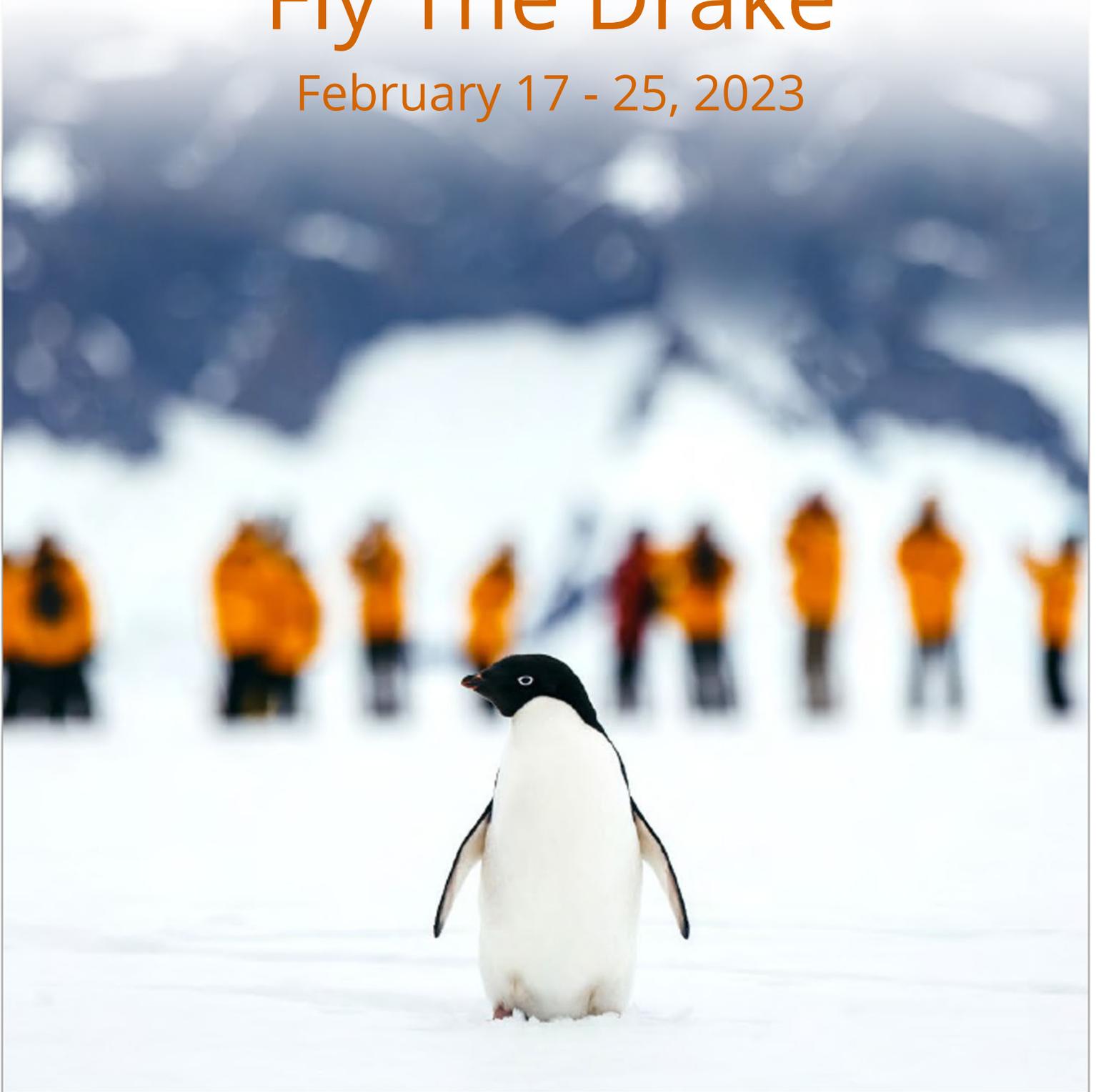




# ANTARCTIC EXPRESS

## Fly The Drake

February 17 - 25, 2023





## Overview

Answer the call of Antarctica by flying over the Drake Passage by charter plane to land at King George Island before exploring the Antarctic Peninsula by ship. In just 10 adventure-packed days, you'll experience rewarding shore visits and Zodiac cruises, marvel at intimate wildlife encounters, explore historic sites and make the most of your landmark visit to the 7th Continent. Keep your camera ready as you cruise the Zodiac in search of whales, seabirds and astounding icebergs. Beaches dotted with leopard seals and penguins give way to icy plateaus, with snow-capped mountain peaks looming behind. You'll find yourself thankful for the near-constant sunlight by which you can continue to take it all in. Select from a range of adventure options and onboard activities that match your personal interests and make your expedition uniquely yours.

Antarctica has been inspiring explorers for centuries and our expedition offers the chance for you to discover why. We're excited to host you on your unforgettable adventure!



### EXPEDITION IN BRIEF



Fly over the Drake Passage and experience the fastest, most direct way to Antarctica



Spot iconic Antarctic wildlife, such as penguins, seals and whales



Marvel at many of the Antarctic Peninsula highlights



Enjoy onboard presentations from polar specialists



Cruise in a Zodiac to get up close to icebergs, wildlife and more



# Antarctic Express: Fly the Drake 8 Day Itinerary

## DAY 1 , February 17, 2023

### DEPART CENTRAL ILLINOIS FOR PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE

This afternoon we will depart Central Illinois for Chicago O'Hare where we will take an overnight flight to Punta Arenas, Chile.

## DAY 2 , February 18, 2023 | ARRIVE IN PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE

Upon arrival in Punta Arenas we will be transferred to our hotel. This afternoon your adventure begins in Punta Arenas, Chile, the most populated city in southern Patagonia. By early afternoon, a Quark Expeditions® representative will meet us at the hotel and you'll enjoy a welcome dinner and be briefed about preparing for embarkation day.

## DAY 3 , February 19, 2023 | FLY TO KING GEORGE ISLAND AND EMBARKATION

Your charter flight from Punta Arenas to Antarctica will have you crossing the legendary Drake Passage in only a few hours. Far below, the ship will approach King George Island for your arrival. Your first glimpse of dramatic Antarctic landscapes will be from a unique perspective, as your plane descends for landing in the South Shetland Islands. After landing, stretch your legs with a one-mile (1.6 km) walk to the shore, before being transferred by Zodiac to your ship to set sail for the Antarctic Peninsula!

## DAYS 4-7 February 20 –23, 2023

### ANTARCTIC PENINSULA AND SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

There are few places in the world as evocative as Antarctica. As your ship approaches the White Continent, you may be overcome by feelings of excitement and awe. Antarctica is indescribable and can only be fully appreciated through your own eyes.



## ANTARCTIC EXPRESS Fly the Drake

- On board the *Ocean Adventurer* or *World Explorer*
- - - - - Flights to/from Punta Arenas

# The Adventure Continues

As your captain and Expedition Team keep a lookout for whales and seabirds, you'll be alerted to any new sightings. A team of expert presenters will deepen your experience with explanations of the glaciology, history and wildlife of the region.

Even more exciting are your daily excursions. Your first Zodiac landing is something you'll never forget! Walking on a beach dotted with penguins is the most intimate way to experience the unique wildlife of Antarctica.

Each landing is different and is dependent on weather, but every day presents new sightings and photo opportunities, and it won't be long before you can tell the difference between an Adélie, Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguin.

You may take a Zodiac cruise in search of whales and icebergs one day, followed by a hike to a penguin rookery the next day. From the booming sound of a calving glacier to the thrill of spotting apex predators like leopard seals and killer whales in action, you'll wake up early and welcome each day with a sense of adventure and a desire to explore during this unrivaled travel experience.

Your Expedition Team will accompany you all along the way, providing insights into the places you visit.

## **DAY 8, February 24, 2023 | DISEMBARKATION AND FLY TO PUNTA ARENAS**

After your week of exploration, you'll say goodbye to your Expedition Team and disembark at King George Island. Your two-and-a-half-hour flight across the Drake Passage to Punta Arenas, Chile, brings your adventure to an end. After your group transfer to the hotel, you are free to explore and enjoy an evening on your own, in the city or at the hotel to reminisce about the sights and sounds of Antarctica.

## **DAY 9, February 25, 2023 | DEPART PUNTA ARENAS**

After breakfast, you have a couple of hours to explore the city on your own. We will take an afternoon flight from Punta Arenas to head back home. Upon arrival into Chicago O'Hare this morning, we will be transferred back to Central Illinois.

### EXPEDITION SPIRIT

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team must consider the sea, ice and weather to guide the route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you'll experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. By the same token, wildlife encounters as described are expected, but not guaranteed. Your Expedition Team will use their considerable experience to seek out wildlife in known habitats, but the presence of any particular species of bird or marine wildlife is not a guarantee.





## Included Activities

Ready for a little adventure beyond your ship? This voyage offers a variety of fun recreational activities to enhance your polar experience.

### ZODIAC CRUISING

Zodiacs are the workhorses of polar expeditions, safely transporting guests to remote shorelines, exploring shallow inlets and searching for wildlife—taking you to places the ships can't reach. Expedition staff make stepping in and out of them safe and comfortable.

### HIKING

Led by experienced staff, exploring on foot is the best way to appreciate the landscape and shorelines. Staff will aim to have multiple hikes available based on ability and mobility.

### PRESENTATIONS

Enjoy daily chats with onboard polar experts—our guides, scientists and other special guests will introduce you to the wonderful history, biology, ornithology, glaciology and more.

### POLAR PLUNGE

This rite of passage, experienced just once per expedition, sees you safely jumping into icy ocean waters under the watchful eye of our staff—and just about every single camera lens on board!

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Documenting your voyage so you can take the memories home is a rewarding experience. Our photography guides will help you learn skills to capture the beauty of the Polar Regions.

### OTHER EQUIPMENT ON BOARD

Walking poles are provided at each landing for your convenience. As there are limited number of poles available, please bring your own if you require them on every landing.

*More information about your Included and Paid Activities, including the necessary experience, physical requirements and cost, is available by contacting Direct Travel Group Department.*





## Package Rates

**Lower Deck Twins \$14,999.00 + \$1470.00 for Travel Protection per person based on double occupancy.**

A Lower Deck Twin cabin has two lower berths, private facilities, and a porthole with exterior views. *Please note that porthole covers may be closed during sea days or during inclement weather as a safety precaution.*

**Main Deck Porthole \$15,999.00 + \$1568.00 for Travel Protection per person based on double occupancy.**

A Main Deck Twin Porthole cabin has two lower berths, private facilities, and a porthole with exterior views. *Please note that porthole covers may be closed during sea days or during inclement weather as a safety precaution.*

**Main Deck Window \$17,999.00 + \$1764.00 for Travel Protection per person based on double occupancy.**

A Main Deck Twin Window cabin has two lower berths, private facilities, and two windows with exterior views

**Superior \$18,999.00 + \$1862.00 for Travel Protection per person based on double occupancy.**

A Superior cabin has two lower berths, private facilities, and windows with exterior views.

## Terms & Conditions

**DEPOSIT & FINAL PAYMENT:** To confirm your reservation a deposit of 20% needs to be made. Final payment is due October 5, 2021.

**CANCELLATIONS:** All requests for cancellation must be received in writing. Cancellations cannot be made online. Cancellations received by August 20, 2021 with the 20% deposit, deposits are refundable less an administrative fee of minimum US\$ 1250 per person. If cancellation is received between August 21, 2021 and October 5, 2021, the deposit is forfeited. If cancellation occurs after October 5, 2021 all payments are forfeited. If full payment has not yet been received, the full penalty will still apply and any unpaid balance is due immediately.

**TRAVEL PROTECTION:** Direct Travel strongly suggests that all passengers carry out of country medical insurance which must include a minimum USD \$50,000 of emergency medical coverage and in addition, strongly recommends they purchase a comprehensive policy to cover themselves for cancellation and baggage. The policy we recommend is Allianz Tour Protection Unforeseen Reasons this provides the greatest protection. Should you need to cancel for an unforeseen reason you will receive back 80% of the amount you have paid less the cost of the policy. If you cancel for a covered reason you will receive 100% less the cost of the policy.

# Inclusions & Exclusions

## OUR RATES INCLUDE:

- International airfare to Punta Arenas, Chile.
- Arrival group transfer from Airport to Dreams Hotel in Punta Arenas.
- Pre-night and post-night hotel stay in Punta Arenas, Chile.
- Group transfer from hotel to charter flight, return.
- Charter Flight from Punta Arenas to King George Island, return.
- Shipboard breakfasts, lunches and dinners\*
- Shore landings included in daily program.
- Professional Expedition Leadership.
- Formal and informal educational presentations by the Quark Expeditions® Team.
- Online Photographic Journal.
- The loan of a pair of waterproof boots for the duration of the voyage per passenger.
- An official 3-in-1 Quark Expeditions® parka to keep.
- \$250 USD per person onboard Credit (Direct Travel / Virtuoso Amenity).
- Coffee, tea, cocoa, soft drinks and juices available around the clock.
- Domestic beer and wine with dinner.
- Hair dryer and bathrobes in each cabin.
- Comprehensive pre-departure package including the Quark Expeditions® Polar Reader.
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program.
- All shipboard luggage handling.
- Emergency Evacuation Insurance to a maximum benefit of \$500,000 USD per person.
- All Zodiac excursions and transfers included in the daily program.
- Departing group transfer from hotel to airport.

\*(Please inform us of any dietary requirements as far in advance as possible. Unfortunately, the ships' galleys cannot prepare kosher meals.)

## RATES SPECIFICALLY DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Passport and visa expenses.
- Government arrival and departure taxes.
- Meals ashore, other than the breakfasts included with the hotel accommodation.
- Alcoholic beverages outside of domestic beer and wine at dinner or Polar Boutique store charges.
- Baggage, cancellation and medical travel insurance.
- Excess baggage charges.
- Shipboard communication charges, laundry and other personal charges.
- Voyage-end gratuities for Crew, Hospitality and Expedition Team members.



TO BOOK THIS ADVENTURE

Contact Your Direct Travel Group Department:



For questions of reservations call  
866-592-0455 or 309-834-3739.



PHOTO CREDITS:  
Acacia Johnson; David Merron; Grange Productions; Nicky Souness; Samantha Crimmin



## Antarctic Express: Fly the Drake

Mail form to Direct Travel 2415 East Washington Street, Bloomington, IL 61704

Please print names *exactly* as they appear on your passport.

PASSENGER 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ TSA # if Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSENGER 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ TSA # if Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_  VI  MC  AX  DS

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select your cabin category. Travel Protection is highly recommend and prices are listed with the cabin category below and they are per person based on double occupancy.**

Lower Deck Twins \$14,999.00 + \$1,470.00 for Travel Protection

Main Deck Porthole \$15,999.00 + \$1,568.00 for Travel Protection

Main Deck Window \$17,999.00 + \$1,764.00 for Travel Protection

Superior \$18,999.00 + \$1,862.00 for Travel Protection

**No, I do not want Travel Protection.** Direct Travel has recommended that I purchase travel protection insurance. I have been made aware of the cancellation fees associated with my trip, and I understand that if any unforeseen circumstance (including medical emergencies) should occur and I do not have insurance, I would not be covered.