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About Crossing the Circle trips

The Crossing the Circle trips are similar to the Classic Antarctica itinerary and focus on the western side of the Antarctic Peninsula, mainly on the waterway known as the Gerlache Strait. Almost exclusively these itineraries depart from Ushuaia, Argentina, and return to the same city.

What makes a Crossing the Circle trip different is that the main aim will be to cross the Antarctic Circle, and hence, the itinerary will venture further South, visiting more remote places. This is raw Antarctica, home of the midnight sun, Weddell seals and some of the most magical, stunning ice formations you'll see anywhere on Earth.

By covering a greater distance, more days will be required and because of this, this type of trip can extend up to 14 days.

Highlights of a Crossing the Circle trip:

- Check off a travel milestone by crossing the Antarctic Circle
- Get to land on the Antarctic Continent
- By travelling further South, you will observe sea ice and Adélie penguins
- Plunge in the frigid waters of Antarctica
- Experience abundant wildlife and landscapes
- Learn about the environment and wildlife from on-board presenters

An example of a Crossing the Circle trip would be as follows:

Day 1 – Ushuaia, embarkation Day

Days 2 and 3 – Crossing the Drake Passage

Days 4 to 6 – Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands

Days 7 and 8 – Antarctic Circle

Days 9 and 10 – Northbound Along the Peninsula

Days 11 and 12 – Crossing the Drake Passage

Day 13 – Disembark in Ushuaia

Important note

When choosing an Antarctic Expedition, options can be overwhelming. There are lots of operators running trips to Antarctica at the moment, each of them with their own trip names and descriptions. In our opinion, this results in great confusion at the time of booking.

We really want to help you understand the different options, in the easiest way possible.

Although there are variants, all trips can be filtered according to their objective into the following groups:

- 1 - Classic Antarctica
- 2 - Crossing the Circle
- 3 - Fly over the Drake
- 4 - South Georgia and Falkland Islands / Malvinas
- 5 - Weddell Sea

Regardless the voyage type, during transit days the expedition team will conduct mandatory briefings (safety, IAATO, etc.) but they will also run an educational program. Presentations on different topics such as ornithology, history, marine biology and geology, will be made by experts in those fields.

Except transit days (could be full or half days) there will be two excursions a day, weather permitting. One will be in the morning and the second in the afternoon. During lunch the ship will reposition to a new location.

The offer of optional activities such as camping, sea kayak, mountaineering, etc, depends on each different operator.

Except on some specific trips, there is never a fixed itinerary. We can tell you in which geographical region your voyage will take place, but we cannot tell you the specific locations that you will be visiting. Locations are subject to change in each individual voyage for various reasons such as weather and other ships in the area for example.

There is no best time to travel to Antarctica, each month of the austral spring and summer is different, and each has its particular charm.