



LEGENDARY SNOW HILL

March to the Emperor Penguins / ITINERARY

The Trip Overview



During this once-in-a-lifetime experience, journey to the bottom of the world—cruising past masses of dense ice and thick, tabular icebergs—aboard the legendary icebreaker *Kapitan Khlebnikov*.

True to the explorer spirit, this exclusive Antarctic adventure, last offered by Quark Expeditions® in 2010, is your chance to be a part of polar history. You'll have the rare opportunity to observe one of the most spectacular sights in the wild: the elusive Emperor penguin colony off the coast of Snow Hill Island, whose existence was first confirmed in 1997, and to which the first ground visit was conducted by Quark in 2004.

Imagine flying in a helicopter to the vicinity of this astounding rookery, then walking across the sea ice to come within several feet of chicks so young they're huddling with their parents. Watch in awe as these extraordinary creatures toboggan across the ice on their way to the ocean to dive for food. If you're lucky, some may even approach you! An experience like no other, it's like a wildlife documentary come to life.

EXPEDITION IN BRIEF

-  Travel aboard the legendary *Kapitan Khlebnikov*, the storied icebreaker and the only vessel to circumnavigate Antarctica twice
-  Cross the famous Drake Passage on your way to explore the Snow Hill Emperor penguin colony
-  Enjoy helicopter sightseeing and Zodiac cruising
-  Experience thousands of pairs of Emperor penguins, including chicks, in their natural habitat
-  View other iconic Antarctic wildlife, such as whales, seals and seabirds



DID YOU KNOW?

When the BBC and Discovery Channel decided to produce *Frozen Planet*, the sequel to their popular *Planet Earth* TV series, the filmmakers turned to Quark Expeditions®, and in 2009 they joined two of our **Emperor Penguins: Snow Hill Island Safaris** aboard the *Kapitan Khlebnikov*. On each voyage, the film crew delivered presentations and screened dailies—raw footage captured during each day's filming—to the delight of our passengers!

Itinerary

DAY 1 | USHUAIA, ARGENTINA

You will begin your journey in Ushuaia, a small but bustling port town at the tip of South America. This Argentine hot spot is the ideal gateway for you to explore the southern extent of Patagonia while preparing for your adventure ahead. Get active in the mountains or savor some handcrafted chocolate at a café in town.

DAY 2 | EMBARKATION DAY

In the late afternoon, we will transfer you and your fellow travelers from your group hotel to the pier, where you'll board *Kapitan Khlebnikov*. This iconic icebreaker should be instantly recognizable at the port, as the shape and bulk are distinctive, especially from a distance.

As *Khlebnikov* sets sail, you'll first pass through the historic Beagle Channel, which opens up to the vastness of the Southern Ocean. Named after the famed ship on which Charles Darwin voyaged, the channel presents many great photo opportunities to capture seabirds hovering overhead and possibly seals and sea lions cavorting in the water.

DAY 3 & 4 | AT SEA

Crossing the legendary Drake Passage is as much a part of the Antarctic experience as penguins and seals are. With ideal weather conditions, your passage could be relatively easy, but be prepared for some rough seas in case the Drake lives up to its reputation.

These two days will have an air of anticipation, as you prepare for your first landing at the elusive Snow Hill Emperor penguin rookery. Plenty of activities will keep you engaged at sea, including educational and informative presentations by your Expedition Team. You'll learn about such things as the history of whaling in Antarctica and the Emperor penguins' biology, unique habitat and adaptive behavior.

You may also want to spend some time on deck, with your binoculars and camera at the ready, looking out for wandering albatross, petrels, whales and dolphins. Crossing the polar front, keep a close watch, as you should see your first iceberg, too.



DAY 5 - 11 | WEDDELL SEA & SNOW HILL ISLAND EMPEROR PENGUIN

As we approach the island, remember that no two polar expeditions are alike, particularly this voyage through the icy Weddell Sea, since landings and wildlife sightings are determined by weather and ice conditions, as well as the natural cycles of the wildlife. But it's exactly this element of the unknown that makes expedition-style travel so exhilarating and adventurous.

That said, our expeditions will have some elements in common, such as landings, wildlife sightings, helicopter sightseeing and ice—truly massive amounts of ice! Having broken away from the ice shelf, large tabular icebergs, so named for their plateau-like flat top and steep sides, will signal your arrival to Antarctica.

Located on sea ice, the Emperor rookery is situated some distance from Snow Hill Island, so your captain will navigate your ship to a position in the ice that's within helicopter range of the rookery. As we draw near, keep your eyes peeled for curious penguins that may be attracted to the open water by the ship. Deployed in a rotation of flights, our on-board

helicopters will land as close to the penguins as possible, yet still at a safe distance (at least 0.75 nautical miles/1.4 km), to protect the birds. Since you must carry your own gear to the rookery and back across sea ice several feet thick, you'll want to keep items in your backpack to a minimum. A must-bring, however, should be your camera.

We encourage everyone—photographers and nature lovers alike—to carry a camera during our rookery visits, because any visit could reward with that once-in-a-lifetime shot. Your Expedition Team will include a professional photographer, who will conduct on-board workshops and assist you on-site to help you get the most out of your camera, whether you're a newbie or a pro!

Though we can't predict how many excursions will occur during your stay in the vicinity of the rookery, rest assured that your Expedition Leader will take every possible advantage of good weather and flying conditions, and our intention is to spend as much time as possible in the area, to give you plenty of chances to observe the Emperors in their natural environment.

Since we are visiting earlier in the rearing season than any other expedition, the Emperor chicks are still young, so you may see a few brooding on their parents' feet or even several huddling together in large communal groups. It's possible you may catch the impressive sight of a constant trail of adults walking or tobogganing in single file from the sea to the rookery to feed the chicks, and then heading back out again to hunt for more food. Listen closely for a parent trumpeting upon its return to the rookery—the call is instantly recognized by the chick, who whistles in response.

To protect the penguins, we'll remain at least 15 feet (five meters) away, but you may have the opportunity to encounter them up close. Curious creatures, Emperors are unafraid of humans, and if you stand still and remain quiet, the birds may actually approach you. If you are crouching on the ice, eyes focused down through your camera lens, pause for a moment and slowly look around you—you may find yourself surrounded by the very birds you've been trying to photograph!



DAY 12 & 13 | AT SEA

A day at sea can be as busy as any day ashore. Share stories and photos with your shipmates in the lounge, relax in the Polar Library or attend dynamic presentations by your Expedition Team, who may even screen documentaries. Lecture topics can range from the Historic Age of Exploration to whales of the Southern Ocean.

If you choose to spend time outside on deck, keep an eye out for the large seabirds that have accompanied mariners through the Southern Ocean since Magellan made his first navigation of the globe. By now, you should be able to recognize albatross and petrels on the wing.

As we enter the mouth of the Beagle Channel on our way back to Ushuaia, a small vessel will come alongside and a local pilot will board our ship to help navigate this last stretch of water. If the weather is fine, you may want to watch from the deck, enjoying the soft light of the austral summer.

DAY 14 | DISEMBARKATION IN USHUAIA

This morning, you'll say farewell to your Expedition Team and fellow travelers before disembarking to catch your homeward flights.



Included Activities



Be sure to take your camera with you—photography is very much a part of the big picture. Presentations and lectures are slotted during periods of sub-optimal weather, to prioritize visits to the Emperor penguin colony.

AERIAL SIGHTSEEING

The *Kapitan Khlebnikov* is one the few vessels offering aerial sightseeing flights and landings by expertly-piloted helicopters — an essential feature of icebreaker operations offering a unique perspective of the Antarctic.

With two helicopters aboard, you'll witness astounding aerial views of pristine polar landscapes and the mighty *Kapitan Khlebnikov* as it crushes through pack ice. All helicopter flights are weather dependent and are included in the cost of your voyage.

If time and conditions permit, consider booking additional private sightseeing flights for exclusive views (extra charge applies).

OTHER EQUIPMENT ON BOARD

Walking poles are also provided at each landing for your convenience.

INCLUDED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Your included accommodation begins on Day 1 of your itinerary, and the specific hotel(s) will be indicated on your final voyage confirmation. If you are arriving prior to Day 1 of your expedition or are staying after the disembarkation day, please contact your Polar Travel Adviser for hotel options. As accommodation space is limited, you are encouraged to request any extra nights as early as possible.

Ushuaia accommodations range from hostels to mid-range properties, and hotel space is limited. Quark Expeditions® endeavors to provide the best possible accommodation within these parameters. A particular property cannot be guaranteed, but space is most often booked at Hotel Las Lengas, Hotel Los Acebos, and Albatros Hotel.

PLEASE NOTE

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team must allow the sea, the ice and the weather to guide route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you'll experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. A measure of flexibility is something all of us must bring to a polar expedition.



Arrival & Departure Details



As you think about planning for your journey, you may be interested to know the arrival and departure details. Since air transportation to and from your voyage is not included in the cost of your expedition, you will need to arrange flights from your home to the starting point, and home again from the finishing point. Quark Expeditions® can assist you with booking air arrangements on an individual bases, or feel free to contact your preferred travel agent or airline. Below are the details of your expedition.

Arrival

ARRIVING IN USHUAIA

You may arrive in Ushuaia at any time during Day 1 of your itinerary. Ushuaia is a destination worth exploring, so we do encourage you to arrive a day or two before your expedition. Based on the arrival information you send us, we will arrange for a transfer from the airport to your hotel.

A Quark Expeditions® representative will be available to answer your questions in the lobby of your hotel in Ushuaia during your optional predeparture briefing on Day 1, at 6 pm.

EMBARKATION IN USHUAIA

On the morning of Day 2, your luggage will be collected from the lobby of your hotel, transferred to the ship and stored in your cabin.

Ship embarkation will occur on Day 2 of your itinerary, usually around 4 pm. You and your shipmates will meet at a designated spot near the pier, and board the waiting buses for transfer to the ship. Information about embarkation will be posted in your Ushuaia hotel and discussed during your optional predeparture meeting on Day 1.

Departure

DISEMBARKATION IN USHUAIA AND ONWARD

Your ship is scheduled to arrive at the pier in Ushuaia, between 7 am and 8 am local time. Once the ship has docked, you will have time to bid farewell to your Expedition Team and shipmates before completing your disembarkation. The process takes about an hour.

Weather conditions can always change our arrival times, and airline schedule changes have also been known to occur. Please book your flight home from Ushuaia to depart as late in the day as possible or at a date after the end of your expedition. If you have booked a flight that departs before 12 pm (noon) on the date that your expedition ends, you will be at risk of missing your flight.

Quark Expeditions® staff in Ushuaia will reconfirm your domestic flight 48 hours prior to disembarkation, provided you give your information to our team ahead of time or when you board the ship.

Transfers

USHUAIA AIRPORT TRANSFERS

ARRIVAL: Group transfers in Ushuaia are included from the airport to your included pre-expedition hotel on Day 1 of your itinerary.

DEPARTURE: A group departure transfer is included from the ship to the airport on the final day of your itinerary. If your flight is later in the day, you may opt to transfer to our luggage storage facility instead and enjoy further activities in Ushuaia on your own. Access to luggage storage is available until 6 pm on the disembarkation day only. You will need to arrange your own transfer to the airport if you do not take advantage of the included transfer or if you are leaving Ushuaia after the disembarkation day.

In order to facilitate your transfers, we request that you provide your flight details to Quark Expeditions® at least 30 days prior to traveling.

PLEASE NOTE

Weather conditions can always delay our arrival times, and airline schedule changes have also been known to occur. Booking flexible tickets is always encouraged, as we cannot be held responsible for ship delays due to unforeseen circumstances. A post-expedition hotel night in Buenos Aires is recommended.



Extend Your Trip



PRE- AND POST-EXPEDITION TRIP EXTENSIONS

You can extend your trip by booking extra days to explore South America before or after the voyage. Since you're traveling such a long way, you may want to spend extra time in one of our gateway cities or add on another region, like Easter Island, Chile, or Machu Picchu, Peru. We have a variety of pre- and post-expedition packages in the fascinating cities of Santiago, Buenos Aires, Ushuaia or the region of Patagonia. Enjoy a cruise to Penguin Island near Ushuaia, trek and canoe in Tierra del Fuego National Park, watch a tango show in Buenos Aires or stroll the catwalks over Iguazu Falls. To discover the best options for extending your adventure, get in touch with your Polar Travel Adviser.

Contact our Polar Travel Advisers via email, live chat or phone (1.888.892.0073) for seamless, worry-free booking of all trip extensions.

FROM TOP: Iguazú Falls; The Santiago skyline; Easter Island statues

Inclusions

THIS EXPEDITION INCLUDES

- › **NEW: Tips and gratuities**
- › **NEW: Wine and beer at dinner service**
- › **NEW: Soft drinks**
- Accommodation onboard with daily housekeeping
- All meals, snacks, coffee, tea, cocoa and juices onboard (please inform us of any dietary requirements as far in advance as possible; unfortunately, the ships' galleys cannot prepare kosher meals)
- All shore landings per the daily program, weather permitting
- Leadership throughout the voyage by our experienced Expedition Leader
- All Zodiac transfers and cruising per the daily program
- Photographic journal documenting the expedition
- Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and guest speakers as scheduled
- Waterproof expedition boots on loan for the duration of your voyage
- Official Quark Expeditions® parka to keep
- Life jackets and immersion suits
- Hair dryer and bathrobes in every cabin
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials, including a map and an informative Antarctic Reader
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
- All luggage handling aboard ship
- Emergency evacuation insurance to a maximum benefit of US\$500,000 per person

THIS EXPEDITION EXCLUDES

- International airfare
- Passport and visa expenses
- Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above
- Meals ashore unless otherwise specified
- Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance are strongly recommended
- Excess-baggage fees on international flights
- Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned
- Laundry, bar, beverage and other personal charges unless specified
- Phone and Internet charges
- Additional overnight accommodation

DATES & RATES | Legendary Snow Hill: March to the Emperor Penguins

ABOARD THE LEGENDARY ICEBREAKER *KAPITAN KHLEBNIKOV*

DATES	DAYS	START/END	TRIPLE	TWIN	SUITE	CORNER SUITE
OCT 6-19, 2018	14	Ushuaia	\$19,995	\$29,995	\$32,995	\$34,995
OCT 18-31, 2018	14	Ushuaia	\$19,995	\$29,995	\$32,995	\$34,995
OCT 30-NOV 12, 2018	14	Ushuaia	\$19,995	\$29,995	\$32,995	\$34,995
NOV 11-24, 2018	14	Ushuaia	\$19,995	\$29,995	\$32,995	\$34,995

All prices in USD (based on availability).

Call a Quark Polar Travel Adviser at [91 33 2473 8096](tel:913324738096) / [91 44 42121575](tel:914442121575), John: [+91 9830053005](tel:+919830053005) / Shanthini : [+91 9283190875](tel:+919283190875)
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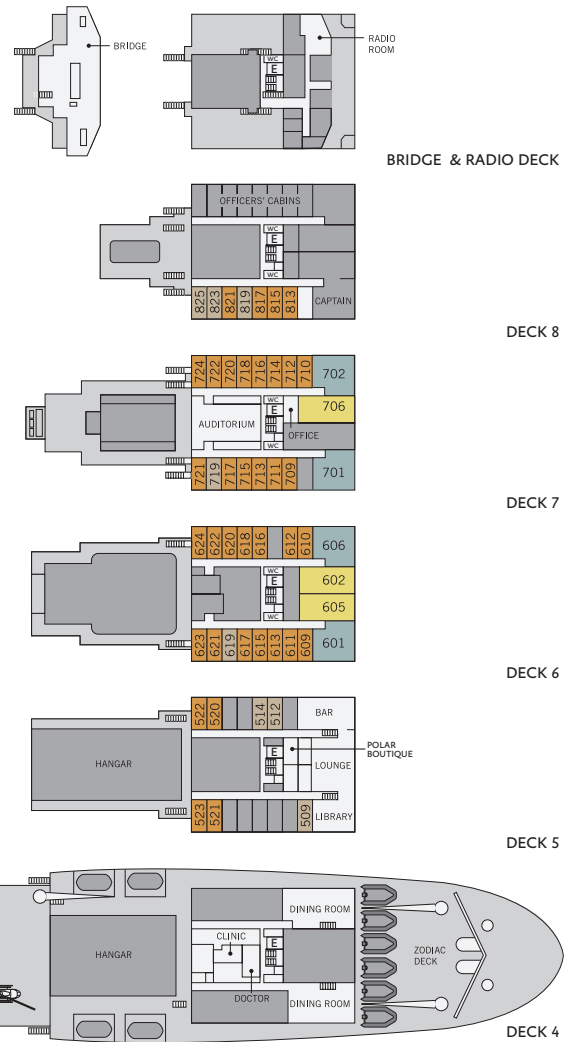
SHIP SPECIFICATIONS

- Staff & Crew: 70
- Guests: 110
- Length: 435 feet, 122.5 meters
- Breadth: 87 feet, 26.5 meters
- Draft: 28 feet, 8.5 meters
- Propulsion Diesel-Electric Engines, 24,000 horsepower
- Ice Class: LL3
- Cruising speed: 15 knots in open water
- Registered: Vladivostok
- Lifeboats: 4 fully enclosed

Kapitan Khlebnikov

The *Kapitan Khlebnikov* will be your home away from home during your expedition. No mincing words: this ship can practically go anywhere—and you’re going with it. Not only was it the first in the world to circumnavigate Antarctica with passengers—it did it twice. No other vessel has transited the Northwest Passage more often.

The *Kapitan Khlebnikov* was constructed in 1981 by the Warstila Company, Finland, the world’s leading builder of icebreakers. Not simply an ice-reinforced ship, the *Khlebnikov* is a powerful working icebreaker designed for the challenging conditions of frozen polar seas. It was refurbished to accommodate passengers in 54 outside cabins and suites, all with en suite facilities. Cabins are spacious and comfortable. Public areas include a lounge, two dining rooms, digitally equipped lecture room, a small heated indoor pool and gymnasium, library, and sauna. Views are excellent from the bridge and large open decks. In addition to its fleet of Zodiacs, the *Khlebnikov* uses two helicopters for ice reconnaissance and passenger excursions.





Expedition Team & Special Guests



SOLAN JENSEN | EXPEDITION LEADER

Born and raised in Alaska, Solan has worked as a wilderness ranger, expedition leader, kayak guide, boat builder and marine mammal emergency responder. He has led numerous trips to both the Arctic and Antarctica regions. His experience building the South Pole station underscores Solan's distinct polar pedigree.



SHANE EVOY | OPERATIONS LEADER

As Quark's most seasoned Expedition Leader with over 22 years in the industry, Shane truly wears his passion for the environment on his sleeve. He has been exploring Antarctica since the 1990s, semi-circumnavigating it numerous times and leading trips that have taken guests to some of the most remote areas of the continent. Shane has led multiple voyages to Snow Hill onboard the iconic *Kapitan Khlebnikov*.



DR. TOM HART | PENGUINOLOGIST

Dr. Hart has a passion for wildlife in extreme environments and is working hard to conserve them in a changing world. His PhD involved tracking macaroni penguins to understand penguin foraging behavior. He runs the Penguin Watch project at Oxford University, through which he seeks to understand changes in Antarctic wildlife using time-lapse cameras (penguinwatch.org).



SUE FLOOD | PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Sue Flood is an award-winning wildlife photographer, author and filmmaker. She studied at Durham University, graduating in 1986 with an Honours degree in Zoology. After spending 3 years with wildlife production company Survival Anglia, she joined the world-renowned BBC Natural History Unit in 1993. Sue spent 11 years at the BBC, fulfilling a lifelong ambition to work with her childhood (and adult!) hero, Sir David Attenborough.

› The above are highlighted Expedition Leaders and some of our Special Guests. Exact details will be confirmed closer to your trip.
› Staffing subject to change.

Call a Quark Polar Travel Adviser at [91 33 2473 8096 / 91 44 42121575](tel), John: [+91 9830053005](tel) / Shanthini : [+91 9283190875](tel)
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