



ANTARCTIC DISCOVERY ABOARD M/V HONDIUS

THE LIVING DESERT ZOO & GARDENS

January 3—17, 2021

For nearly two centuries, the “White Continent” has attracted scientists and adventurers with its unmatched natural beauty. From ice-blue glaciers to sprawling jagged coast, Antarctica’s breathtaking scenery is a spectacular wilderness to behold. The solitude of its seas and mountains conceals the frantic activity along the shorelines: scores of penguins plunge for food, herds of elephant seals bask in the sun, and pods of orcas cruise by. Witness this rugged, isolated, and serene world come to life from the comfort of the new M/V Hondius, the world’s first registered Polar Class 6 cruise ship, exceeding all the latest green requirements of the Polar Code. Plus, Zodiac excursions ashore allow you to set foot on one of the last untouched places on the planet. Join the Living Desert Zoo & Gardens on a once-in-a-lifetime journey to the end of the Earth!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Navigate picturesque waterways of the Antarctic Peninsula with opportunities to explore the shorelines on foot and the surrounding waters on zodiac cruise.
- Learn about topics of geology, biodiversity, oceanography, and climatology during lectures and conversations with onboard naturalists.
- Enjoy up-close experiences with chinstrap and gentoo penguins, leopard and crabeater seals, whales, and seabirds on the Antarctic Peninsula.
- Visit a former British research station and the 1915 wreckage of a whaling ship to learn more about the history of human involvement in Antarctica.
- Get a taste of the world-class arts and culture of Buenos Aires, including a tango show and wine sampling.

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

JANUARY 3 | DEPART U.S.

Overnight flight.

JANUARY 4 | BUENOS AIRES

Arrive at the airport and meet our representative in the arrivals hall. Transfer to the hotel with free time to rest until program orientation in the afternoon. *Please note early check-in is included in the program.* Later, take a field trip through Buenos Aires with a local expert. Visit the seven-story Teatro Colón, a world-class center for opera, ballet, and classical music since 1908. Then enjoy a wine tasting at a local cellar/bar, learning about some of Argentina's world-famous wines, followed by dinner. Dinner at a local restaurant. *725 Continental Hotel. (D)*



JANUARY 5 | BUENOS AIRES

Begin your day exploring Buenos Aires's major neighborhoods and attractions by bus with stops in Plaza de Mayo, La Boca, and Recoleta. Learn about the cultural influence of immigrants and the impact of former First Lady Eva Perón. Have lunch and time at leisure before dinner and a tango show at a local restaurant. Tango has been traced to working-class suburbs of Buenos Aires around the end of the 19th century. Return to the hotel. *725 Continental Hotel. (BLD)*

JANUARY 6 | USHUAIA

Transfer to the airport to catch the approximately 3.5-hour flight to Ushuaia, one of the southernmost cities on the planet, and the starting point for expeditions to Antarctica. Have time to explore on your own — lunch not included today, to explore local fare. This evening, enjoy a gastronomic experience with the local chef at the hotel. *Cilene del Faro. (BD)*

JANUARY 7 | EMBARK

After breakfast, visit Tierra del Fuego National Park. Native forests are home to guanacos, foxes, and muskrats, and short trails provide visitors with scenic views off the coast. Sea birds are abundant; also be on the lookout for condors. A trail passes by grass-covered



shell mounds left by the Yamaná inhabitants hundreds of years ago. This afternoon have a lamb barbecue for lunch, then return to the hotel. Later, transfer to the ship (boarding starts at 4:00pm). This evening sail the mountain-fringed Beagle Channel. Welcome briefing; dinner on board. *M/V Hondius. (B,L,D)*

JANUARY 8-9 | DRAKE PASSAGE

Spend the next two days sailing through the Drake Passage along the same route that many of the first polar explorers traversed. Like they did, you'll experience cool salt breezes, rolling seas, maybe even a fin whale spouting up sea spray. After passing the Antarctic Convergence, Antarctica's natural boundary, you are in the circum-Antarctic upwelling zone. Not only does the marine life change, the avian life changes too. Albatrosses, petrels, cape pigeons, and southern fulmars are a few of the birds you might see. During the journey, enjoy a variety of talks by the naturalist and scientist on board. *M/V Hondius. (B,L,D)*

JANUARY 10-13 | ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

As you approach the Antarctic Peninsula, you'll first pass the snow-capped Melchior Islands and Schollaert Channel, sailing between Brabant and Anvers Islands. This stretch of the Peninsula's coastline is dotted with small islands, offering many opportunities to observe snow-capped stone peaks, towers of blue-white ice, and wildlife both above and below you. Over the next four days, sites you may visit include:



Danco Island - Activities here may focus on the nesting gentoo penguins, in addition to the Weddell and crabeater seals that can be found nearby.

Neko Harbor - An epic landscape of mammoth glaciers and endless wind-carved snow, Neko Harbor offers opportunities for a Zodiac cruise and landing that afford close views of the surrounding alpine peaks.

Paradise Bay - You may be able to take a Zodiac cruise in these sprawling, ice-flecked waters, where there's a good chance you'll encounter humpback and minke whales.

Port Lockroy - After sailing through the Neumayer Channel, you may get a chance to visit the former British research station, Port Lockroy, on Goudier Island. It is now a museum, and the most southerly post office in the world. You may also be able to partake in activities around Jougla Point, meeting gentoo penguins and blue-eyed shags against a backdrop of jagged snowy peaks. There are great opportunities also for kayaking and camping here (at additional cost), and when conditions are right, you can even snowshoe around the shore.

Deception Island - Horseshoe-shaped Deception Island is often windswept and cloaked in mist, but there is still much to observe. In spite of the harsh conditions, it teems with life: mosses, lichens,



flowering grasses, penguins, and petrels. Here, the ship sails into the flooded caldera of the island, where you'll find hot springs, an abandoned whaling station, and thousands of petrels – along with gulls, skuas, and terns. A good hike is a possibility in this fascinating volcanic landscape. As an alternative, you may be able to engage in activities near Half Moon Island. Here, chinstrap penguins and Weddell seals often haul out onto the beach near Cámara Base, an Argentine scientific research station. Conditions on the Drake Passage determine the exact time of departure. *M/V Hondius. (B,L,D)*

JANUARY 14-15 | DRAKE PASSAGE

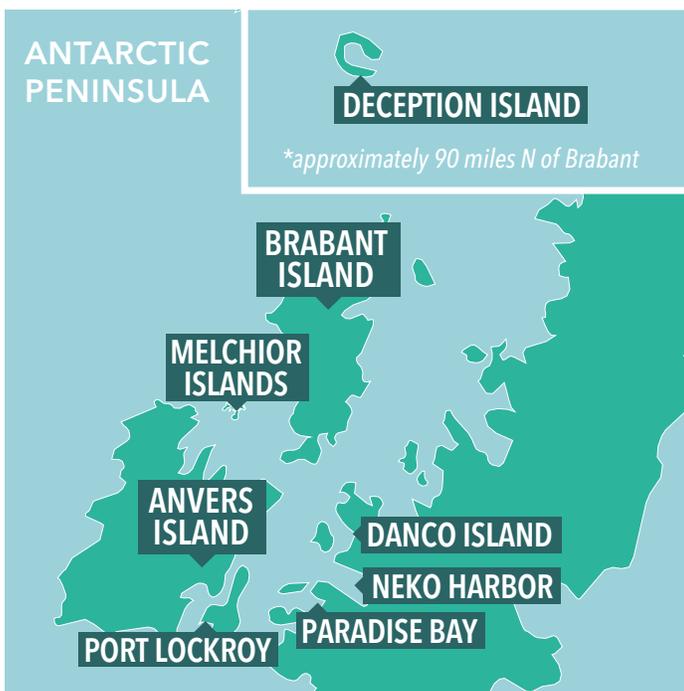
Reflect on your time in Antarctica as you cruise back to Ushuaia on the Drake Passage. The journey will include additional talks offered by the ship's naturalist and scientist. *M/V Hondius. (B,L,D)*

JANUARY 16 | ARRIVE USHUAIA

Arrive at the port of Ushuaia. Disembark after breakfast aboard the ship, then transfer to the airport for your flight to the domestic airport in Buenos Aires. Upon arrival, collect luggage and then meet driver for transfer to the international airport for individual departures. *Please note flights from Ushuaia should be booked in the afternoon, and flights from Buenos Aires in the late evening. (B)*

JANUARY 17 | ARRIVE USA

Arrive home.



LAND PRICING

\$11,795

Price is based on double occupancy in twin window cabins, with 15 participants.

Your price includes:

- Roundtrip flight Buenos Aires-Ushuaia
- 12 nights' accommodations
- 34 meals (12 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 12 dinners)
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Medical/evacuation insurance
- Full-time guide for duration of program
- Program of lectures by onboard scientists
- Private motorcoach or minibus transportation throughout your trip
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Departure tax

Price does not include: international airfare, trip cancellation insurance, tips & gratuities, drinks purchased on own, and items of a personal nature.

Holbrook Travel can assist with making your flight arrangements upon request. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

POST-TRIP EXTENSION



IGUAZÚ FALLS

January 16-20, 2021

5 days/4 nights for \$3,050

Single supplement: \$925 per person

Surrounded by rainforest at the nexus of Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, Iguazú Falls are considered one of the wonders of the world. More than 275 falls carry millions of gallons of water every day, making for an impressive sight. Take in spectacular views from a variety of vantage points, and discover the abundant wildlife and tropical plant species as you explore the rainforest.

Your tour price includes:

- Roundtrip airfare Buenos Aires-Iguazú Falls
- 4 nights' accommodation
- 10 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Entry to both Argentine and Brazilian sides of falls and rainforest bird park
- Transfers to/from airport

MEET YOUR HOST



Allen Monroe is the President/CEO of The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens where he leads a team advocating for the conservation and appreciation of the World's animals and wild places. Whether it is diving with whale sharks, trekking after mountain gorillas or stalking the elusive

leopard, he is passionate about sharing his animal experience and conservation stories with fellow travelers. He has traveled extensively in Asia, South America and Africa. His favorite place is to be under a tree with a pair of binoculars as the sun comes up and the world comes to life.

ABOUT M/V HONDIUS



Launching in 2019, the *M/V Hondius* offers state-of-the-art features in polar-vessel safety and green technology. The interiors are stylish and comfortable, and all cabins have exterior-facing views. Onboard scientists provide a program of lectures to enrich the Antarctic experience.

WHAT THIS TRIP IS LIKE

ACTIVITY LEVEL 4: MODERATE-STRENUOUS This expedition is designed for able-bodied travelers who enjoy good health and full mobility. During your Drake Passage crossing, there is a high possibility of rough seas. All shore landings are dependent on local conditions and at the captain's discretion. Some agility and balance are required as you'll need to walk on a gangplank; and enter and exit small Zodiac landing craft unassisted, sometimes stepping directly into ankle high-water or rugged or icy surfaces. (Boots are available on board.) Excursions feature uneven and slick surfaces; may cover up to two miles; or involve standing for one and a half hours. Temperatures range between 28–41°F.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

THE FINE PRINT

A nonrefundable deposit of \$1500 is required 180 days prior to departure for participants to register and reserve a space on the program. If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens. If you cancel 180 days or more before departure: \$1500 charge; Cancel 179-0 days before departure: no refund.



Twin Window Cabins *2 single beds, 1 window*

- Private shower & toilet
- Flatscreen TV, desk & chair, small sofa
- Telephone and WiFi (supplemented)
- Hair dryer, cabinet, wardrobe



Twin Deluxe Cabins *2 single beds, 2 windows*

- Private shower & toilet, bathrobe
- Flatscreen TV, desk & chair, sofa
- Telephone and WiFi (supplemented)
- Refrigerator, coffee & tea maker
- Hair dryer, cabinet, wardrobe



Superior Cabins *1 double bed, 2 windows*

- Private shower & toilet, bathrobe
- Flatscreen TV, desk & chair, sofa
- Telephone and WiFi (supplemented)
- Refrigerator, coffee & tea maker
- Hair dryer, cabinet, wardrobe



Junior Suite Cabins *1 double bed, 1 double window*

- Private shower & toilet, bathrobe
- Flatscreen TV, desk & chair
- Telephone and WiFi (supplemented)
- Refrigerator, coffee & tea maker
- Hair dryer, cabinet, wardrobe

*per person