ATLANTIC ISLES DISCOVERY: FROM THE FALKLANDS TO MADEIRA

34 Days | Nat Geo Endurance | 126 Guests | Expeditions in: Mar | From $25,350 to $49,870

An expedition crossing nearly 90° of latitude and encompassing the entire Atlantic Ocean is nothing short of epic. Leave the fast-paced, modern world behind to explore almost 9,000 nautical miles of ocean and the fascinating stops we make along the way. With all the romance of an ocean crossing and the thrill of discovery—this expedition is one-of-a-kind. Join us for the ultimate adventure.

**DAY 1-2: U.S./Buenos Aires, Argentina**
Fly overnight to Buenos Aires and transfer to the Alvear Icon Hotel. Discover the city’s beaux arts architecture, the bohemian neighborhoods of La Boca and San Telmo, and the balcony immortalized by Argentina’s iconic first lady, Eva Perón. (L,D)

**DAY 3: Ushuaia**
Take a scenic charter flight to Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world. Upon arrival, enjoy lunch on a catamaran cruise on the dramatic Beagle Channel, gliding past beech forests, jagged peaks, and rushing rivers. Later, step aboard National Geographic Endurance. (B,L,D)

**DAY 4: At Sea**
As we set a course for the Falkland Islands, settle into life aboard the ship. Enjoy discussions with our naturalists about the wonders that await; and spend time on deck, scanning the horizon for petrels, penguins, and albatrosses. (B,L,D)
DAY 5-6: Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)
Some 300 miles off the coast of Argentina lie the remote Falkland Islands, where green tussock grass waves across endless hills and pristine white-sand beaches stretch as far as the eye can see. Spend two days exploring the archipelago’s diverse landscapes, and encounter the incredible wildlife of the South Atlantic, including one of the world’s largest colonies of albatrosses; thousands of gentoo, rockhopper, and Magellanic penguins; elephant and fur seals; and more. (B,L,D)

DAY 7-8: At Sea
During two days at sea, we traverse 750 nautical miles en route to South Georgia. Enjoy leisure time and attend expert-led talks about the history of Antarctic exploration, as well as the flora, fauna, and geology of South Georgia. Join our naturalists on deck to identify the seabirds that follow us, such as prions and black-browed albatrosses. (B,L,D)

DAY 9-11: South Georgia
Spend three spectacular days exploring the island of South Georgia. In keeping with the nature of an expedition, our schedule remains flexible, and we anticipate myriad opportunities for walking, hiking, kayaking, and Zodiac excursions. Encounter elephant seals, leopard seals, and fur seals; cliffs inhabited by hundreds of nesting albatrosses; and shores peppered with tens of thousands of king penguins. Our stops may include visits to the abandoned whaling station at Grytviken, which played a part in the extraordinary story of Sir Ernest Shackleton’s ill-fated expedition and is now the explorer’s final resting place; as well as Stromness Bay, where Shackleton, Tom Crean, and Frank Worsley finally reached help after a year and a half stranded in Antarctica. (B,L,D)

DAY 12-15: At Sea
Choose from an array of shipboard activities. Attend a photo workshop with our National Geographic photographer, treat yourself to a massage or a wellness class, or compete for prizes in a Geo Bee. As we approach the remote islands of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, spot active volcanic cones from the ship’s deck. (B,L,D)

DAY 16: Inaccessible Island/Tristan da Cunha
This morning we take a Zodiac excursion along Inaccessible Island to look for arctic terns and the endemic Inaccessible Island rail, the world’s smallest flightless bird. Later, we step foot on the planet’s most remote inhabited island, home to some 250 hardy souls. Meet local islanders to learn about their culture and history and hear about the self-sufficient farming and lobster trade that sustains them. Hike with our naturalists in search of northern rockhopper penguins, Atlantic yellow-nosed albatrosses, and other wildlife. (B,L,D)

DAY 17-19: At Sea—Cross the Tropic of Capricorn
Enjoy the rhythms of shipboard life as we sail across the Tropic of Capricorn. Soak up the views from one of the infinity-style hot tubs or saunas; enjoy a stretching session in the glass-walled yoga studio; and attend engaging presentations on a range of subjects, from 15th-century Portuguese and Spanish navigators to talks from our photography team on how to organize and share your images. (B,L,D)

2021 Departure Dates:
12 Mar

Important Flight Information
* Overnight flight. Please confirm arrival and departure dates prior to booking.

Advance Payment:
$3,000

Sample Airfares:
Economy (Miami/Buenos Aires; Lisbon/New York): from $1,675
Business: from $8,200
Charter (Buenos Aires/Ushuaia and Lisbon/New York): from $805
Airfares are subject to change

Cost Includes:
One hotel night in Buenos Aires and one hotel night in Lisbon; shipboard accommodations; meals indicated; alcoholic beverages aboard ship (except certain super-premium brands of alcohol); transfers to and from group flights; all excursions; services of Lindblad Expeditions’ Leader, expedition staff and expert guides; entrance fees; tips (including gratuities to ship’s crew), taxes and service charges; services of a ship physician.

Cost Not Included:
Air transportation; extensions; passport, visa, immigration fees; meals not indicated; travel protection plan; personal items such as emails, laundry, voyage DVD.

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DAY 20: Saint Helena Island
Explore this volcanic tropical isle where Napoléon Bonaparte lived out his final years in exile. Visit the notorious French emperor’s residence, Longwood House, and learn about the memoirs he dictated here. (B,L,D)

DAY 21-23: At Sea/Ascension Island
After time at sea, make landfall on the pristine beaches of Ascension Island, which serve as vital breeding grounds for endangered green sea turtles that lay their eggs on these shores at night. Don a mask and go snorkeling in crystalline waters or stretch out on a deserted beach. (B,L,D)

DAY 24-26: At Sea/Cross the Equator
As we sail north across the Atlantic Equatorial Countercurrent, celebrate our Equator crossing. Luxuriate on deck and soak up the fresh sea air and beautiful views with a glass of champagne in hand. If conditions permit, we may launch Zodiaks mid-ocean—to cross the equator and take photos to prove it! (B,L,D)

DAY 27: Santiago, Cape Verde
Arrive in the isolated Cape Verde Islands, a waystation for the Atlantic slave trade during the 16th century. On the island of Santiago, venture to the Cidade Velha, or old city, to explore its 16th-century royal fortress and World Heritage-designated historic center. (B,L,D)

DAY 28: Fogo
Continue to the scenic isle of Fogo, named “fire” in Portuguese for the massive, five-mile-wide volcanic cone that dominates its landscape. Head up to the rim of the ancient volcano and descend 5,000 feet, where you are transported to a world of stark lava flows. Surprisingly, there is a community living inside the caldera—producing wine!—and we are invited for a tasting. (B,L,D)

DAY 29-30: At Sea/Cross the Tropic of Cancer
Visit the ship’s Bridge as we sail northward across the Tropic of Cancer. Soak up the serenity of these final days at sea before our finale on the edge of Europe. (B,L,D)

DAY 31-32: La Palma, Canary Islands/La Gomera
Drop anchor in the azure waters of the Canary Islands, which occupied a central place in the history of Atlantic exploration. The larger island of La Palma is known as La Isla Bonita, or “the pretty island,” for its lushly forested mountain slopes set against azure waters. Enjoy a scenic drive up to Mirador de la Concepción, perched on the edge of a crater. Take in fantastic views of the town and harbor below and visit the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Snows, with its fusion of baroque and Spanish-Moorish architecture. On the island of La Gomera, visit a house where Christopher Columbus stayed while his ships were provisioned with supplies, then stretch your legs on a hike in the verdant Garajonay National Park. (B,L,D)

DAY 33: Madeira Islands/Lisbon, Portugal
Disembark our ship in enchanting Madeira, a subtropical island abloom in flora. First settled by the Portuguese in 1419, the island’s capital city of Funchal evokes a colonial time capsule with architecture from the 15th through the 19th centuries. Explore its winding streets on a guided tour, then fly to Lisbon and check in to the Altis Avenida Hotel (or similar) for our final night. (B,L,D)
DAY 34: Lisbon/Home
After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)

National Geographic Endurance

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(1) Travel Protection Plan
We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or lost of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. and Canadian residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date. Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased.
Learn more about our Travel Protection “Plus” Plan:  https://www.expeditions.com/TravelProtection/

(2) Cancellation Plan
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