

# **OPEN AIR CAMPING IN ANTARCTIC**

- a once in a lifetime experience



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Cuddled up in a warm, snug and weatherproof sleeping bag, listening to the sounds of distant whale blows, penguins' squeaks and shifting icebergs, Antarctic Open-Air Camping with Albatros Expeditions is truly a memorable experience. After dinner onboard the ship, our expedition team will take you to shore, where you will be a part of preparing your camp for the night. Once you decide on the location within the set perimeter, you will level out your own spot in the snow, fix the base cover, insulated pad, and warm sleeping bag - and get ready for a night like no other. Camping in Antarctica is limited to 30 participants, who all need to participate in the briefing prior to the camp activity. Albatros Expeditions provides all the special camping and bivouac gear for this outing, allowing you to stay warm, dry, and protected for all weather types while you enjoy the beauty of the Antarctic wilderness. For the ultimate camping experience, we use a wind and waterproof yet still breathable bivy bag, offering you the possibility to watch the amazing Antarctic night skies.

Our experienced expedition guides stay in constant radio contact with the ship and ensure that you have a safe and unforgettable night.

#### WHY CAN'T WE SLEEP IN TENTS?

- Sleeping in your warm bivy bag makes you feel like a true Antarctic explorer. It makes you experience and sense Antarctica the optimal way, and wake-up with one of most incredible views you have ever seen. We don't believe staying in a closed tiny tight tent would give you anything close to this incredible experience.

## IS IT POSSIBLE TO BRING FOOD?

- As per the Antarctic Treaty and IAATO regulations, eating food and snacks on shore is not allowed. This is to prevent the spread of outside plants or contaminants.

#### CAN I GO TO THE TOILET?

- Toilet visits should be avoided on land, as per the Antarctic Treaty and IAATO regulations, and campers are encouraged to use toilet facilities on board prior to camping. In case of urgency during the stay in camp, a portable toilet will be available on shore and all waste must be returned to the ship. Note also that it is not possible to brush teeth ashore. This should be done on board prior to camping or when coming back the next morning.

## WHERE AND HOW LONG DO WE STAY ON SHORE?

- Normally we sail ashore ca. 21:00 and return ca. 6:00 the next morning. We offer near-shore camping on the continent or nearby islands depending on the itinerary, weather, and ice conditions. Camping groups stay a maximum of 10 hours on shore.

## WHAT IF LOCAL WEATHER AND ICE CONDITIONS ARE UNSAFE FOR CAMPING?

- The expedition leader will do their best to ensure the camping activity takes place. But if local circumstances prevent us from camping on shore, we may attempt to camp on the open decks of the ship.

#### IS PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED?

- Prior camping experience is not necessary. There are no physical requirements except helping the guides set up and clean the campsite. Please note, however, that we are not camping in a campground: There can be rocks, snow, mud, and frozen surfaces. We expect our campers to help, prepare the campsite and break camp the next morning. All equipment must be cleaned thoroughly after use. The weather can sometimes make these tasks difficult.

#### WHAT ARE THE WEATHER CONDITIONS?

- Around the coasts of Antarctica, temperatures are generally close to freezing in the summer (December – February). At night slightly below, and at day some degrees above (-5 to +5°C / 22 to 42°F). Warm clothing, a flexible attitude, and a sense of adventure are the best ways to overcome these sometimes-harsh conditions.



## WHAT ALBATROS EXPEDITIONS WILL PROVIDE:

- · Bivy sack with large hood for clothing
- $\cdot$  Mummy-style expedition sleeping bag, comfortable to -20° C (-4° F)
- · Sleeping bag inner liner
- Insulated sleeping pad
- · Waterproof base tarpaulin
- Portable field toilet (one per group)



## WHAT GEAR YOU SHOULD BRING:

- Parka (can double as a pillow)
- $\cdot$  Thermal base layer and mid-layer clothing
- · Warm socks, hat, and gloves
- Scarf or neck gaiter
- · Hand and foot warmers
- Backpack
- · Camera and accessories
- · Eye mask if you need complete darkness
- · Essential medication
- · UV-protectant sunglasses, sun cream
- · Flashlight or lightweight headlamp
- $\cdot$  Water bottle











## **KAYAKING**

- the ultimate expedition adventure



Glide through the waters and take in the royal grace of the icebergs, see the varied birds and seals, and maybe even the whales in their natural habitat under the supervision of experienced kayak guides, who will ensure your safety during each outing.

Exercise your body while engaging your mind and heart in an unforgettable outing, safely guided by Kayak masters throughout the journey. Kayaking activities available on both Arctic and Antarctic voyages. Although kayaking opportunities are possible in most locations during each excursion in the Antarctic region, weather, sea and ice conditions will dictate the when and where to ensure your safety and improve your experience.

In order to sign up for this activity you need to have previous kayaking experience and attend a mandatory safety briefing by the Kayak Master.

# **SNOWSHOEING**

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- hike easily in the most pristine environment



Snowshoeing is an activity that allows you to hike across soft, powdery snow up gentle slopes to reach to unique vantage points without the hassle of sinking into deep snow. Snowshoeing is as basic as hiking and you do not need to have previous experience.

ALBATROS EXPEDITIONS

The snowshoe program is not intended to take place during all landing activities, but rather when the weather, terrain and snow conditions are appropriate. The Snowshoe Master will present an introduction to the snowshoe program and the equipment for all guests with interest, on a workshop before introduction of this activity. The duration is approximately 2 - 3 hours. This adventure activity will run separate from, though simultaneous to, Zodiac cruising and landing activities. This activity is dependent on suitable snow conditions and appropriate terrain as agreed upon by our expedition team.

The snowshoe program is conducted and supervised by Albatros Expeditions experienced mountain guides who dictate the route based on site guidelines and conditions at the time of each outing.

All guests are welcome to participate, and no previous experience is necessary. However, physical fitness levels should be average.



# PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM

- capture the beauty of Antarctica and its wildlife



The Photography Program is a unique opportunity for photographers to capture the beauty of Antarctica and its wildlife while cruising on an expedition ship. The program is designed to provide photographers with the skills, knowledge, and assistance with guidance from our appointed polar photography experts.

Our dedicated onboard professional Photographer Guide (1 per 10 guests) will lead workshops and provide instructions to help participants develop their technical skills and artistic vision for the duration of the voyage.

The program will focus on capturing images of the landscape and wildlife of Antarctica. Participants will have the opportunity to photograph icebergs, glaciers, penguins, seals, whales, and other wildlife with the guidance of the dedicated photography guide to capture the best possible shot of their subject (however, please note, no specific wildlife is guaranteed as per any landing and zodiac cruise activity).

Participants will have the chance to move in smaller groups and to disembark for zodiac cruises and landing as a first group to maximize the chance of capturing the best possible shots.

The Photography Program in Antarctica onboard our expedition ship is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for photographers. It provides the opportunity to capture stunning imagery of one of the most beautiful and remote places on earth while developing technical skills.

## WHEN AND WHERE IS THE PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM OFFERED?

- The Photography Program takes place onboard both the Ocean Albatros and Ocean Victory in Antarctica. from the 2024/25 Season. It is offered for Antarctic Peninsual departures only. South Georgia departures are excluded.

**DO PARTCIPANTS NEED THEIR OWN GEAR?** - Participants will need to bring their own camera, gear and editing equipment.

#### WHERE ARE THE SESSIONS TAKING PLACE?

- The Photography Guide will provide you with opportunities that will take place from our dedicated, private photography Zodiacs, onshore, and from the outer decks of our ships (outside activities are weather dependent).

## IS THE GOING TO BE TIME FOR INDIVIDUAL EXPLORATION?

- In addition to group workshops and lectures, participants will have plenty of time for their own individual photography and exploration. The ship will make daily excursions to different locations to provide a variety of photographic opportunities.

DO PARTICIPANTS HAVE TO BRING THEIR OWN COMPUTERS AND EDITING SOFTWARES? - Participants must bringi their own laptop and editing equipment.



## **REQUIREMENTS/BENEFITS:**

## Requirements:

- Basic understanding of camera functionalities (e.g. shutter speed, aperture, etc.)

- Any camera: compact, mirrorless, or DLSR

## Benefits:

- Participants disembark first (after the kayak group) during landings and zodiac operations to maximize the time on shore and during zodiac cruising

- Enjoy the benefits of having fewer passengers per zodiac and more room and possibilities to take the best possible shot of the surrounding landscape and wildlife

- Learn new skills by accessing presentations, workshops, instructions, feedback sessions, and Q&As after shootings from our professional polar and wildlife photographers (The exact number of workshops depends on voyage length)



## WHAT GEAR YOU SHOULD BRING:

- Your own camera
- Your own lenses (wide and telephoto)
- Batteries
- Memory cards
- Cables, rechargers
- Editing equipment and software
- Waterproof bag











