



# AURORA EXPEDITION

## FREEDOM OF ADVENT





Antarctica is a captivating destination of ice-capped mountains, massive glaciers and glistening iceberg-studded bays. Being the coldest, windiest continent on Earth, Antarctica's challenging conditions mean that off-ship excursions only happen when the weather permits. A pioneer in this region, Aurora Expeditions takes full advantage of having no set schedule. Carrying a maximum of 54 passengers, their vessels allow all travellers to go ashore at once (in Antarctica, only 100 people can disembark at any one time). They can also land two to three times daily. Where Aurora Expeditions really shines is in their ability to up the ante on your Antarctic adventure. Aside from photography, here are just some of the many exhilarating things you can do once docked.



### CAMPING

Spend a night in a sleeping bag on the ice as curious penguins wander around your campsite, making the most of 24-hour daylight.



### SEA KAYAKING

Paddle up close to leopard and crabeater seals lounging on sea ice and observe playful whales gliding past your craft.



### SNOWSHOEING

Stretch your legs traversing powder snow and take in sweeping vistas from areas inaccessible in ordinary footwear.



### SKI TOURING

Conquer some of Antarctica's most remote peaks and soak up the view before savouring the rush of skiing back down.



### SNORKELLING

Peek at life beneath the water's surface, from the intricate blue bases of icebergs to shipwrecks covered in bright corals.



### SCUBA DIVING

Dive in to admire submerged ice sculptures and the trove of marine life that inhabits Antarctica's krill-rich waters.

**For maximum enjoyment, we recommend choosing just one activity to focus on for the duration of your trip. Contact our Antarctica specialists on 1300 363 302 for more information today.**



# HERITAGE EXPEDITIONS

## Antarctica - The Forgotten Isles

For the past 30 years, Heritage Expeditions has led life-changing journeys from New Zealand across the remote Southern Ocean to the Subantarctic Islands and into rarely-explored Eastern Antarctica. Aboard the intimate 50-passenger Spirit of Enderby, visitors have the privilege of treading shores crowded with penguins, uncovering sites that bring Antarctic history to life and appreciating scenery that photos and videos will never do justice to.

The 13 day **“Galapagos of the Southern Ocean”** voyage navigates the tiny, windswept yet surprisingly fecund Subantarctic Islands, all World Heritage Sites. Whilst every islet will astound, Macquarie Island is a standout. The only known breeding ground of the Royal Penguin, its volcanic beaches are where you'll find thousands of penguins - including the majestic King Penguin - jostling with enormous elephant seals for space.

The epic 30 day **“In the wake of Scott and Shackleton”** itinerary traces the route taken by legendary explorers Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton. Traverse the remote Ross Sea, accessible only for a few months each year, to see noisy rookeries, tour scientific bases and be humbled by nature on such a monumental scale.

Both cruises depart from Invercargill or Dunedin in New Zealand's South Island. To learn more about Heritage Expeditions and their full range of programs, please contact our Antarctic cruise specialists on 1300 363 302.





# PRESENTING GREENLAND

A major highlight of selected Arctic expeditions, icy Greenland probably tops the list of misleadingly named countries, sharing the trophy with its relatively verdant neighbour, Iceland. Approximately three-quarters of this island nation is permanently covered in ice, while its coastline is a wonderland of fjords choked with skyscraper-sized icebergs. Amongst the many points of interest found in Greenland are:

## ILULISSAT ICEFJORD

This World Heritage Site has to be seen to be believed. Located at the mouth of the very active Sermeq Kujalleq glacier - which moves a breakneck 40 metres a day - this ever-expanding fjord is a maze of gargantuan icebergs, which groan, fizz and pop as crashing waves push them out into the sparkling waters of Disko Bay.

## AURORA BOREALIS

With a population of under 60,000 people, Greenland enjoys very little pollution. As such, the winter phenomenon of aurora borealis can be freely observed from virtually anywhere, even in the capital city of Nuuk. Better still, sheltered sites such as Kangerlussuaq boasts over 300 clear-sky nights - ideal conditions for Northern Lights viewing.

## ARCTIC WILDLIFE

Beautifully adapted to Greenland's harsh terrain, land-based native fauna include lumbering polar bears, shaggy muskoxen, regal caribou, fluffy arctic foxes and plump ptarmigan. In the nutrient-rich waters, whales often steal the show with their showy breaches and tail slapping. However, look closer and you'll find walrus, seals and a plethora of seabirds.

## CULTURE

Settled by Vikings over a thousand years ago, Inuit people arrived in the 13th century and today form some 90% of the population. Dog sledding tells a story of how Greenlandics adapted to their environs. Taste halibut, snow crab and Arctic char - natural bounty that even now, remain central to survival in a climate unsuitable for agriculture.

A number of our Arctic Cruises include explorations of the extraordinary coastline of Greenland. For more information about our full range of High Arctic journeys, please call our Arctic specialists on 1300 363 302.