

OFF THE MAP

SMALL SHIP EXPEDITION CRUISES



MUNDY
ADVENTURES
Travel Wide. Travel Well



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

EDWINA LONSDALE – MANAGING DIRECTOR



It is such a pleasure to introduce you to our new Off the Map brochure, bringing you all the latest news from Mundy Adventures and the world of luxury expedition cruising. Our specialist agency is the intrepid little brother of Mundy Cruising, the UK's very first cruise specialist.

We have been selling expeditions for well over 50 years now – in fact, we are just about the same age as the expedition industry itself. Nowadays the world is even more accessible than it was 50 years ago, from the Arctic to Antarctica and from the Galápagos Islands to Papua New Guinea – and we specialise in expedition cruise holidays to some of the most remote, breathtaking and exciting destinations on Earth. Adventures on board small expedition ships take you in comfort to places with no tourist infrastructure, enjoying the stimulating leadership of expert guides who enhance every minute of every exciting day.

An expedition cruise requires quite an investment of both time and money, so you really need to make sure you do it right. Intuitive suggestions, meticulous planning and over 50 years' experience make Mundy Adventures the perfect partner for you as you begin to plan what will be one of the most extraordinary trips you ever take.

When you contact us, we listen carefully to assess your particular tastes, wants and needs, and suggest the right ship and itinerary for you. We can talk you through the nuts and bolts of the trip, as well as making bespoke travel arrangements. Buying off the shelf is sometimes fine. But the real delight can be in the individual detail, and we can add anything onto your trip to make it a truly special and personal experience.

We've handpicked our adventure cruise partners, each outstanding in their own way, to ensure you make the most of every moment. An expedition voyage is not a cruise in the traditional sense of the

word; small (sometimes tiny!) vessels, carrying from just 20 guests, are specially designed to take you to remote places that would otherwise not be easily accessible, in the company of experts who make your trip even more stimulating.

Adventures are typically more expensive than a normal holiday, for a whole variety of reasons. As a result, you need to be certain your money is safe. We couldn't be more protected: we're members of ABTA and offer full ATOL protection. Every adventurer who travels with us is issued with a 24-hour emergency number to call in the unlikely event that anything goes wrong on your holiday.

We are a big enough company to be secure, but small enough that we treat every one of our clients as an individual. You will have your own dedicated Adventure Consultant to advise and assist at every stage of your booking and holiday.

As a matter of principle, our Adventure Consultants are salaried rather than on commission, so you can trust them to help you choose the adventure holiday that is right for you, not right for them! We train them as Polar Pioneers and Galápagos Gurus, so they have the expertise to ensure you choose exactly the right trip. Don't just take our word for it: we proudly boast our Investors in People accreditation, and we are a multi-award-winning agency.

What's more, we've been there and done it. Surprised we say this? It's simply that many travel agents have never actually been on the trips that they sell to their clients, and are unable to bring first-hand experience to the booking.

We're happy to work with you on the telephone. But, if you prefer a consultation face to face, we can set up a meeting on Teams, or better still, why not visit us at our comfortable offices, conveniently located in central London – the kettle's on!

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HOW ADVENTUROUS IS AN EXPEDITION CRUISE?

Since 1966, when Lars Lindblad took the first group of “citizen-explorers” to Antarctica, expedition cruises have been offering intrepid travellers the opportunity to explore some of the world’s most remote regions. These early voyages were immensely adventurous, and the pioneering spirit of expedition cruising remains just as strong today.

Over the decades, expedition cruises have continued to set milestones in adventure travel. Lindblad, now National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions, made history in 1984 by completing the first modern transit of the Northwest Passage aboard the Lindblad Explorer. Quark Expeditions followed with groundbreaking achievements, including leading the first group of commercial travellers to the North Pole in 1991, retracing the voyage of Sir Ernest Shackleton’s Endurance in 1993, and achieving the first passenger

circumnavigation of Antarctica in 1996. In 2004, Quark Expeditions confirmed the existence of the Snow Hill emperor penguin colony, a site they continue to visit. They also pioneered transits of the Northeast Passage across the Russian Arctic, a feat initially accomplished in 1991 using nuclear-powered Russian icebreakers and later undertaken by AE Expeditions and, in 2014, Hapag-Lloyd’s MS Hanseatic, the first non-Russian vessel to complete the journey.

These voyages have always appealed to the most adventurous travellers. With flexible itineraries and no guaranteed outcomes, the true thrill of an expedition cruise lies in the journey itself. The camaraderie among like-minded explorers, drawn together by a shared sense of adventure, remains a defining feature of these extraordinary trips.

While the spirit of adventure remains unchanged, the ships, technology, and expectations have evolved significantly. Today’s expedition cruises still offer once-





in-a-lifetime experiences, but with improved navigational capabilities and greater comfort. Though landing sites are now better defined, new discoveries continue to emerge, ensuring that the unknown still plays a role in every adventure cruise.

One of the most notable advancements in recent years is the shift in ship technology. Soviet-era nuclear-powered icebreakers have been replaced by cutting-edge vessels such as Ponant's *Le Commandant Charcot*, an electric-LNG hybrid icebreaker launched in 2021. This ship has already set multiple records, including reaching the closest navigable latitude to the South Pole, becoming the first French-flagged ship to reach the North Pole, and making the first-ever voyage to the Arctic's northern pole of inaccessibility – the most remote point in the Arctic Ocean. In 2022, *Le Commandant Charcot* even collaborated with the *RRS Sir David Attenborough*, a British Antarctic Survey vessel, using its superior icebreaking capabilities to carve a path for scientific research.

Luxury operators have also been redefining what an adventure cruise can be. Scenic's *Scenic Eclipse*, dubbed a "discovery yacht," combines high-end comfort with state-of-the-art exploration tools, including two helicopters and a guest submersible. Mundy Adventures' Sharon Trigg experienced firsthand Scenic's helicopter adventure so can boast that she is one of just a handful of



travellers to have both flown over and set foot on Antarctica, an experience she describes as the most incredible of her life.

This incorporation of helicopters and submersibles has added an exhilarating new dimension to expedition cruising. Quark Expeditions offers heli-hiking in Greenland, allowing travellers to tread where few have before, and even an optional heli-camping experience. Meanwhile, Seabourn Pursuit made headlines in late 2024 when its submersible identified the wreck of *Titania*, a World War I-era vessel, near

Alejandro Selkirk Island in Chile's Juan Fernández Archipelago. Thanks to meticulous research and close collaboration with local communities, Seabourn guests became the first people to lay eyes on the wreck since it was scuttled in 1914. With other potential wreck sites awaiting exploration, Seabourn's commitment to genuine discovery remains steadfast.

For adventure-seekers, specific departures offer activities like polar camping, cross-country skiing, and even polar diving. And for those looking for a thrill with a little less commitment, the Polar Plunge – an exhilarating leap into freezing waters – is always an option. Expedition cruises allow travellers to tailor their level of adventure, making each journey as daring as they desire.

Images of champagne on ice and gourmet dining may seem at odds with the rugged nature of these journeys, but even the legendary explorers of the Heroic Age ensured their spirits remained high. Fortnum & Mason provisions accompanied Scott and Shackleton on their Antarctic expeditions, proving that a touch of luxury enhances rather than detracts from the experience. Today's expedition cruises strike a perfect balance between adventure and comfort, ensuring every journey is both thrilling and deeply enjoyable.

So, to those wondering just how adventurous an expedition cruise really is, the answer is simple – very.

WHAT'S NEW IN EXPEDITION

In classic ocean cruising, we are constantly hearing announcements of new ships, new itineraries and new partnerships on the horizon. But, there's plenty going on in the world of expedition too, from exciting new ships launching this year to industry-first polar hotels. Read on to find out more...

DOUGLAS MAWSON

The new expedition ship from AE Expeditions, Douglas Mawson – named after the legendary Australian explorer – is the third in the line's fleet of revolutionary purpose-built expedition ships. She promises the latest in cutting-edge nautical technology, featuring the newest X-Bow design and the largest choice of cabins in the fleet, including single berths, plus beautiful open deck space for taking in the views and a heated outdoor swimming pool. The ship's inaugural season immerses guests in the pristine landscapes of East Antarctica, marking AE Expeditions' return to this region for the first time in 15 years. Itineraries begin in November 2025 with fascinating Tasmania expeditions before sailing Australia and New Zealand's subantarctic islands.

SILVERSEA'S ANTARCTICA HOTEL

Silversea's industry-first 150-room hotel is set to open in Puerto Williams – the world's southernmost city and the line's current embarkation and disembarkation port for most of its Antarctica voyages – at the end of 2025. Its launch aims to enhance guests' Antarctica experience and make it all even more seamless, keeping in line with Silversea's level of service and facilities throughout. Guests can expect seafront views over the Beagle Channel framed by snow-topped Patagonian peaks and pristine forest landscapes, and

facilities will include a large restaurant, a bar, lounge, fitness centre and gift shop, while the design will showcase local architecture, materials and art and aim to blend into the surrounding environment as much as possible.

PURE AMAZON

Luxury tour operator Abercrombie & Kent, which now owns Crystal, has revealed its new Pure Amazon river vessel, due to launch in Peru on the Amazon this summer. Expect stunning dark-wood interiors in 10 elegant suites and two solo staterooms, and expansive windows to bring the rainforest views in. Guests can enjoy indoor/outdoor lounges and a wellness room and gym, and local flavours are the focus for the daily meals in the onboard dining room. Come daytime, A&K's guides will lead daily excursions from cultural experiences with local communities to guided nature walks.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC-LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS

Lindblad is now National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions, officially cementing its longtime partnership with National Geographic, with which it has offered cruises for over 20 years. Acquiring Celebrity Xpedition and Celebrity Xploration in the Galápagos, which launched in February and March 2025 as National Geographic Gemini and National Geographic Delfina, means the line now offers a total of four Galápagos ships ranging from 16 to 96 passengers. Plus,

with its newly refreshed focus on the UK market, with new UK offices and sterling pricing, this is a key cruise line to consider for your next expedition.

AQUA EXPEDITIONS

From December 2025, Aqua Expeditions will sail the Seychelles and Zanzibar on a yet-to-be-revealed ship, which will offer voyages of varying lengths from five to 14 nights. Alongside a 1:1 crew-to-guest ratio and small-group excursions led by expert guides, highlights will include Aldabra, Cosmoledo, Astove, Farquhar Atoll, Kilwa Kisiwani and Pemba, as well as the African Banks, the northernmost uninhabited islands in the Seychelles archipelago. The line has also recently partnered with luxury French expedition/classic cruise line Ponant which has acquired a majority share in Aqua Expeditions. Its new name Ponant Explorations is backed by the high-end Artémis Group, which owns fashion houses including Gucci and Saint Laurent, and the partnership aims to expand both brands' visibility in expedition cruising and offer an even more varied product range.

MUNDY EXCLUSIVE

Antarctic Explorer Express

Douglas Mawson (130 Guests)

5th January 2027 – 14 nights

From £12,485pp fly-cruise

Ushuaia, 3 days exploring the Antarctic Peninsula, King George Island

Price based on an Aurora Stateroom Twin Share including all meals, drinks with meals, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, overnight hotel stays in Buenos Aires, Ushuaia and Punta Arenas, flights, and overseas transfers.

SOLO TRAVELLERS: WHY EXPEDITION?

If you want to travel beyond the limits of a typical holiday, to destinations so remote that few others have ever visited, there is no better – and often no other – way to do it than a solo expedition cruise.

At Mundy Adventures we are experts in solo expedition cruising: we have many guests that travel solo, and our own team often visit far-flung destinations as solo travellers. Expedition cruising is a fantastic choice for solo travellers, giving you the chance to visit the world's most remote and exciting destinations on board a small, sociable ship with like-minded travellers and expert guides. Depending on the destination you're interested in, you may be able to take advantage of cabin share programmes, dedicated single rooms and low or waived single supplements.

All of our expedition partners offer a welcoming atmosphere for adventurous travellers, but there are a few that really stand out as being particularly well suited for those travelling solo. Call us for details of specific departures.

HX HURTIGRUTEN EXPEDITIONS

HX Hurtigruten Expeditions' newest ships, MS Roald Amundsen and MS Fridtjof Nansen, are the first in a new generation of pioneering hybrid-powered vessels, offering a more sustainable way to explore the polar regions. These ships carry 530 guests, limited to 500 in polar waters, which is relatively large for an expedition vessel, allowing HX the flexibility to offer 0% single supplements on a number of sailings, usually for a limited booking window.

QUARK EXPEDITIONS

Polar specialist Quark Expeditions' vessels Ultramarine and Ocean Diamond both have solo cabins and also offer frequent Solo Traveller Deals with no single supplement charges. You can also avoid paying a single supplement when taking a twin cabin for sole use with Quark's request-share programme, which matches solo travellers of the same gender who are willing to share a room. Should a roommate not be found then the single supplement is waived, so it's a risk-free way to save for adventurers who travel solo.

SILVERSEA EXPEDITIONS

Silversea's varied expedition fleet offers a fantastic amount of choice for solo travellers and the line occasionally offers low solo supplements, with supplements of between 10% and 25% often available on selected sailings. When travelling with Silversea you can expect an ultra-luxury experience on board spacious small ships, with Italian style-hospitality, and a cosmopolitan and sophisticated passenger mix makes meeting fellow travellers easy. There is also a welcome champagne reception for those travelling independently aboard every voyage.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC-LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS

National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions travel to destinations including the Arctic, Antarctica, Alaska, the Galápagos, the Amazon and Baja California and the atmosphere on board is sociable and welcoming, with a shared spirit of adventure among guests. There are dedicated single cabins on board the National Geographic Endeavour II, which cruises year-round in the Galápagos, and National Geographic Resolution, Endurance and Orion also have solo cabins. Lindblad also runs a very limited cabin share programme, where you pay the per person double occupancy fare even if the cruise line isn't able to find a roommate to share with you.

PONANT

French cruise line Ponant is perhaps best known for its luxurious icebreaker, Le Commandant Charcot, but the line also has six warm water expedition ships known as the Ponant Explorers, and four ice cruising capable vessels referred to as the Sisterships that operate both classic cruises and polar expeditions. Ponant offers 0% single supplement cruises in the comfort of a double cabin on more than 100 departures, from Madagascar and Antarctica to the islands of the South Pacific.

ANTARCTICA ON SILVER ENDEAVOUR

I had the incredible opportunity to visit Antarctica with Silversea on board Silver Endeavour in November, checking off another continent and bucket list destination.



TRIP REPORT

Melina travelled on Silver Endeavour in Antarctica in November



It's true that Antarctica's weather is unpredictable and can change very quickly – there may be plans A, B, and C, and you might end up going with plan F!

Whilst we were checked in for a one-night pre-hotel stay at The Ritz-Carlton in Santiago, we got an email stating that due to an expected snow squall on King George Island, which resulted in ice on the runway, we were now embarking on the Silver Endeavour in Puerto Williams in Chile – meaning a traverse of the Drake Passage!

The morning after our stay at The Ritz-Carlton, we flew over to Punta Arenas and from here to Puerto Williams where we saw the Silver Endeavour ready for us to embark on the two-day journey to Antarctica.

The excitement kicked in as we got into our suites and saw a bottle of champagne, our Silversea backpacks, water bottles, parkas, boots and waterproof trousers presented on the bed.

We stayed in the Premium Veranda on Deck 7 as a triple occupancy; I was worried about the space but surprisingly this was not a problem, we didn't spend much time in our suites as we utilised the spacious public areas on board.

The second day on board we were halfway through the Drake Passage, and luckily it wasn't too bad – I was excited that I was able to experience this, others might say otherwise.

On the third day, we finally arrived in Antarctica! The weather was not safe for us to go out on the Zodiacs for a landing in the morning, but our Expedition Leader did not give up. We relaxed and got an all-clear around 5.30pm, got dressed in layers, parkas, waterproof trousers and boots, got on the Zodiacs and saw our first colony of gentoo penguins! It was truly magical and I felt so lucky to experience this with my mum and some close friends.



We sailed around the Antarctic Peninsula and visited Robert Point, Yankee Harbour, Mikkelsen Harbour, Cierva Cove, Neko Harbour, Danco Island, Wilhelmina Bay, Orne Harbour, Whalers Bay, Telefon Bay, and lastly to King George Island in the six days, so we covered a lot!

Almost every day we had two excursions and at Neko Harbour, we were lucky enough to go kayaking. We kayaked through icy waters and broke through ice, watched penguins leap out of the water and, the most memorable, saw a humpback whale spouting only 20 metres away from us!

At Orne Harbour, blue skies appeared. As the sun came out, we went straight to the whirlpool on deck 6 to take in the views. Our Expedition Leader had the same idea as she announced to the ship to head to this deck for the magnificent views, and the Silver Endeavour team surprised us all with bottles of champagne; the perfect accompaniment.



As the weather was phenomenal on this day, when we had finished one of our excursions, the Hotel Director opened the marina and we all soaked up the sunshine before I took on the famous Polar Plunge! The surprises kept on coming from the team on board, as we were also greeted with a choice of hot chocolate or mulled wine whilst we were out on one of our Zodiac cruises; a lovely touch.

I was very impressed with our Expedition Leader as she would go scouting for landings to ensure we would maximise our time in Antarctica and gave us detailed briefings every day on what we had seen and what was upcoming.

I was also amazed by the Silversea Expedition Team, they had a lot of knowledge and were so helpful in getting everyone on and off the Zodiacs, as well as ensuring we saw as much wildlife as we could during the hikes such as gentoo penguins, chinstrap penguins, seals, whales and lots of species of bird.

The joy of opening the blinds in a new destination with different views came to an end as we got to King George Island. The runway was clear for us to fly back to Punta Arenas rather than doing the Drake Passage again; an easy and quick flight. We stayed overnight at the Cabo de Hornos in Punta Arenas before flying back to Santiago the next day where our trip ended.

This was the best trip I've ever done and I'm ready for another Antarctic cruise – next on my list is the Falkland Islands and South Georgia!

MUNDY VALUE

Antarctic Explorer
Silver Endeavour (220 Guests)

3rd March 2026 – 13 nights

From £16,895pp fly-cruise

Puerto Williams, Antarctic Sound, 3 days exploring the Antarctic Peninsula, South Shetland Islands, Puerto Williams (C)

Price based on a Classic Veranda Suite including all meals, drinks, gratuities, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, overnight pre- and post-cruise hotel stays in Santiago, flights, overseas and UK transfers, £2,000 per suite savings and \$500 OBC per suite when you book by 31 May 2025.

Antarctic Peninsula vs Subantarctic Islands – What’s the Difference?

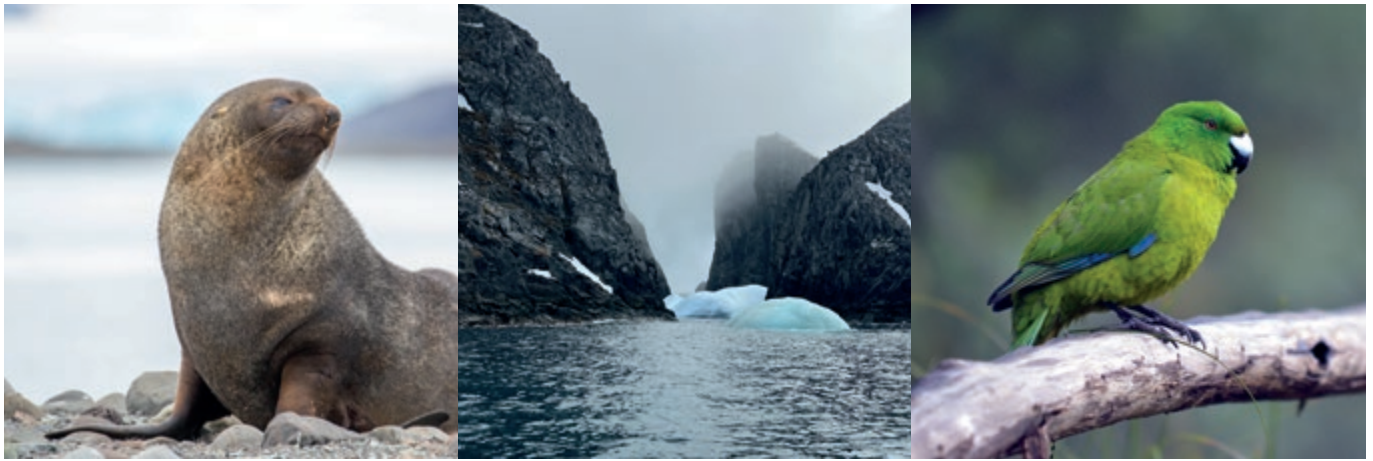
It may seem to someone researching Antarctica that there are a multitude of different itineraries to choose from, but two key areas stand out for us: the Antarctic Peninsula and the lesser-visited, ultra-remote subantarctic islands. Even the most discerning traveller may have perhaps never considered visiting the latter – so here we outline the differences between the two...

LOCATION

Antarctic Peninsula: Every ‘classic’ Antarctica expedition cruise itinerary explores the Antarctic Peninsula, usually sailing round-trip from the port of Ushuaia or Puerto Williams, which means a night or two in Santiago or Buenos Aires pre- and post-cruise. The crossing to Antarctica takes two days during which guests will need to traverse the notoriously bumpy Drake Passage – though there is the option to fly across the Drake for those travellers who may be time-poor.

Subantarctic islands: Only a few expedition lines offer cruises to the subantarctic islands that lie amidst the roiling oceans that circle Antarctica; some of the most unusual depart from Hobart in Tasmania or Dunedin in New Zealand. These nature reserves are UNESCO-listed and protected at the highest level of conservation status. Cruises to these islands are rare – so if one itinerary piques your interest, you should seriously consider booking it!





WEATHER AND WHEN TO GO

Antarctic Peninsula: The short Antarctic cruise season runs from late October to March, during the southern hemisphere's summer months – and even within this narrow window there are considerable variations in what you'll see. The early season means colder temperatures and pristine snowy landscapes while December and January are the most popular months to visit Antarctica, when the weather is warmer and the days are longer. Towards the end of the season you'll have more chance of seeing whales, and the shrinking sea ice means you'll be able to travel deeper into the Antarctic.

Subantarctic islands: These islands have a polar climate with an average summer temperature of 5-15 degrees Celsius, and their rocky islets and sheer cliffs often shrouded in fog and mist, and similarly to the Peninsula, cruises here run from November-March when the weather is milder, daylight hours are longer and wildlife is most active. Early summer offers pristine landscapes and January and February are ideal for seeing young wildlife.

LANDSCAPES

Antarctic Peninsula: Picture emblematic scenes of iceberg-strewn waters and giant snow-covered mountains – the Antarctic Peninsula is the postcard-perfect vista you will have seen in brochures, and you'll begin to comprehend the vast scale of it all when you start to see the ice floes on your approach to the continent. The huge tabular icebergs are a staggering sight, with their sheer sides plunging far below the water. The variety and beauty of Antarctica's bergs will have you reaching for your camera every five minutes, whilst on land huge hanging glaciers cling to the mountains or carve their way to the water's edge.

Subantarctic islands: You won't find the same giant icebergs and vast ice-covered landscapes of the peninsula here – these islands are composed of volcanic and granite rocks, tundra and oceanic crust – instead expect diverse terrain including black-rock and sandy beaches, ancient volcanoes, glacial valleys, jutting peninsulas, sweeping peaks and lush greenery, all of which provide the perfect habitat for the enormous variety of wildlife you'll find here.

PENGUINS

Antarctic Peninsula: On your Antarctic Peninsula cruise you can expect to see plenty of penguins and on a handful of itineraries that aim for Snow Hill Island this may even include emperor penguins. You will see Adélie, chinstrap, and gentoo penguins, such as on Cuverville Island, a popular port of call – home to some 6,500 pairs of gentoo penguins, the largest colony on the Antarctic Peninsula.

Subantarctic islands: Many species found on these islands are endemic, such as the Snares-crested and Fiordland-crested penguins found only on their eponymous islands, and the erect-crested penguin that breeds only on the Bounty and Antipodes Islands. Perhaps the most spectacular scenes can be found on South Georgia and the lesser-visited Macquarie Island, with 100,000 pairs of king penguins – the third-largest colony in the world – as well as thousands of royal, southern rockhopper and gentoo penguins, while the windswept and seemingly inhospitable Campbell Island features the Eastern rockhopper, erect-crested, and rare yellow-eyed penguin.

BIRDLIFE

Antarctic Peninsula: Across the peninsula you'll find a myriad of birdlife including skua, petrel, cormorant and sheathbill as well as wandering, black-browed and light-mantled albatross, and the rocky landscape of Cuverville Island provides the perfect home for nesting skuas, southern giant petrels and Antarctic shags.

Subantarctic islands: The Snares Islands in particular are renowned for their incredible birdlife and home to 99 recorded bird species – endemic species include the Snares snipe and Snares tomtit, and some three million sooty shearwaters come here to breed during the austral summer, as well as albatross and Antarctic terns. See rare bird species including the Antipodes parakeet, Reischek's parakeet, Antipodes snipe and the huge Antipodes wandering albatross in the Antipodes Islands, while Campbell Island is the home to six different species of albatross.

OTHER WILDLIFE

Antarctic Peninsula: You are virtually guaranteed to spot humpback, sperm, minke and southern right whales in the waters of the peninsula, as well as pods of hungry orca – for your best chance go between February and March. Several species of seal also call the Antarctic Peninsula home such as leopard seals who hunt penguins in the shallows, and you can often see Weddell and crabeater seals slumped on the ice.

Subantarctic islands: The waters around the subantarctic islands teem with sea lions, elephant seals and southern right whales. The Auckland Islands mark the main winter breeding ground for the New Zealand population of this species, whilst the subantarctic waters are also on the migratory path of species including minke, blue, humpback and fin whales. You'll also find New Zealand sea lions particularly on the Auckland and Campbell Islands, and Macquarie Island is home to New Zealand fur seals and southern elephant seals.

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

SHIP REPORT

Heather travelled on Hanseatic Spirit in Norway in March



I recently had my first taste of expedition on board Hapag-Lloyd Cruises' Hanseatic Spirit, one of the line's three identical expedition ships – and now I'm already planning my next adventure!

It all began after a flight to Hamburg with an easy transfer to the pier. Our bags were whisked away and delivered to our cabin and we met the hotel manager and senior crew members, toasting with a glass of bubbles as we took in the views of Hamburg.

Opening the door to my balcony suite – wow! I stepped into the living area and was greeted with a chilled bottle of Champagne and canapés as I settled in to my room with two queen beds complete with pillow menu, a living area with a comfortable sofa, and among plenty of storage space fluffy dressing gowns, slippers, and flip-flops (great for the spa) and a mini bar with included soft drinks.

I loved my spacious balcony with two reclining chairs which had a great sense of privacy with floor-to-ceiling dividers on each side and a glass front from where you can take in the amazing views. You'll also find walking poles and Swarovski binoculars to use throughout your sailing, and the bathroom boasts a rain shower and hot wall where you can dry your Hapag-Lloyd parka – complimentary for use during your expedition, alongside a handy rucksack which is yours to keep.

With a maximum of only 199 guests on expedition cruises, the ship feels extremely light and airy throughout – certainly inspired by nature, as evoked by Hapag-Lloyd's slogan – with a very Scandinavian feel. I was intrigued as to how the German/bilingual aspect of the ship would work, but I needn't have worried at all – it truly was completely bilingual, from the staff and the menus to the announcements and all the paraphernalia we were given about the region and ship.

That evening we enjoyed a sailaway on the pool deck enjoying a hot Aperol spritz with fellow guests and crew, accompanied by music from Frederic the entertainer followed by a five-course meal at the Hanseatic Restaurant – meals here need to be pre-booked (but are offered an unlimited number of times). This beautiful green-hued restaurant has a fantastic five-course menu with each dish captured beautifully, rotated over the week with different options – I went for my classic favourite, a medium-rare fillet steak cooked to perfection, it was to die for!

We also tried the second dining venue l'Esprit – one booking per sailing is allowed per guest, and pre-booking is a must. I loved this French-inspired restaurant with a very Parisian feel and décor. Be aware that all drinks (bar tea, coffee and water) are extra throughout – Hapag-Lloyd offer £300 per person

included for all UK guests which can be used on drinks or WiFi.

The next day we headed off to the Lido restaurant that serves all three daily meals should you so wish in a buffet style. I loved the huge spa which offered a sauna, relaxation area and panoramic views out to sea. The Pool Deck and Pool Bar were also a great place to relax with a heated swimming pool and whirlpool.

The open bridge policy was also fantastic and it was a real treat to meet the captain and his crew, and see how the whole operation works as we took in the 360-degree panoramic views across the Norwegian Fjords.

For excursions we headed to the changing room where you are allocated a locker to store your expedition gear and rubber boots – which are all to be cleaned and washed on return by showering down your boots and then walking through the giant blue brushes which rotate.

One of my favourite areas to relax each day with a pre-dinner drink was the Observation Lounge with its centrepiece globe, surrounded by screens which provide destination and ship information showing the ship's position, route and course with a lovely reading area with a selection of books and plenty of comfy seating areas where you can enjoy the 360-degree views with floor-to-ceiling windows.

On my final evening I enjoyed an Arctic Circle crossing celebration for crew and guests, with a glass of bubbles toasted to all the newcomers with a 'baptism', receiving my certificate to certify I had crossed it!

MUNDY EXCLUSIVE

Expedition Northwest Passage Hanseatic Inspiration (230 Guests)

5th August 2026 – 30 nights

From £23,135pp fly-cruise

Seward, 3 days exploring the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands, Saint Paul Island, Nome, 14 days exploring the Northwest Passage, 3 days exploring the West coast of Greenland, Kangerlussuaq

Price based on a Guaranteed Outside or Panoramic Cabin including all meals and taxes, a choice of expedition activities, flights, overseas transfers, and a FREE overnight pre-cruise hotel stay in Anchorage.

CLOSE TO HOME EXPEDITIONS

We tend to think of expedition cruises as being so completely different from what we are used to, that they must be a long way away and involve a complicated journey with many flight changes - but there are adventures much closer to home...



There are plenty of extraordinary places to visit within a relatively short distance from the UK. Add to that the opportunity to travel on some of the newest, most technologically advanced ships, enjoying a high level of comfort, and you have a list of irresistible expeditions, some of which are bound to make their way to the top of your bucket list...

NORDIC DISCOVERIES & TRADITIONS WITH PONANT

Ponant's lovely Explorer Yachts will enjoy a more unusual Arctic winter programme for 2025/26, featuring voyages to Norway in March 2026 visiting Tromsø, well within the Arctic Circle, and the beautiful Lofoten Islands, offering an alternative experience to destinations often visited by cruises in the summer months. You'll chase the aurora borealis in Northern Lights capital Tromsø; visit Bear Island, the most southerly island in the Svalbard archipelago; and take in the dramatic fjords and mountains of Narvik, exploring with optional activities including dog sledding, ice fishing and snowshoeing.

WHISKEY, FIRE & ICE WITH SCENIC

Explore Scotland and Iceland in style with Scenic on luxury expedition ship Scenic Eclipse on an 11-night voyage from Edinburgh in June 2026. Your adventure

takes you to the charming, turfed roofs of the Faroe Islands, as well as the little town of Húsavík, Iceland's whale watching capital; the remote island of Grímsey; and the picturesque Snæfellsnes Peninsula; with an overnight in Seyðisfjörður, one of the highlights of Iceland's Eastfjords, before ending back Reykjavik, with a base on board the stunning Scenic Eclipse.

SCOTLAND TO SVALBARD WITH QUARK EXPEDITIONS

Travel to Aberdeen to join Quark Expeditions' Ultramarine in May 2026 as she sets forth to visit remote Fair Isle and the rugged Faroes, before setting a course for one of the world's most rarely visited islands, Jan Mayen, with its breathtaking volcano. If you are lucky enough to land you will have enjoyed a rare privilege, before sailing on to explore the icy Svalbard archipelago.

THE BRITISH ISLES WITH SILVERSEA EXPEDITIONS

In May and June 2026 the magnificent Silver Endeavour with her 220 guests sails between Edinburgh and Reykjavik or London to Edinburgh on two itineraries visiting the lesser known islands and hidden gems of the British Isles, the perfect way to explore the history, wildlife and rugged beauty of our own home. Explore the National Trust-protected

Farne Islands and remote St Kilda, known for its vast colonies of puffin and gannet, as you sail our stunning coastline.

ICELAND & WILD SCOTLAND WITH AE EXPEDITIONS

With a revolutionary patented X-Bow design, AE Expeditions' first expedition vessel Greg Mortimer offers a comfortable and speedy ride, reducing fuel consumption and emissions. Departing Edinburgh in May or June 2026, their Wild Scotland departures call in at the windswept Orkney Islands and the wild Shetland Islands, as well as birdwatching hotspot Fair Isle.

MUNDY VALUE

Remote Isles & Natural Wonders

Silver Endeavour (220 Guests)

4th May 2026 – 11 nights

From £9,295pp fly-cruise

Edinburgh (Leith), Isle of May, Kirkwall, Fair Isle, Lerwick, Noss, Faroe Islands, Seydisfjörður, Bakkagerði, Grímsey, Hólmavík, Dynjandi Waterfalls, Reykjavík

Price based on a Classic Veranda Suite including all meals, drinks, gratuities, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, flights, overseas and UK transfers, £2,000 per suite savings and \$500 OBC per suite when you book by 31 May 2025.

EAST OR WEST GREENLAND?

What is the difference between east and west Greenland?

Which one should you choose for your Greenland expedition cruise?

The icy expanse of Greenland is a destination that can seem to fall a little behind on the bucket list, but we can promise you if you make the effort, you will be rewarded with some of the most beautiful landscapes on Earth, alongside fascinating communities and unique wildlife opportunities. This is your complete guide to both regions and the differences between them...

WEST GREENLAND

The astoundingly varied west Greenland is a place of deep fjords, emblematic icebergs and – slightly – more civilisation than its eastern counterpart, where indigenous communities survive in brutal conditions in brightly coloured settlements that perch on the edge of iceberg-dotted fjords.

It's the most well-known expedition cruise route (though rest assured that there will never be lots of ships around, with limits on numbers in this fragile environment), as it's home to Greenland's capital and largest town, Nuuk. Travelling by plane via Iceland, Denmark or Canada is the most popular way to get from the UK to Nuuk.

Kangerlussuaq, just north of the Arctic Circle, is home to Greenland's main airport, where most visitors to the country will pass through at some point. The town also offers easy access to the magnificent Greenland Ice Cap, which is millions of years old and covers 80% of Greenland's land area – and the surrounding countryside is a great place to see the Northern Lights in August and September (note that the Greenland cruise season ends at the end of September).

Another key destination on the west coast of Greenland is Sisimiut, means 'the people living in a place where there are fox dens', though these days the town is better known for being Greenland's northernmost year-round ice-free port. Around 25 miles north of the Arctic Circle, it's a common stop for ships making the journey north to Disko Bay, one of Greenland's most spectacular sights, where calving glaciers send huge icebergs floating out across the water. These bergs can be several kilometres in length, and are sculpted into weird and wonderful shapes by the weather. Whatever you do, don't forget your camera!

You may also spot several species of whale in the iceberg-strewn waters of Disko Bay, including humpback, minke, fin, bowhead and pilot. Eqi Glacier is another common stop, one of the largest and most active glaciers in Greenland. Calving several tonnes of ice into Eqi fjord daily, the sight and sound of the huge slabs crashing down into the sea creates a truly dramatic spectacle.



This is also where cruises will explore the spectacular Ilulissat ice fjord, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the source of the many icebergs that float out across Disko Bay – it's one of the few glaciers through which the Greenland ice cap reaches the sea, and calves more ice than any other glacier outside Antarctica.

The town of Ilulissat itself, with a population of just under 5,000, is Greenland's third largest settlement, and activities on offer here include dog sledding – Ilulissat is home to thousands of Greenland dogs – walking trails for incredible views over the ice, and visiting the Ilulissat Museum to learn about the area's fascinating history.

Two thirds of Greenland are covered by ice and the widespread, harsh terrain means wildlife is not as easily spotted as it is in its Arctic counterpart of Svalbard, particularly on Greenland's west coast which has more people than the east. However, on the Greenland west coast you may still spot Arctic hares, harp seals, musk oxen (these are predominantly in the far north and northeast of Greenland, but sometimes can be found on the west coast), walrus, reindeer and white-tailed eagles. Be aware that polar bears are extremely rare in west Greenland, so we suggest instead focussing on the incredible landscapes and other wildlife.

EAST GREENLAND

The exceptionally remote east Greenland, usually reached from Iceland, differs significantly from the west coast of Greenland, with more stark, wild landscapes and far fewer inhabitants, and more extreme expedition cruises on offer.

One of east Greenland's biggest draws is the world's largest national park – the pristine Northeast Greenland National Park.



Largely untouched by humans except for a few research stations, the park encompasses nearly 1/4 of the entire island of Greenland.

Established in 1974 and covering some 375,000 square miles, the park is a true slice of uninhabited, unspoiled Arctic wilderness and is home to wildlife including Arctic hares, musk oxen (an estimated 40% of the world's musk oxen are found here) as well as walrus, beluga whale and narwhal around the coast. In 2023, the Greenland government also established a new protected area for polar bears in this region, so you may be incredibly lucky and spot one.

Northeast Greenland National Park is reached via the east coast settlement of Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the most remote in Greenland. Made up of a collection of brightly coloured wooden buildings home to a total of around 450 people, it's sandwiched on the other side by the dramatic Scoresbysund, the world's longest fjord system.

An east Greenland highlight, Scoresbysund has a tree-like structure that makes its way nearly 250 miles inland from the Greenland Sea, with layers of basaltic lava forming the breathtaking surrounding landscapes, among which you may spot polar bears, Arctic foxes, hares, whales, seals, and musk ox.

Expedition cruises sail along the ultra-remote Blossville Coast to head further south – surrounded by pack ice, jagged peaks and icebergs, this wild and hard-to-reach place is visited by only a few, making it a truly special experience. It's the gateway to the spectacular Prince Christian Sound on the southeastern tip of Greenland, which provides a protected passage for ships rounding the southern tip of the country, at times narrowing to just 1,500 feet across.

Cruises may also visit the uninhabited island of Skjoldungen, a starkly beautiful landscape of snow-capped mountains, steep valley sides and icebergs in crystalline shades of white and blue.

A number of expedition cruise lines visit either east or west Greenland such as Ponant, who have a number of fantastic expeditions of varying lengths, including specific west Greenland and east Greenland cruises as well as combinations with Arctic Canada.

In summer 2026, Seabourn and Scenic are offering Greenland and Iceland combination cruises in summer 2026, while polar experts Quark and AE Expeditions also have a variety of south, west and east Greenland cruises.

MUNDY EXCLUSIVE

South Greenland Adventure: The Majestic Alpine Arctic

Ultramarine (199 Guests)

17th August 2026 – 13 nights

From £13,845pp fly-cruise

Reykjavik, 6 days exploring Greenland including the east coast, Westlands, and 'Arctic Patagonia' regions, Reykjavik

Price based on an Explorer Suite including all meals, drinks with meals, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, 1 night pre-cruise hotel stay in Reykjavik, flights, and overseas transfers.

PUTTING THE X IN EXPEDITION



When a viral Drake Passage video surfaced showing huge swells crashing over the bow of Quark Expeditions' Ocean Explorer, it wasn't just the power of the Southern Ocean that made waves. The real star? The ship's cutting-edge X-Bow design.

A handful of commercial and military vessels aside, it wasn't until 2019 that passengers could experience this innovative inverted bow, when AE Expeditions (part of Aurora Expeditions) launched the Greg Mortimer. It was the first passenger ship to feature the Ulstein X-Bow – a sleek, wave-piercing shape that reduces drag and minimises the wave 'thumping' associated with conventional bows in rough seas. The result? Smoother sailing, improved fuel efficiency, and a ride that aims to be as calm as possible, even when Mother Nature can be anything but. Having sailed aboard the Greg Mortimer ourselves, we can confirm the effect is more than marketing spin. Navigating Arctic waters, the ship felt remarkably stable. Engine vibration was minimal, and despite the unconventional profile, the bow's shape is barely noticeable on board as the elevated observation deck on this ship sits above the sloping nose.

Later X-Bow vessels such as AE Expeditions' Sylvia Earle, Douglas Mawson, and Quark's Ocean Explorer use the bow shape to dramatic effect by incorporating a soaring, forward-facing double-high glass

atrium. It's a breathtaking design feature that offers unfiltered views of crashing waves – and in the case of that now-famous expedition cruise video, views that quite literally took social media by storm.

Operators across the industry have embraced the X-Bow revolution including National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions when they expanded their fleet with the launch of the National Geographic Endurance in 2020, followed by National Geographic Resolution in 2021. These ships, and all X-Bow vessels, benefit from the bow being in view, rather than tucked below the protruding upper decks, so guests can see the ship edging through ice floes or cutting through the water. On board National Geographic Endurance and Resolution there are even small extended viewing areas at the side of the vessel to give even better views, whilst on the Greg Mortimer we tried out one of the hydraulic viewing platforms that extend and gave us a unique perspective of the ship.

Of course, expedition doesn't mean compromise. These state-of-the-art ships come loaded with all the comforts of

modern cruising. Expansive decks for wildlife watching, al fresco dining against epic backdrops, and even glass-domed igloos for an unforgettable night under the polar sky. Swift embarkation and disembarkation are made via side Zodiac doors and rear activity platforms, meaning you can speedily zip off ashore with less waiting around. If landings in Antarctica or the Arctic don't burn enough energy, many ships offer gyms, saunas, and even yoga studios.

Guests can expect comfortable accommodation ranging from porthole cabins to balcony suites and we're especially partial to the underfloor heating in the Greg Mortimer's bathrooms – a delight after a chilly morning hike ashore. Dining is equally well thought out. Relaxed lounge bars and main restaurants with open-seating à la carte menus foster a sociable, story-sharing atmosphere after a day of high adventure.

Whether it's Ocean Explorer's dramatic crossing of the Drake Passage that's gone viral or the quiet glide of the Sylvia Earle through a frozen sound, the X-Bow design is a symbol of expedition cruising's bold spirit that has always been key. However, while the engineering might be high-tech, the real magic lies in the fantastic expedition teams of all Mundy Adventure's partners who transform each voyage into an unforgettable exploration.

SOLAR ECLIPSE CRUISES



The total solar eclipse will pass over Greenland and Iceland in mid-August 2026; it will be Europe's first total solar eclipse in 27 years. Excitingly, several cruise lines are offering once-in-a-lifetime voyages to witness this incredible phenomenon. These voyages are sure to be popular with some already nearly sold out, so it pays to plan ahead.

Scenic's ultra-luxury yacht Scenic Eclipse will be perfectly positioned to witness the spectacle of the total solar eclipse in the remote outskirts of Greenland on a 14-night voyage on 4 August 2026, as she sails from Longyearbyen to Reykjavík. Keep watch for wildlife in remote Svalbard, discover charming towns and rich history in Iceland, and soak in the scenery from the yacht's observation deck whilst sailing through the magnificent fjord network of East Greenland, which is where you'll view the eclipse.

HX Hurtigruten Expeditions' 220-guest ship MS Spitsbergen will also begin and end its voyage in Longyearbyen and Reykjavík on a Greenland-intensive itinerary departing on 2 August 2026, including exploring the magnificent Northeast Greenland National Park. This incredible landscape is home to wildlife including polar bears, Arctic hares and musk oxen and covers some 375,000 square miles of uninhabited wilderness, some of which you'll have the chance to explore before viewing the eclipse among the giant icebergs and rugged peaks of Scoresbysund, the world's longest fjord system.

Polar experts AE Expeditions offer a similar itinerary aboard the 130-guest Greg Mortimer departing on 2 August 2026, from Longyearbyen to Reykjavík. This company is all about luxury of experience, especially if you love the outdoors, travelling in the company of an experienced, enthusiastic expedition team including naturalists, historians and geologists, and this voyage includes the presence of former NASA astronaut Dr. Sandra H. Magnus on board who can answer any burning questions. Look for polar bears and seals in Svalbard, hike on the Arctic tundra among musk oxen and reindeer, sail between the 6,500-foot high glacier walls of the dramatic Scoresbysund and more on this incredible voyage.

Ponant's two-week solar eclipse cruise is the ultimate adventure, departing on 244-guest Le Lyrial on 1 August 2026 – with the presence of astronauts Claudie and Jean-Pierre Haigneré on board making for a truly unique experience as they take part in Q&As and talks. You'll have four days to explore Svalbard with Zodiac rides, kayaking, hikes and more, and you'll even call in to Jan Mayen, a remote and inaccessible place dominated by the world's northernmost active volcano, Mount Beerenburg. Then it's onto Greenland and the stunning east coast, including visiting Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the most remote towns in Greenland, and viewing the eclipse in Scoresbysund, before ending in Reykjavík.

Polar experts Quark Expeditions also have a Reykjavík round-trip sailing on 3 August 2026 that includes witnessing the total solar eclipse in Iceland on 12 August. Highlights include the Northeast Greenland National Park and Iceland's famous Westfjords, home to the thundering Dynjandi waterfalls and the towering bird cliffs of Látrabjarg, where a staggering number of sea birds nest during the summer months, including puffins, razorbills, guillemots, cormorants, fulmars and kittiwakes.

MUNDY EXCLUSIVE

Total Solar Eclipse in The Far North

Le Lyrial (244 Guests)

31st July 2026 – 14 nights

From £16,399pp fly-cruise

Longyearbyen, Ny-Ålesund, 4 days exploring Northwest Spitsbergen, Jan Mayen, 2 days exploring Greenland's Ittoqqortoormiit Region, Scoresby Sound, Isafjörður, Westfjords, Reykjavík

Price based on a Prestige Stateroom Deck 5 including all meals, drinks, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, an overnight pre-cruise airport hotel stay in Paris, overseas transfers and FREE flights.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF DARWIN



TRIP REPORT

Hayley travelled on MS Santa Cruz II in the Galápagos in September



I was extremely privileged to cruise around the magnificent islands of the Galápagos with HX Hurtigruten Expeditions on their vessel MS Santa Cruz II. HX's package handily includes international flights from London, a two-night pre-cruise stay at the gorgeous JW Marriott hotel in Quito, a full day tour of Quito, charter flights between Quito/Guayaquil and Baltra and their five-night "In the Footsteps of Darwin" voyage.

Landing in Baltra was quite surreal with its lunar landscape, turquoise waters and bright, white sandy beaches. A short hop through immigration, and a five-minute shuttle bus to the port, landed us in our panga (Zodiac) to board the ship in the bay – we had finally arrived!

Ports of call on our Eastern Isles (the oldest isles in the Galápagos) itinerary included Punta Pitt on San Cristobal, the only site where it's possible to see all three species of boobies in the Galápagos; Santa Fe island; the beautiful island of South Plaza, that's covered in scarlet sesuvium succulents and prickly pear cacti; and Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz, where we visited Charles Darwin's Research Station.

I also loved Crianza's Tortoise Territory – this was so informative and enabled us to see Lonesome George's taxidermy as well as

learn about the conservation efforts for giant tortoises – a species which gave the archipelago its name over 3,000 years ago. We also called in to the island of Espanola where we visited Gardner Bay and Punta Suarez to see waved albatross and rainbow iguanas; Eden Islet, which is great for spotting reef sharks; and North Seymour island, which teems with frigate birds and their renowned red gular pouches.

Most expedition itineraries in the Galápagos tend to be structured similarly, with activities such as snorkelling, panga rides, walks and hikes operating both in the mornings and afternoons, and cycling, paddle boarding, kayaking and glass-bottomed boat trips were also offered throughout our expedition, and could be signed up for each evening. It's up to you what you choose and how you spend your time, but when on a trip like this, it's great to try everything.

Hikes and walks (of two miles max) through the rugged terrain, across lava rocks and over boulders took us to sightings of the famous blue-footed boobies, albatross, brown pelicans, giant tortoises, land iguanas, frigates, Galápagos hawks, Nazca boobies, finches and warblers.



bathroom was ideal for a jam-packed itinerary, but if you'd like a more spacious cabin, I'd recommend the Darwin Suites on Deck 3.

Briefings for the days ahead were held conveniently in the bar, which had a lovely sheltered, outdoor lounge area to relax in the afternoon or enjoy a cocktail and BBQ in the evening.

Lectures and documentaries were shown in the library, which also stocked a coffee machine, biscuits, microscopes and a selection of destination-related books. The games room also

offers board games, card games and blu-ray DVDs or you can jump into the two Jacuzzis and head up to the Sun Deck to top up your tan. Next to the Jacuzzis you'll also find outdoor washers and dryers which are complimentary to use during your cruise.

MS Santa Cruz II has one restaurant for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Breakfast and lunch are buffet style, whereas dinner is à la carte, and the food on board is Ecuadorean cuisine most days.

Sustainability is at the heart of HX Expeditions with their onboard Green Stay programme. A special green hanger placed on your cabin door handle indicates that the team will only replace towels, Hoover and make the bed each day without using liquid cleaning products. Your participation in this programme sees HX

donate 50 cents daily to sustainability projects. The team take your dinner order at breakfast each morning too, to avoid unnecessary food waste.

To have visited a place of natural history, untouched in parts and conserved everywhere, is something truly special to have experienced, and the Galápagos leaves a lasting impression on you to look after our fragile world and arm you with a deep respect for scientists and researchers who dedicate years or their entire careers to understanding and protecting this ecosystem.

MUNDY VALUE

In Darwin's Footsteps

MS Santa Cruz II (90 guests)

8th September 2026 – 10 nights

From £8,295pp fly-cruise

Baltra, San Cristóbal, Santa Fe, South Plaza, Santa Cruz, Española, Eden Islet, Baltra

Price based on an Explorer Cabin including all meals and drinks, gratuities, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, 2 nights pre-cruise hotel stay in Quito, flights, and overseas transfers.

You don't have to be an experienced snorkeller to snorkel in the Galápagos. If you're nervous like I was, the HX expedition team ease you in to gearing up in your wetsuit, flippers, mask and snorkel (all provided by HX), and talk you through the procedure of jumping into deep water, or walking backwards into the sea from the beach, and then float and swim along with your underwater camera (a must in the Galápagos!). Our encounters with reef sharks, sting rays, curious sea lions, star fish, parrot fish, razor sturgeons, salemas, goatfish and angelfish (like scenes out of Finding Dory) will stay with me forever.

I was allocated a Deluxe Suite aboard MS Santa Cruz II, located at the aft of Deck One; this generous-sized cabin with compact

THE KIMBERLEY VS THE GALÁPAGOS

Island hopping from one idyllic lagoon to another, exploring tropical coastlines, and discovering remote paradises made famous by the explorers of old – warm water expeditions are an incredible way to travel to some of the most fascinating destinations on the planet and offer an adventure like no other.

BEST FOR WILDLIFE

The Galápagos – Famed for their numerous endemic species, the Galápagos Islands are a wildlife lovers' dream. Across the islands, huge tortoises, dancing blue-footed boobies, sea and land iguanas, and too many bird species to remember are all incredible to see and seem not to pay the least bit of attention to the presence of humans.

The Kimberley – On land you may spot rock wallabies, dingoes, possums, or echidnas but most wildlife can be seen from the water. The area's mangroves are an incredible habitat to explore from the ship's Zodiacs and are teeming with mudskippers, fiddler crabs, and a huge variety of bird species which are perhaps most noticeable at Montgomery Reef. In the water, turtles, octopuses, dugongs, sharks, and saltwater crocodiles are found, the latter meaning that excursions are limited to dry land and the Zodiacs.

Conclusion – Galápagos wins!

BEST FOR SCENERY

The Galápagos – These isolated volcanic islands differ amongst themselves depending on when they were formed and how much

volcanic activity there still is. Little rainfall across the region means some islands are quite desert-like in appearance, with the older eastern islands having the most greenery and the newer western islands having the most volcanic activity.

The Kimberley – Thunderous waterfalls tumbling over towering cliffs, the scale of The Kimberley is something else. Over millennia rivers and streams have created deep gorges and travelling through these narrow channels beneath huge rockfaces is incredible. The colours of the red and orange sandstone changing throughout the day lend an almost magical quality to the scenery.

Conclusion – Kimberley wins!

BEST FOR CULTURE

The Galápagos – Following in the footsteps of Darwin and understanding more of the feat of discovery that he embarked on was fascinating, not to mention the importance of the islands in current scientific research. Part of Ecuador, the islands have their own vibe compared to the mainland but with rules including all staff must be Ecuadorian on expedition ships and all food served must be sourced from Ecuador you can expect a distinct South American feel.



The Kimberley – The Aboriginal culture of the Kimberley dates back more than 50,000 years and there are examples of rock art dating back an incredible 45,000 years. Learning about the Dreamtime mythology of the Wunambal Gaambera people and their Wanjina and Wunggurr ancestors is truly fascinating.
Conclusion – Kimberley wins!

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO VISIT?

The Kimberley – The time to travel to the Kimberley is in the dry season between May and October, with milder temperatures between 20 and 30 degrees and minimal rainfall; travelling in May just after the end of the rainy season means thundering waterfalls, while the dry season brings abundant seafood in the coastal reefs and mangroves for the chance to see a variety of marine life from manta rays and saltwater crocodiles to sea eagles and turtles.

The Galápagos – With year-round warmth, there is no 'bad' time to visit, although certain wildlife viewing is seasonal. For a full guide call and ask for our wildlife calendar. Snorkelling with sea lion pups and witnessing the laying of giant tortoise eggs can be experienced between November and December, while January captures marine iguanas with their most colourful red and green skin. Visitors in May can expect to see hatchlings of sea turtles and land iguanas, and plankton-rich waters in June and July attract migrating humpback whales and dolphins, and the breeding season for flightless cormorants begins.

Conclusion – Galápagos wins!

HOW ACCESSIBLE ARE THESE DESTINATIONS?

The Kimberley – Itineraries can start in Indonesia and travel south via Komodo Island to Darwin or Wyndham and finish in Broome, or they operate from mainland Australia between Darwin and Broome. Either way, it is a long-haul flight likely with a stopover in Singapore, Dubai, or Abu Dhabi. Pre and post-cruise stays can be added in Broome, or you can incorporate your visit to The Kimberley as part of a bigger trip to Australia and visit key cities such as Perth, Melbourne, and/or Sydney.

The Galápagos – Itineraries usually operate roundtrip from Baltra, reached by flying into Quito or Guayaquil before connecting with a charter flight across to the archipelago. Flights between the UK and Ecuador are indirect and usually between 14-16 hours. A one-night pre-cruise stay in Quito or Guayaquil is also required before the cruise. Quito is a pretty city and two nights here is well worth your time. You may also consider a longer trip with extensions to Machu Picchu being particularly popular.

Conclusion – Galápagos wins, just!

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 Weighing up the wildlife, scenery, and culture plus how far you're willing to travel and when you prefer being away is a pretty good approach to picking the destination that's right for you. Our advice is to do both and see which one you prefer!

MUNDY EXCLUSIVE

Kimberley Expedition: Waterfalls & Wanjinias

Seabourn Pursuit (264 Guests)

20th August 2026 – 14 nights

From £11,495pp fly-cruise

Darwin, King George River, Vansittart Bay, Ashmore Reef, Hunter River, Kuri Bay, Montgomery Reef, Freshwater Cove, Talbot Bay (🇨), Lacepede Island, Broome

Price based on a Veranda Suite including all meals and drinks, gratuities, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, flights, a FREE overnight pre-cruise hotel stay in Darwin and FREE overseas transfers.



TOURISM IN THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

How can we minimise our footprint?

by Tom O'Hara, Communications Manager at Galápagos Conservation Trust



Cruise tourism to the Galápagos Islands has a surprisingly long history. In 1934, Bergen Line's Stella Polaris was probably the first tourist ship to visit the Islands. Galápagos remained well off the beaten track until the 1960s, when the former US airbase on Baltra was converted into a civilian airport.

In the 1970s the archipelago was inscribed as one of the first UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and there was a tenfold increase in the number of tourist vessels. Flights from the mainland became more frequent and between 1979 and 1989 visitor numbers almost quadrupled.

In 1993, authorities responded by increasing the Galápagos National Park entry fee for foreign tourists to US\$100 while in 1998, the main islands gained access to 24-hour electricity. Tourist arrivals surpassed 100,000 for the first time in 2004, and Galápagos was placed on UNESCO's 'World Heritage in Danger' list between 2007 and 2010.

Fast-forward to the present day and UNESCO is once again sounding the alarm. Last year, an astonishing 329,475 people visited Galápagos, a new record, and some projections suggest that we are on track for a million visitors a year by 2041.

So how did we get here? The 'Special Law for Galápagos', passed in 1998, included provisions to limit the number of tourists visiting by ship, with a hard ceiling on cruise berths that has been in place ever since. However, no such cap exists for hotel beds, and the situation has been exacerbated by the growth of platforms such as Airbnb.

But it's not as simple as 'cruise tourism good, land tourism bad'. Cruises typically serve wealthier international travellers, with prices that are out of reach for most Ecuadorians, and there

is a perception that the economic benefits don't reach the community; local businesses instead rely on backpackers and Ecuadorian visitors for their income.

How do we move to a model that is regenerative, restoring nature while also providing sustainable livelihoods?

In August this year, National Park entry fees for foreign tourists doubled, the first increase since 1993. This will help fund conservation and local infrastructure, though the fees are still modest compared to destinations such as the Serengeti or the Maasai Mara.

There are other ways that tourists can help. Firstly, please don't bring any single-use plastic, and take your rubbish home where possible. Secondly, adhere to the National Park's guidelines, keeping your distance from wildlife and sticking to marked trails. Thirdly, support the local community.

Seek out the local artisans making souvenirs from recycled materials, rather than buying plastic tat made in China. And lastly, when you return home, no doubt moved by what you've seen, please consider joining Galápagos Conservation Trust as a member. A regular gift will help us to protect Galápagos for future generations to enjoy, and you will be joining a wonderful community of people who have been touched by this very special place.

Mundy Adventures are proud sponsors and co-hosts of the Galápagos Conservation Trust's Galápagos Day 2025, which will be held on 9 October with the theme 'The Truth About Sharks' at 6.00pm, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 0AE. For more information and to book tickets please call 020 7399 7630.

REMARKABLE RAINFORESTS



From the incredible Amazon rainforest to the biodiverse Costa Rican jungle, a rainforest expedition cruise is sure to enthrall and delight even the most discerning traveller. These are some of the most remarkable rainforests on Earth and how to explore them with a cruise...

THE AMAZON

The Amazon rainforest, covering most of Brazil and spreading into Colombia, Peru and other countries, is the world's largest tropical rainforest. Cruises take you into the dense rainforest packed with extraordinary wildlife, from sloths, black spider monkeys and poison dart frogs to jaguars, eagles, and pink river dolphins and more than 1,700 species of bird. Aqua Expeditions' 32-guest Aria Amazon and 40-guest Aqua Nera offer a sophisticated and luxurious home from home with days spent exploring in small groups by skiff alongside an expert expedition team, who'll guide you as you discover hidden tributaries and flooded forests.

TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST

The Tongass National Forest in south-east Alaska is the largest national forest in the USA at an incredible 16.7 million acres, and the largest intact temperate rainforest in the world. This isolated landscape can only be accessed by plane or boat and is best reached from Juneau; you may spot the likes of bald eagles, humpback whales, all five species of Pacific salmon, Sitka black-tailed deer, wolves, and brown and black bears. Visit with HX Hurtigruten Expeditions, National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions or Hapag-Lloyd Cruises, three of the few expedition cruise lines who offer pure Alaska expeditions between May and July 2026 on a range of itineraries.

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is home to just 0.03% of the Earth's surface, but accounts for an amazing 5% of its biodiversity, a place of volcanoes, mountains, beaches and of course lush rainforests, as well as the iconic cloud forests. In its jungles you'll find more than 850 species of bird, including hummingbirds, toucans and macaws. Costa Rica's many national parks, biological reserves and wildlife refuges are home to a vast array of flora and fauna, and many itineraries also include the amazing feat of engineering that is the Panama Canal on cruise lines such as AE Expeditions and Ponant.



BORNEO

Borneo, shared between Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei, is home to rainforests that are among the richest and most biodiverse on Earth. You might see the pygmy elephant, the shy Borneo rhino, the proboscis monkey with its large nose and belly, six other primate species, as

well as 220 bird species. Of course, the native, critically endangered orangutan is the region's most famous resident, and can be seen during expedition cruises with local experts, guides and naturalists, ensuring visits contribute to conservation efforts at all times. AE Expeditions have a fantastic option in October 2026, visiting Central Kalimantan to explore the rainforest's ecosystem and the orangutan rehabilitation centres.



RWANDA

The world's entire population of mountain gorillas, the world's most endangered ape, live between the protected Virunga Massif and Bwindi Forest, and our sister company Mundy Cruising has a bucket-list trip with AmaWaterways that will see you enjoy three iconic experiences: gorillas in Rwanda, a Big Five safari and Victoria Falls. After a four-night safari cruise on Zambezi Queen, two nights in Victoria Falls and a train journey on the luxurious Rovos Rail, a four-night tour includes gorilla trekking in Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park, trekking through the forest among verdant hills and volcanic slopes before coming face to face with a family of mountain gorillas, the rainforest silent around you in what is one of the most special experiences in travel.

INTO THE WILD

In the depths of northern Peru lies a little-known wilderness, reserved for intrepid travellers seeking a truly special experience. Luxury adventure specialists Aqua Expeditions have been exploring the Peruvian Amazon and its tributaries for nearly two decades and if your next adventure is calling, an Amazon cruise should make its way to the top of your travel list.

TRIP REPORT

Louise travelled on Aqua Nera in the Peruvian Amazon in March



My adventure began in Iquitos, the largest city in the world only accessible by river and by air, and from the plane window I got a glimpse of the winding river as it snaked through the landscape. I boarded the stylish 40-guest Aqua Nera in the afternoon, warmly welcomed by the friendly crew, and settled into my spacious suite complete with a king-sized bed facing a huge floor to ceiling window, perfect for waking up and enjoying the changing views. I sailed the three-night itinerary, giving two full days of exploration, and the programme was enriching and varied, with plenty of surprises along the way.

Each day consisted of several outings, mostly on small boats, known as skiffs, which carried a maximum of ten guests each with one accompanying guide. These highly manoeuvrable open-air boats could access narrow channels and get close to the riverbank enabling us to scout for wildlife, plus zipping along the river was an exciting adventure in itself!

On our first full day we started with a 6am outing on the skiff, looking out for birds which are active in the early morning and listening to the vibrant sounds of the Amazon dawn chorus. We then returned to Aqua Nera where breakfast was served on deck. Following breakfast, it was time to head out once more for two hours of wildlife spotting.

On this occasion we really were spoiled with yet more birdlife, including a hawk feasting on a kill and a pair of feisty birds protecting their nest, giant lily pads complete with a flower which only blooms for 36 hours, an interaction with a local who had caught a baby anaconda trying to have his chickens for lunch, and two sloths high in the trees, one carrying a baby! We returned to the ship exhilarated by our special experience which was enriched by the eagle eye and endless knowledge of our guide.

Back on board we were treated to a cocktail demonstration and tasting, plus the chef showed us how to make local specialty patarashca, which is





catfish steamed in a bijao leaf, a meal which we enjoyed for lunch. The afternoon brought more adventures with a talk about the communities living along the river followed by an evening jungle walk and time spent scouting for nocturnal wildlife including caiman, bats, and tarantulas. Our guide also stopped the skiff so we could appreciate the almost deafening sound of the 'jungle symphony' of frogs, insects and birds as night fell.

Each outing was filled with anticipation, and I could have spent every day repeating the same routine but for our second day we enjoyed a completely different programme. I spent a solitary hour on deck watching a pod of playful dolphins right next to Aqua Nera before joining my fellow guests for a special breakfast on the skiff with the sights and sounds of the rainforest around us. It's difficult to choose just one highlight of the trip but this experience was certainly up there!

Fuelled for the day we headed into the lagoon where we tried our hand at piranha fishing. With a rudimentary kit of a hook, line, and wooden pole, I wasn't expecting much success but to my delight after several false starts (and shrieking on

my part) I was the first to catch a fish - a red bellied piranha. We then headed ashore to a nearby village where we were kindly welcomed into a family home and the local school and saw a glimpse into everyday life here.

After lunch on board, we ventured out on our final skiff excursion of the trip, and once again we were fortunate to see dolphins including the Amazon River dolphin, a unique species endemic to South America with the males displaying a pink colour. The crew

had also organised a special surprise at the fast-flowing confluence, where all the guests in their respective skiffs gathered to enjoy an Amazon aperitivo hour with cocktails and perfectly presented snacks. Together we raised a toast to a wonderful adventure with so many memorable moments in just a few days - this was truly the experience of a lifetime.

WARM WATER EXPEDITIONS

Expedition cruising may conjure images of icy terrain and cold weather, and indeed, many of the new breed of expedition vessels launched in recent years are polar specialists, designed to navigate the ice-choked waters of Antarctica and the Arctic. However, in between the polar seasons these vessels utilise their smaller size, enhanced manoeuvrability, fast Zodiac deployment and expert guides to explore some of the world's most exciting exotic destinations. Many of these remote regions are rarely visited by traditional cruise ships and are best explored by expedition vessel to fully immerse in the incredible surroundings. Here are our top six...

1 THE AMAZON

Sailing 2,300 miles upstream from the Atlantic Ocean to the Peruvian city of Iquitos is about as far from a polar itinerary as you can get. The Amazon river takes you into dense rainforest packed with extraordinary wildlife, and journeys this far upriver are accessible only to smaller vessels with strengthened hulls to navigate the occasionally debris-laden waters. Even further upstream this iconic waterway is explored by the tiny expedition ships of Aqua Expeditions who have weekly departures on Aqua Nera and Aria Amazon. With itineraries exploring the Peruvian Amazon, your expert expedition team will guide you as you discover hidden tributaries and flooded forests by skiff, trek through dense wilderness, and learn about the local communities who depend on this variable natural environment.

2 CENTRAL AMERICA

Many expedition ships spend time in Central America while travelling between the poles, with an emphasis on the region's staggering biodiversity. Costa Rica is a particular highlight, with lush vegetation, pristine beaches and an abundance of wildlife inhabiting the country's national parks. There are also opportunities to investigate the wild Darién jungle of Panama and travel through the incredible feat of engineering that is the Panama Canal, accompanied by naturalist guides who are on hand to tell you more about the fascinating wildlife. Ponant's Le Champlain is a visitor, offering enhancements such as talks from onboard experts and a specially arranged visit to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama with a February 2026 voyage to Panama and Costa Rica, in partnership with Smithsonian Journeys.

3 THE SEA OF CORTEZ

One of the best expedition operators in the world, National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions explore the Sea of Cortez every December, a destination that is often overlooked by UK travellers, nestled between the barren Baja California peninsula

and the Mexican mainland. Your ship's fleet of Zodiacs will be put to good use in an area famed for its abundant dolphins, sea turtles, blue whales, gray whales, orca, humpback, pilot and fin whales, whale sharks, manta rays and sea lions, earning itself the moniker of 'the world's aquarium' from Jacques Cousteau.

4 RAJA AMPAT

With over 17,000 islands comprising the country of Indonesia, there is no better way to explore than by ship. To discover the route less travelled, an expedition on board AE Expeditions' Greg Mortimer which offers the perfect warm water adventure, sailing the islands of Indonesia in October 2026. Take advantage of the ship's fleet of Zodiacs and stand-up paddleboards to explore the hidden bays and secluded coves, guided by your specialist expedition team. With 75% of the world's coral species and over 1,500 species of tropical fish found here, this is a paradise for divers and snorkellers. Ashore you'll explore on guided walks through rainforest where you may catch a glimpse of birds-of-paradise, and you'll visit islands with a diverse array of cultural influences, including Melanesian, Islamic and European, with reminders of the Portuguese explorers and Dutch traders who ventured to the 'Spice Islands' in search of highly-prized spices such as nutmeg.

5 JAPAN

Ponant's chic explorer yacht Le Jacques Cartier sails the lesser-travelled sub-tropical islands of Japan in April 2026. Discover the island of Amami-Oshima, rich in flora and fauna thanks to a mild subtropical climate, with a number of whale species in the surrounding waters, and the crescent-shaped Tsukigahama, one of the best beaches on the jungle-clad Iriomotejima, part of the idyllic Yaeyama archipelago, known for their fantastic coral reefs, perfect for diving and snorkelling, while ashore you can explore on foot or on a river kayaking expedition. Other islands offer a combination of powder-white sand, crystal clear waters and traditional heritage, making these itineraries a truly special exploration of the unique natural wonders of Japan.

6 THE KIMBERLEY

This wild and isolated region of Western Australia is perfectly suited for exploration by expedition ship. Home to towering rust-coloured cliffs, unique natural and cultural wonders, and incredible biodiversity, Mundy's Hayley Hogan experienced this special region first hand with Silversea Expeditions – give her a call on 020 7399 7667 to find out more. Silversea's upcoming seasons of Kimberley adventures are aboard Silver Cloud so you can explore the breathtaking surroundings on Zodiac cruises and hikes, returning each day to elegant luxury.



THE BEST FAMILY EXPEDITION CRUISES

Adventure for All Ages



If you're looking for a family holiday with a difference, a trip of a lifetime to inspire the kids and satisfy your wanderlust, then an expedition cruise will truly deliver.

Set sail on an adventure that takes your family off the beaten track. Spot polar bears in their natural habitat, snorkel with sea lions in the Galápagos, walk among penguins in Antarctica or kayak through the majestic fjords of Alaska. Expedition cruises offer an immersive experience aboard small, specialist ships that strike the perfect balance between sociability and space – for children, parents, and even grandparents.

Most expedition cruise ships feature family-friendly accommodations, from triple and quad rooms to interconnecting suites. Some operators go a step further by offering dedicated 'young explorer' programmes, making them especially appealing to families. Here are three of the best family expedition cruise lines to consider:

1. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC-LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS

Lindblad Expeditions is renowned for its pioneering spirit and strong partnership with National Geographic. With family-friendly itineraries spanning the Arctic, Antarctica, Alaska, the Galápagos, Central America, the Amazon, and Baja California, this operator is perfect for multi-generational adventures. Plus, Lindblad is the only expedition cruise line with no minimum age requirement for children.

For young adventurers, the National Geographic Global Explorers programme (available in the Galápagos, Alaska, Baja California, and Antarctica) includes hands-on activities like earning an expedition landing craft "driver's licence" and recording wildlife observations in a field notebook.

A new addition is the National Geographic Expeditions Adventurers programme in Iceland, where kids learn to explore like scientists – documenting their journey through photography, video, and drawings. They can even create their own Icelandic music video!

On board, family-friendly activities include snorkelling, tandem kayaking, and even impromptu movie nights with pizza.

2. HAPAG-LLOYD CRUISES

German outfit Hapag-Lloyd Cruises is one of the most experienced expedition lines in the business. Their innovative expedition ships, including the Hanseatic Inspiration which is dedicated to an international clientele, have a slick design with features that kids will love, including a watersports marina with equipment such as kayaks, stand-up paddle boards, and snorkelling equipment, and two extendable glass-floored balconies. Yes, the first language on board is German, but the ship is bilingual, and the exciting programme for those aged 10 to 17 years will soon get them talking.

The programme is designed with teenagers in mind to encourage the curiosity of young explorers, whether it's with a spot of navigation on board, Zodiac rides, activities ashore, looking through a microscope, or learning about oceanography, geology, and geography. The whole crew, from the captain to the navigation officer to the ship's cook, are all involved. Trips to the bridge offer insights into seafaring, including how to read nautical and bathymetric charts and using radar and sonar. There are also cinema evenings complete with popcorn, pizza evenings and more.

3. HURTIGRUTEN

With over 130 years of experience sailing Norway's rugged coastlines, Hurtigruten offers a unique take on the expedition cruise experience. Unlike traditional cruises, their voyages are a key part of local life, transporting mail, supplies, and passengers between remote Norwegian communities.

Hurtigruten's Young Explorers Programme provides kid-friendly excursions such as aquarium and farm visits, opportunities to learn about Sami culture, and even a "Meet the Vikings" experience. Onboard activities include interactive workshops on nature and climate change, art sessions, and exclusive ship tours.

Hurtigruten offers reduced child fares on both its classic and select expedition ships, making their expeditions a budget-friendly choice for families eager to explore.

So pack your sense of wonder and get ready for an unforgettable family adventure – family expedition cruises promise experiences that will inspire explorers of all ages.

MUNDY EXCLUSIVE

Fire & Ice: Sailing Around Iceland

National Geographic Explorer
(148 Guests)

26th July 2026 – 7 nights

From £7,945pp fly-cruise

Reykjavik, Westfjords, Siglufjörður, Húsavik, Borgarfjarðarhöfn, Djúpvogur, Westman Islands, Reykjavik

Price based on a Category 01 Cabin including all meals and drinks, gratuities, a choice of expedition activities, taxes, international flights, and overseas transfers.

SILVERSEA EXPEDITIONS

Antarctica & South Georgia Expedition

Puerto Williams round-trip

Silver Cloud (254 Guests)

16th January 2027 | 19 nights

Combine the remote shores of Antarctica and subantarctic islands during this fantastic expedition on board Silver Cloud. Enjoy three days to discover South Georgia's staggering natural landscapes and abundant wildlife with elephant seals, king penguins, and wandering albatrosses just some of the resident species which inhabit these isolated isles. Journey onwards then to the Antarctic Peninsula to experience the White Continent's dazzling snow-blanketed shores during immersive explorations with your expedition team.

Your itinerary:

16 – 18 January

Fly to Santiago de Chile where you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay. The following day, transfer to the airport to join a charter flight to Puerto Williams where your expedition begins.

18 January – 2 February

Cruise Itinerary:

Puerto Williams, 3 days exploring South Georgia, Elephant Island, Antarctic Peninsula (C), South Shetland Islands, Puerto Williams (C)

2 – 4 February

Disembark in Puerto Williams and join a charter flight to Santiago where you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay. The following day transfer to the airport for your overnight flight back to the UK.

Includes £2,000 per suite savings and \$500 OBC per suite – book by 31 May 2025



MUNDY FARES

from £18,995 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 15 nights in a Vista Suite
- All onboard meals, drinks, gratuities and taxes
- Activities and landings with the Silversea Expedition team
- All flights and overseas transfers
- UK return chauffeur service from home to airport
- 1-night pre-cruise stay in Santiago
- 1-night post-cruise stay in Santiago

 SILVERSEA®

SEABOURN

Chilean Fjords & Antarctica

San Antonio to Ushuaia

Seabourn Pursuit (264 Guests)

2nd November 2026 | 22 nights

The vast expanse of Patagonia boasts incredible natural landscapes filled with rugged peaks and striking glaciers and if you're travelling to the southernmost tip of South America, why not continue the journey and take in Antarctica for the ultimate expedition? Travel aboard Seabourn's second purpose-built expedition vessel, Seabourn Pursuit, during this awe-inspiring voyage exploring the striking Chilean coastline before five days spent soaking in nature's majesty in Antarctica.

Your itinerary:

2 – 4 November

Fly to Santiago, the capital of Chile, where you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay. The following day, transfer to the pier in San Antonio to begin your expedition.

4 – 22 November

Cruise Itinerary:

San Antonio, scenic cruising of Reloncavi Sound, Puerto Montt, scenic cruising of the Moraleda, Darwin and Baker Channels, Caleta Tortel, Pio XI Glacier, Brujo Glacier, Punta Arenas (C), 5 days exploring the Antarctic Peninsula, Ushuaia

22 – 24 November

Disembark in Ushuaia and join a charter flight to Buenos Aires where you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay. The following day, transfer to the airport for your overnight flight back to the UK.

FREE flights and overseas transfers



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £16,565 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 18 nights in a Veranda Suite
- All onboard meals, drinks, gratuities and taxes
- Guided Zodiac cruises, landings, and hikes
- 1-night pre-cruise stay in Santiago
- 1-night post-cruise stay in Buenos Aires

 SEABOURN®

SCENIC

Antarctica in Depth

Ushuaia round-trip

Scenic Eclipse (200 Guests)

9th November 2025 | 16 nights

Discover Antarctica from the luxurious Scenic Eclipse and enjoy seven days to fully immerse yourself in the wonders of the White Continent. Up to 20 experts will enrich your journey with their valuable insights in the fields of geology, history, marine biology and more as you sail between isolated outposts. Step ashore where few have ventured and discover vast penguin colonies and rugged landscapes, take to the ice-filled waters during kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding excursions, or even experience Antarctica's magnificent vistas from the air during a helicopter flightseeing tour. A truly unforgettable adventure.

Your itinerary:

9 – 12 November

Fly to Buenos Aires, the vibrant capital of Argentina, where you will enjoy a two-night stay. Following your time here, transfer to the airport for your flight to Ushuaia where you will embark Scenic Eclipse and begin your expedition to Antarctica.

12 – 23 November

Cruise Itinerary:

Ushuaia, 7 days exploring the Antarctic Peninsula, Ushuaia (C)

23 – 25 November

Disembark in Ushuaia and transfer to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires where you will enjoy an overnight stay. The following day, transfer to the airport for your overnight flight back to the UK.



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £14,655 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 11 nights in a Deluxe Verandah Suite
- All onboard meals, drinks, gratuities and taxes
- Programme of included Zodiac tours and landings

FREE international flights in premium economy class
FREE 2-night pre- and 1-night post-cruise hotel stays in Buenos Aires
FREE helicopter flight to see Antarctica from the air



PONANT

Inuit Spring of Ammassalik

Reykjavík round-trip

Le Commandant Charcot (245 Guests)

3rd May 2026 | 11 nights

Explore the Ammassalik and Blosseville regions of eastern Greenland, areas inaccessible to many ships during the spring, on board Ponant's innovative hybrid electric icebreaker, Le Commandant Charcot. Navigate the sea ice and venture where very few have travelled to learn about the communities that live in this extreme environment and their ancestral traditions. Keep watch for the wildlife of the Arctic including polar bears, whales and sea birds as you explore among pristine landscapes from ice floes to sparkling glaciers.

Your itinerary:

3 – 4 May

Fly to Reykjavík where you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay. The following day, transfer to the pier to embark Le Commandant Charcot and begin your expedition to Greenland.

4 – 14 May

Cruise Itinerary:

Reykjavík, 6 days exploring Greenland's Ammassalik region, Blosseville Coast, Reykjavík

14 May

Disembark in Reykjavík and transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK.



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £18,975 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 10 nights in a Prestige Stateroom Deck 6
- All onboard meals, drinks, and taxes
- Zodiac cruises and landings
- Return flights and overseas transfers

FREE 1-night pre-cruise hotel stay in Reykjavik



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC-LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS

Quest for the Antarctic Circle

Ushuaia round-trip

National Geographic Endurance (138 Guests)

10th January 2027 | 18 nights

Immerse yourself in the wonders of Antarctica for nine days on this incredible voyage, National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions' longest and most comprehensive experience in this region. Sail the route of historic explorers as you explore this untamed wilderness on a quest to cross the Antarctic Circle and experience the magnitude of this vast icy continent along the way. Learn from an expert team of naturalists supported by a National Geographic Photography Expert to help capture those perfect shots of magnificent wildlife and scenery.

Your itinerary:

10 – 12 January

Fly overnight to Buenos Aires where you will enjoy an overnight stay. The following day, transfer to the airport for your flight to Ushuaia where you will board National Geographic Endurance and begin your expedition to Antarctica.

12 – 26 January

Cruise Itinerary:

Ushuaia, 9 days exploring Antarctica including the quest to cross the Antarctic Circle, Ushuaia

26 – 28 January

Disembark in Ushuaia and transfer to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. Enjoy an overnight stay and the following day, transfer to the airport for your overnight flight back to the UK.



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £23,345 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 14 nights in a Category 01 Cabin
- All onboard meals, drinks, gratuities and taxes
- Exploration programme including Zodiac cruises and kayaking
- Return flights and overseas transfers
- 1-night pre-cruise stay in Buenos Aires

FREE 1-night post-cruise hotel stay in Buenos Aires



HAPAG-LLOYD CRUISES

Expedition Amazon: Lifeline and Legendary Route

Belem to Iquitos

Hanseatic Inspiration (230 Guests)

9th April 2027 | 22 nights

Discover the treasures of the mighty Amazon River on this exhilarating expedition on board Hanseatic Inspiration, venturing upstream to explore smaller tributaries and channels during Zodiac tours. Visit riverside communities along the way for an insight into daily life and to learn about indigenous customs and traditions. Be prepared for sightings of the resident wildlife from pink river dolphins to vibrant birdlife as you immerse yourself in this incredible wilderness, your journey enriched by your onboard team of experts in a range of disciplines.

Your itinerary:

9 – 11 April

Fly to São Paulo where you will enjoy an overnight stay. The following day, transfer to the airport for your flight to Belem where you will board Hanseatic Inspiration and begin your expedition.

11 – 29 April

Cruise Itinerary:

Belem, cruising the Breves Channels, 4 days exploring the Amazon River with Zodiac landings (including Guajara, Virassaia, Alter do Chao, Parintins, and Canacari), Rio Negro, Manaus, 8 days exploring further upstream (including Badajos, Cuxiu Muni, Rio Jutai, Leticia, Pevas), Iquitos

29 April – 1 May

Disembark in Iquitos and transfer to the airport for your flight to Lima where you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay. The following day join your flight back to the UK.



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £17,875 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 18 nights in an Outside Cabin
- All onboard meals and taxes
- Zodiac tours and landings
- Return flights and overseas transfers

FREE 1-night pre- and post-cruise hotel stays in São Paulo and Lima



AE EXPEDITIONS

Northern Lights Explorer

Tromsø to Reykjavik

Sylvia Earle (130 Guests)

2nd September 2026 | 18 nights

Sail the coastlines of Norway, Greenland and Iceland, some of the best places on Earth to see the incredible Northern Lights, on this voyage on board AE Expeditions' purpose-built expedition ship, Sylvia Earle. By day discover remote wilderness and breathtaking vistas as you explore these rugged outposts and as evening falls, hope for a glimpse of colourful aurora across the night sky, with the guidance of your expedition team.

Your itinerary:

2 – 3 September

Fly to Tromsø, in Norway's far north, where you will be met at the airport and transferred to your included hotel for an overnight stay. The following day, enjoy a tour and talk at the Tromsø Science Centre to prepare you for the celestial displays you will hopefully witness on your voyage, before transferring to the pier to join Sylvia Earle.

3 – 19 September

Cruise Itinerary:

Tromsø, 3 days exploring the Norwegian Coast, Jan Mayen, 6 days exploring Eastern Greenland, 3 days exploring Iceland, Reykjavik

19 – 20 September

Disembark in Reykjavik and transfer to your hotel for an overnight stay. The following day join a flight back to the UK.

15% fare savings
FREE 1-night post-cruise hotel stay in Reykjavik



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £15,525 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 16 nights in an Aurora Stateroom Superior
- All onboard meals, drinks with meals, and taxes
- Zodiac cruises, landings ashore, and guided walks
- Return flights and overseas transfers
- 1-night pre-cruise hotel stay in Tromsø



QUARK EXPEDITIONS

Emperor Penguin Quest: Expedition to Snow Hill

Ushuaia round-trip

Ultramarine (199 Guests)

14th November 2026 | 16 nights

Experience a true polar adventure on this quest to visit the incredible emperor penguin colony on Snow Hill Island with Quark Expeditions – an operator with over two decades of experience visiting the remote rookery. Spend five days exploring the Weddell Sea, immersing yourself in its beauty during Zodiac tours, walks on the ice, and of course making full use of the twin-engine helicopters to reach Snow Hill Island itself and witness the majesty of thousands of emperor penguins in their natural habitat.

Your itinerary:

14 – 16 November

Fly overnight to Buenos Aires, the vibrant capital of Argentina, where you will enjoy an overnight stay. The following day, join a charter flight to Ushuaia where you will board Ultramarine and begin your expedition.

16 – 28 November

Cruise Itinerary:

Ushuaia, 5 days exploring the Weddell Sea including the quest to land at Snow Hill Island, Ushuaia

28 – 30 November

Disembark in Ushuaia and join a charter flight to Buenos Aires. Here you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay before transferring to the airport the following day to join your overnight flight back to the UK.



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £20,155 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 12 nights in an Explorer Suite
- All onboard meals, drinks with meals, and taxes
- Zodiac cruises, hikes, and helicopter flightseeing
- Return flights and overseas transfers
- 1-night pre-cruise hotel stay in Buenos Aires

FREE 1-night post-cruise hotel stay in Buenos Aires



HX HURTIGRUTEN EXPEDITIONS

Circumnavigating Spitsbergen: In the Realm of the Polar Bear

Longyearbyen round-trip
MS Spitsbergen (220 Guests)
3rd July 2026 | 12 nights

Enjoy this fluid exploration of Spitsbergen during summer when the long days are perfect for wildlife watching and soaking in the scenic vistas under the glow of the Midnight Sun. Expect the unexpected, your journey guided by wildlife and ice conditions as you explore Northwest Spitsbergen National Park and the eastern coast. If conditions allow, venture north and cross the 80th parallel to the ever-changing edge of the polar ice cap, the waters here filled with drifting pack ice offering a fantastic opportunity to spot seals and walrus.

Your itinerary:

3 – 5 July

Fly to Oslo where you will enjoy an overnight hotel stay to experience this vibrant and walkable capital. The next day transfer to the airport for your flight to Longyearbyen where you will enjoy a further overnight stay. Following your overnight stay in Longyearbyen, join an included sightseeing excursion before boarding MS Spitsbergen in the afternoon to begin your expedition.

5 – 14 July

Cruise Itinerary:

Longyearbyen, Ny-Ålesund, 3 days exploring Northwest Spitsbergen National Park including attempting to sail to the edge of the polar ice cap, 2 days exploring eastern Spitsbergen, Hornsund, Bellsund, Longyearbyen

14 – 15 July

Disembark in Longyearbyen and transfer to the airport for your flight to Oslo where you will enjoy an overnight stay. The following day continue your journey with your flight back to the UK.



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £9,425 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 9 nights in a Polar Outside Cabin
- All onboard meals, drinks, gratuities and taxes
- Escorted landings using small expedition boats
- Return flights and overseas transfers
- 1-night pre-cruise hotel stays in Oslo and Longyearbyen

FREE 1-night post-cruise hotel stay in Oslo
130th anniversary fare saving



AQUA EXPEDITIONS

Bali & Komodo National Park Expedition

Bali to Flores
Aqua Blu (30 Guests)
30th June 2026 | 13 nights

Explore the idyllic islands of Indonesia away from the main tourist trail during this adventure on board Aqua Expeditions' intimate luxury yacht, Aqua Blu. Your journey will be filled with special experiences from kayaking in extinct volcano craters and secluded bays to snorkelling amongst colourful fish in vibrant coral reefs, plus enjoy the opportunity to see the incredible wildlife of these remote isles including majestic whale sharks in Saleh Bay, iconic Komodo dragons, and abundant birdlife.

Your itinerary:

30 June – 4 July

Fly to Bali where you will enjoy a three-night stay. Spend time relaxing on the numerous beaches or enjoy a day trip to experience the island's varied sights from lush green rice terraces to beautiful temples. Following your time here, transfer to the pier in Benoa to join Aqua Blu and begin your voyage.

4 – 11 July

Cruise Itinerary:

Bali (Benoa), Moyo Island, Sumbawa, Komodo Islands, Padar Islands, Horseshoe Bay, Sabulon, Flores (Labuan Bajo)

11 – 13 July

Disembark in Labuan Bajo on the island of Flores and transfer to the airport for your flight to Bali where you will enjoy an overnight stay. The following day transfer to Bali Denpasar Airport for your overnight flight back to the UK.



EXCLUSIVE MUNDY PACKAGE

from £9,995 per person fly-cruise

Your fare includes:

- 7 nights in a Category III Suite
- All onboard meals, select drinks, excursions and taxes
- Return flights and overseas transfers
- 1-night post-cruise hotel stay in Bali

FREE 3-night pre-cruise hotel stay at the Grand Hyatt Bali



ASK THE EXPERTS

Q / I HEARD THERE IS A LIMIT OF 100 PEOPLE ASHORE IN SOME AREAS, DOES THIS MEAN SHIPS OF 100 GUESTS OR FEWER ARE BEST?

Landing sites in the Arctic, Antarctic, and Galápagos are limited to a maximum of 100 guests ashore, although ships with larger guest capacity are just as able to provide an outstanding guest experience. The rotation of landing groups and the time it takes to get guests ashore in Zodiacs means a ship of 200 guests or fewer is just as efficient as some guests return as the last groups make shore. Larger ships tend to spend longer at one site and choose not to make a second landing in a single day. There are also plenty of activities when not ashore, including Zodiac cruising, kayaking, taking the polar plunge, lectures, and even helicopters, so there are plenty of other ways to explore.

Q / IS ANY KIT PROVIDED BY THE CRUISE LINE?

For cold water cruises, polar parkas are provided and some even offer suitable trousers. Boots are available and some cruise lines will offer walking poles if guests request them. Should kayaking or other water activities be on offer then suitable dry suits in polar waters or wetsuits in warm water are on hand. There are also a host of smaller items available, from binoculars to day bags to water bottles, as expedition operators strive to help guests minimise their likely extensive packing lists.

Q / IF I WANT TO KAYAK DO I HAVE TO HAVE TRIED IT BEFORE?

Most of the operators we work with offer kayaking and the way they run their programmes differ. Usually, guests with no experience can enjoy a paddle excursion, a chance to give it a go with a small group, run on a first-come, first-served basis. Some programmes are more extensive with the likes of AE Expeditions offering guests the chance to join a kayaking group for the entire cruise with several excursions during the voyage for which experience is required. If you're interested in kayaking, or any other specific excursion type, do give us a call and we can run through all the details.

Q / WHAT IS THE STANDARD OF DINING COMPARED TO A REGULAR CRUISE?

Excellent! The expedition operators we work with all offer an excellent dining experience and ensure that guests enjoy all aspects of the trip including the food. Even on longer voyages where the logistics of provisioning are harder, they are experienced in coping with these challenges. Some operators have even incorporated local cuisine into their adventure with Quark offering a Tundra to Table Inuit Experience in Greenland, hosted by Inuit chefs who talk about the origin of the ingredients of a specially prepared meal which even features regional tableware and cultural storytelling. In the Galápagos, cruise lines are required to source all produce from Ecuador so here you can enjoy local ingredients used to create your favourite international dishes.

Q / I'M A KEEN PHOTOGRAPHER, ARE THERE ANY CLASSES ON EXPEDITION TRIPS?

There is a huge range of facilities and programmes tailored to photography on expedition cruises. National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions has a National Geographic photographer accompanying cruises who can give guests pointers. Many ships have photo editing suites. Seabourn has recently launched their Image Masters programme where, on selected sailings, you can join a small group for in-depth workshops and in-the-field instruction on photo composition including photographer-led Zodiac tours and walks, camera technique, editing, and retouching, all led by accomplished nature photographers.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

We have printed brochures available for a multitude of adventure destinations, from Antarctica and the Arctic to the Galápagos.

SIMPLY GIVE US A CALL ON 020 7399 7630 TO REQUEST A BROCHURE

If undelivered please return to:
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