



## **Emperors & Kings: Snow Hill and South Georgia Expedition Itinerary**

### **Day 1**

#### **Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina**

The city's international airport is served by flights from Buenos Aires and Chile. Quark Expeditions recommends that you arrive as early in the day as possible. The "city at the end of the world" offers outdoor activities, great restaurants, and museums. Overnight in Ushuaia.

### **Day 2**

#### **Embarkation Day**

Your luggage will be transferred from your included hotel to the helicopter-equipped icebreaker *Kapitan Khlebnikov*. Embarkation occurs in the late afternoon. While waiting to board, we suggest that you visit Tierra del Fuego National Park, where you could see Flightless Steamer Ducks and Magellanic Penguins.

### **Day 3**

#### **At Sea**

Crossing the Drake Passage is as much a part of the Antarctic experience as penguins and krill. With the right weather conditions, the transit will be relatively easy, but pack your seasickness medicine just in case the Drake lives up to its reputation. Bird watching from the deck is a highlight of this crossing. Wandering Albatross, Wilson's Storm Petrels, Royal Albatross, and Giant Petrels are only some of the seabirds that have accompanied our ship.

### **Day 4–5**

#### **Through Bransfield Strait to the Weddell Sea**

In anticipation of the first landing at the rookery, learn how to enter and exit Zodiacs and helicopters. The addition of helicopters for ice reconnaissance, aerial sight-seeing and shore transfers is one reason that an icebreaker expedition delivers the ultimate Antarctic experience.

### **Day 6–8**

## **Snow Hill Island Rookery**

The Captain will park the icebreaker at the ice edge. You will be transferred by helicopter to the landing zone 1.5 miles from the rookery. From there you will hike through a sculpture garden of icebergs captured by the frozen sea ice. About 4000 Emperors raise their chicks near on the sea ice near Snow Hill Island in the Weddell Sea. We plan to spend three days at the rookery, providing unparalleled photographic opportunities.

## **Day 9–11**

### **South Orkney Islands and Southern Ocean**

While at sea, the Batemans will deliver one of two presentations about their life as activists and artists. Their presentations supplement the in-depth education program delivered by the Expedition Team. A landing will be attempted on the South Orkney Islands, some of the most remote islands in the world.

## **Day 12–16**

### **South Georgia**

Wildlife landings on South Georgia will include visits to King Penguin rookeries. Meter-tall King Penguins breed all year round, so you will encounter the birds in all stages of growth. Elephant and fur seals, albatross and other penguin species inhabit the island which is now a nature preserve. If we are particularly fortunate, we could see a South Georgia Pipit. The bird cannot be seen anywhere else in the world.

## **Day 17–18**

### **At sea**

While you sail from South Georgia to the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), you'll spend time on deck identifying seabirds that accompany the vessel, and attend the final presentation by the Batemans.

## **Day 19–20**

### **Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)**

When you reach the Falklands (Malvinas) you are no longer in Antarctica, yet you will add two more species of penguins to your life list: Rockhopper and Magellanic Penguins.

## **Day 21**

## **Santiago, Chile**

If weather and ice conditions permit, during this expedition you may have seen as many as eight different species of penguin in the wild. No other Antarctic expedition makes this possible. Overnight in Santiago, Chile.

## **Day 22**

### **Santiago, Chile**

Depart for home from Santiago.

## **Registration:**

Participation is limited. Please call Quark Expeditions at 800.356.5699 or +1.203.852.5580 to book your cabin now.

Per-person rates from \$21,890, plus \$669 for air transportation from Stanley, Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) to Santiago, Chile.