



Southern Ocean

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Heard & McDonald Islands	73
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Best Places to Spot Wildlife

- ➔ North coast of South Georgia (p57)
- ➔ Livingston Island (p69)
- ➔ West Falkland (p52)
- ➔ Deception Island (p70)

Best Historical Sites

- ➔ Grytviken (p61)
- ➔ Falkland Island Museum (p47)
- ➔ Museo Marítimo & Museo del Presidio (p37)
- ➔ Orcadas Station (p64)

Why Go?

The southern parts of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans form the fifth ocean of the world, the Southern Ocean. Its wild waters surround Antarctica and isolate it geographically, biologically and climatically from the rest of the world. Scattered around these waters are the islands that early explorers and sealers encountered before they actually found *Terra Australis Incognita*.

Visit the rocky but fecund shores of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, with abundant wildlife and history. Most cruises from South America call in at the South Shetland Islands or the South Orkney Islands, where people set up their first Antarctic outposts. Travelers from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa approach the continent from the Ross Sea side, with seabird-rich Heard and Macquarie Islands.

Sailing these waters and sighting these windswept isles re-creates the journeys of early adventurers.

Top Resources

South Georgia & South Sandwich official site (www.gov.gs) Loads of info, including permit requirements.

South Georgia Heritage Trust (www.sght.org) History and wildlife-conservation group.

Falkland Islands (www.falklandislands.com) Central source on the island group.

A Visitor's Guide to the Falkland Islands (www.falklandsconservation.com) Written by native Falklander Debbie Summers, with photos, excellent maps and interesting facts.

Antarctic Equipment (www.antarcticequipment.com.ar) Last-minute equipment in Ushuaia.

Ushuaia Tourist Office (www.turismoushuaia.com)

Antarctic Tourist Information (www.tierradelfuego.org.ar/antartida) Argentina's Tierra del Fuego website includes Antarctic information.



Southern Ocean Highlights

- 1 Baily Head** (p71)
Braving the surging swells to reach Deception Island's giant chinstrap rookery.
- 2 Prion Island** (p59)
Viewing rare nesting albatross.
- 3 Grytviken** (p61)
Ringing the bells at the evocative old Whalers' Church.
- 4 St Andrews Bay** (p63)
Observing hundreds of thousands of king penguins.

- 5 Antarctic Convergence** (p54)
Crossing the oceanographic boundary separating Antarctica from the rest of the world.
- 6 Sea Lion Island** (p51)
Seeing all five of the Falklands' penguin species.
- 7 Stanley** (p46)
Sharing a drink with locals or visiting the Falkland Islands Museum.
- 8 Elephant Island** (p66)
Zodiac cruising the spot

where members of Ernest Shackleton's *Endurance* expedition survived for more than four months.

- 9 King George Island** (p66)
Chatting with winterovers at one of eight countries' Antarctic stations.
- 10 Macquarie Island** (p73)
Visiting four million penguins, including about 850,000 breeding pairs of royals.

USHUAIA

📍 02901 / POP 57,000

Nearly 90% of all Antarctic tourists depart from Ushuaia ('oosh-wya') in Argentina,

thanks to the city's fortunate location almost directly across the 100km-wide Drake Passage from the Antarctic Peninsula.