



FROM THE FJORDS OF PATAGONIA TO THE FROZEN LANDSCAPES OF ANTARCTICA
THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE

ANTARCTICA

08-23 December 2018 | 15 nights

Many of us have grown up with the stories of the first great explorers racing each other to the South Pole and admired these heroic expeditions. The awe-inspiring landscapes have remained virtually unchanged and Antarctica is still a place for more adventurous travellers.

Today, human activity is limited to tourism and science, with research stations monitoring everything from the Antarctic ecosystem to climate change, since the area is considered key to understanding the health issues of our planet.

Grahame Sydney has visited Antarctica a couple of times and in his book of photos, *White Silence*, he describes the magnificent stillness of the landscape pared back to its essential elements. The continent appears at first glance to be devoid of colour, warmth and comfort and yet he found that each of his images captured 'rare flashes of astonishing beauty'.

One of the highlights for me was the towering icebergs and ice formations that make up this dramatic landscape. Another was the spectacular light at dawn and dusk. Yet another was the abundant wildlife. We saw shoals of penguins swimming out to sea to hunt for krill; torpedo like leopard seals patrolling the shorelines and whales acrobatically breaching the water. Daily landings gave us opportunities to get up close and personal with the penguins who were not afraid of us at all. Cruising in Zodiacs meant we could almost touch the seals slumbering on the icebergs. We only spent a day and a half in the Southern Ocean to reach the Antarctic Peninsula and the on board lectures and films enriched the whole experience.

THE SHIP

The MS *Midnatsol* is an ice class 1X ship equipped with advanced technology, making her well suited for expedition voyages in Antarctica. Among one of the newest in the fleet of Hurtigruten ships. A specialty is the large two story panorama lounge above the bow and the glass expanses that allow plenty of natural light to enter as well as providing extraordinary views of passing landscapes. Fitness room, sauna, jacuzzi, laundry facilities and library. The explorer deck and media room are great places to hear from the knowledgeable expedition team, and view film and photos of daily excursions and landings.

TOUR PRICE EX AUCKLAND:

U class cabin NZD15,480pp twin share
J class cabin NZD14,480pp twin share (obstructed views)
Single supplement available on request. Antarctic cruises are in demand, availability is limited. We can hold our allocation until 18 May 2018.



Contact us for itinerary and details
Forward this newsletter to family and friends for them to receive our travel inspirations straight to their mailbox.

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455 Grey St, Hamilton East | 07 857 0367 | FREEPHONE 0800 853 276 | cnl@calderandlawson.com | www.calderandlawson.com