

Isla de los Estados & Península Mitre Tierra del Fuego

COST: \$3900 USD pp ALL INCLUSIVE once Onboard

A Remote Southern Ocean Island Still Pristine

Isla de los Estados and Península Mitre are two of the most mysterious hard to get to wilderness areas in Argentina.

Isla de los Estados is both a nature reserve and the setting for Jules Verne's novel "Lighthouse at the End of the World". The title is apt, as it's a remote island that sits at the Eastern entrance to the Beagle Channel. It is a photographer's paradise. The island has served as a prison, remote navy base, and wildlife nature preserve. Until very recently it's been closed to all except scientists.



Península Mitre is the far eastern tip of Tierra del Fuego, kept wild due to its remote and wild nature. Few venture into this remote terrain. We explore old estancias and places of key historical significance in the settling of Tierra Del Fuego

Why is Isla de los Estados so amazing – it is the only place in Argentina with fjords. Steep walls tumble into the sea. To visit the island is a privilege. A small colony of King penguins calls it home and seabirds are at home here. While sailing you might see dolphins, orcas, or seals. Visit a replica of Jules' Verne's famous light house. See the remains of the ill-fated prison. Hike untouched terrain for an unforgettable experience.

Day 1 – Depart Ushuaia

Join the vessel in Ushuaia – the city at the end of the world! We get to know the boat, stow our gear and finish final provisions and head out into the Beagle Channel. We will pass the famous and photogenic light house outside of Ushuaia harbor and then continue East. Depending on the weather we will continue all day and night towards Isla de los Estados or we may spend the night in Puerto Español, where we explore an old Estancia and the cave of Allen Gardiner, one of the first missioner of Tierra del Fuego who died in this cave escaping from the Yamanas.



Days 2-3 – Puerto Hoppner

Once we arrive at the island, our first stop will be the mysterious and well protected cove of Puerto Hoppner. There is an inner and outer bay and to reach the inner bay we must pass through a narrow entrance only 7 meters wide!
Once inside we will anchor and spend the night. It's a beautiful location for exploring by kayak and zodiac. We

will also visit the sea lion colony at the entrance of the bay, and a Cormorant colony as well.



Day – 4 Puerto Parry

On this day we will explore a magical fjord. It is also the home to an active navy outpost. Here there is an excellent hike that will give us incredible views of the fjord and out into the Southern Ocean. We will also explore a nearby waterfall.





Day 5 – Puerto Cook

Today we sail to Puerto Cook. During the sail, we will pass Bahía Colnet, where there is a growing colony of King Penguins, each year there are a few more eggs and a few more penguins.

Once we arrive in Puerto Cook we will embark on an exciting hike – we will cross the island to the southern Shores of Isla de los Estados. While ashore we will also visit a cemetery circa 1900 and the remains of a refuge.

Day 6 – The Lighthouse at The End Of The World!

Today we will make our way to the lighthouse at the end of the world, officially called, the San Juan del Salvamento lighthouse. We will anchor in a safe cove, then board the zodiac to a safe landing area. From there we walk to the lighthouse.

Once there we can imagine we are in the pages of Jules Verne’s novel (or hope not – it was filled with wild prisoners). We are able to enter the lighthouse, which was reconstructed about 20 years ago to honor its place in history.





Before leaving we will all sign the log book before heading back to Ocean Tramp. Along the way we will see nesting birds, but we will make sure we keep a safe distance from them.

Tonight, we enjoy a celebratory dinner back on Ocean Tramp to commemorate our travel to this lighthouse!

Days 7-8 Start the Journey Home

We start our journey back to the Beagle Channel. We've also built in one day for weather, as you never know at the end of the world what will come!. The Beagle Channel will most luckily welcome us with Peales or Dusky dolphins riding our bow wave



Day 9 – Harberton Estancia



As we sail into the Beagle Channel we will likely stop for a night at Harberton, the first Estancia (Ranch) in Tierra del Fuego. Here we will take a tour of the Estancia grounds, have a meal in the cafe and explore the Museum. The museum is famous for its collection of bones from mammals and birds of the Southern Ocean. At the museum, we will get to see the process of cleaning the bones and meet some of the scientists who work there.

Note: this stop will be weather and time

permitting.

If the weather is good, the boat will also pass close to Isla Martillo, better known as penguin island, where we will see many Magellanic penguins, a few gentoo penguins, and if we are lucky a king penguin.



Day 10 – Ushuaia

We finally arrive back in Ushuaia after our exciting journey.

We highly recommend adding a day or two in Ushuaia at the end of your journey in order to explore town and visit the national park. We can assist with organizing.



What's included:

10 days of sailing expedition. All Inclusive onboard the Expedition Yacht Ocean Tramp -including landings, zodiac cruises, hikes, kayaking, visit to The End of the World Lighthouse.

Accommodation is a bunk/bed in private double cabin (sharing with another passenger of same gender) with share bathroom. Duvets, towel, linen and pillows are provided. Limited storage space for personal clothe in the cabin.

All meals -while onboard: breakfast, tea and coffee mid-morning, lunch, tea and coffee midafternoon, happy hour, dinner. Wine or beers on dinners except if the boat is underway.

We provide "over-boots" which are waterproof boots that can be wear on top of your normal hiking boots -you need to bring your hiking boots!.

What's not included:

Required Travel Insurance

Entrance fees for visiting the Museum at Harberton Estancia -stop at the Estancia only weather and time permitting.

Personal gear

Anything not specifically mentioned on the "included" list

FAQS

I'M NOT A SAILOR – IS THAT OK?

YES! Please join us. Anyone with a sense of adventure and a desire to spend quality time in Antarctica will find our trips enjoyable. We teach you everything you need to know. Sailors and non-sailors alike both have incredible experiences.

I'M A PHOTOGRAPHER – IS THIS TRIP FOR ME?

This is a great trip for photographers, especially those looking to get the perfect shot. Our size offers us incredible flexibility. We can help you get some great shots and we can take advantage of the weather and the light!

HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT TO BRING?



Don't worry – we will send you a list of gear you will need. If you have winter clothes, most of it you will already have. A must have are some Arctic Muck boots – insulated rubber boots. They are amazing. If you don't have or don't want to buy gear, don't worry! -you can rent online on our website from a partner company, and get the gear delivered to your hotel in Ushuaia, or even onboard our boat prior to departure! If we prefer buying last minute gear in Ushuaia, we have partnership with an Outdoor store in town which will give you 10% discount.

WHAT ARE THE CABINS LIKE?

Our cabins are some of the most comfortable available for sailboats. We have private double cabins, and even one with a private bathroom. Each cabin has a door that can be closed, they are fitted with warm and cozy duvets and storage space for your things. A luxury suite it is not, however each cabin gives you a place to call your own for the duration of the journey.

HOW WILL WE EXPLORE THE ISLAND?

When we are in Isla de los Estados Ocean Tramp will act like a base camp. Some days we will travel other days we will stay put. Once we are anchored we will launch the zodiac to explore. Sometimes we will cruise around the in the zodiac exploring the area, other times we will use the zodiac to bring us to shore. Sometime on shore we will be able to freely move around, explore and hike. We also bring kayaks and can use them to explore at eye level.

WHAT SORT OF FOOD DO WE EAT?

On-board you will eat hearty well-made delicious home cooked food. Lunch is often warm and hearty soups and stews, while dinners can be a variety of meals. Meals range from a Sunday roast to Saturday night Captain Pizza night, to goulash to Pad thai to butter chicken. So far everyone has left a bit heavier than when they arrived. We also always have snacks available during the day and water ready for coffee or tea. If you do have any special snacks or teas that you can't live without, we recommend bringing some with you.

WILL I GET SEASICK?

Everyone is a little different, but we highly recommend bringing some seasickness pills with you. We generally take them as a precautionary measure when crossing the Drake. Once in Antarctic things will be a calmer and most of our days will be anchored and exploring on shore. At the very least – you may have a good story to tell when you get home of your Drake Crossing.

IS IT DANGEROUS TO GO TO ISLA DE LOS ESTADOS IN A YACHT?

Charter Yachts have a very good track record. This is due to vessels taking a very high regard to safety. Safety is a core element of our business. Every decision we make is based on a risk analysis. Crossing the street could be dangerous – cars whiz by at 60 miles an hour. However just like you taking precautions when crossing the street, we take extreme cautions when sailing. We continuously watch the weather, we are a surveyed vessel, which means we MUST comply with all safety regulations. We have strict requirements for lifejacket use. That being said, each person onboard must also use good judgement. If you follow what the Captain says you will be in good hands.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Once you are onboard everything is included – port fees, all meals, wine with meals, use of Kayak, guided expeditions on land. We also provide your basic safety equipment including life jackets, What is not included – flights to/from your home to Ushuaia, airport transfers, and REQUIRED travel insurance. Accommodation before and after the trip is not included and we recommend that you leave 1 or two



spare days at the end of the trip for the unusual event of delays due to weather -you can use this extra day to explore the city and the National Park.

DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A MEDICAL FORM?

Yes. The places we go are quite remote and while what we do is safe, it does require some physical activity. Once you sign up for a trip we will require you to give us a medical form that is signed by a doctor.

WILL WE HAVE INTERNET ONBOARD?

One of the wonderful aspects of this trip is it allows you to unplug and get away from emails, phone calls, etc. We do have a connection to the internet via our satellite phone. We use this for weather updates, email to update our position, emergencies, and facebook and blog updates. We encourage everyone to tell their friends and families to subscribe to our blog and like us on facebook. Then they can get updates while you are here with us. Our guests and their families have appreciated these “news” updates in the past. They can also follow our track on a google map in our website, as we have a tracking system that plots our position every few hours.

IS ALCOHOL ALLOWED ONBOARD?

Alcohol consumption is at the discretion of the captain. If we are underway sailing then we do not drink, as it is not in the interest of safety for crew and guests. If we are comfortably in a cove for the night then indeed, we all enjoy a nice glass of Argentine wine with our meal.

Inebriation will not be tolerated onboard and the Captain has the right to cancel a trip should guests not adhere to this policy.



