

FALKLAND ISLANDS – SOUTH GEORGIA – ANTARCTIC PENINSULA



BENCHMARK INCENTIVE & LEISURE TRAVELS PVT LTD

590, 2ND Floor, 12th Main, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore – 560 008

Tel: +91-80-4084 4000 Fax: +91-80-40844044

Web: www.benchmarkilt.com

21 DAYS / 20 NIGHTS

Expedition & Photography Special

VOYAGE OVERVIEW

A spectacular expedition cruise to the **Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula**, featuring extraordinary wildlife, dramatic landscapes and opportunities to encounter multiple penguin species, Antarctic fur seals, whales and dolphins.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SPECIAL

This voyage is designed for **wildlife, landscape and adventure photography**, visiting some of the most scenic and wildlife-rich locations on Earth. Early-season travel offers pristine

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road, Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage, Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan - 302019

snowscapes, soft light and opportunities for striking sunrises and sunsets. Weather can change quickly, creating dramatic photographic conditions.

Wildlife encounters may include **albatrosses, penguins, seals, whales and dolphins**. Extended landing times provide photographers with ample opportunities to capture the region's spectacular landscapes and wildlife. Experienced Zodiac drivers will understand photographers' requirements and provide support during key photographic moments.

During sea days, guests can participate in **photographic tutorials, image review and editing sessions**, along with wildlife, geographical and historical lectures.

SKI TREKKING SOUTH GEORGIA

A pre-arranged group of adventurers will follow part of **Shackleton's historic route through South Georgia**, beginning at King Haakon Bay and being collected near Stromness Bay.

This activity is **not offered to regular guests**. Landing and excursion plans may be adjusted where required to ensure a safe pickup for the ski group.

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

DAY 1: EMBARKATION FROM PUERTO MADRYN

- Embark from **Puerto Madryn** in the afternoon.
- Begin the voyage towards the **Falkland Islands**.
- Sail through **Golfo Nuevo**, known for visiting Southern Right Whales.
- Enjoy the beginning of your expedition across the open ocean.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 2: SEA LIFE & SEABIRDS

- Continue sailing southeast through the Southern Ocean.
- Observe **albatrosses, storm petrels, shearwaters and diving petrels** following the vessel.
- Enjoy opportunities for seabird watching and wildlife photography.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 3: SOUTHERN OCEAN WILDLIFE

- Continue the sea voyage towards the **Falkland Islands**.
- Enjoy further opportunities for **birdwatching and wildlife photography**.
- Observe the changing scenery and marine environment during the voyage.

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road, Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage, Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan - 302019

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 4: DISCOVERING THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

- Explore the wildlife-rich **Falkland Islands**, subject to weather and sea conditions.
- Possible visit to **Steeple Jason**, home to a major black-browed albatross colony.
- Explore **Carcass Island**, known for Magellanic and Gentoo Penguins and diverse birdlife.
- Visit **Saunders Island**, where albatrosses, Rockhopper, King, Magellanic and Gentoo Penguins may be seen.
- Look for **Peale's and Commerson's Dolphins** in the surrounding waters.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 5: PORT STANLEY – HEART OF FALKLANDS CULTURE

- Visit **Port Stanley**, the capital and cultural centre of the Falkland Islands.
- Explore its Victorian-style character, colourful houses, gardens and English-style pubs.
- See historic clipper ships and learn about the region's maritime heritage.
- Visit the **Falkland Islands Museum**, covering local settlement history and the Falklands War.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 6: CROSSING THE ANTARCTIC CONVERGENCE

- Sail towards **South Georgia**.
- Cross the **Antarctic Convergence**, where cooler waters and nutrient-rich conditions attract abundant wildlife.
- Look for **albatrosses, shearwaters, petrels, prions and skuas**.
- Enjoy excellent opportunities for seabird photography.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 7: SOUTHERN OCEAN SEABIRDS

- Continue sailing towards **South Georgia**.

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road,
Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam
Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage,
Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle
West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center
New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur,
Rajasthan - 302019

- Enjoy further opportunities for **birdwatching and wildlife photography**.
- Observe seabirds accompanying the vessel across the Southern Ocean.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 8: ARRIVAL IN SOUTH GEORGIA

- Arrive at the first **South Georgia** activity site, subject to weather and sea conditions.
- Possible areas include **Salisbury Plain, St. Andrews Bay and Gold Harbour**.
- Explore the spectacular landscapes and rich wildlife of South Georgia.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 9: SALISBURY PLAIN & ST. ANDREWS BAY

- Explore areas famous for their enormous **King Penguin colonies**.
- Observe Southern Elephant Seals during their breeding season.
- Watch the dramatic behaviour of elephant seal beachmasters.
- Look for **Antarctic Fur Seals** in the surrounding areas.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 10: GOLD HARBOUR WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE

- Visit **Gold Harbour**, one of South Georgia's spectacular wildlife locations.
- Look for **King Penguins, Southern Elephant Seals and Antarctic Fur Seals**.
- Capture dramatic landscapes and wildlife photography.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 11: FORTUNA BAY & SHACKLETON'S ROUTE

- Explore **Fortuna Bay**, home to large numbers of King Penguins and seals.
- Depending on conditions, follow part of **Shackleton's historic route** towards Stromness.
- Cross mountain terrain and small streams along the route.
- Enjoy the dramatic scenery surrounding Fortuna Glacier.

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road,
Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam
Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage,
Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle
West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center
New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur,
Rajasthan - 302019

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 12: GRYTVIKEN & SOUTH GEORGIA HERITAGE

- Visit **Grytviken**, the historic abandoned whaling station.
- Observe King Penguins and Elephant Seals around the settlement.
- Visit the **South Georgia Museum**, subject to operating conditions.
- Pay respects at **Shackleton's grave**.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 13: SOUTHWARD BOUND

- Continue sailing south towards **Antarctica**.
- Sea ice may appear along the route.
- Look for **South Polar Skuas and Snow Petrels**.
- Enjoy the changing Antarctic environment.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 14: JOURNEY THROUGH THE SOUTHERN OCEAN

- Continue the southward voyage towards the Antarctic region.
- Observe changing sea conditions and floating ice.
- Look for Antarctic seabirds accompanying the vessel.
- Enjoy photography opportunities across the Southern Ocean.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 15: ENTERING THE ANTARCTIC

- Enter the Antarctic region surrounded by enormous **icebergs**.
- Watch for possible **Fin Whale** sightings.
- Look for **Antarctic Petrels**.
- Depending on weather and sea conditions, activities may begin during the afternoon.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road,
Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam
Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage,
Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle
West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center
New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur,
Rajasthan - 302019

DAY 16: ANTARCTIC PENINSULA EXPLORATION

- Depending on ice conditions, sail into the **Weddell Sea**.
- Admire enormous tabular icebergs along the eastern side of the Antarctic Peninsula.
- Possible visit to **Paulet Island**, home to a large Adélie Penguin population.
- Possible visit to **Brown Bluff**, where you may have an opportunity to set foot on the Antarctic Continent.
- If conditions prevent entry into the Weddell Sea, the route may change towards **Elephant Island and the Bransfield Strait**.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 17: SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

- Explore the volcanic **South Shetland Islands**.
- Possible visit to **Half Moon Island**, known for Chinstrap Penguins and Weddell Seals.
- Possible visit to **Deception Island** through Neptune's Bellows.
- Explore the flooded volcanic caldera and historic whaling station.
- Look for Cape Petrels, Kelp Gulls, Skuas and Antarctic Terns.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 18: WESTERN ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

- Continue along the spectacular **western Antarctic Peninsula**.
- Experience potential shore landings surrounded by alpine peaks and massive glaciers.
- Look for **Gentoo Penguins, Leopard Seals and Weddell Seals**.
- Possible sightings of **Humpback Whales and Minke Whales**.
- Capture the dramatic Antarctic landscape and wildlife.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 19: CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

- Begin the return voyage across the **Drake Passage**.
- Enjoy renewed encounters with the diverse seabirds of the Southern Ocean.

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road,
Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam
Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage,
Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle
West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center
New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur,
Rajasthan - 302019

- Reflect on the incredible wildlife and landscapes experienced during the expedition.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 20: RETURN JOURNEY AT SEA

- Continue sailing north through the **Drake Passage** towards South America.
- Observe seabirds and marine life around the vessel.
- Enjoy the final moments of your expedition at sea.

Overnight: Onboard the expedition vessel.

DAY 21: DISEMBARKATION IN USHUAIA – DEPARTURE

- Arrive in **Ushuaia**, located on Argentina's Tierra del Fuego archipelago.
- Known as the “**End of the World**”, Ushuaia marks the conclusion of your expedition.
- Disembark from the expedition vessel.
- Proceed for your onward journey with unforgettable memories of the **Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica**.

Tour Ends.

INCLUSIONS

Expedition Voyage

- Voyage aboard the designated expedition vessel as specified in the itinerary.

Meals & Refreshments

- All meals onboard throughout the voyage.
- Snacks, coffee and tea are included.

Shore Excursions & Activities

- All scheduled shore excursions and activities.
- Zodiac-based expedition activities.

Lectures & Expedition Guidance

- Lectures by noted naturalists.
- Guidance from experienced expedition staff.

Expedition Equipment

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road, Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage, Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan - 302019

- Complimentary waterproof neoprene expedition muck boots.
- Snowshoes provided as applicable.

Ushuaia Airport Transfer

- Pre-scheduled group transfer from the vessel to the airport in Ushuaia after disembarkation.

Taxes & Port Charges

- All applicable miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.

Pre-Departure Materials

- Comprehensive pre-departure information and materials.

Wi-Fi Connectivity

- Complimentary Wi-Fi connectivity.
- Each guest receives **1.5 GB of data per day**, resetting every 24 hours.

Water Bottle

- Complimentary Doppet water bottle for use during and after the expedition.

EXCLUSIONS

Airfare

- Any scheduled or charter airfare is excluded.

Pre & Post-Tour Arrangements

- Pre- and post-expedition land arrangements are not included.

Passport & Visa

- Passport and applicable visa expenses are excluded.

Government Taxes

- Government arrival and departure taxes are not included.

Meals Ashore

- Meals taken ashore outside the expedition vessel are excluded.

Travel Insurance

- Baggage, cancellation, medical and personal travel insurance are excluded.
- Comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended.

Excess Baggage

KERALA

4th Floor, Desk No 29 Alapatt Heritage Building, MG Road,
Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682035

GOA

7th Floor, 1/302/15, Desk No A2 & A3, Patto Area, Opp Sharam
Shakti Bhawan, Patto Area, Panaji, North Goa, Goa - 403001

HEAD OFFICE : BANGALORE

1st Floor, No 129, Madan Arcade, Domlur Service Road, 2nd Stage,
Indira Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560071

MUMBAI

Plot 102, Man House, SV Road, Near Blue Dart Office, Vile Parle
West, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400056

DELHI

D-1, Innov8 Ras Villas, Court Chowk Road, Saket District Center
New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017

RAJASATHAN

Plot No 53, Sarati Nagar, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur,
Rajasthan - 302019

- Excess baggage charges are not included.

Personal Expenses

- Laundry expenses.
- Bar and beverage charges.
- Telephone and telecommunication charges.
- Other personal expenses.

Crew Gratuities

- Customary gratuities for stewards and other onboard service personnel are excluded.
- Gratuity guidelines will be provided during the voyage.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The itinerary is **indicative and subject to change** depending on weather, sea-ice conditions, wildlife activity, landing-site availability, permissions and environmental requirements. The **Expedition Leader will make the final operational decisions** during the voyage. Flexibility is an essential part of an expedition cruise.

*****TOUR ENDS*****