

Tour Report

Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari

19 February – 7 March 2026

Antarctic fur seal



Gentoo penguin



Southern elephant seal



Humpback whale



Compiled by Helen Bryon

Summary

Tour Leaders: Helen Bryon & Emma Healey

By purposely travelling later in the Austral summer, we were intent on maximising whale watching potential at a time when they are about to move north towards breeding grounds, and spending time amongst colonies of gentoo, chinstrap and Adélie penguins with their moulting chicks. We were not to be disappointed.

Our extended voyage of 11 nights aboard the purpose-built Greg Mortimer also enabled us to cross the Antarctic Circle and spend six full days on the continent, exploring both the peninsula and its surrounding islands and bays. From the comfort and space of our two dedicated Zodiacs, we enjoyed cruises and landings with just seven people plus the driver in each. The group rotated between them on every excursion, thereby spending time with Helen, passionate about cetaceans, and with Emma, our photographic leader.

Wildlife was prolific and we enjoyed close encounters with a diverse number of marine mammal and bird species in one of the last great wilderness areas on earth. Whilst our backdrop of jagged mountain peaks, sweeping glaciers and sculpted icebergs was impressive in their own right, when adding ephemeral light, a fantastic group and smooth logistics, it all combined to become a holiday of a lifetime!

Thursday 19 February 2026

Day 1:

London Heathrow to Buenos Aires

Most of the group met up with joint tour leader, Helen, at London Heathrow and departed on schedule for their nonstop 11-hour overnight flight to Rio de Janeiro with British Airways. After a crew change there, we continued on to Buenos Aires, a further three hours away.

Friday 20 February 2026

Day 2:

Overnight Buenos Aires

Weather: sunny, 24 degrees

Arriving on time shortly before midday local time, we were met in the Arrivals Hall and were whisked to our overnight hotel, Dazzler by Wyndham Palermo, a little over an hour away. We settled in, meeting two more of our party who had flown in from the US, and agreed to meet up for dinner at 19:00. Prior to that, we went our separate ways, either relaxing at the hotel, using the pool or stretching our legs. Exploring the many cafes and restaurants in this tree-lined suburb, we found suitable eateries for a late lunch. Later, steak and Malbec were, of course, top of the agenda for dinner before an early night as we had another travel day ahead tomorrow.

Saturday 21 February 2026

Day 3:

Buenos Aires to Ushuaia

Weather: sunny at origin, 26 degrees, mixed sun and clouds at destination, 5 degrees

We were collected for our 15-minute transfer to the domestic airport early and shortly after 09:00 found ourselves in a long queue for bag drop. It took 90 minutes to get ourselves airside and we were more than ready for our direct flight south to Ushuaia. Three hours and forty minutes later, we landed to sunny skies, incredible scenery, and welcoming staff, who, in a small convoy of minibuses, shuttled us to our supremely comfortable overnight accommodation, Arakur. There we met up with photographic tour leader, Emma, and the final two members of our group who had been to Southern Chile on a successful puma quest.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

We checked in with both the hotel and Aurora Expeditions and learnt that the hotel's name translates as 'cliff', an apt description as we looked down on the town and dock area far below. We watched our good ship, Greg Mortimer, come into dock and met in the bar to get to know each other further over an excitable drink or two and dinner. Logistical travel now done, our adventure could really begin.

Sunday 22 February 2026

Day 4:

Lake Escondido tour, board Greg Mortimer & set sail for Antarctica

Weather: Sunny, 8 degrees



After a stunning sunrise, breakfast was available from 06:30. We dropped our checked luggage off between 07:00 and 08:00 for it to be delivered directly to our cabins and then met in the lobby to set off for our day excursion to Lake Escondido. As we left Ushuaia behind, we passed the jagged peaks of Five Brothers and pointed Mount Olivia, whose name originates from the Yamana name for arrow. It was a beautiful day, and we reached El Fin del Mundo (The End of the World) viewpoint where a peat bog was flanked by impressive mountains. Dragging up names from A Level Geography, we were pleased to identify arêtes, cirques, hanging valleys and truncated spurs.

Next stop was a comfort break at Tierra Mayor, where we were welcomed by a Chimango caracara, two gorgeous dogs, and thriving clumps of raspberry and pink lupins introduced here centuries before.

White achillea lined the roads as we continued through thick native beech forests to the Garibaldi Pass where we stopped to appreciate a great view of shining Lake Escondido below. Pressing on, false mistletoe and Spanish moss (actually a lichen, a mutualistic symbiotic relationship between algae and fungus) were pointed out and we passed dams where beaver damage was clearly evident.



Our next stop was on Navy land where we had special permission to walk the shoreline of scenic Lake Fagnano. The breeze was picking up, but the sun was beautifully warm as we wandered through dandelions and clumps of marguerite daisies. Buff-winged cinclodes flew around us, settling on the branches of dead submerged trees, and while waiting to be taken through a series of maps highlighting our location, Patagonian sierra-finch and thorn-tailed rayadito kept us on our toes as we tried to photograph them.

Returning to Tierra Mayor, we tucked into a leisurely and absolutely delicious slow roast lamb and salad lunch (vegetarian options were available) and were finally dropped off at Ushuaia's port around 16:00, passing flotillas of kelp gulls and the odd floating Antarctic shag (imperial cormorant) on our final approach. We were dropped off right next to our vessel, the Greg Mortimer, where we had our photograph taken and then embarked, passing a barrage of expedition team shirts en route to Reception. Welcome drink in hand, we handed in our passports and were shown cabin by cabin to our spacious and well-designed en suite accommodation. We were asked to meet in the Lecture Theatre at 17:00, where we were introduced to our Expedition Leader, Isabelle, Assistant Expedition Leader, Tamsin, and their team. Consisting of geologists, kayak, dive and snorkelling guides, there was also a historian, photographer, marine biologist, ornithologist and medic in there. We were certainly going to be well looked after. Hotel Director Oliver took us through life on board, the ship's doctor provided damage limitation tips while at sea, and finally we attended a lifeboat drill at the muster station on deck 7.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

After so much information being thrown at us, we had built up an appetite and with two tables reserved next to each other in the dining room, we gathered for dinner discussing what had brought us to be here and what we hoped to see during the voyage. Numerous whale blows, identified as sei whales, and three humpbacks surfaced close to the ship, hailing the start of our Beagle Channel wildlife experience. Afterwards, our complimentary jackets could be swapped if the sizing was not quite right and then half of the group settled for an early night whilst others indulged in a game of Monopoly Deal in the bar.

Monday 23 February 2026

Day 5:

Drake Passage

Weather: cloudy with rain, clearing to sunshine late afternoon, 2 degrees

Waking to low, grey cloudy skies, spirits were high as we met for breakfast at 08:00. A few members of the group were feeling a little under the weather but we were all pleased to see that the Drake Passage was generally being kind to us, with swells of four to five metres. We scattered around the ship for a lazy morning, a few collating in the lecture theatre for a 'Discover Antarctica' presentation from onboard historian Hannah. It transpired to be a fascinating insight into early exploration, as we went through the early era, first landings, the Heroic and Technological Ages, and finally, modern times under which the Antarctic Treaty protects the continent, permitting it to be utilised for the promotion of science and peace only.



Lunch was served from 12:30, after which further lectures followed, including an introduction to photography and later, seabirds. The skies had by now cleared and in bright early evening sunshine, we watched wandering and black-browed albatross flying alongside great petrels. They flew in our wake at such speed that it was difficult to capture them on camera, but we managed. We sojourned inside for a welcome from the Captain with cocktails at 18:00 before dinner was served at 19:00. Our first full day at sea came to a close and we were grateful for relatively smooth sailing so far.

Tuesday 24 February 2026

Day 6:

Drake Passage

Weather: Overcast, 1 degree

The sun rose above the easterly horizon but was quickly enveloped by low stratus cloud. Hourglass dolphins joined our port side during breakfast and at 09:15 we met up in the lecture theatre to be taken through IAATO regulations (International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators) in preparation for our first excursions tomorrow (weather and conditions permitting).

Biosecurity came next whereby we were called up deck by deck to have our outer clothing and dry bags cleared for landings. Finally, we headed to the mud room to have our life jackets fitted and to check the sizing on pre-ordered muck boots. With formalities completed, Emma gathered those with an interest in developing their photographic prowess in one of the observation lounges at 11:30. There, we discovered a range of experience within the group and she advised that she'd be on hand throughout the voyage to help with settings, framing, processing, etc and to offer critique if requested.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

After lunch, Madi, the onboard marine biologist, shared her passion for cetaceans, introducing us to what we may see down in Antarctica. A special afternoon tea almost tipped us over the edge in terms of how much it is possible to eat in one day (!) and then geologist, Melina, introduced us to the world of ice. Suitably genned up on ice sheets versus ice shelves and all things glacial, we met up again in the library for another photography tutorial. We were beyond thrilled to see Cape petrels soaring past with their distinctive plumage, and then came our first porpoising gentoo penguins flying through the waves beneath us!



During the recap of the day and briefing about what to expect tomorrow, we discovered that we were passing the South Shetland Islands. The fog was so thick we couldn't see a thing, but it was exciting nonetheless. We were almost there...and it felt like Christmas Eve!

Wednesday 25 February 2026

Day 7:

Antarctica! Neko Harbour & Paradise Bay

Weather: Overcast with rain in the afternoon, 2 degrees

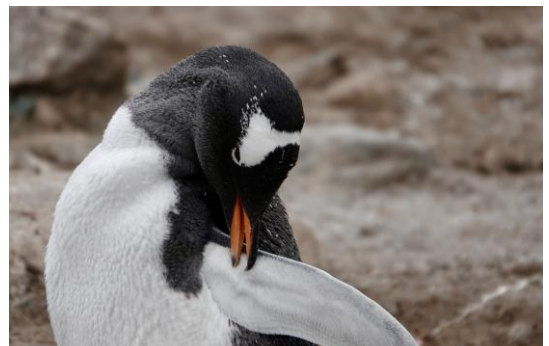


Those of us up on deck at 05:30 were rewarded not only with our first sighting of land, but with a number of humpback whales too. Rising and falling as they cut through the waves, their tails were held aloft as they repeatedly shallow dived in a 180-degree curve around our bow. It was a dark grey world set against a backdrop of glaciers and sheer cliffs of bare rock. A lone Antarctic fur seal caught our eye on a small off-white iceberg, and as we gazed out over the winter (well, summer actually) wonderland before us, the mist began to rise, and weak sunlight penetrated the cloud cover, revealing more and more of the mountains beyond.

Breakfast was served from 07:00, during which porpoising gentoo penguins and humpback whale blows gave us a taster of what was to come. Most of us gravitated towards the deck in order to lap it up before venturing back down to our cabins to layer up for our first excursion. We were ready ahead of the call for port followed by starboard cabins to head down to the mud room and prepare to depart for our first wet landing at Neko Harbour. Our two dedicated Zodiacs were the last called and we were taken through more safety protocols during the few minutes it took to reach the large gentoo penguin rookery there.

Lining the shore were clusters of gentoos either returning from or heading out to feed. The smell of fish permeated our nostrils and try as we might to keep the required five-metre distance away from them, it appeared they hadn't got the memo!

All around us, they waddled in an inelegant yet utterly endearing way, one jumping repeatedly with both feet in the air at a time, earning the nickname Tigger. We wove through the granite boulder-strewn beach towards an icy slope rising away from us at a 45-degree angle, climbing the lower reaches to enjoy the slightly elevated position from which to look down on proceedings below. We could see penguins chipping away at lumps of ice, drinking fresh water as the clear, calm ocean beyond bled into mist-shrouded icebergs and mountains on the other side of the channel.



Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



We then walked along the beach, reaching a viewpoint for a super impressive glacier. Dominating the foreground was a rocky ridge dotted with penguins along the top. We watched an adult regurgitate food for its offspring as brown skuas flew overhead. We settled down to observe the antics of the rookery at close range, but it was hard to know where to start. The serious business of preening involved repeatedly running bills down their flippers while others relieved itches using their feet. The contrast between translucent top skin covering their orange toes and thick, black, hardy weather-resistant skin underfoot was stark.

When chicks called for food, we could see their backwards-facing keratinised bristles on full display, an adaptation to directing prey down their throats. Braying would be a better description for the sound they made, though! Many were in a state of moult, feathers sticking to their orangey-red bills or having been dislodged, wafting in the breeze. Some rocked pretty good interpretations of Elizabethan ruffs around their necks, their diagnostic white crown taking centre stage. Some chicks clumsily chased others, with a rather podgy individual (coined by some as pre-diabetic) not going anywhere fast.



We were captivated by the photo opportunities on offer and threw ourselves into their world for a precious while. Around us, the glacier calved repeatedly, its loud booms essentially a warning of the bow wave to come, and we watched in awe as an avalanche high, high above us, released its resultant waterfall of snow. A small lake behind the beach reflected the mountains and gentoos beautifully as we contorted ourselves into positions to get the perfect picture without sitting, kneeling or lying down due to the continued threat of avian flu here.

By 11:15, we were back on the Zodiacs returning to the ship for a warm cup of tea and a few fabulous homemade biscuits before lunch was served between 12:00 and 13:00. Whilst eating, we repositioned to Paradise Bay, passing icebergs, logging humpback whales and yet more porpoising penguins en route. There's a lot to be said for dining with a view, but afterwards, we hit the decks once more to lap up this icy realm. It was truly fabulous!

Whilst waiting for announcements on timings for this afternoon's Zodiac cruise around Paradise Bay, two adult humpbacks lazily circled our vessel. They swam away from our stern, disappearing into the depths only to be replaced by another large individual swimming up our port side. We followed its progress, ending up on the bow deck watching it swim calmly ahead of us. It turned tail, coming directly towards our starboard bow now and we stopped, captivated, by its entire outline showcased in the calm water from above. It took a deep breath and then slowly dived.



Wow.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



At 14:15, starboard cabins were called down to the mudroom, followed by port this time, and we set off in separate directions for our afternoon activity. It was pouring down with rain, but we were immediately captivated by gentoo penguins slip-streaming in our wake, slowing down and speeding to match our speed. In a black and white world, we followed the base of a sheer cliff, past Brown Scientific Station, an Argentinian base, finding limited colours as rusty orange lichen and small patches of green moss were separated by seams of turquoise malachite.

Moving past an iceberg perfectly sculpted by the elements into a miniature whale's tail, we moved towards a substantially larger specimen whose ridges emulated baleen whale plates. Across the bay, humpbacks were out in force. We could hear their loud exhalations coming from all directions, and we constantly turned towards the sound to see smooth backs and stubby dorsal fins exposed above the aquatic horizon. We killed the engine every time we got close, waiting and scanning the direction in which we hoped they'd re-appear, only for them to emerge elsewhere. It certainly kept us on our toes. Suddenly two absolute tanks rose up directly ahead, slicing across the bow almost within touching distance. To see humpbacks at such proximity was nothing short of incredible! None of us captured the moment as it came out of nowhere, leaving us wanting more. We weren't disappointed as more and more pairs, trios and quartets appeared to be shallow feeding all around us.



Our species list increased with the sighting of a Weddell seal as Antarctic and Arctic terns flew low overhead, and both Zodiacs were blessed with sightings of leopard seals. While one posed like a boss atop a small berg right next to its bright orangey-red poop as we circled it over and over, the other swam amongst a long line of scattered brash ice, potentially using it as cover while hunting. Fabulously inquisitive, it repeatedly swam up to and beside us, enabling us to really appreciate the 'Nessy' type features and bulbous head of this apex predator of the Southern Ocean.

Other highlights were many. Humpbacks lunge feeding on the surface fought for attention with a group of porpoising gentoos racing towards a fluking humpback's tail. In another trick of perspective, one client captured a fantastic image of a Zodiac seemingly floating another whale's tail aloft. We also enjoyed a very special encounter with an Antarctic minke whale as we tried to return home, negotiating two sleeping humpbacks directly in our path. Not only did the minke take a great interest in our Zodiac and one other, but it either followed, swam ahead, or emerged slap bang in the middle of us, thus becoming the filling in a Zodiac sandwich! It rolled as it swam, showing us its pale ventral colouring just beneath the surface. Again, we were so close to it, we could have reached out and touched it. Hooray for inquisitive cetaceans.



Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

A little later, spirits were clearly high during Happy Hour and dinner, almost a foregone conclusion following a truly fabulous first full day in Antarctica!

Thursday 26 February 2026

Day 8:

Crossing the Antarctic Circle & Salmon Cove

Weather: overcast, windy and wet, 1 degree

At sea this morning, we continued to press south, celebrating Emma's birthday with breakfast pancakes and a snow petrel fly-by at a very civilised 08:00. An hour later, Kyle the onboard ornithologist took us through an interesting and thorough introduction to penguins, and mid-morning we were asked to collate in the observation lounge on deck eight. Braving the wind and rain, we went out on deck as the ship's horn blasted three times, signifying our crossing of the Antarctic Circle. Hot chocolate with Bailey's was poured, memorial photographs were taken, and the mood was distinctly jovial!

A little downtime followed as we traversed Crystal Sound during lunch. We prayed that the weather and swell would improve in the hope that we could make a landing at the historical site of Detalle this afternoon, but it was not to be. With an increasing wind speed of over 35 knots per hour, we moved further south still, standing by until Expedition Leader Isabelle and the captain announced that we would be entering waters previously uncharted by the Greg Mortimer, traversing Lallemand Fjord on a quest for a sheltered mooring.



It was late afternoon when we were finally given the green light for a Zodiac cruise around Salmon Bay. We were first to be called and were delighted to get out into the decidedly choppy ocean. The rain was pouring down as we made our way towards the closest cliff where an ice version of the Greg Mortimer appeared (alternatively it could have been described as a large iron!), complete with X-Bow and all. Further along, the snout of a massive glacier was contorted into rounded florets, a gigantic cauliflower head if you like, separated by deep blue crevasses.

We turned back on ourselves and entered a sea of broken bergs, eroded and contorted into varying sizes and shapes, but perhaps most striking of all were the colours. As we pushed our way through it, hearing it crunch beneath us, clean, white snow contrasted greatly with beautiful shades of cobalt and turquoise, leading right the way down to deep, dirty grey-black. Kyle, our Zodiac driver this afternoon, mentioned that the ice looked as though it was breathing, inhaling and exhaling as it moved with the waves. He wasn't wrong. We found a natural ice arch and then not one, but two perfect circles carved into blocks of ice through which we tried to capture images of the ship beyond.

We picked up smaller pieces of ice from the ocean, noticing how the colour changed with the levels of compaction of bubbles trapped within. We found one piece so large and pure that it sparkled like a diamond and we just had to photograph it to try and capture its beauty. We also bit off a few tiny pieces to taste the freshest of fresh water contained therein before circling a large whale-shaped dark piece of ice textured with a series of pockmarks where air had been released. It looked almost exactly like a huge bottle of Mermaid Gin from the Isle of Wight. Go on, Google it!



After an hour or so, we were well and truly wet through, so were returning home for welcome hot showers when two Antarctic fur seals had other ideas, breaking the water line ahead. It goes without saying that we

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

enjoyed their company for a few minutes. Once warm and dry back onboard, heading north, we dined in The Tuscan Grill to bring Emma's birthday to a close. She was serenaded after her meal as the largest slice of cake known to man was delivered with smiles and a song. We went to bed manifesting our hopes for dry conditions tomorrow back in the realm of penguins (they don't breed this far south), and we were in luck!

Friday 27 February 2026

Day 9:

Prospect Point & the Yalour Islands

Weather: overcast and dry initially, then rain and finally glorious sun all afternoon, 3 degrees



Breakfast was late this morning, scheduled for 08:30, a softener to the news that we'd be doing a landing beforehand. No problem, we were up for it, ready and raring to go when the wake-up call came at 05:45. Zodiacs began departing half an hour later, negotiating icebergs in wonderfully dry air – hoorah – and we set foot on Antarctica once again at Prospect Point, where we carefully climbed up a few metres over rocky shale to stand alongside a small colony of Adélie penguins. They were gorgeous. All adults this time, their white eye rings and plump demeanours captured our hearts, and our lenses, immediately.

Most were coveting a small rocky outcrop with a few framed on ice behind them. The ice rose just below a 45-degree angle and was colourfully stained in layers from top to bottom. From the top, bright blue hues (of course) gave way to peach, pink and yellow with a hint of pale green, a combined result of penguin poop fertilising snow algae. We watched them as they watched us and it was rather marvellous. Some hopped from ledge to ledge, others snoozed, and others lay down, every so often pecking at the ice with their bills. It was a serene scene.



You may argue it's a little late in the season, but one gathered small pebbles in its beak, placing them carefully in rings on the ground, perhaps practising for the breeding season later this year? Three made their way down to the water's edge, calling each other, craning their necks, then rotating and flapping their wings in preparation for a swim. They well and truly took their time, but finally took the plunge, disappearing into the depths in a flash.



Walking along the beach in the other direction rewarded us with incredible views of a glacier that creaked and groaned regularly during our visit. The cloud lifted, revealing fantastic peaks all around as we side-stepped dead seals from which brown skuas were scavenging up a feast. Igneous and metamorphic rocks led down to a beach from where we could survey hundreds and hundreds of icebergs. The blues once again were just begging to be captured on film, especially when we slid through them upon our return to the ship after a simply fabulous morning out.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

We sailed north during breakfast through calm, flat water and the sun broke through. We rushed to our cabins to collect cameras and mobiles, planning to take advantage of the changing light, but by the time we reached the decks, a thick mist had descended, dramatically decreasing visibility and obscuring views all around. It remained highly atmospheric so we decided to enjoy the limited views on offer from the stern deck igloos. No sooner had we settled down in them when a few Adélie penguins appeared on a small iceberg off our port side. We ran outside just in time to see them joined by a swimming Antarctic fur seal and some cruising humpbacks. Then came icebergs, some of the largest we'd seen so far. It started to rain though and one client suggested it might be the ideal time to try out the hot tubs. Genius. Why not? Once in, the idea of a Buck's Fizz was suggested. Also genius, so we sat there, in glorious warm water, watching bergs and whales, very much feeling that all was right in the world. Happy Friday!



At 10:30, those who wanted to learn about the geology of Antarctica came together in the lecture theatre while others remained outside, soaking up the opaque world in which we found ourselves...but this was about to change. As we glided into our Yalour Islands anchorage, visibility slowly but surely began to increase, shortly to exponential levels as banks of low cloud lifted, dissipating and revealing gigantic granitic peaks rising directly from the ocean. As the sun broke through, vast glaciers filled the valleys between them, and we were overwhelmed by the scene emerging before us. Humpbacks logged on the surface and a little later, under clear, blue skies, we departed for a Zodiac cruise to be followed by a landing. We enjoyed the company of one lone humpback, watching it blow and shallow dive regularly as we inspected numerous gargantuan icebergs before steadily motoring towards land, trying to take in the magnitude of the vistas around us.



As we approached disembarkation, penguins jumped off rocks into the ocean, and Antarctic fur seals frolicked in the water. Another Adélie jumped up onto a small berg only to dive off as soon as we trained our cameras on it. We clambered over rocks covered in damp towels to give us more grip and were helped over the rocky terrain until we reached a plateau filled with Adélies. Behind us, and straight into the sun, stood a number of moulting individuals. We couldn't have asked for a better scene or opportunity for the photographers to practice and hone their high-key techniques.



As we turned 360 degrees, we just couldn't believe our luck at the weather as the mountains, glaciers, icebergs, ocean and wildlife were being shown off to perfection. Walking carefully over a large slab of ice well and truly fertilised by yet more penguin poop, the resultant algae made it look just like a meadow. With such a distinctly Alpine ambience, we half expected the Milka cow to appear at any minute! We slowly got our footing and spent at least 40 minutes or so watching the antics of the Adélies framed against the most magnificent backdrop.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Conditions were clear and calm; it felt like we had all the time in the world, and the panoramas were, quite frankly, breathtaking. We watched as a lone individual perched high on an exposed rock ledge kept on losing its footing, which repeatedly made us chuckle. We repositioned regularly to try and capture images of him (it had to be a he...surely?) flanked by the icebound peaks beyond. We also took plenty of photos of each other in situ too, as it was just too epic not to. What an exceptional and unforgettable afternoon...yet there was more to come as our exceedingly good fortune prevailed!



Returning home, we were encouraged to gather on the bow decks and observation lounges as we navigated the Lemaire Channel. A 'must do' on any Antarctic itinerary (conditions permitting), it is often either shrouded in low mist and cloud or unnavigable due to ice, so staff and clients alike were thrilled to enjoy all 11 kilometres of it in its absolute glory as we squeezed between towering peaks, sheer cliffs and glaciers. After a humpback had ambled across the entrance, we entered what can only be described as an exhilarating wind tunnel. Huge gusts howled and whistled around us, until there were just two brave souls hanging on to the bow railings until we were safely through. Unidentified seals hauled out around us as it opened up into an ocean of bergs and the cloud cover slowly descended once again, shrouding the landscape back underneath a blanket of mystery.



All in all, it had been a spectacular day and after an animated dinner that involved more serenading and complimentary fizz (we were celebrating an anniversary this time), we hit the hay dreaming of yet more adventures still to come.

Saturday 28 February 2026

Day 10:

Charlotte Bay, Recess Cove & Foyn Harbour, Enterprise Island

Weather: overcast, 1 degree

We awoke to a gorgeous soft grey world once again, the only colours evident being the dark dorsal fins of humpbacks surrounding the ship and the palest of pale blue as icebergs drifted past. The ocean was calm and serene when breakfast was served from 07:00 and afterwards, we readied ourselves for a double landing. Setting off, our first stop was a small unnamed island in Charlotte Bay offering sensational views of the glacier-ridden continent across the water.

Following our wet landing, we walked carefully up the slippery rocky beach and set about watching a number of young male Antarctic fur seals sparring ahead. Others slept nearby, occasionally scratching itches and stretching luxuriantly. A few adult gentoo penguins in a state of moult stood quietly on the beach. Behind them, on an ice-covered slope, stood tens of Antarctic shags, all jostling for space along an exposed ridge. As we walked, we noticed yet more fur seals draped lazily along a beach and behind them, one larger male complete with spiky coat who lapped up our silent praise as he preened and posed for our cameras.



Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



We passed a young brown skua resting on the ground, giving it a wide berth as it rested. We gazed out at swimming fur seals and numerous pairs of passing humpbacks as well as some sleeping individuals just bobbing with the flow. Then, as we were about to leave, a single chinstrap penguin arrived on shore. Our trio of penguin species now complete, we delighted in watching it walk clumsily up the beach, taking its time, flapping its wings, and oscillating its head much like an owl. Before we knew it, our hour on the ground was over, so we dragged ourselves away as the rain began to fall more steadily.

Zodiacs arrived to take us on to our next stop, Recess Cove, from where we could see those ahead of us walking up an icy slope. Kelp gulls bobbed on the water at our approach, but with no wildlife at the site itself, we were able to scramble up a rocky incline, sit down, and simply appreciate the view. The glacier in front of us rumbled, grumbled and groaned, but there was barely any disturbance on the water. We walked up a smooth, snow-covered ledge where we indulged in a few snow angels (of course) and then, with the rain falling harder, were transported back to the ship, passing an Antarctic shag on a small floating piece of ice and many, many more humpbacks.



Upon our return to the ship, and completely out of the blue, it was announced that as we were ahead of schedule, we would make hay while the sun shone (a pun of course, as it was still very grey out!) and do the polar plunge. Those up for it (in the case of our group, it was only Helen) were invited to make their way to the mud room for a briefing and an advisory from the ship doctor. The music was cranked up, as was the nervous energy, and off we went, one by one. Stepping out from the back of the ship, we walked onto a Zodiac and then, on command, jumped feet first into the ocean. Hauling ourselves back up onto the ship, we were given a shot of vodka to well and truly warm us up from the inside. It was exhilarating!



Humpbacks, penguins and a lone Antarctic minke whale were sighted during lunch, after which we passed an area literally full to the brim with lunge feeding humpbacks. There must have been eight or so small groups at it as we rushed outside to the port side decks to appreciate the spectacle. We were lucky enough to witness several baby breaches too, but weren't quick enough to capture them on camera. All too soon, we'd passed them by, continuing on our way to Enterprise Island where we hoped to board the Zodiacs for a cruise around Foyen Harbour.

Our two-hour ride commenced mid-afternoon in the rain with a visit to The Governoren, a whaling ship wrecked in 1915. Although its cargo was lost, all crew were saved, and the ship's skeleton today was covered in Arctic terns showcasing their non-breeding plumage. Antarctic terns were also present as we took in the exposed rusted decks and bow with a glacier behind just begging to be explored. Its deep indigo blue crevasses and undulating contouring curves were a wondrous combination, especially with a turquoise iceberg floating serenely in front of it. The hauling up of an Antarctic fur seal onto a rocky peninsula next to us completed the scene.



Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



We pushed out away from the coastline and here our two Zodiacs split up. One headed towards several large, fantastically shaped icebergs, their underwater shelves glowing a glorious mint green, as whale blows signified the ongoing presence of humpbacks all around. We were distracted by two small rocky islets peaking above the waterline, where, standing tall like miniature sentries, were clusters of penguins. Once closer and nestled between them, we could see that they were predominantly chinstraps with a few gentoos scattered amongst them for good measure.

Looking ahead, we could see several more black dots on the ledge of a colossal iceberg, so we raced towards them, hoping they were penguins and not shags. They proved to be the former. Hoorah! Raised just a few metres above the ocean, we watched them for ages, soaking them up, although photographing them in the swell was definitely challenging. They jostled around each other, changing position and then, to our delight, four or five literally jumped out of the ocean, flinging themselves upward to land feet first on the ice. Clambering to get their footing, they raced toward flatter ground!



We radioed the others to alert them of our find, but they were deeply engrossed in their own fabulous wildlife encounter, getting up close and personal with lunge-feeding humpbacks. Time and time again, their open mouths, ventral pleats extended and engorged, rose to the surface in a feeding frenzy. Avian delights were on the agenda for them too, with chinstraps, gentoos, and rafts of Antarctic shags also seen. Finally, they observed a very close cetacean encounter upon returning to Greg Mortimer, when a Zodiac pulling up alongside the ship to unload passengers was intercepted by a humpback. Crikey!

The mood was once again cheerful as we gathered for our recap and briefing during which we were introduced to two University of California students who we'd picked up late last night while we were sleeping. Having spent the last 10 weeks conducting research on humpbacks from their US base, Palmer Station, we were giving them a lift back to Ushuaia, so to speak, and were encouraged to speak to them about their experiences during the voyage north. Dinner was eventful as quite a few of the waiting staff broke into song, the singalong renditions of Bon Jovi's *Livin' on a Prayer* and Neil Diamond's *Sweet Caroline* undoubtedly stealing the show!

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Sunday 1 March 2026

Day 11:

Cierva Cove & Hydrurga Rocks

Weather: overcast with snow and sleet, 0 degrees

After breakfasting in the northern Gerlache Strait, we were swiftly called down to the mud room to get ready for our morning excursion, a Zodiac cruise around Cierva Cove. Our first ASPA site (Antarctic Specially Protected Area), it received this status because it contains 90% of all known Antarctic flora and fauna species within its shores. In calm waters, we quickly spotted a minke whale's dorsal fin but it disappeared below, so we continued on our way, stopping to appreciate and photograph each other's Zodiacs through an ice arch.

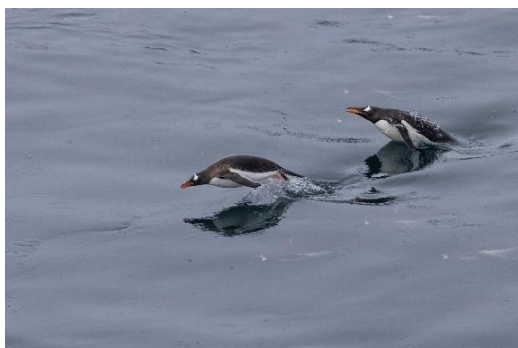


Our mission this morning, though, was to find penguins on ice for the entire group. Searching through our binoculars and realising that distances were deceiving, it appeared from our perspective that we had two options. Zooming towards them, at the first port of call, the hoped-for penguins turned out to be kelp gulls with just one gentoo amongst them. Whoopsie! The setting was marvellous though, and we snapped away getting some cracking shots in the process. The swirling icescapes really came up trumps as our model turned this way and that, proving to be a little star!

We then moved on to the next point where success awaited us once again. This time we had one chinstrap hanging out with four gentoos. The large iceberg they found themselves on was triangular in shape and steep-sided with gentle waves lapping along a ledge at the bottom. The movement of the water was quite hypnotic but the penguins were the centre of attention. We re-positioned regularly, noticing the light change, and giggling at their occasional slips on the ice! We were in no hurry to leave but eventually satiated, we left them be.



We motored towards Penguin Island, a breeding ground for chinstraps, where an estimated two thousand or so pairs come together annually. This late in the season, much of the ice had melted leaving lichen-covered rocky terrain exposed, with just the odd slab of algae-ridden ice. Every spare inch of ground was covered in either moss or penguins and we watched them, enamoured, as we negotiated the shoreline.



A little later, we came across a sleeping humpback and crept respectfully towards it, not wanting to disturb its slumber. The scene was serene and we watched it consciously breathe, the only sign of life as it gently logged on the surface. Moving on, we wove around icebergs seemingly covering every form imaginable from miniature iced gems through to jagged towers, inverted bowls, waves and more. Geometric shapes were also represented with rectangles, triangles and protractors all seen as gentoos porpoised all around us and in between them.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

They were racing towards Primavera Station, an Argentinian research base literally covered in them. The largest colony we'd seen so far, we marvelled at their dexterity and stamina, hopping up rocky cliffs to high nesting points. Around five thousand nesting pairs have been recorded here and we watched as they swam at us head-on, passing underneath our Zodiacs, and then leaping up onto land after feeding. The sound of a huge crack next to us diverted our attention as a comparatively small piece of ice broke away from the berg it had been attached to.



Our Zodiacs came together for a brief geology lesson after which we slowly traversed further along the shore, watching gentoos waddle along a black rock beach, with some choosing to bathe in clear, deep green pools of salt water. Their tails were held aloft as they ducked under and then shook excess water off. We enjoyed observing their behaviour. We stopped twice to appreciate the absolutely stunning spearmint hues of two icebergs behind us and then, as we meandered home, we marvelled at a number of humpback whales comfortably moving with grace at surface level.

Back onboard, and before lunch, Emma held a quick Lightroom session in the library, although it was interrupted by an announcement that a group photo was to be taken on the stern deck. Out we went into the snow (yes, finally we had snow and not rain), coming back in for lunch during which we were in fits of laughter at the panic that ensued as an iceberg crowded with penguins began to roll. We were inwardly apologetic when we realised it had probably been due to our wake but it had been very funny to observe.



This afternoon we were to land at Hydrurga Rocks, Hydrurga being the Latin name for leopard seal. Often found in these waters, we hoped to see one or two but instead, our time there was rather wonderfully dominated by chinstrap penguins and Weddell seals.

We were greeted by Antarctic fur seals rather obligingly draped over rocks, after which we negotiated slippery rocks with care, having been advised to bring walking sticks from the ship (some clients had brought their own collapsible ones with them).



Stopping frequently to enjoy close encounters with the chinstraps, they were nothing short of delightful! Squawking from lofty higher positions, they craned their necks high, held their beaks aloft and vocalised whilst flapping their wings. "Look at me, look at me", they appeared to cry. Many were silently moulting, standing tall against the elements, while others slept horizontally or moved around the colony, jumping from rock to rock. We concentrated on one individual after another in an effort to catch them in flight. They were fabulous.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

We stopped for our first good look at a Weddell seal sleeping on the edge of a rock pool. Wonderfully whiskered and mottled, it scratched itself contentedly, every so often lifting its head to yawn, revealing short, spiky teeth set in clear pink gums. We waited for those moments again and again, releasing that for the first time in days, we were on land and it wasn't raining. Although the individual had two clear wounds on its chest, it appeared unconcerned at our attention, re-positioning in caterpillar style as we walked around it, photographing it from every angle.



We continued past a lagoon where two brown skuas were enjoying a wash, onto a walkway of ice from where we could see Antarctic shags doing the same. The cliffs were heaving with more chinstraps and a few whale vertebrae were scattered on a beach. It was the penguins that were the undeniable highlight of the afternoon though, and we trained our cameras and mobiles on them constantly. We couldn't help but snap away when boarding the Zodiacs to return to the ship too, as the Antarctic fur seals were still languishing at our landing site, looking decidedly sleepy.

Back onboard later, it was party time! Our back deck BBQ was moved inside due to the weather but the atmosphere remained decidedly festive as we donned silly hats and danced to disco classics during dinner. A nightcap later and we went to bed determined to make the most of our last full day of land activities tomorrow.

Monday 2 March 2026

Day 12:

Livingstone Island & Snow Island, South Shetland Islands

Weather: sunny and clear, 2 degrees

We'd moved north through the Bransfield Strait overnight and were greeted by glorious blue sky this morning. It was a stunner of a day with the sun rising steadily and after breakfast at 07:00 we couldn't wait to get off and explore the South Shetland Islands. We were in Walker Bay, overlooking Livingstone Island, where a black sand beach lay ahead, a vast, expansive glacier dominated our port side, and a peninsula, Hannah Point, lay to our right. This was to be our landing site this morning, but getting off the ship was challenge number one due to choppy waters. The elements were teasing us, but it didn't matter at all as we all eventually made it to the beach and were advised that we had at least two hours to explore.

One of the dive team immediately spotted hundreds of salps washed up on shore and proceeded to tell us about these gelatinous filter-feeding organisms. Colourless and see-through, if you imagine a raw egg shaped into an oblong and replace the yolk with a tiny, fingernail-sized orange stomach, you'll have the picture. Forming lengthy colony chains underwater, they take on water and propel it through them when moving. They are also hermaphrodites. We were fascinated by them and stepped over literally thousands during the course of the morning.



Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



We set off in different directions. There was the chance to really stretch our legs with fossils, petrified wood, and a whale skeleton to view, but most of us headed straight towards a 'pile' of male elephant seals hauled up on shore. In a state of catastrophic moult, there were some absolute beasts amongst them as well as a few youngsters. They offered an assault to the senses. Visually, they resembled huge lumps of rather endearing lard. Then came the smell and the noise. Decidedly fishy, they bellowed, grunted, bared their teeth and grumbled argumentatively as they jostled for space.

Often paying no heed to others, they bulldozed and manoeuvred over anything in their path using their slug-like motion to lie down next to, and in some cases, on top of each other. Thumping down, they created and filled gaps between sleeping individuals whose coats covered various shades of orange, brown and grey. Some had open wounds, some dust-bathed, and some sparred, rising up against each other, using sheer force in a fantastic illustration of strength. The majority slept though, snorting regularly, opening one nostril after another to eject saline that often simply dribbled down their faces. Charming! Rather fascinatingly, we stumbled across the ejection of other bodily fluids too. Who knew that their urine was bright red? Or that their poop is bright yellow? What we do now know is that they most definitely lie in their own muck just because they can!



Being at ground level with them offered some fantastic photo opportunities and as we moved around them, keeping a respectful distance, we were wowed by their simply colossal size. One elephant seal demonstrated his strength by pinning down a youngster in what could be described as a feat of dominance. Either that or he simply fancied a pillow. Squirring in an effort to escape alongside high-pitched squeals of protest were seemingly answered by harumphs of, "You're not going anywhere just yet." Succumbing, the poor little fellow simply had to give up, lie there, and endure his fate until freed.

Everywhere we looked, the elephant seals flexed their hind flippers, opening them wide like a whale's fluke, and they used each other as scratching posts. Rubbing their pectoral fins together to ease their own itches, their blubber folded into accordion-like keys. As they vocalised their ongoing disagreements with each other, their breath billowed out in clouds accompanied by verbal warnings it would be foolish not to heed. We could not get enough of them, and on more than one occasion, we heard comments that they must surely be the inspiration for Jabba the Hutt in Star Wars.



We regularly had to stop and pinch ourselves as it felt as though we were in a BBC wildlife documentary. Some saw more than they'd bargained for, however, witnessing nature at its most raw when a giant petrel landed amongst a number of gentoo penguins associating with a single chinstrap. Pecking the ground to and fro, they watched it, assuming it was looking for carrion, but before they could even register what was happening, the gentoos moved away en masse, choosing safety in numbers and essentially sending the lone chinstrap to its grave. It was all over very quickly.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



Another group of gentoos formed a natural perimeter fence around the elephant seals, and more arrived throughout our stay. Emerging from the waves post fishing and waddling along the beach, they were joined by a few Antarctic fur seals entering the mix too. Play fighting and chasing each other, we enjoyed their antics and vocalisations. They moved towards a snoozing Weddell seal and we realised we were viewing three seal species in one frame. It proved to be a wonderful morning and we returned to the ship animatedly discussing our experiences ashore.

It was also a real pleasure to be dry as we got back on board. As we re-positioned over lunch, humpback blows were spotted with ease due to the calm conditions we were cruising through. Having been well fed and watered, we skimmed the waves of the Hall Peninsula, zooming by Zodiac towards our last landing of the trip on Snow Island. There, Expedition Leader Isabelle greeted us, advising that this was one of her favourite spots. She suggested a quiet landing, keeping noise to a minimum, providing the chance to fully appreciate the sanctity of our surroundings.

The scenery was phenomenal. Mountains of bare, jagged rock rose up dramatically towards the sky like organ pipes from a calm bay, its sweeping black sand beach adorned by gentoos. Lush, green and spongy moss covered slopes provided contrast against the might of another enormous glacier to our right. Antarctic fur seals sounded like puppies as they cavorted with ease amongst yet more goliath Southern elephant seals. Sprawled over rocks and kelp, three stood out, clustered close together with their faces touching. They were an award-winning photograph waiting to happen.



We walked through a scenic gap in the rocks that opened up onto another beach literally heaving with wildlife. The background setting of still blue water and small rocky islets was extraordinarily beautiful. Our horizon, a cliff laden with penguins standing upright in regimented rows, was likened to the sight of trees being planted uniformly on the side of motorways back home. We watched as weaner Southern elephant seals gazed at us with their forlorn bulbous eyes and adults seemingly smiled in their slumber. We heard their snores, long and protracted deep exhalations akin to air being released from tyres.

As we made our way back to the Zodiacs for our last ride home, a Wilson's storm petrel accompanied our footsteps, repeatedly landing close by as we navigated the same narrow and beautiful gap in the rocks where a rock pool reflected the scene beyond. The startling green moss was accentuated by an ice blue glacier beyond. Emerging out onto the other side, gentoos ran along the beach, their wings held out wide for balance, and we tore ourselves away, pondering our time in this incredible wild, remote, untouched and untamed land. How privileged we had been to experience it firsthand.



Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



Although our time in Antarctica was coming to an end, our voyage was far from over with the Drake Passage still to go. As we left the continent behind us, multiple snowcapped islands dominated our horizon. Without the usual cloud cover that we had become accustomed to, we finally had a sunset, and my word, it was a belter. Leaving our food untouched, we rushed outside to capture our last glimpse of land for two days as we commenced our journey north, retracing our steps back up towards Ushuaia, very much hoping for cetaceans and pelagic bird sightings en route.

Tuesday 3 March 2026

Day 13:

Drake Passage

Weather: overcast, sunshine, clouding over once again, 1 degree

Being a sea day, breakfast was served from 08:00, after which many of the group signed up for a bridge tour (there is no open bridge policy onboard). We then scattered to relax, process photos, read, and enjoy a little downtime. At 11:30, Hannah's presentation on the history of 'Women in Antarctica' proved to be both popular and empowering in equal measure.

The sun came out late morning when walks on deck under blue skies in bracing wind generated rosy cheeks and sightings of grey-headed and wandering albatross. More lectures were scheduled for the afternoon. 'Seals of Antarctica' very much appealed to us wildlife bods, but the second proved to be equally fascinating. Delivered by three members of our expedition team who have spent numerous seasons working in Antarctica in various capacities (geology, biology and running Royal Mail Post Offices in South Georgia and Antarctica respectively!), we were taken through their experiences.



After relatively calm conditions, the swell built up later in the day during which we feasted on caramelised peaches and ice cream during a tasty take on afternoon tea. During dinner we enjoyed more wandering albatross fly-bys and for night-owls afterwards, there was a lecture on 'Mummified Seals of the Antarctic Peninsula.'

Wednesday 4 March 2026

Day 14:

Drake Passage & Beagle Channel

Weather: sunshine, clouding over with a brisk wind, 3 degrees



Forget handbags at dawn; we had blue skies and sunshine! Black-browed albatross, Southern fulmar and sooty shearwaters circled the ship and we headed outside after breakfast to enjoy them. Our mandatory disembarkation briefing at 09:15 was clear, concise and brief, so we indulged in more birdwatching afterwards. We had made excellent progress to try and get ahead of a storm system (successfully), so we found ourselves stationary outside the Beagle Channel for much of the morning awaiting permission to press on towards Ushuaia.

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

The 11:00 lecture on 'Whale Research at Palmer Station' was well attended and at 14:00, there was a summation of the data collected during our voyage that would contribute towards the Citizen Science programme. Emma, meanwhile, had asked everyone in the group to submit their favourite images taken on the voyage so far and she put together a slide show accordingly. She did a great job, and it was fascinating to see how we'd seen the same wildlife, land and seascapes through such different eyes. We had some superb images between us. We had been travelling with a talented bunch of clients, that was for sure.

Later, a shout of, "Dolphins" interrupted another special afternoon tea and we rushed outside to see an initially small pod of duskies joining us. Rushing outside with cameras and phones to record them, they rode our bow, leaping, porpoising, breaching and moving with incredible speed. More and more came to join in the fun, and we moved to the stern and port decks to view them head-on. They stayed with us for almost an hour, a simply brilliant way to end our wildlife experience aboard the Greg Mortimer.



Thursday 5 March 2026

Day 15:

Disembark in Ushuaia & fly to Buenos Aires

Weather: sunny and cold, 3 degrees (at origin)

Leaving our checked luggage outside our cabins by 06:30, we tucked into our final breakfast on board and readied ourselves for disembarkation. The call came at 08:00, and we walked down the gangway, said goodbye to our expedition team who were lining the route to our bus, and were driven the short distance into Ushuaia. We were dropped off at our luggage storage area and were asked to be back there at 12:45. With four hours to explore, we set up base in a coffee shop recommended by Emma and set off on foot. Whales were blowing across the bay, dolphin gulls took to the sky, and we shopped till we dropped in the sunshine. We had a good lunch, knowing that we'd be unlikely to go out this evening with our arrival back into Buenos Aires not scheduled until 20:30.

Our flight north was uneventful but beautiful, with superb afternoon views of the Andes and Lago Argentina as we touched down briefly in El Calafate. Our arrival transfer to our overnight hotel was seamless, and our group of 14 became 12 as we said 'ta-ra' to two members either extending their holiday or staying elsewhere.

Friday 6 March 2026

Day 16:

Depart Buenos Aires

Weather: overcast and warm, breezy, 21 degrees

After breakfast, our group diminished yet again, as ten of us were collected promptly at 09:30, setting off for the international airport where our British Airways flight departed ahead of schedule for Rio de Janeiro. There, we stayed onboard as we picked up a full load of passengers, but were delayed for an hour or so before finally heading home after what can only be described as a fantastic trip that well and truly surpassed expectation.

Saturday 7 March 2026

Day 17:

Arrive UK

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com



Sign up to our e-news

Sign up to our e-news to find out more about our tours, events, late availability, offers and tour reports at <https://www.wildlifeworldwide.com/subscribe>

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Checklist for Antarctic Circle Whale & Penguin Safari



	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15
	MAMMALS													
1	Sei whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	✓								✓			
2	Humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3	Hourglass dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>			✓									
4	Antarctic fur seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazelle</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
5	Weddell seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>				✓				✓	✓			
6	Leopard seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>				✓								
7	Antarctic minke whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>				✓			✓	✓				
8	Southern elephant seal	<i>Mirounga leonina</i>									✓			
9	Dusky dolphin	<i>Aethalodelphis obscura</i>											✓	
	BIRDS													
1	Chimango caracara	<i>Daptrius Chimango</i>	✓											
2	Buff-winged cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes fuscus</i>	✓											
3	Thorn-tailed rayadito	<i>Aphrastura spinicauda</i>	✓											
4	Patagonian sierra-finch	<i>Phrygilus patagonicus</i>	✓											
5	Kelp gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	✓						✓	✓				✓
6	Antarctic shag	<i>Leucocarbo bransfieldensis</i>	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
7	Black-browed albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>		✓	✓								✓	
8	White-chinned petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		✓								✓		
9	Northern giant petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>		✓							✓			
10	Wandering albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		✓								✓		
11	Wilson's storm petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12	Blue petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>			✓									
13	Cape petrel	<i>Daption cape se</i>			✓									
14	Southern fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>			✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	
15	Gentoo penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓			

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

16	Brown skua	<i>Stercorarius antarcticus lonnbergi</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
17	Antarctic tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>				✓			✓	✓				
18	Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>				✓			✓					
19	Black-bellied storm-petrel	<i>Fregatta tropica</i>				✓								
20	Snow petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>					✓		✓					
21	Adélie penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>						✓						
22	Chinstrap penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>							✓	✓	✓			
23	Snowy sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>								✓				
24	Southern giant petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>									✓			
25	Grey-headed albatross	<i>Thalassarche chrysostoma</i>										✓		
26	Sooty shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>											✓	
27	Dolphin gull	<i>Leucophaeus scoresbii</i>												✓

Find out more about our [Antarctic Circle Penguin & Whale Safari trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com