



ENCHANTING SOUTH AMERICA GROUP TOUR + FROZEN FRONTIER ANTARCTICA

Join us on this wonderful journey exploring South America's most incredible destinations. Marvel at Machu Picchu, See the buzzing cities of Buenos Aires, the beaches and vibrancy of Rio de Janeiro, Iguazu falls and sample some of the region's most amazing food in Peru. This small group tour of just 20 is perfect for those looking to travel with a group of like-minded individuals. We have left no stone unturned in giving you the best value group travel trip in the market. Upon conclusion of your South America Group Tour, fly to Ushuaia, to begin your Antarctica Adventure. Breath-taking scenery awaits you - snow-capped mountain ranges, ice-filled channels, immense yet beautifully-shaped icebergs and spectacular glaciers. Not to mention the plethora of wildlife - from whales, seals and a huge variety of seabirds to vast penguin colonies.

Day 1: Arrival in Buenos Aires

Fly from selected International Airports to Buenos Aires. (Please contact us for more details)

On arrival into Buenos Aires you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

This tour is operated under our group travel brand, Viva Expeditions. Viva specialises in guided small group tours to Latin America.

Tonight, there will be a pre departure welcome dinner. Please meet in the hotel reception at 19:30.

Dinner tonight will be at a local Argentina Steakhouse (Vegetarian options available)



Buenos Aires, Argentina's elegant, historic and cosmopolitan capital, is known as the "Paris of the South" due to its European atmosphere with glamorous avenues lined with fashionable shops and Parisian-style restaurants and cafes. Located on the western shore of the estuary of the Río de la Plata, Buenos Aires has many fascinating neighbourhoods to explore including the colourful and lively La Boca, home to art galleries and tango shows; San Telmo with its restored mansions and antique stores and Recoleta, the city's most exclusive area.



Overnight in a Standard Room at American Buenos Aires Park Hotel including breakfast.

Day 2: Buenos Aires City Tour, Evening Dinner & Tango Show

A tour of Buenos Aires serves as a great introduction to this incredible city giving you a taste of its fascinating history, architecture, culture, inhabitants, anecdotes, and secrets. You will explore the busy centre, including the Plaza de Mayo, where the Casa Rosada Presidential Palace is located; the aristocratic North, including Recoleta Cemetery, best-known for holding Eva Peron's grave; and the working-class South, such as the famous La Boca and San Telmo districts, heartland of the Tango.



This evening enjoy an intimate & passionate tango show, housed in a cosy wood-paneled 19th century building in the heart of Buenos Aires's historic centre. The building has a colourful history as it was once a meeting point for poets and students. After being abandoned in the late 1970s, the bar was beautifully restored and reopened in July 1992 as El Querandí Tango Hall. The show, directed by Claudio Campos with musical arrangements by Ado Falasca, smoothly charts the history of Argentina's most authentic artistic expression from its origins to the modern day. With one of the most varied à la carte menus you will find at a tango show, the

dinner is very good, and the show, at just over an hour long, is the perfect length. The three house singers, six dancers and four musicians put on a great show.

At the conclusion of the show a bus will transfer you back to your hotel.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Amerian Buenos Aires Park Hotel including breakfast.

Day 3: Buenos Aires to Iguazu

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the domestic airport for your flight from Buenos Aires.

On arrival at Iguazu airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel on the Argentinian side of the Iguazu Falls.

The spectacular Iguazu Falls that straddle the Argentine-Brazil border, are made up of 275 individual waterfalls lining a 2.7km wide horseshoe-shaped gorge. The Falls are located where the Iguazu River cascades over the edge of the Paraná Plateau. The Falls can be viewed from both the Argentinian and the Brazilian sides, the Brazilian side offering a broader, panoramic view, with the Argentinian side offering a series of catwalks that allow you to experience the Falls from close range.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Saint George Hotel including breakfast.



Day 4: Iguazu Falls: Argentinian Side

After an early morning pick up from your hotel, we travel to the Argentinian side of the Iguazu Falls. Beginning at the visitor's centre, we take a ride on the Rainforest Ecological train before exploring the upper and lower circuit footbridges. The footbridges, which are raised off the jungle floor, provide panoramic views from above and below the falls. A visit to Devil's Gorge arguably the most spectacular falls, is one of the day's highlights.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Saint George Hotel including breakfast.



Day 5: Iguazu to Rio de Janeiro

Today we see the falls from the Brazilian side of the border. After arriving at the visitor centre, we board buses for a tour of the park. Equipped with panoramic windows, the buses are designed to maximize your views of the falls, while the walkways and steps allow you to get up close to the spray. Views of the Floriana Falls, the Devil's Gorge Canyon and the Iguazu River are spectacular and are guaranteed to impress. National park fee included.

Afterwards you will be taken to the Bird's Park. The bird park was created in 1994, and built with concern to deliver optimum for reproducing animals as well as ensuring the preservation of 16 hectares of native forest. It is an ecological sanctuary located 300 meters from the entrance to the Brazilian National Park, It has more than 900 birds of 150 different species, with most Brazilian birds. They are in huge cages of 630 square meters, where waterfalls and vegetation are recreated, so that birds find their natural habitat.

The visit is done through trails within these nurseries, allowing observe species that rarely could be seen during a sightseeing tour. Besides birds, you can see butterflies, reptiles and mammals. After the tour, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight from Iguazu.



On arrival in Rio de Janeiro, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Known as the "Cidade Maravilhosa", or Marvellous City, Rio never fails to amaze with its sandy beaches, carefree lifestyle and unparalleled natural beauty. As the capital of Brazil until 1960, Rio is today one of the most culturally and economically prominent cities in the country, receiving more tourists than any other part of Brazil.

Overnight in a Superior Room at Windsor Leme Hotel Rio including breakfast.

Day 6: Rio - Corcovado & Sugarloaf

After an early pick up from the hotel between 7:00 & 7:30am, the tour makes its way to the bottom of Corcovado Hill, where we ascend the mountain by vehicle. Climbing 4km through the Tijuca Forest, the world's largest urban National Park, we will arrive at the statue of Christ the Redeemer. After taking in the panoramic views we continue to the Maracana Stadium.

We also pass the Sambadrome and the Metropolitan Cathedral, before passing through the bohemian neighbourhood of Lapa and its famous arches en-route to Copacabana. We have a traditional Brazilian BBQ lunch before visiting the famous Sugarloaf Mountain with views across the entire city. After descending the mountain, you will be dropped off at your hotel.

Included: All transport, tickets and entry fees, lunch (beverages not included).

Approximate duration of tour: 8 hours.

Overnight in a Superior Room at Windsor Leme Hotel Rio including breakfast.

Day 7: Rio: Free Day



Today is a free day for you to relax on one of Rio's famous beaches such as Ipanema or Copacabana, or explore the city further at your leisure. If you want to be a bit more active, ask your travel advisor for an optional favela tour. Additional cost apply.

Tonight we enjoy a wonderful evening together over dinner in Rio at a local restaurant.

Overnight in a Superior Room at Windsor Leme Hotel Rio including breakfast.



Day 8: Rio de Janeiro to Lima

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport for your flight from Rio to Lima.

On arrival into Lima, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Guide assistance is included.



Lima, the capital of Peru, sits on the country's arid Pacific coast. Founded in 1535, its colonial centre is well preserved, but today Lima is a bustling metropolis and one of South America's largest cities. The city is home to the various museums including the Museo Larco that houses a collection of pre-Columbian art and the Museo de la Nación, tracing the history of Peru's ancient civilizations. Lima is known as the "gastronomical capital of the Americas", encompassing specialties from ceviche and traditional coastal cooking to refined global fare. It even boasts several of the top restaurants in the world.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Standard Miraflores Centro including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 9: Lima City Tour

Today is spent touring Lima, the Colonial 'City of Kings'. On the city tour we will visit a number of well-known sites including the Cathedral, the Presidential Palace, the Plaza de Armas as well as the Catacombs located beneath the San Francisco Convent. This is a chance to appreciate Lima's magnificent Colonial architecture as well as vignettes of its pre-Colombian past.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Standard Miraflores Centro including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).



Day 10: Lima to Puno via Sillustani

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport for your flight from Lima.

On arrival at Juliaca airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel in Puno, stopping on the way to take in the pre-Inca burial ground of Sillustani. Here you can wander through the remarkable tombs built from volcanic stone, known as Chullpas which reach heights of up to 12 metres. Overlooking the beautiful Lake Umayo, Sillustani is considered to be one of the most important necropolises in the world.



Puno lies on the shores of Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world. It is the largest city in the Southern Altiplano and an important agricultural and livestock (llamas and alpaca) region. It sits at an altitude of over 3,800 metres and is a picturesque hillside city and a melting pot of the Aymara and Quechua culture.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Standard Puno Tikarani including breakfast.

Day 11: Full Day Tour to Uros & Taquile Islands

At 7:00 am you will be met and transferred to the port where you will board a fully equipped speedboat with on board service to head to Taquile Island. Disembarking at a secluded part of the island, we explore a scenic and less touristy area of Taquile Island (exclusive). Enjoy a pristine sandy beach where you will have plenty of time to relax and feel the serenity of Lake Titicaca. We then hike along a pre-Inca trail with spectacular landscapes of the island, visiting families of weavers to learn about their textile art and symbolism. In 2005, "Taquile and its Textile Art" were proclaimed "Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" by UNESCO.



Day 11 continued...

After 3 hours on Taquile, we leave the island for the short 25 minute journey to the community of Santa

Maria-Llachon, on the tip of the Capachica Peninsula. This is a picturesque off the beaten track destination. We are welcomed by the small Quechua speaking community and introduced to an intensive cultural experience, observing the traditions of the community and participating in an ancient ceremony to learn about their magical world. Then experience the preparation of "Pachamanca", a traditional way of cooking meat, fish and potatoes using underground ovens, and one of the main dishes of Peruvian cuisine. Enjoy these delicacies in a small, but scenic restaurant. For the more adventurous there is an optional kayak along the coast of Llachon.

After lunch we leave Santa Maria and 35 minutes later we arrive at a remote area of the National Reserve of Lake Titicaca to explore Uros Ccapi. These are considered to be the last authentic floating islands, less commercial and little visited. The Uros are descendants of one of the oldest cultures in South America. There are optional tours in reed boats before we depart back to Puno at 15:25 pm.

On arrival back into Puno at 16:30pm, you are transferred to your hotel.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Standard Puno Tikarani including breakfast.

Day 12: Puno to Cusco

This morning, you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the bus station for the journey from Puno to Cusco.

The spectacular journey from Puno to Cusco takes you across the Altiplano. The drive takes you through sleepy Andean villages, past spectacular snow-capped mountains, sheer cliffs and rampaging rivers. Stops along the way include the atmospheric towns of Pucara and Andahuaylillas, and the pre-Inca ruin of Raqchi. Lunch is included and you will arrive in the famous city of Cusco in the early evening.



Approximate duration of drive: 10 hours.

On arrival into Cusco, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.



Cusco, set at an altitude of 3,400 metres in the Peruvian Andes, was once the capital of the Inca Empire. It is known for its Spanish colonial architecture and Incan remains. Narrow, cobble-stoned streets lined by Inca walls stretch out from the main plaza in every direction. Many of the colonial buildings were built on top of Incan foundations and the stonework is unparalleled in its precision and beauty.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Cusco Cathedral including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 13: Cusco City Tour

Take a sightseeing tour through Cusco, the heart of the Inca Empire. Visit the fascinating Qorikancha Temple of the Sun, the 12-Angled Rock and the Cathedral, built on the ruins of an Inca Palace. From here head to the archaeological remains located around the city, including the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, Qenqo (giant rock), the ancient site of Puca Pucara and finally the Water Temple of Tambomachay.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Cusco Cathedral



Day 14: Sacred Valley Full Day Tour

Today, explore the Sacred Valley of the Incas. This fertile river valley was home to many important sites for the Incas, both strategic and religious. The first stop is the village of Pisac, with its famous market. The colonial village of Pisac sits at the base of the spectacular Pisac Ruins - a hilltop Inca citadel and fortress with impressive agricultural terracing. On market days Pisac comes alive with locals from nearby hillside villages in traditional dress selling local fruit and vegetables as well as handicrafts. There is free time to wander the colourful market stalls before a typical Andean lunch at a local restaurant. Continue your journey along the River Urubamba, to Ollantaytambo. The town, which is dominated by a giant Inca fortress, is perhaps the best surviving example of Inca town planning and was the scene of a rare Inca victory over the invading Spanish. At the end of the tour you will be transferred to your hotel in the Sacred Valley. Includes lunch.

Tonight, we enjoy dinner in the Sacred Valley

Overnight in a Standard Room at La Hacienda Sacred Valley including breakfast.



Day 15: Machu Picchu

This morning you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to Ollantaytambo Train Station. We travel by train from Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley to Aguas Calientes and then by bus up to Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu is a 15th century Inca site, located 2,430 metres above sea level on a mountain ridge above the Sacred Valley. It is the most famous of all Inca sites, but



it was not until 1911 that it was brought to the world's attention by the American historian Hiram Bingham. The Incas abandoned the city just prior to Spanish colonisation, the city was never pillaged and as a result the ruins are still in fantastic condition. With its location on a dramatic ridgeline surrounded by sheer cliffs and the Urubamba River on three sides, the city of Machu Picchu is a remarkable place to visit. Machu Picchu was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 and in 2007 it was voted one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. You will be astonished by your first view of Machu Picchu, a stunning display of ancient architecture with incredible surroundings. Enjoy a guided tour of the ruins and monuments such as the Main Square, the Circular Tower, the Sacred Solar Clock, the Royal Quarters, the Temple of the Three Windows and the Cemeteries. Tour includes guided group tour, and return bus from Aguas Calientes village. Please be aware that your tour of Machu Picchu does not include an entry permit to Huayna Picchu (the iconic hill behind the Machu Picchu ruins). If you want to climb Huayna Picchu then you need to pre-book your permit. Please contact your sales consultant if you would like to do this.

Later in the afternoon we travel by train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo. We transfer from Ollantaytambo Train Station in the Sacred Valley to Cusco.



NOTE: Luggage restrictions apply on the Machu Picchu Trains. Please ask for more details.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Cusco Cathedral including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 16: Cusco: Free Day. Evening Dinner & Show

Today is at leisure allowing you to spend wandering the cobble-stoned streets of the ancient Inca capital. With treasures around every corner, Cusco is a wonderful city to explore on foot. Vibrant markets and stores give the traveller a plethora of shopping opportunities set amongst fine Inca and Spanish colonial architecture. The UNESCO World Heritage city is lined with history and ancient monuments, a truly enthralling city to spend time in.



Tonight enjoy dinner & show in Cusco

Overnight in a Standard Room at Casa Andina Cusco Cathedral including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 17: Cusco to Puerto Maldonado

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport for your flight from Cusco to Puerto Maldonado.

You will be met on arrival at Puerto Maldonado Airport to transfer by road and a two-and-a-half-hour boat journey to Refugio Amazonas, located in a 200-hectare private reserve. The boat ride from the Tambopata Port to Refugio Amazonas takes us past the Infierno Community and the Tambopata National Reserve checkpoint and into the 1.3-million-hectare conservation unit.

We venture out at night from the lodge to the river's edge, scanning the shores with headlamps and flashlights to search for caiman, spotting the red reflection from their eyes.

Note: Rooms at Refugio are in Traditional Category (Twin beds). Room Upgrade to a Comfort Category (Double Bed) at additional Costs. Ask your travel advisor for more details

Overnight in a Full Board Room at Refugio Amazonas - Traditional 3 Nights including breakfast, lunch, and dinner.



Day 18: Amazon Activities

After breakfast, venture out onto the lake by canoe or catamaran, looking for wildlife such as hoatzin, caiman, horned screamers, macaws and otters that are sometimes seen in the area. Back on land, a 30 minute walk from the lodge takes you to the 25 metre scaffolding canopy tower, complete with staircase running through the middle and providing safe access to the platforms above. The tower has been built on high ground to give views of the primary rainforest extending out towards the Tambopata National Reserve. Enjoy excellent views across the canopy and look for toucans, macaws and raptors.



After lunch you will visit a farm to learn about local agriculture and Amazonian crops before an ethnobotanical tour to learn about the medicinal uses of the various plants and trees of the region. In the evening, Refugio Amazonas staff offer lectures covering topics such as conservation threats, opportunities and projects in the Tambopata National Reserve.

Overnight in a Full Board Room at Refugio Amazonas - Traditional 3 Nights including breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Day 19: Amazon Activities

Witness the audio and visual spectacle of a clay lick, watching vibrant coloured macaws, parrots and parakeets feast on clay. Species such as dusky-headed and cobalt-winged parakeets are often seen and with luck we may also see mealy and yellow-crowned Amazons, blue-headed pionus, severe macaw and orange-cheeked (Barraband's) parrots.

Later, a short hike from the lodge brings you to a beautiful Brazil nut forest that has been harvested for decades. Here you can learn about the whole process of the rainforest's only sustainably harvested product, from collection through transportation to drying. You will also see the remains of a camp used by the Brazil nut gatherers for 2 months each year.

In the afternoon, there will be a visit to a peccary lick, this time to see mammals. Wild rainforest pigs show up in herds of up to twenty to eat clay, alongside deer, guan and parakeets. After dinner you have the option of a night hike when most mammals are active.

Overnight in a Full Board Room at Refugio Amazonas - Traditional 3 Nights including breakfast, lunch, and dinner.



Day 20: Puerto Maldonado to Lima



After breakfast, return to Puerto Maldonado for your flight from Puerto Maldonado to Lima. Depending on airline schedules, this may require a dawn departure.

On arrival into Lima, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

This evening is at leisure

Overnight in a Republica Standard Room at Hotel Casa Republica including breakfast.

Day 21: Lima to Santiago de Chile

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport for your flight from Lima to Santiago.

On arrival in Santiago, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Santiago, Chile's capital and largest city, lies in a valley surrounded by the snow-capped mountains of the Andes and the Chilean Coastal Range. Founded in 1541, Santiago has been Chile's capital since colonial times. It is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city and although it features many colonial buildings, it has grown into a modern metropolis and the cultural centre of the country.

Take a tour of the charismatic Santiago, visiting both the old and new areas of the city. Highlights include the Plaza de Armas, the city's central square and the heart of the city's old colonial core. The Plaza de Armas is home to the beautiful 18th century Metropolitan Cathedral, the early 19th century Royal Court Palace that houses the Natural History Museum and the Central Post Office completed in 1882. The Chess Club of Chile also meets here most days, a great opportunity to watch the locals immersed in a game of chess. Visit Cerro Santa Lucia, the hill on which Santiago was founded in 1541, now a park with fountains and stairs leading to a fort and panoramic viewpoint across the city. Finally explore the modern commercial areas of Barrio Alto.

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Overnight in a Park View Room at Hotel Ismael 312 including breakfast.



Day 22: Santiago City Tour

This morning you will take a tour of the charismatic Santiago, visiting both the old and new areas of the city. Highlights include the Plaza de Armas, the city's central square and the heart of the city's old colonial core. The Plaza de Armas is home to the beautiful 18th century Metropolitan Cathedral, the early 19th century Royal Court Palace that houses the Natural History Museum and the Central Post Office completed in 1882. The Chess Club of Chile also meets here most days, a great opportunity to watch the locals immersed in a game of chess. Visit Cerro Santa Lucia, the hill on which Santiago was founded in 1541, now a park with fountains and stairs leading to a fort and panoramic viewpoint across the city. After your city tour, time is allowed for you to enjoy lunch at leisure (not included).

We then head to Santa Rita Vineyard. Driving towards the Maipo Canyon up to Las Vertientes, a popular resort at the foothills of the Andes, with a view of the winding Maipo river. Continue to the Santa Rita winery located 40 kms. South of Santiago, in the Maipo Valley, renown as one of the finest viticultural areas in the world. Santa Rita owns an impressive estate with 800 hectares of vineyard land for the production of high quality wines, a completely modern vinification facility and high storage capacity, as well as the old family mansion, which is surrounded by nearly 100 acres of a beautiful hundred-year-old park and ornamental gardens. A tour through the premises is included. Return to Santiago with evening at leisure.



Overnight in a Park View Room at Hotel Ismael 312 including breakfast.

Day 23: Free day in Santiago - Optional tours

Your group tour ends this morning.

Today is free to discover more of Chile's capital city on your own. As an alternative, we offer you a small selection of our favourite activities in Santiago (not included in the price). Please contact us for more details. Maipo Valley Wineries (Full Day)

This full day tour takes you to both the Cousino Macul and Santa Rita wineries where you will visit the vineyards, cellars and wineries, learning the history of both wineries and the chance to sample some of their wines. Includes lunch.

Colchagua Valley (Full Day)

The Colchagua Valley produces some of Chile's finest red wines. It lies 130 kilometres south of Santiago and forms part of the larger Rapel Valley. This full day tour takes you to 3 wineries where you will sample wines and also includes lunch and a visit to Colchagua Museum in Santa Cruz. This museum is the largest private museum in Chile and houses a collection of pre-Columbian ceramics, weapons, cowboy gear and Mapuche silver.



*Between the months of November and March there are several summer activities that you may like to build into your Santiago Stopover package including:

- * Santiago Cycle Tour
- * Full Day Lagoon Tour
- * Full Day Volcano Tour
- * Valparaiso Tour
- * Full Day Hike & Hot Spring Tour Contact us for more details.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Hotel Ismael 312.

Day 24: Santiago to Ushuaia

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport for your flight from Santiago.

Arrival Transfer: - Arrival into Ushuaia and transfer to your hotel.

Ushuaia is the most southerly city in the world with a dramatic setting overlooking the Beagle Channel, surrounded by mountains. It is a major port for Antarctic bound vessels and an interesting city to explore. The Museo Marítimo y del Presidio de Ushuaia, (Maritime & the Prison of Ushuaia Museum), located in the former prison of Ushuaia in buildings dating back to 1906, is well worth a visit. Tierra del Fuego National Park, a short bus ride from Ushuaia was the first shoreline National Park to be established in Argentina. It is a rugged, mountainous park with great views of Lapataia Bay and dramatic scenery with waterfalls, mountains, glaciers and lakes including parts of Fagnano and Roca Lakes. There are many hiking trails within the park including the Coastal Path (Senda Costera) that connects Ensenada Bay to Lapataia Bay on Lago Roca and the park is home to many species of birds and animals.



Overnight in a Standard Room at Arakur.

Day 25: Ushuaia



Free day to enjoy Ushuaia at leisure. Optional tours available. Please ask for details.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Arakur

Day 26: Frozen Frontier



Enjoy a free morning in Ushuaia to explore the city or pick up some last minute supplies. You may like to visit the award-winning Museo Marítimo y del Presidio de Ushuaia, (Maritime & Prison of Ushuaia Museum), located in Ushuaia's former prison buildings, or nearby Tierra del Fuego National Park that can be reached by the "End of the World Train". The main street of Ushuaia, Avenida San Martin, is lined with cafes, shops and restaurants. Embarkation begins in the afternoon at the port in Ushuaia. Enjoy a welcome drink and an introduction to the crew and expedition staff and settle into your cabins. In the early

evening the ship sets sail along the famous Beagle Channel and the scenic Mackinlay Pass towards the Drake Passage.

Overnight in a Sea Spirit - Frozen Frontier

Day 27 & 28: Frozen Frontier

Spanning nearly 1000kms, the infamous Drake Passage lies between South America and Antarctica and connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Named after the English explorer Sir Francis Drake, the Passage also marks the Antarctic Convergence. This biological barrier, where cold polar water sinks beneath the warmer northern waters, produces krill-rich waters and is a feeding ground for sea mammals, albatrosses and petrels. As we sail across the Drake Passage, watch out for marine life and enjoy the expansive views of the open ocean, either from inside the ship or out on deck. Albatrosses, prions and petrels frequently follow the ship and whales and dolphins can often be spotted. There will also be a series of lectures on the geology, history and wildlife of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, preparing you for what lies ahead. If conditions are favourable, we may reach the South Shetlands on the evening of Day 4. The first sightings of icebergs and snow-capped mountains will herald your arrival. The islands are home to vast penguin rookeries, Antarctic fur and Southern elephant seals.



Overnight in a Sea Spirit - Frozen Frontier

Day 29, 30, 31 & 32: Frozen Frontier

Over the next few days we explore the spectacular landscapes of the Antarctic Peninsula and discover the unique wildlife, cruising waterways in the Zodiacs and making shore landings. The itinerary will depend on weather and ice conditions. We hope to sail through Neptune's Bellows into the flooded caldera of Deception Island, one of the most incredible islands on the planet and one of the only places in the world where ships can sail directly into the centre of an active volcano. Much of the island is covered by glaciers, there are remains of the old structures at Whalers Bay including rusting tanks and boilers, an aircraft hangar and Biscoe House (the British scientific station house), and the island is home to several chinstrap penguin colonies. We also hope to navigate along some of the most beautiful waterways of the region including the Gerlache Strait, Neumayer Channel and Lemaire Channel. The Neumayer and Lemaire Channels are narrow passages between immense towering rock faces and spectacular glaciers. It will be easy to see why Lemaire Channel is known as "Kodak Alley". For the more adventurous, there may be the opportunity to take a "Polar Plunge" perhaps at Neko Harbour. Other possible landing sites include Paulet Island, Melchior Island, Cuverville Island and Pleneau Island.



We plan to make at least two landings a day, giving you as many opportunities as possible to explore the pristine Antarctic wilderness of snow, ice, mountains, glaciers and icebergs with their cracks and crevices reflecting an amazing spectrum of blue colours, and to marvel at its wildlife. This Frozen Frontier is home to an incredible variety of wildlife. Penguin species include Adélie, chinstrap, macaroni and gentoo. You should encounter Weddell, crabeater and leopard seals as well as minke, orca (killer) and humpback whales, Antarctic fur seals and Southern elephant seals. Then of course there is the huge variety of seabirds including kelp gulls, blue-eyed cormorants, Antarctic terns, Southern giant petrels, shearwaters and the wandering albatross with a wing span reaching up to 3 metres.

Overnight in a Sea Spirit - Frozen Frontier -

Day 33: Frozen Frontier

As we leave Antarctica behind, we head north back across the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia. Continue your search for seabirds and whales and take in a few final lectures.

Overnight in a Sea Spirit - Frozen Frontier



Day 34: Frozen Frontier

We return across the fabled Drake Passage, with Ushuaia in our sights.

Overnight in a Sea Spirit - Frozen Frontier - Triple with all meals included.



Day 35: Disembark Ushuaia – Fly back home

We arrive into Ushuaia in the early morning and disembark the ship after breakfast. Return flight back home. Selected international airports. Please ask for details



Included: Accommodation, All flights, from selected international Airports (subject to availability), daily breakfast, other meals where stated, tours with professional English speaking guide on a shared service basis unless otherwise stated, airport transfers where stated, most entrance fees and local taxes (some exclusions apply).

Excluded: Any meals not mentioned in the above itinerary. Travel Insurance and tips. Any flights or services not mentioned in this itinerary.

Please Note: This itinerary and/or hotels quoted within this itinerary may change due to local operating conditions or availability at the time of booking. Please see our terms and conditions for more details. Please note that all flights are non-refundable and non-changeable unless advised otherwise. Viva Expeditions accepts no responsibility for flight delays and subsequent delays on tours.

Please be aware that many of our products are operated in US Dollars and therefore subject to currency fluctuations. Viva Expeditions will do its utmost to avoid passing on any additional charges however if there is a significant change in exchange rates then we will be required to add a currency surcharge without warning. If you would like to remove this currency risk you do have the option of paying in full at the time of booking. Additionally if you have booked one of our cruise products - be aware that many operators also reserve the right to apply fuel surcharges dependant on the price of crude oil.

Final payment on bookings are generally due 95 days prior to departure.

Hotel Information

Amerian Buenos Aires Park Hotel

Amerian Hotel Buenos Aires, 4 star superior category, its located in the heart of Buenos Aires city, only 200 meters from Florida Street and 400 meters from Puerto Madero neighborhood.

Amerian Buenos Aires Park Hotel has 152 rooms, salons for events and conventions and offers all the services and comfort oriented to satisfy guests in their business or leisure trips.

Amerian Buenos Aires Park Hotel has a table in its breakfast buffet with food suitable for celiacs.



Saint George Hotel

Located in the heart of Puerto Iguazu 17 km away from the most beautiful nature setting: the Iguazu Falls, 19 km away from the Iguazu Falls International Airport (Argentina), and minutes away from the Tancredo Neves International Bridge - Hotel Saint George offers a warm and unforgettable stay.



Windsor Leme Hotel Rio

The grand Windsor Leme Hotel is a towering 17-story building in Rio de Janeiro located at the north end of the world-famous Copacabana Beach, adjacent to Sugar Loaf Mountain and Leme Palace, and just miles from the glorious Impanema Beach. The surrounding upper-middle-class neighborhood of Leme gets its name from a rock formation that exhibits characteristics of a ship's rudder.



Casa Andina Standard Miraflores Centro

Standard Category Accommodation

Casa Andina Standard Miraflores Centro's rooms spacious and tastefully decorated with pine furnishings and a work desk. They also have air conditioning Wi-Fi and cable TV. This contemporary hotel is located in the heart of Miraflores. The front desk at Standard Miraflores Centro is open 24 hours a day. Guests can also make use of the hotel's laundry services. Lima's famous handicrafts markets and many nice restaurants are just steps from the hotel. It is a short taxi ride to Lima's major museums, shopping mall and Lima International Airport.



Casa Andina Standard Puno Tikarani

Casa Andina Standard Puno Tikarani is a medium-sized, quiet hotel with several spacious common areas, including a living room with fireplace and a patio. The hotel is in an excellent location close to Puno's restaurant and bar scene. The rooms are spacious and feature private shower, TV and safety deposit box. The hotel also offers Wi-Fi, internet service and laundry service.



Casa Andina Cusco Catedral

Standard Category Accommodation

The hotel is located about as close as you can get to Cusco's Cathedral and beautiful Plaza de Armas without actually being on the busy square. Intimately identified with the Cusco's illustrious history, the hotel occupies a colonial building with iconic green balconies and red tiles, and features an exposed Inca stone wall in the hotel lobby. Several rooms have coveted views of the Plaza de Armas and Compania de Jesus church.



La Hacienda Sacred Valley

Located at the Yanahuara stop, the hotel is the perfect mix of elegant atmosphere with the magic and relaxation that is sought after in the Sacred Valley. The services and facilities at the hotel include: in-room heating with personal controls, Internet Wi Fi, Satellite TV, telephone (local, national and international calls), digital safety box, large bathrooms and hair dryers.



Refugio Amazonas - Traditional 3 Nights

Refugio Amazonas is a charming 32 bedroom lodge, well placed immediately adjacent to the Tambopata National Reserve. It is located 4 hours upriver from Puerto Maldonado in the buffer zone of the Tambopata National Reserve.

Refugio Amazonas is ideal for those looking for a three night outing to experience culture and nature in the Amazon.

Please note that all rooms in Refugio Amazonas have an exposed wall facing the jungle, for that true jungle experience.



Hotel Casa Republica

Casa Republica is a brand new boutique hotel in the bohemian district of Barranco, Lima. A 100 year old Republican era mansion has been turned into a 22 room boutique hotel which oozes the character and charm of the era.

It is located a stone's throw from many of Lima's best bars and restaurants, boasts a fantastic rooftop bar with ocean views and superb rooms with period features.



Hotel Ismael 312

Featuring an outdoor swimming pool, a bar, and a terrace, Hotel Ismael 312 offers rooms with free WiFi and cable TV in Santiago. Decorated with stylish furnishing, rooms at Hotel Ismael 312 are fitted with air conditioning. All of them have private bathrooms and minibars.

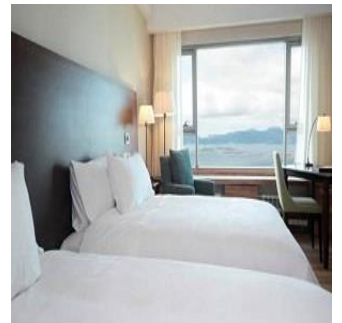
Guests at this design hotel are provided luggage storage, concierge services, car rental services and tourism information to explore the area. Laundry and dry cleaning services can also be arranged. Massage sessions can be booked for an extra fee.



Arakur

With a standards-based sustainable architectural design Arakur Resort & Spa extends along a spectacular natural balcony situated 800 feet above sea level, surrounded by stunning panoramic views, native forests, natural terraces and green areas harmoniously integrated into the environment.

The magnificent Lobby welcomes the guests with its large windows, the warmth of their fireplaces, and a sophisticated decor made with materials such as wood, stone and natural fabrics.



Cabin Accommodation

Sea Spirit - Frozen Frontier – Triple – Cabin upgrades available

Averaging 23 square metres/250 square feet, these staterooms have two twins and a comfortable sofa bed. The twins also convert to a King, if desired. Located on Oceanus Deck, these suites have a picture window, two wardrobes and en suite facilities. Amenities include: in-room safe, refrigerator, satellite telephone access, TV/VCR, individual temperature control, and hair dryer.



Pre-booking Advice

Please click on the below link which includes some detailed information on common destinations. Please read this information prior to approving your quote with your sales consultant as the items mentioned in this document can be difficult (and/or expensive) to change after your booking is confirmed.

[Itinerary Planning Advice](#)

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