've been waiting for: your first sight of emperor penguins in their vast, frozen habitat. Once the helicopters depart, silence is broken only by the sound of your footsteps crunching across the ice and the distant calls of the colony. Individual penguins waddle by or toboggan on their bellies, sometimes pausing to regard you curiously. The adults are magnificent, standing up to 1.3 metres tall, with striking orange plumage that contrasts beautifully against their sleek black heads and silvery-grey backs.

Everywhere you look, life is unfolding – penguins pointing their heads skyward and calling to one another, others meticulously preening their feathers, and adorable, fluffy grey

chicks huddling together in groups. The whistling peeps of the chicks intermingle with the loud calls of adults, creating an incredible soundscape.

For our exclusive Snow Hill charter, our journey begins in Ushuaia. As the ship sails through the wildlife-rich Beagle Channel, we may spot Peale's and dusky dolphins, sei whales, black-browed albatross, South American sea lions and Magellanic penguins – all before sunset.

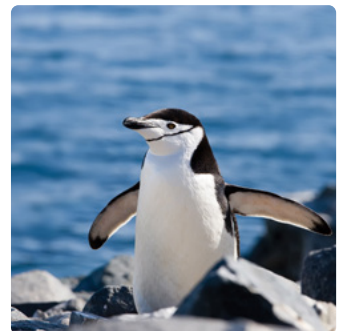
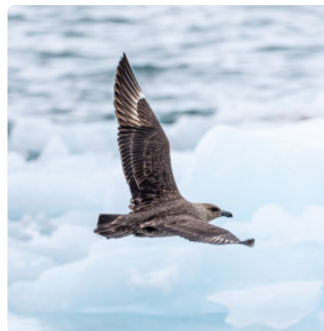
Crossing the legendary Drake Passage offers superb opportunities to watch for an impressive array of seabirds, from giant albatross to diminutive prions. With luck, migrating humpback, fin and blue whales may also be observed, along with the elusive hourglass dolphin or rarely seen beaked whales.

Navigating to the edge of the Weddell Sea, the real magic begins. The helicopters take flight and we land about one kilometre from the colony (to minimise any risk of disturbance).

As we walk across the ice towards the emperors, our sense of adventure and anticipation heightens even further.

Visiting Snow Hill is an unforgettable opportunity to observe the world's largest

and arguably most charismatic penguin species in their natural habitat. During the time spent in their company, you'll become absorbed in their world, utterly captivated by their presence. It is, quite simply, an experience you'll treasure forever.





[View trip online](#)

Itinerary

- Day 1:** Depart the UK, arriving the next day.
- Day 2:** Buenos Aires, overnight.
- Day 3:** Fly to Ushuaia, overnight.
- Day 4:** Embark & set sail.
- Day 5:** Cross the Drake Passage in the company of many seabirds.
- Days 7-10:** Discover the remote eastern side of the Antarctic Peninsula. The highlight of this voyage is a rare chance to visit a remote emperor penguin colony south of Snow Hill Island, accessible only by helicopter. We also hope to encounter Adélie, gentoo and chinstrap penguin, numerous seabirds, crabeater seal and Antarctica's apex predator, the leopard seal.
- Day 11:** Visit Deception Island.
- Days 12-13:** Sail back to Ushuaia.
- Day 14:** Disembark and fly to Buenos Aires, overnight.
- Days 15-16:** Fly back to the UK, arriving the next day.

16 days, from £16,195 (incl. flights) £13,995 (excl. flights)

Departure date: 21 Nov 2027
Embark/Disembark: Ushuaia/Ushuaia
Vessel: Ortelius

Why book The Ultimate Snow Hill Expedition?

This is a rare opportunity to witness the world's tallest and most resilient penguin species, guided by our expert team for an unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

- An unparalleled experience
- Extraordinary wildlife encounters
- Wild and remote location

Wildlife Highlights

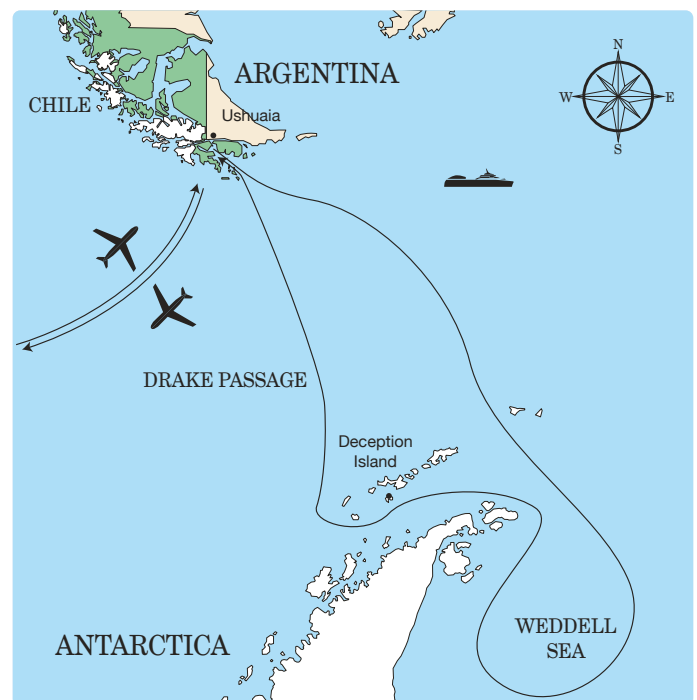
- Emperor penguin
- Cetaceans & pinnipeds
- Adélie, gentoo & chinstrap penguin

Activities

Zodiac excursions, shore landings, helicopter flight, lectures and workshops

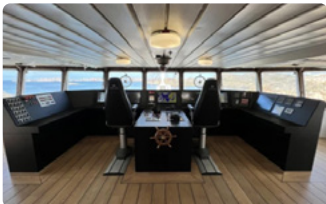
“ This rare and exclusive itinerary offers an Antarctic voyage like no other. Visiting the emperor penguin colony of Snow Hill, nestled within the wild, vast ice-scape of the Weddell Sea, is an incredible experience that will stay with you forever. ”

Hazel Pittwood, Operations Executive & Tour Leader



Our Polar Cruise Vessels

We offer a wide range of cruise vessels which are all built especially for the extreme conditions in the polar regions. All have exceptional crews, and some even have facilities to rival land-based hotels and spas! To see a full selection of our polar vessels please visit our website, or contact our expert team for first-hand advice on choosing a polar vessel to meet your requirements.



Polar Athena

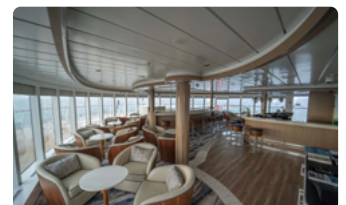
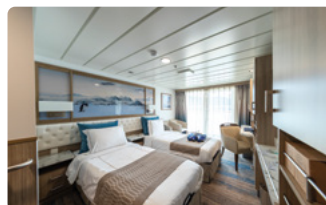
Passengers: 44
Vessel type: Micro
Length: 71 m
Cruising speed: 11 knots
Ice class: 1A Super

Built for exploration and now lovingly refurbished, Polar Athena has the strength of an icebreaker and the intimate charm of a small ship.

Ortelius

Passengers: 108
Vessel type: Expedition
Length: 90.95 m
Cruising speed: 10.5 knots
Ice class: 1A

The ice-strengthened Ortelius is an ex-research vessel with an abundance of outdoor open-deck space and comfortable cabins.



Magellan Discoverer

Passengers: 96/76 (on fly-cruise)
Vessel type: Luxury
Length: 94 m
Cruising speed: 13 knots
Ice class: 1A

A cutting-edge hybrid electric vessel, the Magellan Discoverer takes to Antarctic waters in late 2026. A boutique-style vessel, she features modern amenities and benefits from e-fuel Zodiacs.

Greg Mortimer

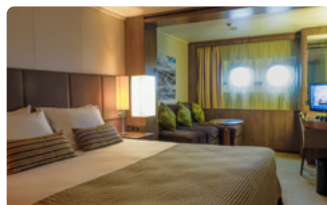
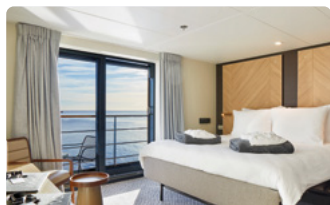
Passengers: 130
Vessel type: Luxury
Length: 104 m
Cruising speed: 10-12 knots
Ice class: 1A

Purpose-built for expeditions, the Greg Mortimer boasts expansive observation decks, inviting communal areas and comfortable cabins, most with their own balconies.

“Absolutely mind blowing! The Stockholm is a world class vessel and the whole group have been blown away by the small-ship experience. It's been epic!”

Bret Charman, Tour Leader

[View all online](#)



Magellan Explorer

Passengers: 96/76 (on fly-cruise)
Vessel type: Luxury
Length: 90.7 m
Cruising speed: 14 knots
Ice class: 1A

A modern, custom-built expedition vessel, featuring a glass-enclosed observation lounge and stylish dining room. All cabins feature private balconies (except porthole cabins).

Heritage Adventurer

Passengers: 140
Vessel type: Expedition
Length: 124 m
Cruising speed: 12 knots
Ice class: 1A Super

A pioneering expedition vessel, the Heritage Adventurer combines the highest ice class rating with comfortable accommodation, communal areas and observation lounge.



Stockholm

Passengers: 12
Vessel type: Micro
Length: 40 m
Cruising speed: 10.5 knots
Ice class: 1A

Full of character and historic charm, with beautiful brass details and pine decks, the Stockholm is an intimate 12-berth vessel, ideal for dedicated photography expeditions.

Sjøveien

Passengers: 12
Vessel type: Micro
Length: 41 m
Cruising speed: 11 knots
Ice class: 1C

The Sjøveien (meaning Seaway) is a traditional, charming ship. Intimate, yet classic, there are modern touches throughout, such as the wood-fired hot tub on deck.

Client Reviews

The magic of our wildlife voyages is best told by those who've stood on deck and witnessed wildlife in nature's most remarkable places. Over the past year, we've sent fellow wildlife enthusiasts all over the globe, from seeing penguins in Antarctica to snorkelling with rays, turtles and sea lions in the Galápagos. Here are some reviews from our clients' recent voyages.

“ This was a truly outstanding and exceptional trip. Having been to Svalbard twice before, this was by far the best trip I have had there on a beautifully characterful and small ship. Superb photographic leadership by Bret and a truly passionate expedition team. I had fantastic wildlife encounters with 15 bears over the period, walrus, foxes, seals, beluga whales and birds. There was awesome scenery, pack and fast ice, anchoring and then walking on the fast ice. I liked the ability to reach the nooks and crannies not available to big ships, and the wholly serene and peaceful ambience of the archipelago. It definitely captures your heart and soul. ”

**Peter O, Svalbard Photo Expedition
– May 2025**



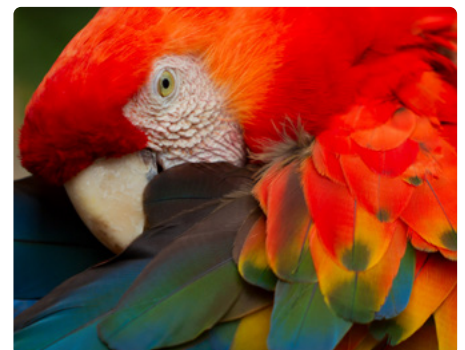
“ I enjoyed visiting South Georgia and Antarctica – both were spectacular – and I loved the wildlife. My wildlife highlights were a king penguin colony at St. Andrews Bay, and a 45-strong pod of orcas hanging around the ship to hunt a baby humpback! ”

Susan F, South Georgia & Antarctica – Nov 2024



“ Svalbard is a unique place, a delight and a privilege to visit. The ship (Rembrandt van Rijn) is beautiful and small, allowing much better access to landing sites. The guides were superb and the crew were friendly. There are so many beautiful animals and birds, and the guides were keen to provide us with as many opportunities to see and photograph them as possible. I saw two polar bears in the wild. ”

Patrick E, North Spitsbergen, Jun 2025



[View more online](#)

“ This trip exceeded my expectations. Each day got better and better. Not only did we see orca and humpbacks, but we were lucky enough to see sperm whales and fin whales! ”

Clare H, Norway: Fjords, Orcas & Aurora Photography Expedition – Nov 2024



“ Helen really helped me with the snorkelling. I hadn't done it before and she was excellent at building my confidence. Snorkelling was amazing – I enjoyed being so close to rays, turtles and sea lions. The birds were wonderful too. I loved it. ”

Susan D, Galápagos Wildlife Cruise – Apr 2025



“ Everything was amazing. We were looked after by Helen Bryon exceptionally well, the boat crew were fantastic and the wildlife was just staggering. My highlights? Touching the grey whales, snorkelling with sea lions, seeing blue whales and sperm whales, watching the biggest school of dolphins imaginable, seeing marlin, rays, coyote and a roadrunner ... the list goes on. Not forgetting the incredible 3.5-hour breaching show that the humpbacks put on for us! This was a holiday of wows – they just kept coming. ”

Tracy M, Great Whales of Mexico's Pacific Coast – Feb 2025



“ Helen provided excellent and thorough information. The expedition leader and ship's captain conducted excellent coordination to avoid storms yet not compromise wildlife experience. We saw Adélie, king and gentoo penguins, leopard, fur and Weddell seals, albatross, giant petrels and terns. ”

Anthony K, Ultimate Antarctica – Jan 2025



Photographs in this brochure are courtesy of our kind contributors:

A Russ, Al Bakker, Ana Carla Martinez, Bret Charman, C Finch, Chris Breen, Dana Brown, Dani Free, Diego Toapanta Garcia, Elke Lindner, Erwin Vermeulen, G Early, Hazel Pittwood, Helen Cox, I Wilson, Jamie Scherbeijn, Jean Paul de la Harpe, Jocelyn Pride, Mark Edward Harris, Michael Baynes, Monica Salmang, Nick Garbutt, Nicky Souness, Niklas Nilsson, Peter Lange, Sean Weekly, Stevie Mann, Therese Horntrich, Tom Arban, Ton van Moll, Ulrich Kühn, Waterproof Expeditions. Apologies for any omissions.



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