

Expedition to the Island of the State

PROGRAM

DAY 1: Depart from Ushuaia

Board the Ushuaia and meet your expedition and lecture staff. After you have into your cabins we sail the wake of the explorers Parker King and FitzRoy along the celebrated Beagle Channel.

After passing Cabo San Pío, we leave the historic bays Bahía Slogett, Aguirre and Valentine on our port sided sail across the Le Maire Strai during the night.

Day 2: Bahía Franklin and Bahía Crossley

In the morning we shall arrive at Franklin Bay on the west coast of Staten Island heading for Crossley Bay. We plan to land and to walk along the beach, visit the archaeological site and enjoy the landscape of rounded hills separated by wide marshy valleys.

With luck we shall find one of the most interesting bird species of the island, the Turkey Vulture. After an exciting time ashore we return to the 'Ushuaia' to sail to the opposite end of the island, to Puerto San Juan de Salvamento.

Day 3: Puerto San Juan de Salvamento, Puerto Vancouver and Puerto Cook

This morning we awake marveling at the famous Lighthouse at the End of the World, which so inspired Jules Verne. From the landing site at the protected natural harbour, after walking for about 25 minutes we stand before what is truly the world's most remote lighthouse, amidst an amazing landscape.

A zodiac ride to take a look at a colony of sea lions and Rockhopper penguins will round off our visit to San Juan de Salvamento.

After a short voyage, we reach Puerto Cook where we plan to land on the shingle beach to visit the site and the ruins of the old 1900-1902 military prison.

From to Puerto Cook on the north coast, we will set off on a magnificent walk across the island to Puerto Vancouver on the southern shore by way of an elevated and narrow isthmus only about 500 meters wide.

Day 4; New Year's isles, Puerto Hoppner and Le Maire Strait

During the night we will have sailed from Puerto Cook to Isla Observatorio. In the morning, we embark on zodiac excursions around Isla Observatorio to observe Rock Cormorant, Southern Giant Petrel and Magellan Penguin colonies, as well as South American seals.

We will continue to Bahia San Antonio and land by zodiacs in Puerto Hoppner to explore the inner part of this spectacular fjord and enjoy scenery of unparalleled beauty. High pointed peaks rise up directly from the sea, with dense forest covering their steep slopes all the way from the summits to the shore.

Day 5: Beagle Channel and retur to Ushuaia

During the night we sail back across the Le Maire Strait and re-enter the Beagle Channel. Once more we can enjoy the wonderful scenery of both the Argentine and Chilean coasts of the famous channel before arriving in Ushuaia.

PLEASE NOTE: The above itinerary is a guide only. Our exact route and program will vary to take best advantage of local weather conditions and opportunities to view wildlife. Changes will be made by the Captain and/or Expedition Leader to facilitate the best results from the prevailing conditions. A daily program sheet will be issued on board. Flexibility is the key to success. (Subject to permissions)