

ANTARCTICA

Expeditions 2011-2012



“I have been there, I have seen it, and I would go again. It is like a little heaven below.”

Sir Vivian Fuchs on Antarctica

With its overwhelming array of colours, moods and diverse wildlife the spectacular Antarctic Peninsula is a paradise for all, from divers and adventurers to naturalists and photographers. The opportunity to be in the company of thousands of penguins, watching whales, dolphins and seals, and zodiac cruising between brilliant white icebergs and ice floes will fill you awe.

Waterproof Expeditions uses an ice-strengthened polar vessel for their expeditions to the Antarctic Peninsula with an emphasis on various activities such as exploring, snorkelling, diving, kayaking, and photography – underwater for experienced Polar Divers and topside for the ‘Explorers’. We are effectively running various trips each with their own dedicated guides. One underwater for our experienced Polar Divers, and one topside for our ‘Explorers’.

Polar Divers and Snorkellers

Diving in Antarctica is a unique experience for the advanced diver. Not just ice, but an amazing underwater world with a fascinating marine life filled with creatures that look as if they should live on another planet, such as giant isopods, worms and fearless seals.

Waterproof Expeditions are the Polar Dive experts with many years experience of extreme situations. We are trained to search out the best opportunities for diving, taking into account the unpredictable weather and ice conditions, whilst maintaining the highest level of safety in combination with quality diving. We don’t dive through a wide hole in the ice but in a controlled environment under small, grounded icebergs, diving from the shore, a zodiac or an ice shell.

Explorers

For the ‘Explorers’ we run small groups at a landing site or on a zodiac cruise. These small numbers give us exceptional freedom to do longer, more exploratory activities and landings. On the landing sites, our ‘footprint’ is very small – we are few enough to cause virtually no disturbance, leaving us with more rewarding interactions with the wildlife – and a feeling of being that little bit more in our own personal wilderness.

The ‘Explorers’ and ‘Divers’ can add to each other’s experience. Life in the Antarctic is very much based in the Ocean and divers’ perspectives, photographs and videos have proved fascinating to our topside guests. On many occasions our topside boats alert the divers to some wildlife they hadn’t seen, and vice versa. There is very pleasant synergy; when divers start talking to the ‘Explorers’ and hear about their landings or zodiac cruises, they often decide to ‘take a dive off’ and join them.

The Vessel

The Polar Pioneer is a modern, ice-strengthened research vessel built in Finland for the Russian Academy of Science and ideally suited to expedition cruising in polar areas. Accommodation and on-board-life is cozy and comfortable and most cabins have private facilities. The public areas include a dining room that also acts as lecture room, a bar with reference books, a doctor's cabin and sauna.

Waterproof Expeditions organizes the Dive Operation, led by a team of experienced Dive Masters. We have a specially designed dive container with heated storage space for dive gear on board. We have also developed the Padi Polar Diver Specialty. Only available on our trips below 60 degrees south (Antarctica) and above the Arctic Circle!



Date and voyage	Days	Triple	Twin Shared	Twin Private	Superior	Suite		
Antarctic Peninsula							Diving	Kayaking
28 NOV – 08 DEC 2011* (Ushuaia – Ushuaia)	11	€ 4.500	€ 5.285	€ 5.880	€ 6.510	€ 7.345	€ 825	€ 595
08 DEC – 19 DEC 2011* (Ushuaia – Ushuaia)	12	€ 4.685	€ 5.570	€ 6.305	€ 6.985	€ 7.740	€ 825	€ 595
Across the Circle							Diving	Kayaking
19 DEC – 28 DEC 2011 (Ushuaia – Punta Arenas)	10	€ 4.500	€ 5.285	€ 5.880	€ 6.510	€ 7.345	€ 825	€ 595
28 DEC – 05 JAN 2012 (Punta Arenas – Ushuaia)	08	€ 4.250	€ 4.700	€ 5.255	€ 5.975	€ 6.770	€ 825	€ 595
Weddell Sea & Antarctic Peninsula							Diving	
06 FEB – 17 FEB 2012 (Ushuaia – Ushuaia)	12	€ 4.880	€ 5.780	€ 6.565	€ 7.195	€ 7.855	€ 825	
17 FEB – 28 FEB 2012 (Ushuaia – Ushuaia)	12	€ 4.880	€ 5.780	€ 6.565	€ 7.195	€ 7.855	€ 825	
South Georgia & Antarctic Peninsula							Diving	Kayaking
12 NOV – 28 NOV 2011 (Port Stanley – Ushuaia)	17	€ 7.195	€ 8.415	€ 9.835	€ 10.225	€ 10.945	€ 975	€ 825
05 JAN – 21 JAN 2012 (Ushuaia – Port Stanley)	17	€ 7.345	€ 8.550	€ 9.945	€ 10.535	€ 11.475	€ 975	€ 825
21 JAN – 06 FEB 2012 (Port Stanley – Ushuaia)	17	€ 7.345	€ 8.550	€ 9.945	€ 10.535	€ 11.475	€ 975	€ 825

Rates include

- 12 NOV: Flight Santiago to Port Stanley, transfers and tour
- 28 DEC: Flight King George Island to Punta Arenas
- 28 DEC: Flight Punta Arenas to King George Island
- 21 JAN: Flight Port Stanley to Santiago, transfers and tour
- 21 JAN: Flight Santiago to Port Stanley, transfers and tour
- Accommodation in twin cabin and full board while on the vessel
- Use of Rubber Boots provided
- Leadership by our experienced Expedition Leader and Polar Dive Master
- Professional Dive Operation including dive compressor, tanks, weights and belts (you need to bring your own personal dive gear)
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
- *Complimentary Camping activity

Rates do not include

- International or domestic flights, unless included
- Excess baggage charges on flight
- All items of a personal nature such as laundry, meals ashore, bar, beverage and telecommunication charges
- Gratuities
- Pre- and post-voyage packages with air and hotel available upon request
- Your personal dive equipment

NOTES:

Prices quoted in Euro per person, based on twin share. Single surcharge 80%
Minimum number of divers : 8 (except FEB 6 & 17, no minimum required)

Please contact us for more information, detailed itineraries and special departures.

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