



Included Activities

-  Zodiac Cruises
-  Walks & Hikes
-  Photography
-  Expert Lectures
-  Polar Plunge
-  Birdwatching
-  Historical Sites

Optional Activities*

-  Sea Kayaking
-  Snorkeling
-  Scuba Diving
-  Paddling

*Optional activities available on select voyages, at additional cost.

Deep Weddell following Nordenskjöld

Antarctic Peninsula, Weddell Sea | 14 Days

A new voyage that focuses on the Weddell Sea region more than any of our other voyages. The Weddell Sea is renowned for vast amounts of ice – sea ice, pack ice and gigantic icebergs. Even icebreakers have difficulty getting around in the Weddell Sea. For adventurous expeditioners, a visit to the area can be rewarding, not least for its historical associations. In 1902, Swedish explorer Otto Nordenskjöld was forced to spend two winters on the Weddell Sea, and the main expedition hut built on Snow Hill Island still stands. The area is also central to Ernest Shackleton’s well-known expedition when the *Endurance* became trapped in the ice. In addition to ice-watching opportunities, the area is also rich in wildlife, geology and paleontology. We hope to see ice seals such as crabeater and leopard seals. On the shores, you can scour for ancient fossils of gastropods, large clams and spiral-shaped ammonites.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hear tall tales of heroic exploration, tragedy and triumph in the Weddell region
- With favorable conditions, we hope to spend more time in the Weddell Sea region than on any other of our voyages
- Be awestruck by the array of wildlife that hunt and play in the Antarctic Sound



Itinerary Overview

DAY 1 Arrive in Ushuaia and transfer to your hotel.

DAY 2 Embark in Ushuaia.

DAYS 3–4 Drake Passage crossing.

DAYS 5–11 A voyage to the Antarctic Peninsula is by its very nature a genuine adventure, but to venture to the Weddell Sea region, located on the wild eastern side of the peninsula, is turning up the dial a few notches. The Weddell Gyre pushes enormous amounts of ice from the Filchner-Ronne Ice Shelf up toward the area near the Antarctic Sound, blocking the entrance to the Weddell Sea. While a considerable aspect of a voyage to the Weddell Sea is the thrill of not knowing if the ice will allow us to enter its frozen realm, a visit to the region still has numerous rewards.

Gigantic icebergs, the size of skyscrapers, dwarf our Zodiacs as we attempt to push through seemingly impenetrable sea ice to land on remote beaches where ancient fossils can be found. The wildlife we may encounter in the Weddell Sea region makes the attempt worthwhile. The abundant ice attracts ice seals, such as crabeater, leopard and Weddell seals, which all breed and birth on sea ice. Large numbers of orca, minke and humpback whales are also commonly seen here.

DAYS 12–13 Drake Passage crossing.

DAY 14 Disembark in Ushuaia and continue your journey.

You can view the full itinerary on our website.

Dates

Start/Finish	Duration	Dates	Voyage Code	Type of Voyage
Ushuaia/Ushuaia	14 Days	24 Mar '24 – 06 Apr '24	ADW001S	Sail

Voyage Codes: G = Greg Mortimer | S = Sylvia Earle



Add Easter Island

Easter Island, or Rapa Nui, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, national park and one of the remotest inhabited islands on the planet. Spend time exploring the island and experience its famous archaeological sites. For more information, visit our website.

For more information and to book, contact your preferred travel advisor or Aurora Expeditions: