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Searching for the Elusive Emperor Penguins



Emperor penguins are the favorite ones for photographers. Adult species have very expressive colouring and reach 130 sm height. But to search them is quite difficult — Emperor penguins live more closely to the South in comparison with all other types of penguins. To get to these lands from the seaside is almost impossible, therefore, we will use the helicopter.

Experiences you'll have

In our collection there are different tours to Antarctica, but only during this route you will have daily excursions with a helicopter, not with traditional boats "Zodiac". Thanks to it, we have managed to optimize the route significantly in order you can reach the places inaccessible by boat or ship while searching the penguins.

The cost of the cruise depends on the selected cabin category. See details in the "Accommodation" section

During this journey you will watch the Adélie penguins, albatrosses, petrels and the largest representatives of penguins — Emperor. Also you will explore the Seymour island, where the Swedish Antarctic expedition discovered the bones of a two-meter penguin, as well as will see the most picturesque place of the entire Antarctic continent.

Itinerary

The journey starts in Ushuaia, Argentina, where you should travel to on уоудыки own. Here you will find the general plan of the expedition, the route may vary depending on the weather and ice conditions.

Day 1

Your voyage will start at the edge of the Earth — Ushuaia

is the southernmost city on the planet. In the afternoon you will embark the ship and sail through the scenic Beagle channel. Day 2

Over the next two days on the Drake Passage, you catch a

taste of life from the perspective of the polar explorers who first braved these regions: cool salt breezes, rolling seas, maybe even a fin whale blasting up sea spray.

After passing the Antarctic Convergence - Antarctica's

natural boundary, formed when north-flowing cold waters collide with warmer subantarctic seas – you are in the circum-Antarctic upwelling zone. Not only does the marine life change, the avian life changes too: a variety of albatrosses and petrels show up, along with Cape pigeons and southern fulmars. Then, near the South Shetlands Islands, the first icebergs flash into sight.

Day 3

During this part of the cruise, the search is on for emperor

penguins. Using both the vessel and helicopters, there is a good chance you will find them. You might also enjoy scenic flights and helicopter landings in locations otherwise out of reach this time of year.

Layered sandstones, lava flows, glaciers and icebergs and

pack-ice extend as far as the eye can see. There are often individual emperor penguins and Adélie penguins on the ice floes, as well as kelp gulls, skuas, and various breeds of petrel.

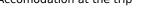
At one of these days you will visit Seymour Island - here

is where the Swedish Antarctic Expedition of 1901 – 4 wintered under harrowing circumstances. Sedimentary rock, fossils, and great views define this location.

If conditions allow for deeper ventures into the Weddell

Sea, Zodiac trips may include: Devil Island – home to a large colony of Adélie penguins. This island offers a magnificent view for hikers willing to foot it to the top of the hill. Melting ice sometimes

Antarctica In search of the Emperor Penguin Difficulty Group size to 116 Duration 11 days Accomodation at the trip





forms a waterfall dropping from the cliffs close to Cape Well-met.
Brown Bluff - maybe the most scenic location in the entire northern tip of the Antarctic Continent: sheer canyon walls, fallen boulders, beautiful volcanic creations capped with ice. A large Adélie penguin rookery lives here, with gentoo penguins and nesting snow petrels also to be found.
Another landing site may be Esperanza Base - the Argentine research station, where you will be able to meet with scientists and to observe their work. Day 4
In the morning you will sail to Deception Island for the last
landing of the voyage – at Pendulum Cove or Whalers Bay. This island has been a place of whaling in Antarctica for the long time. Day 5
Your return voyage is far from lonely. While crossing the
Drake, you are again greeted by the vast array of seabirds remembered from the passage south. But they seem a little more familiar to you now, and you to them. Day 6
Today you will disembark in Ushuaia, then you will be
taken to the airport for depart home.

Accomodation at the trip

Your journey will take place on a comfortable expedition ship **"Ortelius"**. The vessel has the highest ice-class notation (UL1, equivalent to 1A) and is therefor suitable to navigate in solid one-year sea ice as well as loose multi-year pack ice. Ortelius can accommodate up to 116 passengers and has an abundance of open-deck spaces. It is manned by 22 highly experienced nautical crew members, 19 hotel staff, eight expedition specialists (one expedition leader, one assistant, and six lecturer-guides), and one doctor.

In addition to the cabins there are 2 restaurants, a bar, a lecture hall and a sauna on board. The ship is well equipped for expedition cruises: it has a full set of inflatable boats "Zodiac", kayaks and diving equipment.

Rates depend on the type of cabin:

accommodation in Quadruple cabin with a porthole — 9600 EURO accommodation in Twin cabin with a porthole — 10 950 EURO accommodation in Twin cabin with a window — 11 450 EURO accommodation in Twin Deluxe — 11 900 EURO accommodation in Superior suite — 12 600 EURO

The price is per person. Payment is made in rubles at the exchange rate of the Central Bank +2%.

Types of cabins:

Quadruple cabin with a porthole

Two lower and two upper beds. Bathroom with shower and toilet. Table, chair, wardrobe, hairdryer.

Triple cabin with a porthole

Two lower beds and one upper. Bathroom with shower and toilet. Table, chair, wardrobe, hairdryer.

Twin cabin with a porthole

Two lower beds. Bathroom with shower and toilet. Table, chair, wardrobe, hairdryer.

Twin cabin with a window

Two lower beds. Bathroom with shower and toilet. Table, chair, wardrobe, hairdryer.

Twin Deluxe

Two lower beds, two windows. Bathroom with shower and toilet. Table, chair, wardrobe, hairdryer. TV, telephone and Internet access.

Superior suite

One double bed. two Windows. Bathroom with shower and toilet. Sofa, table, chair, wardrobe, fridge, hairdryer.

FAQ

Booking

Antarctica

In search of the Emperor Penguin

Difficulty	
Group size	
Duration	

11 days

to 116

from 9 600 EUR

What's included in the price:

- accommodation on ship board in the cabin of the selected category

full board

- all shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiacs

 program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff

- free use of rubber boots and snowshoes
- ship-to-shore helicopter transfers

- pre-scheduled group transfer from the vessel to the airport in Ushuaia

 all miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme

comprehensive pre-departure materials

Best price guarantee



rsonal Irs Discounts for regular clients



Accomodation at the trip



10 nights

Extra charge:

<u>airfare to Ushuaia</u>

 health insurance covering emergency evacuation from hard-to-reach places (which is mandatory)

- passport and visa expenses
- covernment arrival and departure taxes
- personal expenses (incl. bar, communication, laundry)
- all expenses in Ushuaia before and after the cruise
- tips for stewards and other service personnel aboard
- excess baggage