

INDIVIDUELLE ARRANGEMENTS

Nur Kreuzfahrt ab/bis Hafen

AN UNPARALLELED VOYAGE TO THE SOUTHERN CONTINENT
**ANTARCTIC PENINSULA LUXURY YACHT
CRUISE**

crossing the Antarctic Circle, best landing locations, Weddell Sea, Deception Island and more

Jan 07 - Jan 18
2012

The Antarctic Peninsula had recently become the icon of adventure travel for wildlife enthusiasts and it has never been a question that WANT Expeditions must offer a unique and outstanding way to visit this extraordinary place. Based upon the decade-long, accumulated, unmatched experiences of our staff, it was sure that what we are looking for is a WANT-style, small-group, unique voyage, away from the large cruise vessels, allowing our participants for maximum experiences on shore and minimum time spent for waiting in logistics lines. It took us several years to find the right ship, but finally it is here! We are pleased to introduce the world's smallest icebreaker, the 6-cabin Hanse Explorer as our expedition vessel to the majestic Antarctic Peninsula.

If you ever dreamed of visiting Antarctica in a group of only 12 like-minded travelers and spending as much as 8-10 hrs a day on shore, under luxurious on-board conditions and with the world's most experienced expedition staff, you do not need to look any further: such a voyage is now possible, as part of WANT Expeditions' efforts to provide unique and outstanding wildlife adventure experiences worldwide.

Join us on this fantastic departure and experience the 'world of ice and penguins' on board a small icebreaker! And while our itinerary is absolutely weather dependent and can change a dozen times, you can be assured that you will spend more time on shore and will have come home with more Antarctic experiences than you would have ever hoped for. If you are as enthusiastic about Antarctica as we are, you must not miss this unique voyage. Join us today!

Detailed itinerary:

Jan 7 Ushuaia/departure

Ushuaia is the southernmost city of the world and (unlike other frontier towns) a colorful and vibrant little place which has it all: charming restaurants, shopping centers, nice hotels, a modern airport and European-style cafes and bars, all in front of the backdrop of the spectacular mountains of Patagonia. Ushuaia is today the gateway to Antarctica. It is thanks to tourism and all the ships visiting Ushuaia each summer, sailing to Antarctica or through the Chilean Fiords, that this town is today the economic center of southern Patagonia.

Our official pick-up time today is 3:00 PM. You will be picked up from any hotels in town (or from the airport throughout the day, shall you choose not to arrive a day or two before we sail). Once we are all on board, we will depart Ushuaia and sail through the magnificent Beagle-channel, until we are "free" on the other side and head south in the open Southern Ocean. An extensive welcome meeting and a Captain's Welcome Dinner will be held this evening.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 8 Drake Passage

We are going to spend the entire day at sea, but don't you think that the sea days will be boring. As soon as the morning sun allows us to do so, we will be out on the open decks, looking for the majestic Wandering Albatrosses and other seabirds, while after breakfast we shall commence our high-quality education program about the Antarctic wildlife and everything else you ever wanted to know about the continent. In between meals, presentations and wildlife-viewing sessions, we will explore the vessel, since we will have an all-open policy: we will be able to visit the bridge, the kitchen or even the engine room at any time we wanted to, which allows us to make friendship with the crew and to learn as much as possible about engine-based cruising.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 9 Drake Passage

If our crossing wasn't one of those harsh ones ('the Drake', as we call it on board, is often better than its reputation: two crossings out of three are usually relatively calm), we shall be able to do a quick landing later this afternoon on the South Shetland Islands, but otherwise we are planning to be at sea all day today and continue our education program. The scientific and historic presentations will now be mixed with some technical ones, during which we learn about all the landing regulations and the safety measures that we shall strictly abide during our operations. Latest by after dinner, we will all be on the bridge or on the top deck, looking for the first sight of the seventh continent!

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 10 Dallman Bay/Georges Point/Port Lockroy

Very early morning we will enter Dallmann Bay, which is a perfect place for our first Antarctic experience! Dallmann Bay is not only beautiful, but Humpback Whales can very frequently be observed here. Seeing these majestic animals (maybe even from a Zodiac 'eye-to-eye') is a very special and unforgettable experience. We will start our day with an early morning Zodiac cruise, followed by a landing at Georges Point on the northern tip of Rongé Island, which is home to Gentoo and Chinstrap penguins. If conditions permit, we can climb up to the glacier above the penguin colonies and see the impressive crevasses and ice blocks.

Once back on board and ready for lunch, we will be heading towards Port Lockroy, while cruising another scenic passage, the Neumeyer Channel (a passage between Wienke Island to the east and Anvers Island to the west). The highest peak of the Antarctic Peninsula (Mount Francais) is on Anvers Island just a bit inland from the Neumeyer Channel (2822 meters).

In the afternoon we should reach Port Lockroy, which has a small harbor on the west side of Wienke Island in the Palmer Archipelago. It was discovered by Charcot's French Antarctic Expedition and is named after Edouard Lockroy, the French politician who assisted Charcot in obtaining government backing for his expedition. These days it is a site where the Falkland Islands Dependencies established a Survey Hut. The old British base is today a historic site and a 'living museum' during the Antarctic summer. The UK Antarctic Heritage Trust restored the base and opened it to visitors. The station is now featuring a small gift shop as well as a post office. Once we have anchored in front of the station, we will spend the entire afternoon exploring the Gentoo colonies, the whale bones, the station and several other interesting sites around, and might go for a fantastic Zodiac cruise in the bay, shall conditions allow us to do so. To take advantage of the protected bay, we will stay at anchor overnight and enjoy a fantastic barbeque on the outer decks.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 11 Peltier Channel/Lemaire Channel/Pleneau Bay/Petermann Island

At sunrise this morning, we will cruise through the scenic Peltier Channel, and shortly after we will reach another spectacular passage, the Lemaire Channel. This very picturesque channel with steep mountain slopes and glaciers dropping right into the ocean is one of the most photogenic places anywhere in Antarctica! The channel is so deep at its sides, that it is possible to literally "scratch the shore" with the ship's side without running aground. The channel is often filled with ice and sometimes the presence of a "stuck" iceberg can greatly hinder the passage.

As soon as we are on the southern end of the channel, we take a sharp right turn and cruise into Pleneau Bay, which is known for the most spectacular grounded icebergs along the entire peninsula. We will get onto our Zodiacs and spend the entire morning among the breathtaking icebergs, looking for great images of seals, penguins, ice and more, as well as possibly landing on Pleneau Island and/ or Booth Island, time and interest allowing.

During lunch, we shall reposition to only about five miles south of the southern entrance to Lemaire, to a place called Petermann Island. The island was first discovered by a German expedition in 1873-1874 and named after the German geographer August Petermann. An abandoned Argentine refugio can be found at Port Circumcision. A scientific research group began a long-term penguin and wildlife monitoring study at Petermann Island in November 2003, making this stop a truly enjoyable and educational one. Adelie Penguins, South Polar Skuas and blue-eyed shags are confirmed breeders. There is also the southernmost breeding colony of Gentoo Penguins on Petermann Island. Views of the snow and ice covered peaks on the other side of the channel are stunning. We will enjoy great walks on this island until late afternoon, and then will depart further south, with a great attempt to cross the Antarctic Circle!

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 12 crossing the Antarctic Circle

Once we decided to go further south from Petermann Island, our voyage becomes a true expedition, since it is impossible to predict what the ice conditions will allow us to achieve. Moving carefully through the night, we shall be very close to the Antarctic Circle this morning, but again, everything will depend on the amount of ice in our way. If we are lucky and manage to make great progress, we shall advance as far south as Marguarite Bay during the course of the day, where we can enjoy an amazing Zodiac cruise and a quick landing, before we turn around and steam northbound where more adventure lies ahead of us. Again, ice conditions permitting, we might reach the Lemaire-channel just around sunset and cruise the channel for even more spectacular images.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 13 Paradise Bay/Neko Harbour

The central coast of the west side of the Antarctic Peninsula is probably its most spectacular area – and this is where we are planning to awaken this morning. Towering mountains and glaciers plummeting into the sea will give the backdrop for our breakfast, before we lower our Zodiacs and cruise the appropriately named Paradise Bay. First we explore the glaciers of Skomtopr Cove and attempt to find a large number of Crabeater Seals on spectacular icebergs, while later we will maneuver close to the towering cliffs at the small Argentine research station called Almirante Brown. The station was partly burned down by a fire in 1984. After the economic crisis in Argentina in the 90's the station was long time abandoned, but activities started again in 2007. A walk onto the little peak next to the station is a must for its spectacular views.

We will reposition the Hanse Explorer during lunch and should reach Neko Harbour early in the afternoon. The small harbour indents the eastern shore of Andvord Bay. It was first seen and charted by Gerlache's Belgian Antarctic Expedition 1897 to 1899. The site is named after the floating whale factory ship 'Neko'. There is an unmanned Argentine refuge on site. The hike up to a viewpoint allows for spectacular views of the Gerlache Straight and Andvord Bay, which is completely surrounded by the most beautiful glaciers the Antarctic Peninsula has to offer. Gentoo Penguins, Kelp Gulls and skuas nest here and Wedell- and Crabeater Seals often haul out on the pebble beach.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 14 **Brown Bluff/Paulet Island**

Early in the morning, today we will sail through the Antarctic Sound, which is known for its large number of grounded icebergs and amazing scenery. It may be 3:30 in the morning, but the sunrise will be unlike anything we've ever seen. In this region of the peninsula, we will have the most spectacular icebergs we are likely to encounter. Huge tabular bergs break from the Larsson, Ronne and Filchner ice shelves to the south and combine with one year old and multi-year sea ice to produce a floating, undulating panorama of rugged ice-scenery. If the weather was right, we might just drop the Zodiacs and make a tour past these giant blocks of ice, before we proceed to our landing site at Brown Bluff. Here, at this rust-colored, ice-capped 750m high bluff, Adelie and Gentoo Penguins breed, along with several other species of wildlife. We will have plenty of time to enjoy this amazing place, since it is only hunger that will ever bring us back on board, just before lunch.

During our lovely midday meal, we reposition to Paulet Island, a small volcanic island that was the overwintering site of the survivors of Nordenskjöld's ship (called Antarctic) that sank 40 km away from the island. Remains of their hut are still visible on the island. There are more than 100,000 Adelie Penguins that breed here, making this one of the most spectacular wildlife landings during our voyage. Again, our evening mealtime will bring us back on board, while we sail our ship a bit further north, for yet another full day of exploration, before we have to turn north and head back to South America.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 15 **Deception Island/Hannah Point/departure**

This morning the sunrise will catch us among the South Shetland Islands, in the vicinity of Deception Island. At first, as early as possible, we are heading to a spectacular landing site on the outer shores of the island: Baily Head. Landing at Baily Head is (most of the time) impossible because the swells rolling in from the close-by Drake Passage break on the steep black sand beach. However, in the very early morning hours, we are sometimes lucky with absolutely calm conditions, in which case we will be awarded by one of the most spectacular landings on our voyage. On those rare occasions when we have been able to land here, this site has always been a highlight. Chinstrap penguins here really pick 'rooms with a view' for nesting. Baily Head is home to one of the largest chinstrap penguin colonies on the Antarctic Peninsula. So let's keep our fingers crossed that we can land here.

After Baily Head, we get back on board for a quick breakfast while we sail into the island's caldera through the only opening, called 'Neptune's Bellows'. Deception Island is probably the most "unusual island" on the Antarctic Peninsula, since it is an active volcano. The island is almost perfectly ring-shaped and encloses a perfectly sheltered harbor called Port Foster. The volcano had its last eruption in February 1969 and its seismic activity is permanently monitored. Steam is still rising from hot springs along the shoreline with a sulfurous odor. During the first half of the 20th century, the bay was one of the main whaling centers in the region.

We plan to go ashore in Whalers Bay and in another bay further inside the caldera called Pendulum Cove. The water rising in hot springs along the shoreline can reach up to 70 degree Celsius here, but it is often cooler. We will try to take a bath where the hot water mixes with the ice-cold seawater of the caldera.

In the afternoon, we are planning to land at Hannah Point on Livingston Island just a few hours north of Deception Island. Hannah Point was named after the sealing vessel 'Hannah' of Liverpool, which wrecked here in 1820. The site is a microcosm of Antarctic Peninsula fauna, with three species of penguins, kelp gulls, blue-eyed shags, southern giant petrels and snowy sheathbills nesting in proximity. Occasionally southern elephant seals haul out on the beach. The beach area is exposed to westerly winds and seas, so landing can be challenging at times. If Hannah Point is not an option, we can head for Half Moon Island which has similar fauna to offer, but is more protected. This way or another, we will have a spectacular final landing on our voyage, before we all get back on board and pack the Zodiacs away, in order to safely sail our way across the Drake Passage again. Late in the afternoon this evening, we shall be on our way, preparing for the rolls but absolutely overwhelmed by fascinating experiences.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 16 **Drake Passage**

Today we will be back to the real world of seabirds, an open-sea environment where albatrosses, shearwaters and petrels thrive. Just like on our first crossing, we will spend a lot of time on the outer decks, looking for these majestic creatures, while our on-board education series will also continue. We hope that a smooth crossing will also allow us to start selecting through our photographs and share the very best images with each other.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 17 **Drake Passage/Beagle-channel/Ushuaia**

This morning our bird watching and education programs continue, but shortly after lunch, we shall all be on the bridge or the outer decks, looking for the very first sight of Tierra del Fuego. One of us, who, before midnight the previous day, had predicted the most exact time of the first sight, will win a great bottle of champagne. Soon afterwards, as we enter the Beagle-channel and the seas calm down, we all celebrate our successful voyage with a great Farewell Cocktail and gather for a fascinating last dinner on board.

Accommodation: on board Hanse Explorer

Jan 18 **Ushuaia/disembarkation**

At first light this morning, the Hanse Explorer will tie up at the pier in Ushuaia and after a brief session of customs formalities, we all leave the ship and transfer to our preferred location – either to town at any of the hotels, or directly to the airport. Our incredible adventure cruise to the Antarctic continent had ended this morning, have a safe journey homebound!



Tour leader: Akos HIVEKOVICS

Trip price: in double room: **USD 17,630**
in single room:

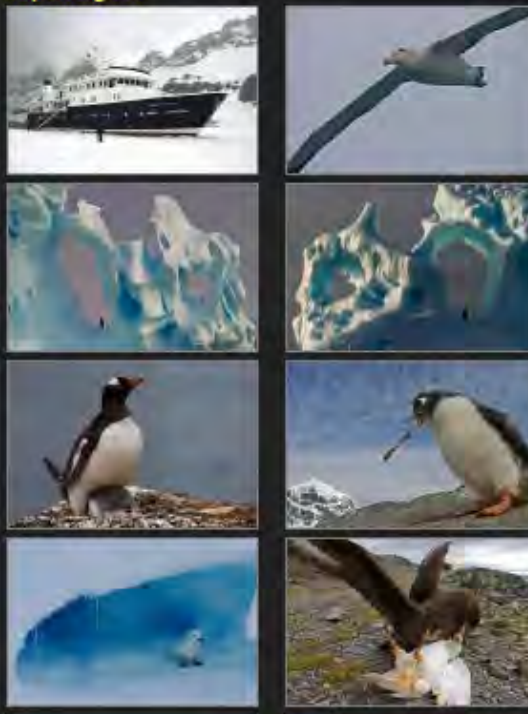
Price includes:

- all accomodation
- all meals
- all activities mentioned in the program
- all land transportation
- all airport and local transfers
- international tour leader
- all government taxes and levies
- all boat excursions
- on board entertainment and education
- photography education and assistance

Price excludes:

- international flights
- travel insurance
- personal expenses at accommodation
- departure taxes at airports
- visa fees
- any other items not mentioned above

Trip images:



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LOGISTICS

If you stay overnight in Ushuaia, we will pick you up at your hotel at 15:00 in the afternoon. If you are arriving by air on JAN 07 (we advise not to do so), we will pick you up from the airport. Make sure you book a flight that arrives before noon!

IMPORTANT: Any and all voyages to Antarctica are true expeditions, thus any itinerary can only be taken as an approximate idea of what we would like to do. Weather, ice conditions and many other factors may prevent us from landing at one location, and going to the other. What is sure is that our entire staff and crew will go absolutely out of their way to maximize your time spent with wildlife and activities and minimize your time traveling on board the vessel.

It is also very important to know and to acknowledge that the expedition price has been calculated based upon March 2011 fuel prices and harbor fees. Should any of these change substantially by the time of our voyage, fuel surcharge can be added to your final invoice. Nevertheless, we will try whatever we can to avoid such a scenario.

VISAS

Most foreign passport holders **DO NOT** require a visa to enter Argentina. However, please check exact requirements for your own citizenship. If you need a pre-paid visa, you will need a letter of invitation from us, which we will provide on time. Visa fees depend on your nationality, check with your embassy for additional information.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

It is your responsibility to ensure that passports, visas, travel permits, health certificates, inoculations, international driving license, or other documentation required for travel before, during, and after the tour, are obtained and in order prior to date of departure. It is your responsibility to meet any additional costs incurred either by yourself, or by Wildlife and Nature and/or its affiliates on your behalf, as a result of any failure by you to comply with such requirements.

LANGUAGE

The official language in Argentina is Spanish. Our official travel/guiding language will be English throughout the entire voyage.

LUGGAGE AND INSURANCE

Insurance - **TRAVEL INSURANCE WITH A \$100,000 MEDICAL EVACUATION POLICY IS REQUIRED FOR ALL WILDLIFE AND NATURE TRAVEL EXCURSIONS.** You will be required to provide your policy number prior to departure.

For your luggage and packing, we will provide you with an extensive packing list a few weeks before your departure.

WILDLIFE

Antarctica is not just snow and ice, indeed fossil evidence of ancient plants shows that it was once joined to the other continents as part of the supercontinent, Gondwana. The coasts of the peninsula have the mildest climate in Antarctica and moss and lichen-covered rocks are free of snow during the summer months, although the weather is still intensely cold and the growing season very short. The plant life today is mainly mosses, lichens and algae adapted to this harsh environment, with lichens preferring the wetter areas of the rocky landscape. The most common lichens are Usnea and Bryoria species. Antarctica's two flowering plant species, the Antarctic hair grass (*Deschampsia antarctica*) and Antarctic pearlwort (*Colobanthus quitensis*) are found on the northern and western parts of the Antarctic Peninsula, including offshore islands, where the climate is relatively mild. Lagotellerie Island in Marguerite Bay is an example of this habitat.

Antarctic krill are found in the seas surrounding the peninsula and the rest of the continent. The Crabeater Seal spends most of its life in the same waters feeding on krill. Bald notothen is a cryopelagic fish that lives in sub-zero water temperatures around the peninsula. Vocalizations of the Sei Whale can be heard emanating from the waters surrounding the Antarctic Peninsula.

The animals of Antarctica live on food they find in the sea not on land and include seabirds, seals and penguins. The seals include: Leopard Seal (*Hydrurga leptonyx*), Weddell Seal (*Leptonychotes weddellii*), the huge Southern Elephant Seal (*Mirounga leonina*), and Crabeater Seal (*Lobodon carcinophagus*).

Penguin species found on the peninsula, especially near the tip and surrounding islands, include the Chinstrap Penguin, Emperor Penguin, Gentoo penguin and the Adelie Penguin. Petermann Island is the world's southernmost colony of Gentoo Penguins. The exposed rocks on the island is one of many locations on the peninsula that provides a good habitat for rookeries. Antarctica is not just snow and ice, indeed fossil evidence of ancient plants shows that it was once joined to the other continents as part of the supercontinent, Gondwana. The coasts of the peninsula have the mildest climate in Antarctica and moss and lichen-covered rocks are free of snow during the summer months, although the weather is still intensely cold and the growing season very short. The plant life today is mainly mosses, lichens and algae adapted to this harsh environment, with lichens preferring the wetter areas of the rocky landscape. The most common lichens are Usnea and Bryoria species. Antarctica's two flowering plant species, the Antarctic hair grass (*Deschampsia antarctica*) and Antarctic pearlwort (*Colobanthus quitensis*) are found on the northern and western parts of the Antarctic Peninsula, including offshore islands, where the climate is relatively mild. Lagotellerie Island in Marguerite Bay is an example of this habitat.

Seabirds of the Southern Ocean and West Antarctica found on the peninsula include: Southern Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*), the scavenging Southern Giant Petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*), Cape Petrel (*Daption capense*), Snow Petrel (*Pagodroma nivea*), the small Wilson's Storm-petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*), Imperial Shag (*Phalacrocorax atriceps*), Snowy Shearbill (*Chionis alba*), the large South Polar Skua (*Catharacta maccormicki*), Brown Skua (*Catharacta lönnerbergi*), Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*), and Antarctic Tern (*Sterna vittata*). The Imperial Shag is a cormorant which is native to many sub-Antarctic islands, the Antarctic Peninsula and southern South America.

GEOGRAPHY

The peninsula is highly mountainous, its highest peaks rising to approximately 2,800 metres (9,186 ft). Notable peaks on the peninsula include Mount Castro, Mount Coman, Mount Gilbert, Mount Jackson, Mount William, Mount Owen and Mount Scott. These mountains are considered to be a continuation of the Andes of South America, with a submarine spine connecting the two. This is the basis for the position advanced by Chile and Argentina for their territorial claims. The Scotia Arc is the island arc system that links the mountains of the Antarctic Peninsula to those of Tierra del Fuego.

The landscape of the peninsula is typical Antarctic tundra. The peninsula has a sharp elevation gradient, with glaciers flowing into the Larsen Ice Shelf, which experienced significant breakup in 2002. Other ice shelves on the peninsula include George VI Ice Shelf, Wilkins Ice Shelf, Wordie Ice Shelf and the Bach Ice Shelf. The Filchner-Ronne Ice Shelf lies to the east of the peninsula.

Islands along the peninsula are mostly ice covered and connected to the land by pack ice. Separating the peninsula from nearby islands is the Antarctic Sound, Erebus and Terror Gulf, George VI Sound, Gerlache Strait and the Lemaire Channel. The Lemaire Channel is a popular destination for tourist cruise ships that visit Antarctica. Further to the west lies the Bellingshausen Sea and in the north is the Scotia Sea. The Antarctic Peninsula and Cape Horn create a funneling effect, which channels the winds into the relatively narrow Drake Passage.

Hope Bay, at 63°23'S 057°00'W, is near to the northernmost extremity of the peninsula, which is Prime Head, at 63°13'S. Near the tip at Hope Bay is Sheppard Point. The part of the Antarctic Peninsula extending northeastwards from a line connecting Cape Kater to Cape Longing is called the Trinity Peninsula. Brown Bluff is a rare tuya and Sheppard Nunatak are found here also. The Airy Glacier, Seller Glacier, Fleming Glacier and Prospect Glaciers form the Forster Ice Piedmont along the west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula. Charlotte Bay, Hughes Bay and Marguerite Bay are located on the west coast as well.

On the east coast is the Athene Glacier while the Arctowski Nunatak and Akerlundh Nunatak are both located just off the east coast. A number of smaller peninsulas extend from the main Antarctic Peninsula including Hollick-Kenyon Peninsula and Prehn Peninsula at the base of the Antarctic Peninsula. Also located here are the Scaife Mountains. The Eternity Range is found in the middle of the peninsula. Other geographical features include Avery Plateau, the twin towers of Una's Tits.

HISTORY

The first sighting of Antarctic Peninsula is disputed but apparently occurred in 1820. The most likely first sighting of the Antarctic mainland, which was also the Antarctic Peninsula, was probably during an expedition of the Russian Imperial Navy that was captained by Thaddeus von Bellinghausen. The party did not recognise what they thought was an icefield covered by small hillocks as the mainland on 27 January 1820. Edward Bransfield and William Smith were the first to chart a part of the Antarctic Peninsula just three days later on the 30 January 1820. The location was later to be called Trinity Peninsula, the extreme northeast portion of the peninsula. The next confirmed sighting was by John Biscoe who named the northern part of the Antarctic Peninsula, Graham Land, in 1832.

The first to make landing on the continent is also disputed. A 19th century seal hunter called John Davis was almost certainly the first, however sealers were secretive about their movements and their ship logs were deliberately unreliable, in order to protect any new sealing grounds from competition.

Between 1901 and 1904, Otto Nordenskiöld led the Swedish Antarctic Expedition, one of the first expeditions that was to explore parts of Antarctica. They landed on the Antarctic Peninsula in February 1902, aboard the *Antarctica* which later sank not far from the peninsula with all crew saved. They were later rescued by an Argentinian ship. The British Graham Land Expedition between 1934 and 1937 carried out aerial surveys and concluded that Graham Land was not an archipelago but was a peninsula.

Agreement on the name Antarctic Peninsula by the US-ACAN and UK-APC in 1964 resolved a long-standing difference over the use of the American name "Palmer Peninsula" or the British name "Graham Land" for this feature. (Graham Land is now that part of the Antarctic Peninsula northward of a line between Cape Jeremy and Cape Agassiz, whilst Palmer Land is the part southward of that line. Palmer Land is named for the American seal hunter, Nathaniel Palmer.) In Chile, the peninsula is officially referred as O'Higgins Land, after the Chilean patriot and Antarctic visionary. Other Spanish countries call it "Península Antártica", among them Argentina (while also calling it "Tierra de San Martín"), which has more bases and personnel there than any other nation.

Other portions of the peninsula that were named after various expeditions made their discovery include Bowman Coast, Black Coast, Danco Coast, Davis Coast, English Coast, Fallières Coast, Loubet Land, Nordenskjöld Coast and the Wilkins Coast.

Antarctic Peninsula - the icon of all adventure travel!

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CLOTHING

Two-three pairs of woolen or polar fleece sweaters (wool has natural oils which protect the fibers and has a unique property of retaining its insulating properties even if it does get wet. A combination of lighter and heavier sweaters is recommended for a better flexibility.

Two-three warm long-sleeve shirts or turtlenecks (wool or flannel, fleece).

Two-three pairs of warm, casual trousers to wear under your waterproof pants, and aboard the ship.

Two-three full sets of thermal long underwear (also good for sleeping). It should be soft and moisture wicking. Lightweight is recommended unless you get cold easily. Materials recommended are silk, polypropylene, bergelene (Techwick), or similar.

Long-sleeve shirts or tops for layering and to wear aboard the ship.

Comfortable walking shoes with rubber soles to wear on board.

Two-three short-sleeve cotton shirts. Polo shirts are more versatile than t-shirts.

SPECIAL EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT

One waterproof, windproof outer jacket. You should look for a lightly insulated, breathable, lightweight and roomy jacket with hood. Ideally made of Gore-Tex (or other waterproof fabric). Bright colors are more visible and therefore safer in the Antarctic.

One pair of breathable, waterproof (such as Gore-Tex) pants, oversized to accommodate layers. Will be worn over the insulating trousers.

One pair of rubber, fully waterproof boots. Knee-high or below the knee with a sturdy, ridged, non-skid sole. Traditional Wellingtons are ideal. Consider packing the boots in your carry-on. This could be the hardest item to replace if your luggage get delayed or lost in flights.

One or two warm woolen ski hats or caps that protect your ears and prevent quick heat loss, or balaclava.

Scarf or gaiter, or other face and neck protection.

One or two pairs waterproof ski mittens or gloves. Packing a second pair is recommended in case the first pair gets wet or lost.

One pair of light glove liners to layer under the outer gloves so you could remove them when you need to hold your camera.

Two pairs minimum of tall heavy high quality wool socks (some will get wet).

Sock liners or thin socks (silk, poly-propylene or other moisture wicking materials) to wear underneath wool socks.

A good pair, or two, of sunglasses with UV protection is absolutely essential to protect your eyes from the sun reflected off the ice. Wraparound polarized, glacier or high-altitude sunglasses are recommended. Solar Shields could also be used.

Hand and Toe Warmers.

Backpack –waterproof or water-resistant, if possible, to take with you on your shore excursions to store your gear. You will need your hands free for getting on and off a Zodiac.

TOILETRIES & PERSONAL HYGIENE

Toothbrush and toothpaste

Floss

Shaving equipment

Soaps and shampoos

Aspirin/Sudafed

Spare contact lenses and solutions

Antiseptic wipes

Motion sickness medication.

Prescription medicines, if you are taking any, should be included in your packing list in adequate supply in case of unexpected delays due to weather.

Moisturizing lotion and lip balm for skin protection.

Sunscreen at least 15 SPF or higher

PHOTOGRAPHY/ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Camera, lenses, extra batteries and memory cards, plenty of film. The rule of thumb is to double the number of items you believe you would use. Battery life is shorter in a cold climate.

Travel alarm clock

Zip-lock plastic bags or waterproofed for storage and added protection for cameras, memory cards, etc.

Electrical converter and adapter for hotel stays.

MONEY & DOCUMENTS

Visas (if applicable)

Vaccination certificate (no vaccination is obligatory for the Antarctic)

Insurance certificate (health insurance card)

Cash/emergency money

Credit cards (Visa, Mastercard, American Express etc) - very limited use

Address list (with phone numbers and email addresses)

MISCELLANEOUS

Envelopes

Pocket knife

Pillow

Towel

Playing Cards

Hanse Explorer

DESCRIPTION OF M/Y HANSE EXPLORER

M/Y HANSE EXPLORER is a large 158ft (48m) serious adventure expedition motor yacht built by the German company Fassmer Werft and launched in 2006. Her interior design is by Mieske Design and offers functional and relaxed styling, featuring beautiful woodwork and an intelligent layout for maximising space.

HANSE EXPLORER is a certified ice breaker yacht (with an extra thick steel hull) with ice class GL-E3. HANSE EXPLORER is able to explore all around the world, including the polar regions and the Northwest Passage. Safety and comfort rank first on the incredible luxury explorer yacht.

HANSE EXPLORER has a powerful main motor (MAK 8 M 20 1 x 1,360 kW, Single Screw, Controllable Pitch Propeller) with an electric stand-by motor (400 KW) in case of main failure. She can cruise at 11 knots with a max of 13. Her generators produce a total electric power capacity of approx. 1.000 kilowatts. She has two independently working air conditioning compressors which provide a pleasant room temperature in tropical areas as well as in Arctic and Antarctic waters. There are two independent heating systems generating the necessary heat for comfort. Two autarkic fresh water systems (osmosis device/evaporator) provide sufficient fresh water on board. She also has independent toilet facilities (vacuum/gravity toilet). To protect the environment, there is a highly efficient water conditioning system that allows the yacht to cruise even the most sensitive areas of the world.

Highly efficient stabilisers reduce the vessel's roll and ensures that it is also comfortable to stay on board during heavy seas. The bridge equipment complies with those of the modern chemical tank ships the shipping company runs as well. There are two independently working rudder devices (electro-hydraulic/manual) and three radar units: one S-band radar system (harbor-zone, near-shore zone and ice cruise) and two X-band systems, one for deep sea and coastal shipping and the other one for cadets and guests.

HANSE EXPLORER also has latest up to date electronic navigational charts including secondary device in the lounge so that our guests can observe the position of the vessel at any time.

Hanse Explorer offers guest accommodation for 12. All 7 cabins may be configured for either Queen or Twin sleeping arrangements. The Owner's Suite is situated on the Upper Deck, consisting of a Stateroom, en suite and a large adjoining private lounge. The remaining 6 Guest Cabins on the Main Deck are practically identical apart from subtle differences in colour scheme. All cabins have private en suite facilities.

Type

Motor-yacht

Length/beam

48m/10.4m

Speed

11 knots

Air condition

Individually controlled

Guest

12 (14)

Crew

13

Tv/DVD/Video

In lounge and in suite

Satellite phone

On board

The yacht



Lounge and bar



Passenger cabin



Owner's cabin



Dining room



Bathroom



Sundeck



Sauna



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Schiffsname

Reisename/ -Route

Abfahrt von - bis (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj)

Alternative Abfahrt (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj) (falls ausgebucht)

Kabinenkategorie

Alternative Kabinenkategorie (falls ausgebucht)

- Doppelkabine Doppelkabine zur Einzelnutzung Halbe Doppelkabine zur Mitbenutzung

Zubringerflüge:

Abflughafen

Hinflugdatum (tt/mm/jj)

Rückflugdatum (tt/mm/jj)

bevorzugte Airline

- Economy-Class Business-Class

Zusätzliche Hotelübernachtungen:

Hotelname/Übernachtungsort

Aufenthalt von - bis (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj)

Hotelname/Übernachtungsort

Aufenthalt von - bis (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj)

Reiseversicherungen:

- keine
 Reiserücktrittskostenversicherung
 Komplettschutz (Reiserücktritts-, Kranken-, Unfall-, Gepäck- und Notfallversicherung)

Persönliche Angaben:

1. Reiseteilnehmer
 Vorname, Name / Geburtsdatum

2. Reiseteilnehmer
 Vorname, Name / Geburtsdatum

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