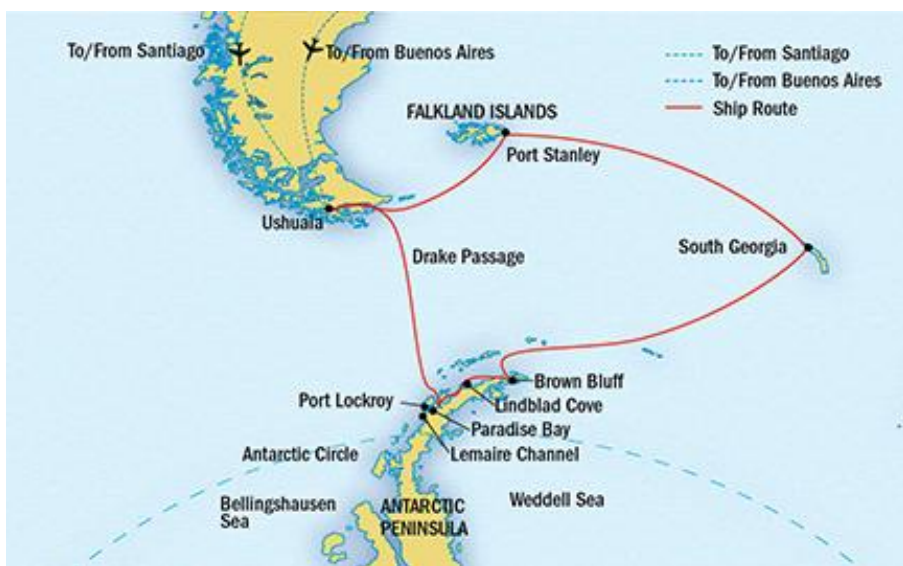


## Antarctica, South Georgia, and the Falklands 14 February – 09 March (24 days)

*The ultimate Southern ocean experience, this expedition takes you into majestically spectacular wildness. Not even the vast migrations of Africa can rival the awesomeness of seeing a king penguin colony of some 200,000+ individuals stretching as far as the eye can see. Or albatross colonies that fill the windward edges of the remote islands they call home. You'll have other rare sightings here too: massive, in both senses of the word, herds of elephant seals: and a wandering albatross stretching its 11-foot wings. It's the impossible beauty of Antarctica exponentially increased by unimaginable numbers of animals. A not-be-missed polar experience, for those with the luxury of time.*



### Expedition Highlights

The impossible beauty of Antarctic ice: tabular bergs, the haunting Lemaire Channel, massive wildlife spectacles in South Georgia and the Falklands.

Explore the ghostly remnants of the whaling stations that once peopled South Georgia and the warmly welcoming ranchers of Port Stanley on the Falklands.

Enjoy the view from behind Explorer's panoramic glass windows. Or visit the fitness center with its generous views of the ice vistas, or ease into the sauna or a massage in the wellness center.

Brief Itinerary	
Day	Location
01 – 02	U.S.A / Fly to Santiago, Chile / Overnight
03	Santiago / Ushuaia, Argentina / Embark Ship
04	At Sea
05 – 10	Antarctica
11 – 12	At Sea
13 – 17	South Georgia Island
18 – 19	At Sea
20 – 21	Falkland Island
22	At Sea
23 – 24	Ushuaia / Disembark / Santiago / U.S.A.

## Cruise Itinerary

### Days 01 – 02 U.S.A. / Santiago, Chile / Overnight

Most flights to Santiago are overnight flights. Santiago is nearly surrounded by the Andes, which form an inspiring backdrop to our afternoon guided overview of this vibrant city. We explore the Plaza de Armas, the main square, and nearby Presidential Palace, enjoying wonderful views from the many hills that dot the city.

### Day 03 Santiago / Ushuaia, Argentina / Embark Ship

This morning's charter flight offers some rare views of Patagonia en route to Ushuaia, the world's southernmost city. Take a catamaran cruise through Patagonia's scenic Beagle Channel before embarking our ship.



**National Geographic Orion**

### Day 04 At Sea

Awake well into our journey across the Drake Passage—a milestone in any adventurer's personal travel history—with time to hear talks preparing you for the exciting days ahead.

### Days 05 – 10 Antarctica



**Hiking Antarctica**

With long hours of daylight, we make the most of our days exploring the Antarctic Peninsula and surrounding islands. Our schedule is flexible, allowing us to take advantage of the unexpected. We'll sail through the incomparable Lemaire Channel and land on the "White Continent," exploring via Zodiac, kayak and on foot, and using our arsenal of tools for exploration.

Depending on weather and sea conditions, we plan to make some or all of the following stops:

**Paradise Bay:** aptly named because the surrounding mountains look as though they rise straight to heaven. Stretch your legs on a hike to a nearby summit for a breathtaking view, or slip into a kayak to quietly paddle along a cliffside rookery in search of blue-eyed shags.



**Paradise Bay**

**Lemaire Channel and Petermann Island:** cruise through the narrow Lemaire Channel between towering snow-covered mountains and spectacular blue icebergs. Step ashore at Petermann Island to the cries of thousands of gentoo penguins that stand along the coast as if awaiting your arrival.



**Neko Harbor**

**Neko Harbor:** drop anchor in beautiful Neko Harbor. Enjoy an up close encounter with the penguins on the beach or climb high onto an ice field for a panoramic vista of untouched peaks surrounding this idyllic bay.

**Historic Port Lockroy:** the great French explorer Jean-Baptiste Charcot named Port Lockroy a century ago. In 1944 the British government instituted the top-secret expedition code-named Operation Tabarin, creating a series of base stations in Antarctica. Base A, at Port Lockroy, was the first and now serves as a museum and Antarctica's only public post office where we can send mail to be postmarked in Antarctica.

### Days 11 – 12 At Sea

As we voyage, head up to the Bridge to watch for icebergs and observe expert navigation at work as our skilled Captain and officers sail these historic waters. Our naturalists will prepare us for the exciting days ahead with presentations on the wildlife of South Georgia, and, of course, the inspiring story of Ernest Shackleton and the Endurance.



**Dining Room**

### Days 13 – 17 South Georgia Island

This is the final resting place for explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton and we'll hoist a toast at his gravesite.

Teeming wildlife and breathtaking scenery greet our ship. Hundreds of Antarctic fur seals are on hand as our Zodiacs make landfall. And at a vast penguin colony you'll be surrounded by 300,000 king penguins!

Depending on weather and sea conditions, we plan to make some or all of the following stops:



**King Haakon Bay**

**King Haakon Bay:** the site of Shackleton's landfall after his rigorous voyage in the 23-foot lifeboat, James Caird. The untouched beaches, headlands, mountains, glaciers, and nesting wandering albatrosses are a great introduction to the wilds of South Georgia.

**Grytviken / Shackleton's Grave:** wander on foot, visiting the ruins of the abandoned whaling station of Grytviken and its fine museum about whaling and the island's natural history. A host of seabirds, penguins, and marine mammals can be seen as we hike along the coast to the cemetery where Sir Ernest Shackleton is buried.

**Right Whale Bay:** land on black-sand beaches, inhabited by southern fur seals, elephant seals, and king penguins, plus dozens of other bird species.

**St. Andrews Bay:** teeming with wildlife. Hike past fur and elephant seals and a colony of more than 200,000 king penguins.

**Salisbury Plains / Elsehul Bay:** at the height of breeding season, the northern tip of South Georgia is said to have more wildlife per square foot than any place else on Earth. We are likely to be greeted by thousands of king penguins. Visit a colony of wandering albatrosses and see colorfully crested macaroni penguins, fur and elephant seals, and gray-headed and black-browed albatrosses on their nests.



**Salisbury Plains**

**Gold Harbor:** home to elephant seals, thousands of fur seals and tens of thousands of penguins, including a colony of aristocratic king penguins.

**Cooper Bay:** whalers once sought shelter in this small bay. Here we are likely to encounter king, gentoo, and macaroni penguins; prions; petrels; and terns; and perhaps Weddell seals.

**Stromness Bay:** offering views of cliffs and glaciers that legendary captain Ernest Shackleton and his companions descended to complete their famed crossing with the Endurance in 1916. Shackleton and a crew of five men had set sail in a 22-foot wooden sailboat on a 700-mile voyage across the Southern Ocean—a journey that became one of the most incredible stories of survival at sea. Explore the glacier's ice face by Zodiac. Walk along a pebble beach, passing king and gentoo penguins, and hundreds of fur seals.

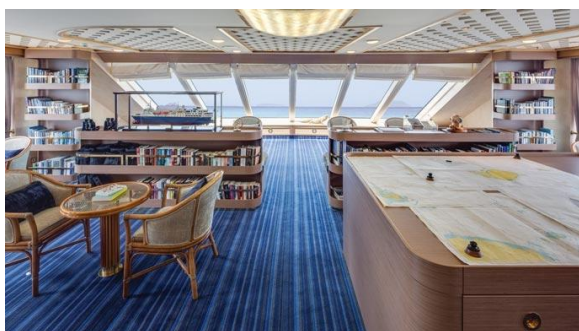
### Days 18 – 19 At Sea

Whales beneath, birds above, as you head to the Falkland Islands. There'll also be time to enjoy a massage in the wellness center, workout in the gym, and browse in the library. Each day our naturalists offer talks that add depth to your experience.

### Days 20 – 21 Falkland Islands

The Falklands boast the largest albatross colony in the world, irresistible Magellanic penguins in their burrows amid the green tussock grass and herds of enormous elephant seals. Stroll the photogenic tin-roofed, Victorian-style houses of Port Stanley. Visit the Anglican Cathedral with its organic archway of whalebones, and the Falkland Islands Museum.

### Day 22 At Sea



**Observation Lounge & Library**

As we sail back to Ushuaia, an albatross or two may join the escort of seabirds that cross our bow. There's time to share photos with our resident photographer, catch up on the book you haven't had a minute to read, and write emails home, saying "don't want this to end."

### Days 23 – 24 Ushuaia / Disembark / Santiago / U.S.A.

Disembark in Ushuaia with time to explore before our charter flight to Santiago. Most flights to the US are overnight flights.

## Cabin Options

Category		Cost (HKD)
01 Oval Window 175 Sq. Ft.	These cabins feature an oval window and two single beds, two beds* You'll find an armchair, climate controls, reading lamps, and a TV. Bathrooms are also generously sized with a roomy glass-walled shower stall.	179,990
02 Main Deck 180 Sq. Ft.		192,990
03 Suite 218 Sq. Ft.	Suite with Window #401-412, 414-41- These suites have a comfortable sofa in the sitting area with a large window and plenty of storage. They have a variety of bed configurations plus a writing desk and chair, climate controls, reading lamps, and a TV. Modern bathrooms are generously sized with roomy glass-walled shower stall.	211,580
04 Deluxe Suite 230 Sq. Ft.	Deluxe suite with Window #511, 515 - These two suites feature separate sleeping and sitting areas, with a two-seater sofa that looks out a large rectangular window. Beds are configurable. You'll find storage, climate controls, reading lamps, a TV. Modern bathrooms are generously sized with roomy glass-walled shower stall.	259,590
05 Balcony Suite 230 Sq. Ft.	Suite with Balcony #501, 503-506, 508 - These spacious suites feature open living areas and sliding glass doors that open to a private French balcony. Beds are configurable, and you'll find sitting chairs or a couch, a writing desk, climate controls, reading lamps, and a TV. The bathroom is spacious and has a glass-walled shower.	299,590
06 Owners Suite 345 Sq. Ft.	Owner's suite with Balcony #502, 507, 510 - These large, owner's suites feature a balcony, a spacious bathroom with a large shower and separate soaking tub with a window, and a large separate living area with a couch and two bucket chairs, plus climate controls, reading lamps, and a TV.	347,490
01 Solo 175 Sq. Ft.	These solo cabins feature a window or two portholes, a queen-size bed, writing desk and chair, climate controls, reading lamps, and a TV. Bathrooms are also generously sized with a roomy glass-walled shower stall.	269,980
03 Solo 218 Sq. Ft.	Suite with Window #512 - This solo suite features two beds and a large window, plus a bucket chair and small table, climate controls, reading lamps, and a TV. The bathroom is spacious and has a glass-walled shower.	317,380

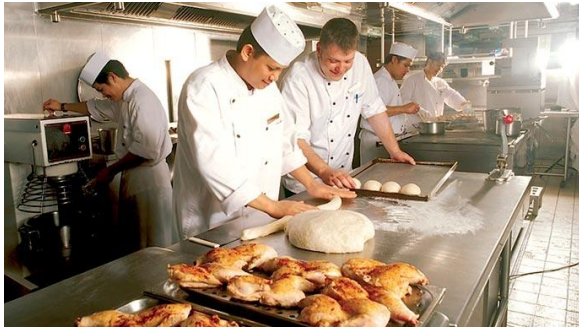
Prices are given per person in **HKD**

\*Two beds can be converted to a queen-size bed

Prices do not include possible fuel surcharge

## Ship Information National Geographic Orion

*Technically and aesthetically, Orion is arguably the most sophisticated vessel in its class. The Berlitz Ocean Cruising and Cruise Ships guide describes her as "the latest in the quest to build the ideal expedition cruise ship". Constructed by the world-leading Cassens Shipyard in Emden, and launched in November 2003, she boasts a host of advanced design features including technology that sets new standards in sustainable marine environmental practices.*



*Although custom-made for expedition cruising, Orion is the epitome of elegance. No expense has been spared when it comes to the quality of fittings and furnishings, and the range and caliber of on-board recreational facilities are nothing short of five-star. Orion's luxurious appointments means she is more mega-yacht than cruise ship and her guests are few; around just 50 couples, all cared for in 5-star comfort by a crew of 75. Chart your own path less traveled. ROV helps you explore the environment.*

### Technical Specifications

Length: 103 meters	Beam: 14.25 metres	Draft: 3.82 metres
Gross Tonnage: 4,000	Gross Tonnage: 4,000	Engines: Mak; 8M25; 3,265HP
Speed: 12.5 knots	Delivery Date: November 2003	Staterooms and Suites: 53
Elevator: Yes	Stabilisers: Blohm & Voss, retractable fin stabilisers	Builder: Cassens Shipyard-Emden GER
Guest Capacity: 102 twin	Built: 2003	
Maneuverability: Bow and stern thrusters		

Hulls Ice-reinforced for voyages in the Arctic and Antarctic Ice Class: E3 (Germanischer Lloyd)

Orion is built according to the latest international safety regulations, including those of the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health, Canadian Arctic Shipping, and St. Lawrence Seaway.

Additional 10 Zodiac Heavy Duty MK5, 10 Kayaks



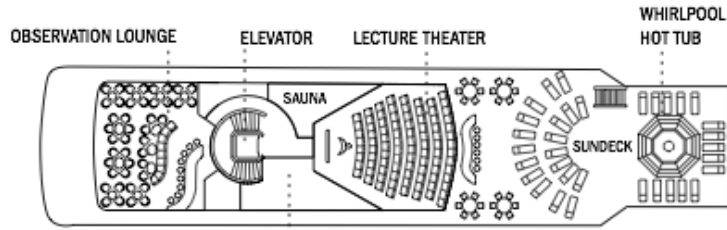
### Accommodation

Accommodation on-board Orion comprises 31 Suites and 22 Staterooms.

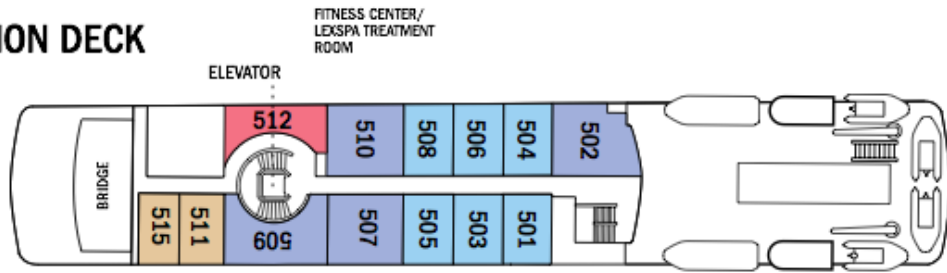


*Every room offers ocean views, relax during the day and a choice of either queen or twin bed sleeping arrangements. All Staterooms and Suites have the same high standard of amenity. Marble bathrooms are well appointed, with Grohe tapware, Lanvin toiletries, fluffy towels and robes. All rooms offer conveniences such as ample storage space, complementary 24-hour room service, flat screen TV, DVD/CD player, internet connectivity, personal safe, hairdryer and a mini-refrigerator continuously stocked with complimentary bottled water.*

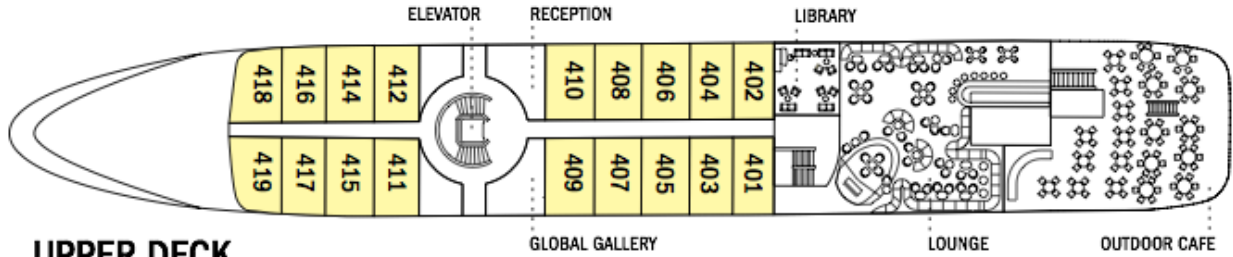
## Ship Layout



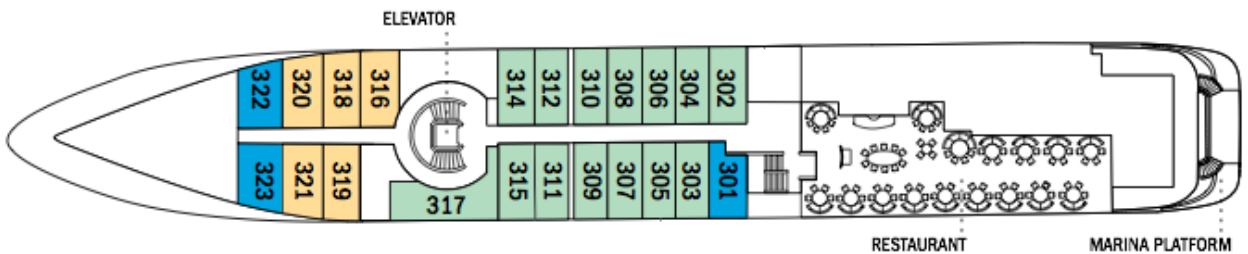
### OBSERVATION DECK



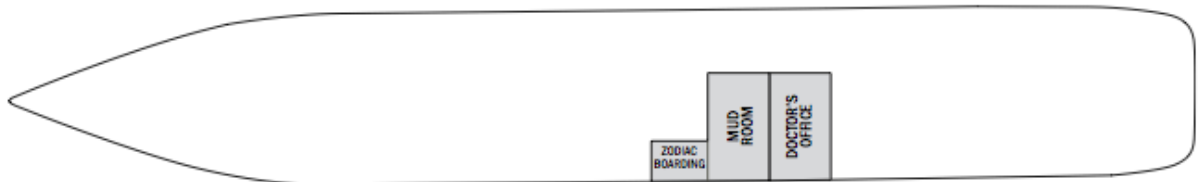
### BRIDGE DECK



### UPPER DECK



### MAIN DECK



### EXPEDITION DECK