

# **Falkland Islands Explorer**

Sail from Argentina's sandy beaches to the Falkland Islands, and discover the remote archipelago's stunning landscapes and unique wildlife, including sea lions, various species of penguin, vast colonies of sea birds, and much more.



**Please note:** this itinerary is for guidance only. Your programme may vary depending on local ice and weather conditions, the availability of landing sites, and opportunities to see wildlife. The final itinerary will be determined by the Expedition Leader on board your vessel. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises.

# Day 1: Set sail from Puerto Madryn

Your journey starts in Puerto Madryn, northern Patagonia, from where you set sail for the Falkland Islands.

As you sail through Golfo Nuevo keep your eyes peeled for southern right whales, which are often spotted in these waters.

NB. Your itinerary starts on the day of embarkation. However, we can arrange for a night in Puerto Madryn if your flight schedule requires it.

# Day 2-3: At sea

The next two days are spent at sea, following the prevailing Westerlies en route to the Falklands. Expect to see several species of albatross, storm petrels, shearwaters and diving petrels, which accompany the ship with the prevailing winds.



# Day 4-8: Falkland Islands

The next 5 days are spent exploring these little-visited islands where an abundance of wildlife thrives. Depending on the sea conditions you may visit some, or all off the following sites:



Steeple Jason is home to the world's largest black-browed albatross colony, where there are an estimated 113,000 birds. Arriving at West Falkland, a hike along the Shore of Carcass Island will give you the opportunity to see Magellanic and gentoo penguins in their natural habitat, as well as close encounters with water fowl, night herons and passerines. In addition, on Saunders Island you may be able to see four species of breeding penguins (gentoo, king, Magellanic and rockhopper), black-browed albatrosses and king cormorants.

Continuing to East Falkland, you stop at **Volunteer Point**. Here a long sandy beach is home to a large king penguin rookery.

At **Port Stanley**, the Victorian-era capital of the Falklands, you'll have the chance to learn more about Falklands culture, exploring both its British and South American characteristics. In Stanley and the surrounding area, you can see the remains of a number of stranded clipper ships, many over a century old. Take the time to explore Port Stanley at your own pace. We recommend a visit to the church and museum, where you'll learn more of the history of the island and its British settlement.



Your journey continues to **Sandy Bay and Bleaker Island**, where there are beautiful coastal walking routes. Plenty of bird specie and penguin are found here, including ground-tyrant, gentoo, Magellanic and rockhopper penguins, as well as king cormorants.







If the sea conditions are in your favour, you will also be able to land at **Sea Lion Island** during your 5 day stay in the Falklands. As the name suggests, this small island is home to a huge breeding colony of southern elephant seals. You can even hike to a southern sea-lion haul-out.

Arriving back at West Falkland, your last stop will be **New Island**. Here, you can embark on easy walks to see nesting black-browed albatrosses and rockhopper penguins, or a more strenuous hike to Landsend Bluff to see the South American fur seals.



#### Day 9: At Sea

On day 9, you depart the Falkland Islands for Ushuaia, sea birds accompany the ship as you sail through the night.

## Day 10: Disembark in Ushuaia

Arrive in Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, this morning, and disembark. There is a pre-scheduled group transfer from the vessel to the airport in Ushuaia after disembarkation.

## **Booking Information:**

Please see our <u>Falkland Islands Explorer overview page</u> for a list of available departure dates and rates. Alternatively, contact <u>Sarah@Ganeandmarshall.com</u> for the latest availability, dates and special offers.

# What's included:

- o All meals while aboard the ship
- Lectures by noted naturalists and experienced guides
- All shore excursions and activities by Zodiac
- Free use of rubber boots and snow shoes
- All service taxes and charges

# What's excluded:

- o International flights
- o Pre- and post-travel arrangements
- o Transfers to the vessel
- Passport and visa expenses
- o Government arrival and departure taxes
- o Insurance
- o All items of a personal nature
- o Tips

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