

17 DAYS THE GREAT AUSTRAL LOOP STARTING 03 FEB 2022

DESTINATIONS

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BUENOS AIRES


TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1

Destination	Buenos Aires
Meals included	Dinner
Hotel	Hotel in Buenos Aires, or similar



On arrival at your hotel in Buenos Aires, you will enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore the city before your early start tomorrow.

DAY 2

Destination	Buenos Aires ➔ Ushuaia - Embarkation 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

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



DAY 3

Destination	 At Sea 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space.

As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

DAY 4

Destination	 Grave Cove  New Island 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

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



This island with its distinctive jagged relief is located on the western edge of the Falkland Islands and is home to a tiny

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village of two families. Step onto the golden sand of its flower-lined beaches, beside which an old stone house still stands, and you'll feel like you've entered a natural paradise. A narrow pathway weaves around typical Falkland moorlands. Follow it and in under 20 minutes you'll find yourself at the heart of a colony of southern rockhopper penguins, black-browed albatross and imperial shags. It's the perfect opportunity to watch the albatross swoop down from the cliffs and skim the waves that crash against the rocks on the exposed side of the island.



DAY 5

Destination	 At Sea 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

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DAY 6

Destination	 At Sea 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

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DAY 7

Destination	 South Georgia 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

Aboard your ship, discover South Georgia, a region formed by an underwater mountain chain that extends from the Andes to the Antarctic Peninsula. All the wildlife of the Far South can be found there: king and Gentoo penguins, elephant seals, fur seals... You might get the chance to discover the majestic glaciers of Gold Harbour and the vast plains of Fortuna Bay. If you are fortunate enough to land at Salisbury Plain, you can expect a wonderful spectacle: more than 300,000 king penguins, which you will recognise by the bright orange mark on their head and neck, have taken up residence there.

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DAY 8

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Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar



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DAY 9

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Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

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DAY 10

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DAY 11

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DAY 12

Destination	 Antarctic Peninsula 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

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

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

DAY 13

Destination	 Antarctic Peninsula 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar



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DAY 14

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DAY 15

Destination	 Drake Passage 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar

If there is one place, one sea, one waterway dreaded by tourists, researchers and hardened seafarers alike, it is undoubtedly Drake Passage. Situated at the latitude of the infamous Furious Fifties winds, between Cape Horn and the South Shetland Islands, it is the shortest route to connect Antarctica to South America. Seasoned navigators will tell you that you must earn your visit to the White Continent!

As the Antarctic convergence zone where cold currents rising up from the South Pole meet warmer equatorial water masses, Drake Passage harbours a very diverse marine fauna. Don't forget to look to the sky to catch a glimpse of elegant albatross and Cape petrels, playfully floating about in the wind around your ship.

DAY 16

Destination	 Drake Passage 
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Cruise	Le Boreal, Deluxe Stateroom, or similar


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DAY 17

Destination	 Ushuaia, Disembark Cruise
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

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

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TOUR ITINERARY

Inclusions

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Travel with Ponant Cruises
- 17 Day cruise on board the Le Boreal in a Deluxe Stateroom (Upgrades available)
- Unlimited drinks are included, at any time of the day (excludes certain items)
- Fine French dining daily with all breakfast, lunches and dinners while sailing
- Join the highly qualified local expedition team and enjoy regular outings and shore visits in Zodiac inflatables with a team of experienced naturalist guides
- Explore the amazing wildlife found in the Antarctic Peninsula and South Georgia
- Wi-Fi free of charge

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CABINS & UPGRADES

Cabin Bedding and Upgrades

Bedding on board the cruise is restricted to the following configurations. If you wish to upgrade your cabin, the following amounts are payable in addition to the package price prior to travel:

Deluxe Stateroom: INCLUDED

Private balcony, Individually-controlled air-conditioning, King-size bed or twin beds, Shower, Minibar, Flat screen, Satellite TV, Desk with stationery, Ipod™ players, Video on demand, Safe, Hairdryer, Bath robes, Satellite direct line telephone, 110/220 volts outlet, French bath products, 24hr room service, Internet access wifi.

Prestige Deck 4

Private balcony, Individually-controlled air-conditioning, King-size bed or twin beds, Shower, Minibar, Flat screen, Satellite TV, Desk with stationery, Ipod™ players, Video on demand, Safe, Hairdryer, Bath robes, Satellite direct line telephone, 110/220 volts outlet, French bath products, 24hr room service, Internet access wifi. *Upgrades from AU\$1,830 per person, twin share or AU\$2,390 per person, single (subject to availability).*

Prestige Deck 5 Suite

With 8m² private balcony, Individually-controlled air-conditioning, King-size bed or twin beds, Shower, Minibar, Flat screen, Satellite TV, Desk with stationery, Ipod™ players, Video on demand, Safe, Hairdryer, Bath robes, Satellite direct line telephone, 110/220 volts outlet, French bath products, 24hr room service, Internet access wifi. *Upgrades from AU\$14,300 per person, twin share or AU\$18,600 per person, single (subject to availability).*

Please request your cabin upgrade in the 'special requests' field. Availability and price will then be confirmed and added to your invoice upon acceptance.

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ABOUT YOUR SHIP

Le Boréal, like its Sisterships L'Austral, Le Soléal and Le Lyrial, epitomises the unique feel and atmosphere of the ships of the PONANT fleet. Subtly combining luxury, intimacy and serene well-being, the ship has been designed to offer passengers both moments of conviviality and spaces conducive to peaceful tranquillity and a sense of escape and getting away from it all. Its exterior and interior lines testify to the ingeniousness and refinement with which the Sisterships have been designed.

To know more about your ship, please click [HERE](#).

CRUISE DETAILS

PONANT has organised the following included programme for you, which starts the day prior to embarkation.

The day before embarkation – Buenos Aires

- Meet and greet at the hotel by our local representative. Check-in from late morning.
- Lunch on your own and time at leisure in the afternoon.
- Dinner.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Embarkation Day – Buenos Aires/Ushuaia

- An early morning breakfast will be served before leaving to the airport for your flight Buenos Aires – Ushuaia.
- Transfer to the airport.
- Flight Buenos Aires/Ushuaia selected by PONANT in economy class. *Approximate flight duration: 3 hours, 30 minutes.*
- Meet and greet at the airport (English-speaking assistance).

Depending on your choice made when booking your cruise (options not combinable):

- You will be transferred to a restaurant for lunch.

OR

- When booking the cruise, guests willing to visit the Tierra del Fuego National Park will be able to sign up for an optional group excursion, with extra cost. If you decide to do so, please note that immediately upon arrival at Ushuaia airport, you will

TOUR ITINERARY

leave towards the Park where you will have lunch before starting the tour.

- Created in 1960, the park which covers 63 000 hectares (155 670 acres) is located in the south west of the Tierra del Fuego Province on the Beagle Canal. One of his entries stands slightly over 6 miles from Ushuaia.
- Mountainous landscapes, lagoons, bogs, and rivers draw a picturesque scenery reinforced by the southern position of the park itself. The Darwin Mountains, which represent the southern part of the Andes Mountains are mainly responsible for such landscape. The Park is only partly accessible to the public and this tour will provide you with the opportunity to discover the local flora and sub-Antarctic landscapes. If you get lucky, you may encounter beavers, dams, birds, wild orchids, etc... This is a true paradise for Nature Lovers!
- Lunch will be served in a local restaurant within the Park.

(Please note that the Tierra del Fuego excursion is subject to a minimum of participants: if this number is not reached, our operator will not be able to guarantee the departure – In this case, you will be given the option to join the “Lunch in Ushuaia” programme.)

- At the end of your visit, you will return to Ushuaia and the port, for embarkation on your vessel.

Cruise on board your ship

Disembarkation Day – Ushuaia/Buenos Aires

- Disembarkation.
- Meet and greet at the port (English-speaking assistance).
- Transfer to the airport in time for check-in of the flight Ushuaia/Buenos Aires selected by PONANT in economy class.
Approximate flight duration: 3 hours, 30 minutes.

Your programme includes:

- 1-night accommodation in a 4* hotel the night before embarkation.
- Early check-in available from late morning.
- Hospitality desk at the hotel in Buenos Aires.
- Return flight Buenos Aires/Ushuaia/Buenos Aires selected by PONANT, in economy class.
- Services of local guides, in Ushuaia.
- Meals as mentioned in the programme and beverage package.
- Transfers as mentioned in the programme.

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For your optional Tierra del Fuego National Park excursion, your programme includes:

Please note if you choose this excursion, it is not combinable with "Lunch in Ushuaia" programme and therefore replaces it.

- The excursion by local bus and the entrance fees to the National Park
- The lunch including beverage package.
- Transfers and visit as mentioned in the programme
- The services of a local English speaking guide

Your programme does not include:

- Transfer between airport and hotel in Buenos Aires, the day before embarkation.

Please note:

- The local currency is the Argentinian Peso. You will be able to make most of your purchases in USD (in small denominations) or by credit card, accepted in most hotels, shopping centres and boutiques. You will also be able to retrieve Pesos from the ATM's.
- Summer season in Buenos Aires: temperatures may be very hot, but often between 68 °F (20 °C) and 95 °F (35 °C).
- Summer season in Ushuaia: temperatures vary between 41 °F (5 °C) and 65 °F (15 °C)
- We recommend you wear warm clothing and comfortable walking shoes.
- Duration and order may vary.
- Programme is subject to change.

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CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- **New:** explore the magic of Antarctica with a sea kayak adventure. Led by experienced, State-Certified kayak guides, you will skim the water's surface amid the ice. Full professional equipment is provided, including tandem kayak, carbon paddle, full-body drysuit, lifejacket, AIS beacon. For more information about your kayak tour, please go to the section "PONANT activities" and to book your kayak tour, contact your cruise advisor.
- Outings and shore visits in Zodiac® inflatables with a team of experienced naturalist guides.
- Lectures and information sessions hosted by our naturalist-guides, covering wildlife, history, geopolitics, the great explorers, climate, environmental protection...
- Hiking opportunity.
- Landscapes: moors scattered with moss and lichen, white-sand beaches and turquoise waters in the Falkland Islands; alpine landscapes, lush green plains and suspended glaciers in South Georgia; drifting icebergs, ice floe, glaciers and snow-capped mountains in the Antarctic Peninsula.
- Wildlife: black-browed albatrosses, snowy albatrosses, Magellanic penguins, Gentoo penguins and southern rockhopper penguins in the Falkland Islands; king penguins, elephant seals, fur seals and macaroni penguins in South Georgia; humpback whales, Gentoo penguins, Adelie penguins, chinstrap penguins, leopard seals, crabeater seals and Weddell seals in the Antarctic Peninsula.
- Educational discovery in the respect of environment.
- For your comfort, your cruise package includes an overnight in Buenos Aires the day before embarkation and the flights to/from Ushuaia (for details, see the "Included in your cruise" tab).

Fine Print

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE

Inspiring Vacations has been globally recognised and awarded for its handling of COVID-19 during the pandemic. The safety and wellbeing of our guests is our highest concern during this time of uncertainty, and we are continuously monitoring the evolving COVID-19 situation.

We have adopted the advice of the WHO to ensure all customers can travel with the knowledge of how to travel safely and with confidence.

Australian owned and operated with 100% Australian Customer Service support

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We are proudly 100% Australian owned and operated, with our head office located in Melbourne, Victoria. When you make your booking, you will receive dedicated and ongoing support from our team of travel professionals throughout your booking, up until you are due to depart.

Flexible Date Change Option

Book now, change later with our Flexible Date Change option. You may select this \$99pp option at time of purchase, giving travellers the flexibility to change your date without penalty (subject to availability, less third party costs incurred, plus any applicable surcharges for the new date selected).

Date change must be requested prior to 65 days before your original selected departure date*. Once inside 65 days of departure, date changes are not permitted. *some packages may have a varied period in which you can request a date change due to limitations with the third-party provider.

Please refer to our 'Book with Confidence' section for terms and conditions.

The Flexible Date Change option does not cover cost incurred for components not fulfilled by Inspiring Vacations or in the event extra services have been booked with Inspiring Vacations outside of the standard package, including but not limited to airfares, pre/post accommodation or insurance.

Cooling off period

If you change your mind within 7 days of making your booking online, you can request a refund of your initial deposit payment as part of our cooling off period.

Once your purchase date falls outside of the 7 day period, our standard terms and conditions will apply. Please ensure that any request to cancel your booking is received via email to support@inspiringvacations.com, including the reason for cancellation.

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HOW TO BOOK & PAYMENTS

Deposit & Payments

- Book now and secure your package with only a 25% deposit per person.
- Pay a 2nd instalment of \$1000 per person within 28 days.
- You will then be invoiced for final payment 120 days prior to departure.

Booking Process

- 'Sign Up' first by entering your email and creating a password
- Then select the red 'Book now' tab of the tour you have selected
- Select your Departure Date, Number of Passengers, Room Configuration, any Upgrade Options, and enter any Special Requests
- Click the red 'Proceed to Secure Checkout' tab
- Enter your credit card or PayPal details to secure your deposit/payment. You may also pay via BPAY (not available within 70 days of departure)
- Once your order is complete, you will be prompted to complete a Booking Form so that we can fulfil your booking
- Your booking is on request and will be confirmed by Inspiring Vacations once all components of your package have been secured with our partners, please see below for further information

Booking On Request

- Your Inspiring Vacations package is made up of multiple components and travel partners. Once your booking is made and passenger details form submitted, we will begin to confirm all of your arrangements. Please note, this process can take several business days to complete.
- Once all elements have been confirmed we will send you an email confirmation, if we are unable to confirm we will provide you with alternative dates or offer a full refund of your deposit or re-credit your account if a travel credit was used.
- Please DO NOT book any additional services, such as flights, until we have confirmed your Inspiring Vacations package in writing. Inspiring Vacations will not be liable for any fees or charges incurred to change or cancel components not booked by Inspiring Vacations should your selected package be unavailable.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

COVID-19

Due to COVID there may be disruptions to standard operating schedules of particular components of this itinerary. Should a component be effected a substitute will be confirmed prior to departure.

Fitness Requirements

While the tour itinerary should give you some guidance and overview to the expected requirements, to determine if this tour is right for you we categorise each of our tours in terms of their intensity.

These guidelines are to ensure that each tour group is conducted as expected and to ensure the overall satisfaction of all Inspiring Vacations customers. As a general rule, portage is not included, therefore at all times you are expected to handle your own luggage where help may not be available.

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only and subject to availability. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences, however any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

Please follow the 'book now' prompts and select 1 passenger to view the single supplement cost.

Triple Share

Not Available

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is required to protect yourself against the unexpected.

Tour Documentation

Final documentation including, e-tickets and cruise details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

Children

Children must share a room with parents at all times and are charged the same price as adults.

Warning About The Use Of Drones

The use of drones aboard PONANT ships, whether they are sailing at sea, at a port of call or anchored, is strictly forbidden. The use of drones on land in the Arctic and Antarctic regions is also strictly forbidden by international polar regulations.

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In other regions, it may be possible to use drones on land if permission has been obtained from the relevant authorities of each country and each region travelled through, as well as a pilot's licence that should be obtained from your home country.

Passengers are responsible for obtaining these permits; they should be able to present them at all times. Passengers who do not obtain these authorisations expose themselves to the risk of legal proceedings.

VISA & PASSPORT REQUIREMENT

Passport valid for at least six (6) months beyond the completion of your trip. Passport must contain at least two completely clear, blank, unused visa pages for each visa required, not including any amendment pages. Visa pages with stains or ink from other pages in the passport are not usable. Guests who deviate from the scheduled embarkation or disembarkation port should research the foreign entry requirements for the port country. Due to government regulations, regrettably, Ponant will have to deny boarding to any guest who fails to obtain the appropriate travel documentation for this trip.

The information below is current but subject to change at any time without advance notice from government authorities. Please consult your respective government agencies for visa and health information.

Argentina: should you require a visa to travel to Argentina, we recommend you apply for a double-entry visa as a technical stop in Chile might be scheduled.

We remind you that all our ships have a doctor on board and medical facilities. However, these cannot, under any circumstances, be compared to any medical structure on land. Given the remote areas in which we will be sailing for a number of days, safety requirements mean that we are obliged to ask each passenger signing up for this program to provide us, no more than 45 days before departure, with a medical certificate from their GP, as well as the completed medical questionnaire received during registration.

TOUR ITINERARY

EXCLUSIONS

- Flights
 - Personal expenses
 - Optional activities
 - Anything not mentioned in the itinerary
 - Travel insurance (highly recommended)
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The information provided in this document is subject to change and may be affected by unforeseen events outside the control of Inspiring Vacations. Where changes to your itinerary or bookings occur, appropriate advice or instructions will be sent to your email address.