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About Fly over the Drake trips

If you are short on time or you would like to avoid crossing the Drake Passage, this type of trip may suit you.

These trips will include at least one flight (normally around three hours) over the Drake Passage, connecting South America to Antarctica. The flights take place between King George Island, South Shetland Islands, and Punta Arenas, Chile. Once you get to Antarctica, the trip will be conducted as a Classic Antarctica trip, focusing on the western side of the Antarctic Peninsula. However, there are some trips that include flights to cross the Drake Passage and once in Antarctica they venture further south to cross the Antarctic Circle.

Note that due to the challenging weather conditions, the flights to and from Antarctica may suffer delays.

Highlights of a Fly over the Drake trip:

- Fly over the notorious Drake Passage and start your expedition in Antarctica straight away
- Get to land on the Antarctic Continent
- Plunge in the frigid waters of Antarctica
- Experience abundant wildlife and landscapes
- Learn about the environment and wildlife from on-board presenters

An example of a Flying over the Drake trip would be as follows:

Day 1 – Punta Arenas, Chile. Embarkation Day

Days 2 to 5 – Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands

Day 6 – Disembarkation and fly to Punta Arenas

Important note

When choosing an Antarctic Expedition, options can be overwhelming. There are lots of operators running trips to Antarctica at the moment, each of them with their own trip names and descriptions. In our opinion, this results in great confusion at the time of booking.

We really want to help you understand the different options, in the easiest way possible.

Although there are variants, all trips can be filtered according to their objective into the following groups:

- 1 - Classic Antarctica
- 2 - Crossing the Circle
- 3 - Fly over the Drake
- 4 - South Georgia and Falkland Islands / Malvinas
- 5 - Weddell Sea

Regardless the voyage type, during transit days the expedition team will conduct mandatory briefings (safety, IAATO, etc.) but they will also run an educational program. Presentations on different topics such as ornithology, history, marine biology and geology, will be made by experts in those fields.

Except transit days (could be full or half days) there will be two excursions a day, weather permitting. One will be in the morning and the second in the afternoon. During lunch the ship will reposition to a new location.

The offer of optional activities such as camping, sea kayak, mountaineering, etc, depends on each different operator.

Except on some specific trips, there is never a fixed itinerary. We can tell you in which geographical region your voyage will take place, but we cannot tell you the specific locations that you will be visiting. Locations are subject to change in each individual voyage for various reasons such as weather and other ships in the area for example.

There is no best time to travel to Antarctica, each month of the austral spring and summer is different, and each has its particular charm.