

Ross Sea Voyage

Departing Jan-Feb 2017



Journey to the Ross Sea in this new cruise organised by Oceanwide Expeditions and sold by Gane and Marshall. This exciting new expedition (the first voyage took place in 2013) departs from New Zealand and visits Campbell Island, the Bay of Whales, Ross Island (including a tour of the McMurdo Station as well as the huts used by Shackleton and Scott during their famous expedition), and Kainan Bay, from where the explorers Amundsen and Shirase approached the Antarctic ice-shelf in 1911 and 1912, respectively. From Kainan, you will sail to the little-explored Peter I Island, and then on to the Antarctic Peninsula.

During the voyage you will have many opportunities to go ashore, with regular expeditions from the cruise ship to the shore via zodiacs or helicopter. You will travel on Oceanwide's strongest ice-vessel, the M/V Ortelius. This small and extremely comfortable cruise ship carries only 100 guests, ensuring you an intimate cruise.

Day 1: Departure from Bluff, New Zealand

Passengers embark and depart from the port of Bluff, New Zealand.

Day 2: At sea

At sea en-route to Campbell Island

Day 3: Campbell Island

Today we reach Campbell Island, where we spend the afternoon exploring. This sub-Antarctic island is formally part of New Zealand, but it's entirely uninhabited, and a designated nature

Your Financial Protection

All monies paid by you for the air holiday package shown [or flights if appropriate] are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 3145.

For more information see our booking terms and conditions.

reserve and World Heritage Site on account of its stunningly unique fauna and flora. Campbell Island is especially notable for its bird life – it is a home to several varieties of Albatross, including the Southern Royal, Campbell, Black-browed, Grey-headed, and Light-mantled Sooty Albatrosses, which appear in huge breeding colonies! Several penguin species also breed here. Seals and Sea Lions, in the past hunted to extinction, have in recent years returned to the Island.

The day is free to explore Campbell Island.



Black-browed Albatross

Days 4-8: Ross Sea & Scott Island

At sea en-route to Cape Adare. As we enter the Ross Sea, we will begin to encounter our first sea-ice.

During day 7 we pass by the rarely-visited Scott Island. This tiny island (it has an area of less than half an acre), named after the great explorer, was first discovered in 1902 by William Colbeck, who captained the relief ship for Scott's expedition.

Day 9: Cape Adare

Cape Adare, a peninsula located off north-eastern Victoria Land, was one of the earliest base camps used by Antarctic Explorers. Indeed, the very first explorer to winter on the Antarctic Continent, the Norwegian Carsten Borchgrevink, stayed here in 1899, building two huts which remain to this day.

As well as being of historic interest, Cape Adare is also home to a huge colony of Adélie Penguins, which nest and moult close to the huts used by Borchgrevink.



Days 10-11: Cape Hallett & Drygalski Ice Tongue

We continue southward along the western Ross Sea en route to Ross Island. En-route we pass Terra Nova Bay, the Italian Station, the Drygalski Ice Tongue, and Cape Hallett.

Days 12-16: Huts of Scott & Shackleton

The highlight of the trip will see us spend four days in the Ross Sea, just off the coast of Antarctica, with visits to iconic spots such as Ross Island, and the huts of Shackleton and Scott on Cape Royds and Cape Evans. Weather-allowing, we will take the helicopters

to visit Castle Rock (with fantastic views across the ice shelf to the South Pole), as well as McMurdo Station and Scott Base, modern research centres run by the US and New Zealand governments. There will also be a chance to explore the Dry Valleys (where the conditions are said to be comparable to Mars!) Finally, you will have the chance to explore Ross Island, surrounded by the towering Mts Terror, Erebus and Byrd.



Shackleton's Hut on Cape Royds

Days 17-18: Ross ice-shelf

We continue east along the Ross ice-shelf.

You will have the option of a helicopter landing on the ice-shelf. It was via the Bay of Whales, on the east of the shelf, that Amundsen and Shirase, the Norwegian and Japanese explorers, made their approaches to the South Pole in 1911 and 1912, respectively. The camp used by Shirase is still found on Kainan Bay.

Days 19-24: Amundsen Sea

Entering the Amundsen Sea, we can expect to encounter a great deal of pack ice – the sailing here is very lively, and will provide great opportunities for wildlife-viewing (expect to see Emperor Penguin, Petrel, Seal and, we hope, Orca and Minke Whale). We will get as close as possible to the Antarctic Continent – how close depending on the amount of sea ice.

Day 25: Peter I Island

Named after the Russian Tsar Peter I, Peter Island was first discovered in 1821 by von Bellingshausen. Few vessels venture to the island, which is home to plentiful wildlife, including Elephant Seal and huge colonies of Cape Pigeon and Southern Fulmar. We spend one day here exploring and wildlife-viewing.

Days 26-27: At sea

We continue to sail the Bellingshausen Sea.



Days 28-29: Antarctic Peninsula

We continue to the Antarctic Peninsula, where we sail through Drake Passage and the Penola Strait. We pass several islands, including Fish, Detaile, Petermann and Pléneau, finding to visit several of them.

Days 30-31: At sea

Continue through Drake Passage towards Ushuaia.

Day 32: Arrival in Ushuaia

This morning, we disembark in Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, in Argentina, the southernmost city in the world. End of tour.



Jan-Mar 2017 Special:

This special Ross Sea Voyage, departing in January and February 2017, is offered with an amazing discount of up to 36%, but space is limited so book now!

13th Jan – 14th Feb 2017 (Ushuaia to Bluff)

Twin Porthole Cabin (per person)

£15,864 / €17,450 (reduced from £23,045)

Triple Porthole Cabin

On request

Quadruple Porthole Cabin (per person)

£14,500 / €15,950 (reduced from £18,136)

15th Feb – 17th Mar 2017 (Bluff to Ushuaia)

Twin Porthole Cabin (per person)

£15,864 / €17,450 (reduced from £23,045)

Triple Porthole Cabin (per person)

£12,682 / €13,950 (reduced from £19,682)

Quadruple Porthole Cabin (per person)

£12,682 / €13,950 (reduced from £18,136)

Flights in economy class from London Heathrow to Christchurch, returning from Ushuaia are in the region of £1,500 per person. Gane and Marshall can book your flights for you.

Your cruise includes all meals, activities and on-board lectures.