



ACADEMY
TRAVEL

TAILORED
SMALL GROUP
JOURNEYS

FJORDS OF TIERRA DEL FUEGO

CRUISE TO THE 'END OF THE WORLD'
| POST-TOUR EXTENSION

Aguila Glacier

OVERVIEW

Continue the adventure on this post-tour extension as we embark on a unique five-day expedition cruise with Australis, a Chilean owned company who have exclusive access to remote parts of the fjord lands of Tierra del Fuego.

This archipelago is the southernmost tip of South America and is famous for its dramatic landscapes of snowy mountains, glaciers, tundra, wind-sculpted trees and abundant wildlife.

We begin our voyage from Punta Arenas in Chile and cruise via Cape Horn to Ushuaia in Argentina, following the shores of the historic Strait of Magellan, considered the most important natural passage between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. As we navigate the Beagle Channel, we will be following in the footsteps of renowned naturalist Charles Darwin on our own voyage of discovery. The journey includes visits to Ainsworth Bay, Pia Glacier, Glacier Alley and Wulaia Bay.

Along the way we will see Magellanic penguins, hike through sub-Antarctic Magellanic forests, learn more about the native Yagan settlements, brace ourselves against the prevailing winds of Cape Horn, and, finally, explore the colourful port of Ushuaia, the world's southernmost city and gateway to Antarctica.



TOUR LEADER

Dr Chris Carter is an Indigenous and historical archaeologist with over 20 years' experience leading tours. He has a BA (Hons), MA and PhD from the Australian National University.

TOUR DATES

February 4-10, 2025 | 7 Days

TOUR PRICE

\$12,320 per person, twin share

\$5,540 single supplement

**Based on Category AA Cabins*

TOUR DEPOSITS

A **\$1,000** non-refundable deposit is required per person to confirm your booking on tour. An instalment of \$3,000 will be required in July 2024 on confirmation of the charter.

GROUP SIZE

Maximum number of **16** in group

INCLUSIONS

Cruise component: 4 nights aboard the Ventus Australis, with all meals and drinks onboard, all shore excursions, and the group tip for cruise staff.

Land component: 2 nights in centrally located 4-star hotels. All breakfasts and 1 dinner. Economy flight Ushuaia to Santiago, all ground transport, entrance fees and tipping.

VENTUS AUSTRALIS



CABINS	GUESTS	CREW	LENGTH	BEAM	BUILT
100	210	62	292 FEET	48 FEET	2017



CRUISE TO USHUAIA

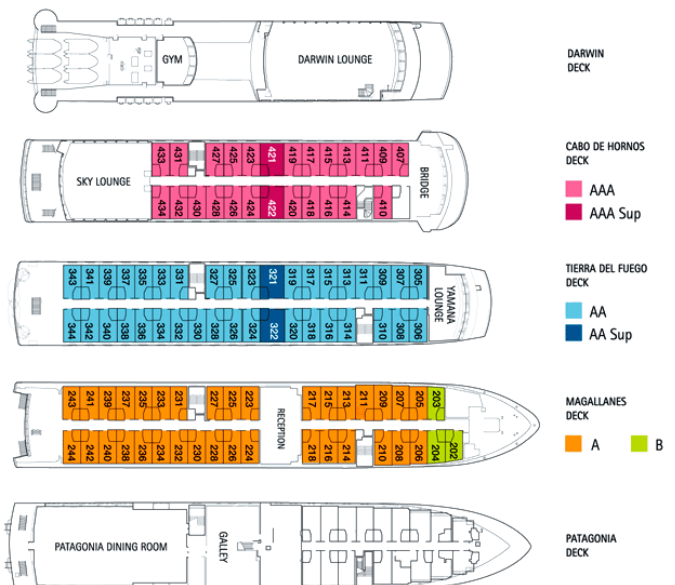
The purpose-built Ventus Australis is ideal for discovering the fjords of Patagonia, with the kind of manoeuvrability that allows exploration of even the tightest of channels. Australis is the only company licensed to do this route, making for an unspoilt journey through these remote landscapes.

Onboard, the Ventus features gourmet dining with buffet breakfasts and lunches and four-course dinners, along with an all-inclusive bar featuring a wide selection of liquors, local craft beers and exquisite Chilean wines. There are three lounges, an expansive open top deck and spacious cabins with large windows for admiring the spectacular southern scenery. Shore excursions are carried out in Zodiac boats that can easily navigate remote bays and shallow water.



The Darwin Lounge offers nearly 360-degree views and is where you will find the open bar, while the smaller Sky Lounge offers all-day self-service tea, coffee and pastries, and the forward-facing Yamana Lounge is a quiet, intimate space with games, tables and sofas for reading or enjoying the view.

Academy Travel is holding AA Twin Cabins on the Tierra del Fuego deck. Cabins are upgradable subject to availability.





DETAILED ITINERARY

Route: Ventus Australis (4 nights) - Punta Arenas, Tuckers Islets, Ainsworth Bay, Pia Glacier, Glacier Alley, Bahía Wulaia, Cape Horn - Ushuaia (1 night), Santiago (1 night)

Included meals are indicated with B, L, D.

Tuesday 4 February

Punta Arenas to Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego

Following a free morning in Punta Arenas, we board the specially designed expedition vessel – Ventus Australis – this afternoon. After a welcoming toast and introduction of captain and crew, the ship departs for one of the remotest corners of planet Earth. During the night we cross the Strait of Magellan and enter the labyrinth of channels that define the southern extreme of Patagonia. The twinkling lights of Punta Arenas gradually fade into the distance as we enter the Whiteside Canal between Darwin Island and Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego. Overnight Ventus Australis (D)

Wednesday 5 February

Ainsworth Bay and Tuckers Islets

By dawn the ship is sailing up Admiralty Sound (Seno Almirantazgo), a spectacular offshoot of the Strait of Magellan that stretches nearly halfway across Tierra del Fuego. The snowcapped peaks of Karukinka Natural Park stretch along the north side of the sound, while the south shore is defined by the deep fjords and broad bays of Alberto de Agostini National Park. We go ashore at Ainsworth Bay, which harbors copious bird life and a colony of southern elephant seals which can sometimes be spotted from the Zodiacs. Our tour gives us views of Marinelli Glacier and the Darwin Mountains. Leaving Ainsworth Bay behind, we then sail west along the sound to the Tucker Islets. After lunch, we board the Zodiacs again for a close-up view of the more than 4,000 Magellan penguins that inhabit the tiny islands. Many other bird species also frequent the area including king cormorants, oystercatchers, Chilean skuas, kelp geese, dolphin gulls, eagles and even the occasional Andean condor. Overnight Ventus Australis (B, L, D)

Thursday 6 February

Pia Glacier and Glacier Alley

Overnight we sail around the western end of Tierra del Fuego via the very narrow Gabriel Channel, Magdalena Channel and Cockburn Channel. After rounding the remote Brecknock Peninsula, we enter the Beagle Channel again. By morning we are entering Pia Fjord and boarding the Zodiacs for a shore excursion to Pia Glacier. After disembarking we take a short hike to gain a panoramic view of the spectacular glacier, which extends from the mountaintops down to the sea or a longer much more difficult walk up a lateral moraine of the old Pia Glacier. Back onboard, we continue east along the Beagle Channel through an area called Glacier Alley. Living up to its

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Follow in Darwin's footsteps

Enjoy your own voyage of discovery as you observe the abundant wildlife of this pristine southern environment and tour several of its most important historical sites.

Marvel at the majestic Glacier Alley

Be awestruck by the sheer size and mesmerising beauty of the Pia Glacier and listen to the creak and groan of Glacier Alley as you cruise past under its majestic gaze.

Hike through sub-antarctic forests

Explore the unique and hardy cool climate flora on foot as you enjoy short hikes through sub-Antarctic forests in the world's southernmost forested ecosystems.

Gaze out over the waters of Cape Horn

Take a moment to remember the many sailors who have sailed the famous waters of Cape Horn, a craggy spit of land, where the Atlantic and Pacific oceans meet.

Explore the southernmost city in the world

Walk the colourful streets of remote Ushuaia, the most southerly city in existence, and tell your friends that you've now travelled to the 'End of the World'.



Magdalena Island



Darwin Range

name, the passage features a number of impressive tidewater glaciers flowing down from the mountains and ice sheet on the north shore. Most of them named after European countries – Holland, Italy, Germany, Spain and France. Overnight Ventus Australis (B, L, D)

Friday 7 February

The End of the World - Cape Horn and Wulaia Bay

During the early morning we navigate the narrow Murray Channel between Navarino and Hoste islands and drop anchor at historic Wulaia Bay, one of the few places in the archipelago where the human history is just as compelling as the natural environment. Originally the site of one of the region's largest Yámana aboriginal settlements, the bay was described by Charles Darwin and sketched by Captain FitzRoy in the 1830s during their voyages on the HMS Beagle. After a visit to the Australis-sponsored museum in the old radio station – which is especially strong on the Yámana people and European missionaries in the area – we enjoy a hike through the Magellanic forest in which lengas, coigües, canelos and ferns grow. In the afternoon we cruise across Nassau Bay into the remote archipelago that includes Cape Horn National Park. Weather and sea conditions permitting, we shall go ashore on the windswept island that harbors legendary Cape Horn (Cabo de Hornos). Discovered in 1616 by a Dutch maritime expedition, and named after the town of Hoorn in West Friesland, Cape Horn is a sheer 425-metre high rocky promontory overlooking the turbulent waters of the Drake Passage. For many years it was the only navigation route between the Pacific and Atlantic, and was often referred to as the “End of the Earth.” Overnight Ventus Australis (B, L, D)

Saturday 8 February

Ushuaia – the world's most southerly city

Our voyage of discovery comes to an end this morning as we sail into Argentine waters and dock in windswept Ushuaia. Surrounded by snow-capped mountains and straddling the Beagle Strait, it's the world's most southerly city and the gateway to Antarctic cruises. We spend the day exploring the colourful streets of the town and learning more about its fascinating history. This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together as this amazing journey comes to an end. Overnight Ushuaia (B, D)

Sunday 9 February

Ushuaia to Santiago

Today is a transit day, as we make our way to Ushuaia airport for a return flight to Santiago, where we spend the night at an airport hotel. Overnight Santiago (B)

Monday 10 February

Depart Santiago

Our tour concludes after breakfast. Flights are available to Sydney departing at lunchtime. (B)

ACCOMMODATION

Cruise, Ventus Australis

(4 nights)

AA Twin Cabins are included in the tour price. Located on the Tierra del Fuego deck, each has twin beds (no bunks), a large picture window, private bathroom, heating, radio and a safe. Cabins are upgradable subject to availability and price.

Ushuaia, Cilene Del Faro

(1 night)

Santiago, Holiday Inn Santiago

(1 night)