

2025-27

# SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS

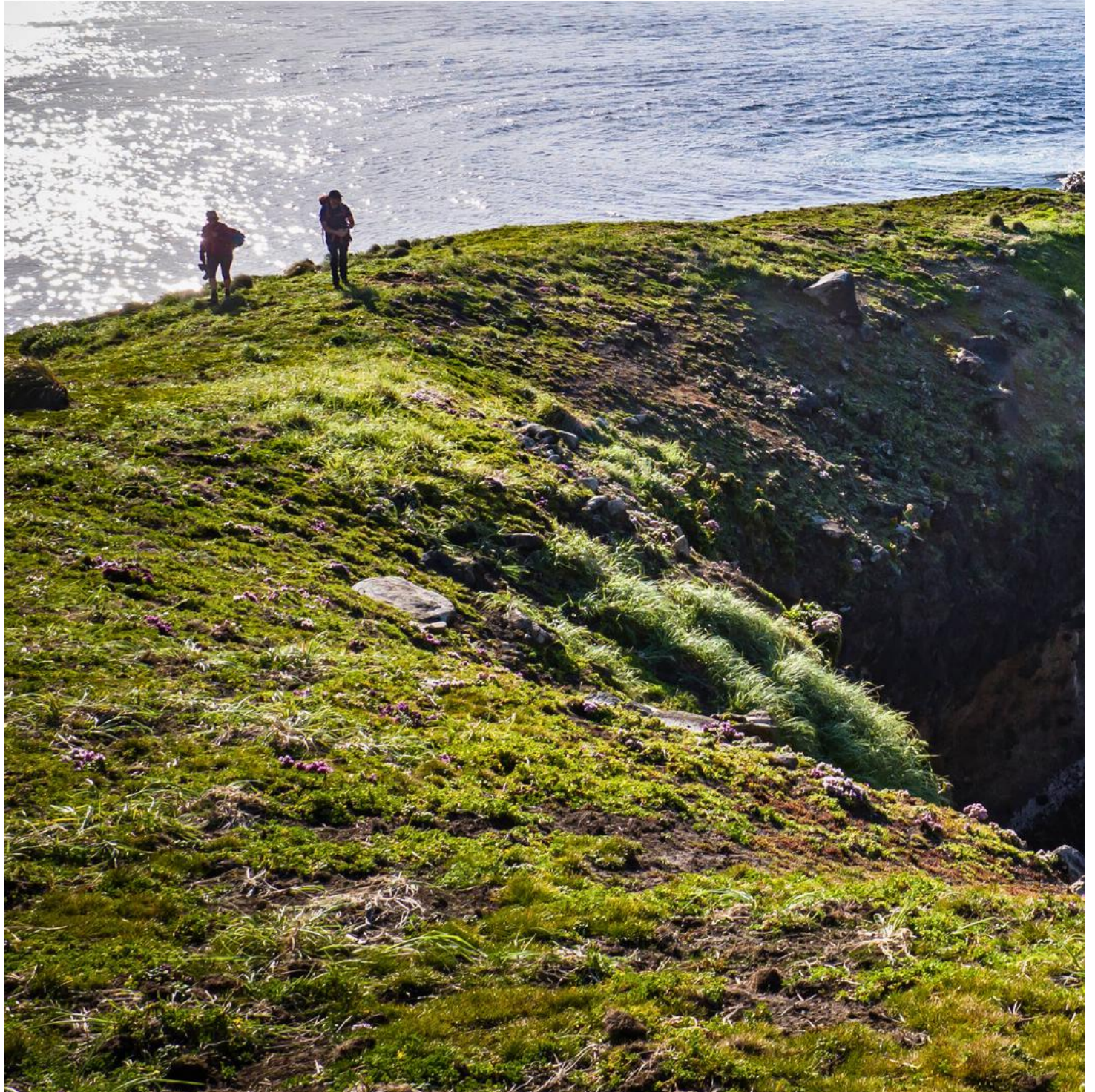
*Unforgettable small ship cruising adventures in the New Zealand  
and Australian Subantarctic Islands and beyond.*

 Wild Earth Travel

*Small Ships, Big Adventures*

# Wild Earth Travel has:

**10+** different Subantarctic itineraries ranging from **8** to **34** days. Choose from **5** small ships ranging from **120** to **264** passengers from expedition vessels to luxurious ships with onboard amenities including gyms, spas and pools.



# Table of CONTENTS

## **4 DESTINATION GUIDE**

Your one-page reference for  
cruising the Subantarctic Islands



## **5 ABOUT US**

Our small ship cruising journey.

## **6 OUR FLEET**

Uncover the vessels we use to  
navigate the Subs.

## **7 HIGHLIGHTS**

More on the remarkable wildlife,  
landscapes, and experiences  
that make the Subantarctic  
Islands truly unforgettable.



## **9 ITINERARIES**

Explore the unique journeys and  
extraordinary experiences offered on our  
Subantarctic Islands itineraries.



# SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS

## Price Guide:

AU\$10K to AU\$47K (with the Ross Sea/Antarctica added on). Small ship expedition.

## When to Travel:

Southern Hemisphere's summer, from November to January. During this period, the weather is milder, with longer daylight hours, making wildlife viewing and exploration more accessible.

## Duration:

A 7-10 day voyage as a standalone trip or up to 28 days as part of a roundtrip that also includes Antarctica via the Ross Sea.

## When to Book:

It's recommended to book at least 6 months in advance as dates book out quickly!

## Pre-/Post- Cruise Options:

- The subantarctic islands are a popular stop off on the way to (and from) Antarctica when travelling to the Ross Sea via New Zealand or Australia.
- New Zealand. Add on a NZ cruise or specific destinations within NZ
- Australia. Add on an Australian cruise or specific destination within Australia.

## Handy Information

- The Subantarctics are a good alternative to Antarctica for those on a lower budget, as you get to see a lots of wildlife
- The weather is unpredictable, often cold, wet, and windy, even in summer. Ensure you pack layers and waterproof, windproof clothing



Scan for voyages



Explore the windswept and wildlife-rich Subantarctic Islands the only way you can - aboard a small expedition ship. Nestled in the cool temperate zone south and east of New Zealand, these islands are some of the remotest in the world and home to an abundance of unique flora and fauna. Protected as Nature Reserves and World Heritage sites, they offer a pristine wilderness experience with limited tourism to minimise impact. Discover six groups of islands including the Auckland Islands and Macquarie Island, teeming with indigenous plants and seabirds.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Diverse Wildlife.** Including several species of penguins such as the king, royal and yellow-eyed penguins, fur seals, elephant seals, and large colonies of albatrosses. The large colonies of King Penguins on Macquarie Island are one of the biggest drawcards to the region.

**UNESCO World Heritage Sites.** These islands are recognised for their global significance due to their rich biodiversity, rare species, and largely untouched natural environment.

**Endemic Plant Species.** The islands boast unique plant life, with several species found nowhere else on Earth. Megaherbs, large-leaved plants adapted to the harsh climates, are particularly notable for their vibrant colours and size, thriving in the island's challenging weather conditions and providing essential habitats for local fauna.

**Remote, Untouched Landscapes.** The Subantarctic Islands' landscapes include dramatic volcanic formations, rugged coastlines, and dense tussock grasslands, providing an unspoiled backdrop that feels a world away from civilisation.

**Conservation and Research.** As some of the least disturbed environments in the world, the Subantarctic Islands are crucial for scientific research and conservation efforts. They serve as breeding grounds for endangered species and are vital for studying the impacts of climate change, ocean ecosystems, and wildlife populations in a minimally impacted environment.

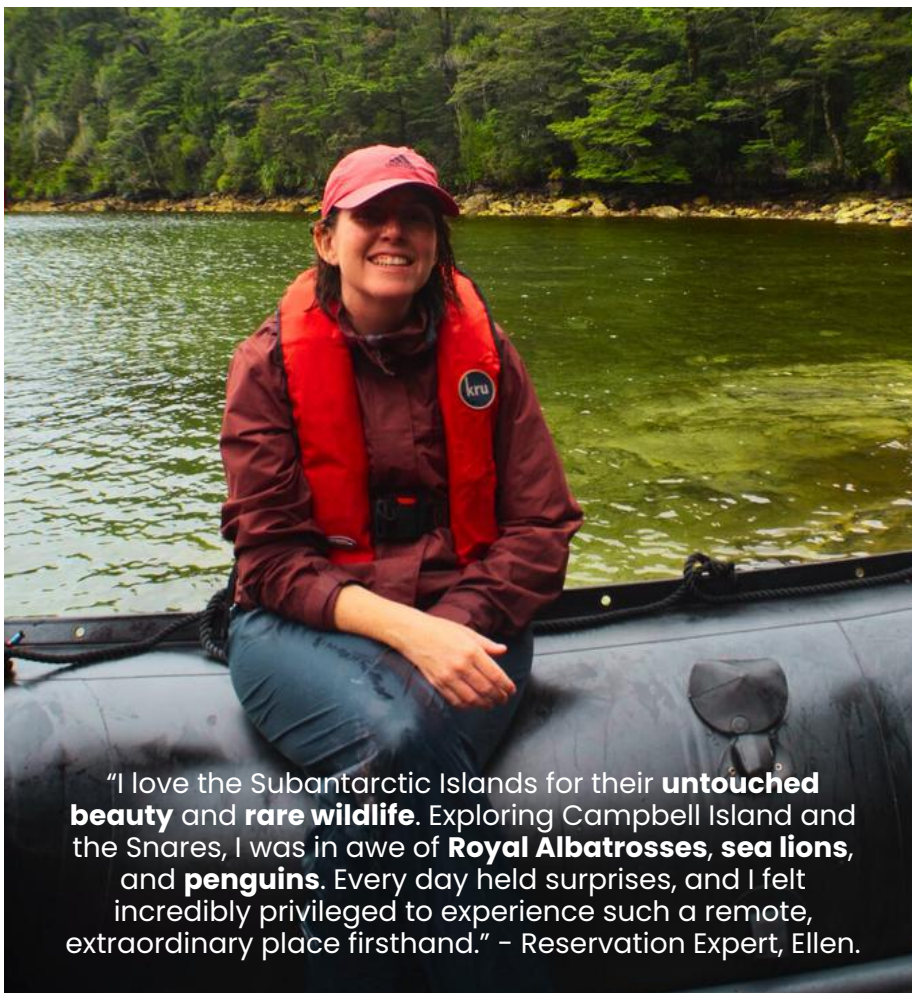


Wild Earth Travel is owned and operated by expedition leaders with over 20 years' experience voyaging, leading and creating expeditions all over the globe. Based in Christchurch, New Zealand, we have led expeditions, travelled extensively within and sent many happy travellers to the Subantarctic Islands (and beyond) where we work with a range of operators, to bring you the best of the region.

If you enjoy a more personal style of travel where you interact with smaller groups, discover more and engage with your fellow travellers, then our journeys and programs could be just the ticket for you! By travelling with Wild Earth Travel we guarantee that you will spend less time in queues and more time experiencing the unique destinations on the itinerary.

While you will find a selection of hand-picked journeys in this brochure, it is by no means everything we have on offer. With over 2,500 journeys available worldwide, If you don't find a program that suits your requirements, please check our website or contact us to start your adventure!

[www.wildearth-travel.com](http://www.wildearth-travel.com)  
[info@wildearth-travel.com](mailto:info@wildearth-travel.com)



"I love the Subantarctic Islands for their **untouched beauty** and **rare wildlife**. Exploring Campbell Island and the Snares, I was in awe of **Royal Albatrosses, sea lions, and penguins**. Every day held surprises, and I felt incredibly privileged to experience such a remote, extraordinary place firsthand." – Reservation Expert, Ellen.



**WILD EARTH**



# SUBANTARCTIC SHIPS

Wild Earth Travel works with small ship operators who can access the isolated islands and narrow passages that larger ships cannot reach. This allows for a more intimate exploration of New Zealand and the Subantarctic Islands, including secluded beaches, remote wilderness areas, and wildlife habitats. Our small ships are also able to offer flexible itineraries, allowing for spontaneous stops to observe wildlife or explore interesting sights along the coast. We have access to over 20 ships from small catamarans to larger, more luxurious ships - please see right for a full list of our vessels and links to our website for more information.

## Fleet

We partner with a select fleet of small expedition ships that combine comfort with capability—offering expert-led shore excursions, excellent wildlife viewing, and the flexibility to navigate secluded bays and rugged coastlines.

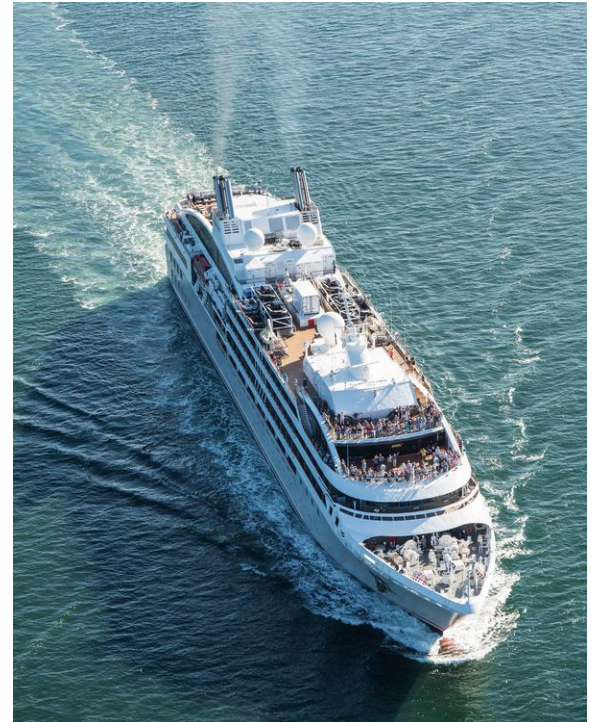
[Douglas Mawson](#)

[Greg Mortimer](#)

[Heritage Adventurer](#)

[Le Soleal](#)

[Minerva](#)



**In the Subantarctic Islands, we have access to...**

**10+**  
Itineraries

**5**  
Small Ships

**120-264**  
Passengers

# HIGHLIGHTS

A realm of wild beauty and extraordinary wildlife, the Subantarctic Islands are brimming with unforgettable highlights—here are some of our favourites.

## Unique Islands

Spanning the Southern Ocean between about 46° and 55° south latitude, the Subantarctic Islands of New Zealand and Australia cover vast, windswept expanses of remote wilderness and are all unique in their own right. The Auckland Islands feature rugged coastlines and abundant wildlife, while Campbell Island is famed for towering megaherbs and endemic birds. The Snares and Antipodes Islands are seabird havens, and the Bounty and Solander Islands offer pristine seclusion. Macquarie Island, a geological marvel, hosts massive colonies of royal and gentoo penguins, elephant seals, and unique endemic plants thriving under the harsh “furious fifties” winds.

## Galápagos of the South

The Subantarctic Islands are often called the “Galápagos of the Southern Ocean” because their remote, pristine landscapes have allowed flora and fauna to evolve in isolation, creating extraordinary endemic wildlife—much like the Galápagos Islands themselves.



## Untouched & Wild

The Subantarctic Islands remain some of the most pristine and least-visited places on Earth. Home to dramatic volcanic cliffs, windswept tussock meadows, and thriving colonies of seabirds and marine mammals, these islands are protected as UNESCO World Heritage sites for their outstanding natural values. Access is strictly limited—only around 600 visitors are permitted to land each year—making the chance to explore this untamed wilderness a truly rare and privileged experience.

## Wildlife Wonders

Teeming with life both above and below the water, the Subantarctic Islands are a sanctuary for some of the world’s rarest and most remarkable species. From playful New Zealand sea lions and fur seals basking on rocky shores to vast colonies of penguins and albatross, these remote islands support an astonishing abundance of wildlife. The surrounding nutrient-rich Southern Ocean draws whales, dolphins, and countless seabirds, while the islands themselves provide critical breeding grounds and predator-free refuges for species long vanished from the mainland. Every landing here offers a rare glimpse into a thriving, untouched ecosystem where nature still reigns supreme.





## Southern Elephant Seals

During the southern summer, the beaches of the Subantarctic Islands come alive with massive southern elephant seals. Pups born in Sep/Oct are now growing, and adults gather along the shore in dramatic displays of size and power with thunderous vocalisations and clashing interactions.



## Macquarie Island

Affectionately known as “Macca,” this remote Australian territory is a geological and ecological marvel. The only island in the world composed entirely of oceanic crust and mantle rock above sea level, it lies along the tectonic boundary of the Indo-Australian and Pacific Plates. Its windswept coasts teem with wildlife, including over 750,000 pairs of royal penguins, gentoo penguins, elephant seals, and endemic species like the Macquarie Island shag. Towering megaherbs and unique flora add bursts of colour to the rugged landscape, while the relentless “furious fifties” winds shape both terrain and life, creating a truly extraordinary subantarctic environment.

## A Birder’s Paradise

For bird enthusiasts, the Subantarctic Islands are nothing short of heaven. Recognised as one of the world’s greatest seabird habitats, they host more than 40 breeding species—around 11% of the planet’s total—including 10 albatross species, six of which breed nowhere else. Millions of petrels, shearwaters, and prions fill the skies, while rare land and freshwater birds such as the Auckland Island rail, Snares fernbird, and New Zealand snipe flourish in predator-free sanctuaries. Endemic species like the Snares crested and erect-crested penguins add to the spectacle, making these islands a once-in-a-lifetime destination for anyone with a passion for birdlife.

## Remarkable Megaherbs

One of the most extraordinary features of the Subantarctic Islands is their lush display of megaherbs—remarkable flowering plants that have evolved to thrive in this cool, windy environment. Unique to the region, these oversized species feature large, leathery leaves and vibrant blooms in shades of purple, pink, yellow, and white, creating an unexpected burst of colour against the otherwise rugged landscape. Found only here, the ten endemic taxa span four fascinating genera. The best time to see these botanical marvels in full bloom is during the southern summer, from November to January.





# Subantarctic Islands

Explore the windswept and wildlife-rich Subantarctic Islands aboard a small ship cruise with Wild Earth Travel. Nestled in the cool temperate zone south and east of New Zealand, these islands are home to an abundance of unique flora and fauna. Protected as Nature Reserves and World Heritage sites, they offer a pristine wilderness experience with limited tourism to minimise impact. Discover six groups of islands including the Auckland Islands and Macquarie Island, teeming with indigenous plants and seabirds. Our experienced team of expedition leaders ensures a memorable journey, drawing on over 20 years of expertise in creating and leading expeditions worldwide. Contact us to find the perfect small ship cruise to these remote and beautiful islands.

**[info@wildearth-travel.com](mailto:info@wildearth-travel.com)**

**[www.wildearth-travel.com/cruise/subantarctic-islands](http://www.wildearth-travel.com/cruise/subantarctic-islands)**

# Forgotten Islands of the South Pacific

8 days | FROM AU\$10,965\*pp | NZ\$11,945\*pp

Aboard *Heritage Adventurer* | Departures 21 Dec 2025 & 27 Dec 2026

[More information here](#)

WILD EARTH  
TRAVEL  
FEATURED

## Itinerary at a Glance

**DAY 1: Queenstown.** Arrive at your hotel where you will spend the first night of your expedition. In the evening, enjoy a group dinner with fellow adventurers and the expedition team.

**DAY 2: Port of Bluff.** Depart by coach for the Port of Bluff to embark the *Heritage Adventurer*. Enjoy a scenic sail past Ruapuke and Stewart Islands, spotting seabirds such as albatross and Little Blue Penguins along the way.

**DAY 3: At Sea.** As the ship navigates the Southern Ocean, learn about the flora and fauna of Campbell Island. Birdwatching opportunities abound, with possible sightings of various albatross species, petrels, and shearwaters, making this leg a highlight for bird enthusiasts.

**DAY 4: Campbell Island.** A full day is dedicated to exploring Campbell Island, rich in history and natural beauty. Choose from multiple walking options, including an extended trek to Northwest Bay. The island, now predator-free, is home to the endangered Campbell Island Flightless Teal and boasts spectacular vegetation, including megaherbs.

**DAY 5: Auckland Islands.** Arriving at Carnley Harbour, there are several activity options. The adventurous can climb to the South West Cape for breathtaking views, while others may opt for a Zodiac cruise or visit historic sites, including the Coastwatcher's hut and the remains of the 'Grafton' shipwreck.

**DAY 6: Auckland Islands / Enderby Island.** Enderby Island, cleared of introduced pests in 1994, offers abundant wildlife and beautiful landscapes. Enjoy various walks, including a boardwalk along the western cliffs, while spotting unique bird species like the Hooker's Sea Lion and the Auckland Island Flightless Teal.

**DAY 7: The Snares / North East Island.** The Snares, a protected Nature Reserve, are rich in seabird populations. Although landings are not permitted, guests will Zodiac cruise along the eastern side of the main island to observe endemic wildlife, including the Snares Crested Penguin and Sooty Shearwaters, before enjoying a farewell dinner onboard.

**DAY 8: Stewart Island/Invercargill/Queenstown.** The morning is spent exploring Stewart and Ulva Islands, known for their rich wildlife. Then bid farewell and transfer to either Invercargill or Queenstown Airport.

## Expedition Map



"From the moment we set sail, this journey was unforgettable. Campbell Island's history, wildlife, and lush vegetation were stunning. Enderby Island offered incredible birdwatching, while Zodiac cruising around The Snares revealed its amazing seabird colonies. Stewart and Ulva Islands ended the adventure with rich history and vibrant birdlife."

**Wild Earth Travel Reservations Expert, Ellen.**

# Galapagos of the Southern Ocean

12 days | FROM AU\$18,795\*pp | NZ\$20,480\*pp

Aboard *Heritage Adventurer* | Departures 22 Nov & 17 Dec 2026

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

DAY 1: Queenstown. Hotel night with a group dinner.

DAY 2: Port of Bluff. Head to Bluff to board the ship.

DAY 3: The Snares / North East Island. We cruise along The Snares, spotting Snares Crested Penguins, Sooty Shearwaters, and albatrosses while taking in the islands' protected, bird-filled landscapes.

DAY 4: Auckland Islands / Enderby Island. Explore Enderby Island's recovering ecosystem, home to rare birds and New Zealand Sea Lions. Scenic walks showcase stunning wildlife and coastal views.

DAY 5: Auckland Islands / Carnley Harbour. Enjoy hikes, Zodiac cruises, and historical visits, including shipwreck sites, WWII lookouts, and scenic views of Adams Island's rugged landscape.

DAY 6: At Sea. While crossing the Southern Ocean, lectures prepare us for upcoming adventures at Macquarie Island.

DAYS 7 & 8: Macquarie Island. Explore Macquarie's wildlife, including penguins and elephant seals, and visit the Australian Antarctic Research Base. Experience its unique geological and ecological recovery.

DAY 9: At Sea. Relax or enjoy lectures as we continue sailing.

## Expedition Map



DAY 10: Campbell Island / Perseverance Harbour. Hike through lush landscapes, rich with megaherbs and Southern Royal Albatross colonies.

DAY 11: At Sea. Relax and enjoy a farewell dinner, revisiting the trip's highlights.

DAY 12: Invercargill/Queenstown. Disembark, and transfer to Invercargill or Queenstown.

# Beyond Fiordland

12 days | FROM AU\$17,230\*pp | NZ\$18,775\*pp

Aboard *Heritage Adventurer* | Departures 21 Dec 2025 & 27 Dec 2026

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

DAY 1: Queenstown. Arrive in Queenstown for an overnight hotel stay and dinner meet-up with fellow expedition travellers.

DAY 2: Bluff. Enjoy free time in Queenstown before travelling to Bluff to embark and begin your Subantarctic voyage.

DAY 3: At Sea. Sail through the Southern Ocean with lectures and excellent opportunities for pelagic seabird watching.

DAY 4: Campbell Island. Explore Campbell Island's wildlife, megaherbs, and albatross colonies; learn about its remarkable restoration success.

DAY 5: Auckland Islands. Discover Carnley Harbour's dramatic landscapes, WWII history, and shipwrecks through hikes or Zodiac cruising.

DAY 6: Auckland Islands. Visit Enderby Island to see sea lions, rare birds, and flourishing native vegetation on scenic walks.

DAY 7: The Snares. Zodiac cruise around The Snares to view penguins, albatross, and dense forests of native tree daisies.

DAY 8: Stewart Island. Explore predator-free Ulva Island's birdlife, Paterson Inlet's beaches, and the historic whaling sites near Oban.

## Expedition Map



DAYS 9 to 11: Fiordland. Spend three days exploring remote Fiordland's waterfalls, wildlife, and historic sites in spectacular coastal wilderness.

DAY 12: Invercargill/Queenstown. Arrive in Bluff and transfer to Invercargill or Queenstown to conclude your voyage.

# Birding Downunder

17 days | FROM AU\$27,665\*pp | NZ\$30,135\*pp

Aboard [Heritage Adventurer](#) | Departures 6 Dec 2025 & 2 Dec 2026

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

DAY 1: Queenstown. Hotel night and group dinner.  
DAY 2: Bluff. Explore Queenstown, then travel south to Bluff to embark your expedition vessel.  
DAY 3: The Snares – North East Island. Zodiac cruise The Snares, spotting penguins, shearwaters, and abundant seabird colonies.  
DAY 4: Auckland Islands – Enderby Island. Walk Enderby Island to see sea lions, rare birds, and vibrant megaherbs.  
DAY 5: At Sea. Sail through the Southern Ocean.  
DAYS 6 & 7: Macquarie Island. Explore this World Heritage site, home to penguins, elephant seals, and researchers.  
DAY 8: At Sea. Relax en route to Campbell Island.  
DAY 9: Perseverance Harbour, Campbell Island. Discover wildlife, megaherbs & Southern Royal Albatross nesting colonies.  
DAY 10: At Sea. Pelagic birding en route to the Antipodes.  
Day 11: Antipodes Islands. Cruise by Zodiac to see rare parakeets and penguin colonies on volcanic shores.  
DAY 12: Bounty Islands. Zodiac around granite islets to view penguins, albatross, and rare Bounty Island Shags.  
Day 13: Pyramid Rock & South East Island. Spot rare seabirds including Taiko and Chatham Albatross.

## Expedition Map



DAY 14: Waitangi, Chatham Islands. Visit private reserves to see endemic birds and conservation efforts.  
DAYS 15 & 16: At Sea. Sail the Chatham Rise with rich seabird encounters.  
DAY 17: Invercargill/Queenstown. Arrive in Bluff, enjoy breakfast, and transfer to Invercargill or Queenstown.

# Expedition to NZ's Subantarctic Islands

15 days | FROM ~~US\$15,695\*pp~~

Aboard [Douglas Mawson](#) | Departure 2 Jan 2026

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

DAYS 1 & 2: Dunedin. Arrive in Dunedin, enjoy one night's hotel stay with a welcome reception. Embark the next day, settling into your cabin, and setting sail.  
DAY 3: Stewart Island. Explore Stewart Island (Rakiura) with the possibility of encountering kiwis, penguins, and rare bird species at Ulva Island.  
DAY 4: Fiordland. Cruise glacial sounds, spotting dolphins, seals, whales, and possibly Fiordland penguins.  
DAY 5: Snares Islands. Explore predator-free Snares Islands by Zodiac, observing endemic penguins, albatross, and sea lions.  
DAYS 6 & 7: At Sea. Relax at sea with lectures, photography, and wildlife watching, preparing for Macquarie Island.  
DAYS 8 & 9: Macquarie Island. Explore wildlife-rich Macquarie Island, home to penguins, fur seals, elephant seals, and kelp forests.  
DAY 10: At Sea. Sail toward Campbell Island, enjoying lectures, seabird sightings, and reflecting on your experiences.  
DAYS 11 to 13: New Zealand's Subantarctic Islands. Explore these biodiverse, culturally significant islands, visited by few.

## Expedition Map



DAY 14: At Sea. Relax onboard.  
DAY 15: Dunedin. Disembark in Dunedin, saying farewell to the expedition team and fellow passengers.

# Expedition to NZ's Subantarctic Islands

15 days | FROM AU\$21,355\*pp

Aboard *Le Soleal* | Departures 29 Dec 2025 | 12 Jan 2026 & 28 Dec 2026 | 11 Jan 2027

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

**DAY 1: Dunedin.** Begin in Dunedin, New Zealand's oldest city, known for its proud Scottish heritage and well-preserved Victorian architecture.

**DAY 2: Ulva Island.** Discover predator-free Ulva Island in Paterson Inlet. This untouched sanctuary is home to flourishing native birdlife such as the Stewart Island Weka, saddleback, yellowhead, and robin, all thriving amid pristine podocarp forest.

**DAY 3: Dusky Sound & Doubtful Sound.** Cruise through Fiordland National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, exploring the remote majesty of Dusky and Doubtful Sounds. Waterfalls, forested cliffs, and rare wildlife such as Fiordland crested penguins await in these serene and spectacular fjords.

**DAY 4: Milford Sound.** Experience one of New Zealand's most breathtaking natural wonders. Towering cliffs, cascading waterfalls, and glacially carved peaks make Milford Sound a highlight of any Fiordland voyage.

**DAY 5: The Snares.** Zodiac cruising around the Snares offers a rare glimpse of one of the world's most protected wildlife sanctuaries. Home to millions of seabirds—including endemic Snares crested penguins and four albatross species—the islands are free of introduced predators.

**DAY 6: Enderby Island & Musgrave Inlet, Auckland Islands.** Explore the restored wildlife haven of Enderby Island, teeming with sea lions and rare yellow-eyed penguins. Then, admire the cliffs and lush flora of Musgrave Inlet, one of the most botanically rich areas of the Auckland Islands.

**DAY 7: At Sea.** Enjoy lectures, relaxation, and birdwatching opportunities while sailing toward the Subantarctic Islands.

**DAYS 8 & 9: Macquarie Island.** A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Macquarie Island teems with wildlife—King and Royal penguin rookeries, elephant seals, and fur seals. Visit ANARE Station and learn about the island's vital research and conservation work.

**DAY 10: At Sea.** Relax and enjoy onboard comforts.

**DAY 11: Campbell Island.** Famed for its megaherbs and albatross colonies, Campbell Island offers spectacular scenery and rich biodiversity. Explore Perseverance Harbour by Zodiac and walk among thriving birdlife.

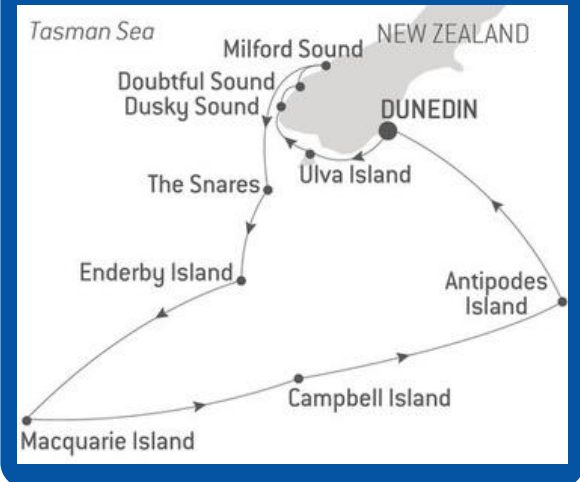
**DAY 12: At Sea.** A day to rest and reflect, with opportunities to spot seabirds and enjoy onboard presentations.

**DAY 13: Antipodes Islands.** Cruise the volcanic Antipodes Islands, home to rare parakeets, erect-crested penguins, and majestic wandering albatross. Landings are prohibited, but Zodiac cruising provides unforgettable wildlife encounters.

**DAY 14: At Sea.** Enjoy the final leg of your Subantarctic journey.

**DAY 15: Dunedin.** Return to Dunedin, concluding your extraordinary expedition.

## Expedition Map



No Single Supplement available on select departures

# The Subs & Beyond...

The Subantarctic Islands are often the perfect launchpad for journeys deeper south into Antarctica, offering travellers a rare opportunity to explore both regions in a single expedition from New Zealand or Australia via the Ross Sea. This route provides a completely different perspective from the more frequented Antarctic Peninsula trips from South America, revealing a remote, less-visited side of the 7th continent. The Ross Sea region is renowned for its towering ice shelves, vast sea ice, and remarkable wildlife, including emperor penguins, Weddell seals, and abundant seabirds. It's also rich in history, with the preserved huts of early explorers like Scott and Shackleton offering a tangible connection to the heroic age of Antarctic exploration. While extending your voyage often doubles or triples the trip length, it's well worth it—few travellers ever witness this pristine, untamed region, making it a truly once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

**[info@wildearth-travel.com](mailto:info@wildearth-travel.com)**

**[www.wildearth-travel.com/cruise/subantarctic-islands](http://www.wildearth-travel.com/cruise/subantarctic-islands)**



# Cruise Scott & Shackleton's Antarctic

22 days | FROM AU\$43,642\*pp

Aboard *Le Soledad* | Departures 26 Jan 2026 (sold out) | 25 Jan 2027

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

DAY 1: Dunedin. Historic southern city with Scottish heritage, grand architecture, and unique wildlife.

DAY 2: At Sea. Relax onboard with spa, lectures, and open-sea wildlife viewing.

DAY 3: Campbell Island. Explore megaherbs, albatross colonies, and rare endemic birdlife on guided walks.

DAYS 4 to 6: At Sea. Enjoy leisure time, enrichment activities, and marine life spotting opportunities.

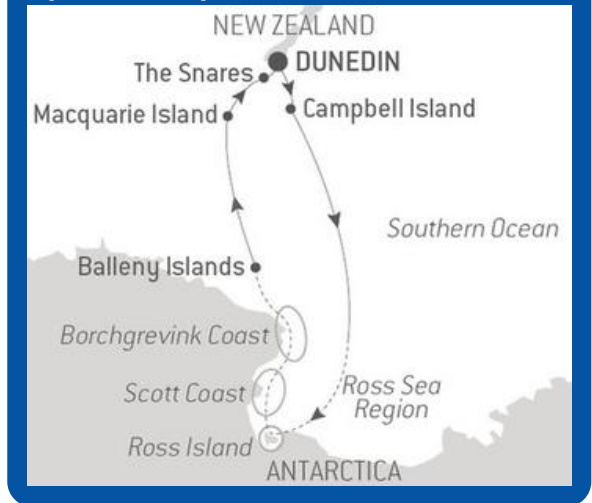
DAYS 7 to 14: Ross Sea Region. Explore Antarctica's Ross Sea, discovering historic explorers' huts, vast penguin colonies, scientific stations, and dramatic ice formations while retracing the footsteps of Ross, Scott, and Shackleton amid pristine polar wilderness.

DAYS 15 to 17: At Sea. Unwind with onboard comforts, entertainment, and possible ocean wildlife sightings.

DAY 18: Macquarie Island. Encounter vast penguin colonies, seals, and diverse wildlife on this subantarctic haven.

DAY 19: At Sea. A restful sea day with time to reflect and enjoy shipboard life.

## Expedition Map



DAY 20: The Snares. Zodiac cruise to view penguins, albatross, and seals around untouched islands.

DAYS 21 & 22: Dunedin. Return to charming Dunedin, framed by hills, history, and Otago Peninsula wildlife.

# In the Wake of Scott Shackleton

28 days | FROM AU\$54,500\*pp | NZ\$59,375\*pp

Aboard *Heritage Adventurer* | Departures 10 Jan & 5 Feb 2026 | 6 Jan & 1 Feb 2027

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

DAY 1: Queenstown. Hotel night with group dinner.

DAY 2: Bluff. Travel by coach to Bluff for embarkation.

DAY 3: The Snares. Cruise North East Island, observe seabirds, penguins, and endemic wildlife.

DAY 4: Auckland Islands. Land Enderby Island, explore wildlife, sea lions, penguins, and scenic walks.

DAY 5: At Sea. Relax and learn about Subantarctic Islands

DAYS 6 & 7: Macquarie Island. Land and Zodiac cruise, observe penguins, seals, and Australian research station.

DAYS 8-10: At Sea. Cross Antarctic Convergence.

DAYS 11-22: Ross Sea Region. Explore Antarctica's Ross Sea, witnessing penguin rookeries, glaciers, icebergs, historic explorers' huts, scientific bases, dramatic mountains, and pristine wildlife amid unpredictable ice and weather conditions.

DAYS 23-25: At Sea. Rest onboard, attend lectures.

DAY 26: Campbell Island. Explore the Island, view albatross, penguins, fur seals, and rugged landscapes.

DAY 27: At Sea. Relax and enjoy a farewell dinner onboard.

DAY 28: Invercargill or Queenstown. Disembark then transfer to either Invercargill or Queenstown airport.

## Expedition Map



# Ross Sea Odyssey from Hobart

26 days | FROM US\$36,595\*pp

Aboard [Greg Mortimer](#) | Departure 14 Dec 2026

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

**DAYS 1 & 2:** Hobart. Enjoy a hotel night in this quaint town before embarkation the next day.

**DAYS 3–5 At Sea.** Relax, meet travellers, attend lectures, observe wildlife, enjoy ship amenities.

**DAYS 6–7 Macquarie Island.** Discover this rugged subantarctic haven, which hosts millions of seabirds, four penguin species, seals, kelp forests, and historic Antarctic sites, offering dramatic wildlife and natural spectacles.

**DAYS 8–10 At Sea.** Cross Antarctic Convergence.

**DAYS 11–17 Victoria Land Coast and Ross Sea.** The Ross Sea offers breathtaking ice-bound landscapes, abundant penguins, seals, whales, historic huts, and preserved expedition sites, combining unique wildlife, rich human heritage, and unparalleled Antarctic exploration experiences.

**DAYS 18–21 At Sea.** Relax and Spot seabirds, sea lions, whales.

**DAYS 22–24 New Zealand's Subantarctic Islands.** New Zealand's subantarctic islands boast dramatic landscapes, unique wildlife, historic sites, and rare penguins, albatross, and sea lions, offering unparalleled exploration, Zodiac cruising, and immersive



natural encounters.

**DAY 25: At Sea.** Reflect, relax, organise photos, share Southern Ocean experiences.

**DAY 26: Dunedin.** Farewell expedition team, disembark, continue onward journeys.

# Epic Antarctica: Crossing the 7th Continent

34 days | FROM US\$43,795\*pp

Aboard [Douglas Mawson](#) or [Greg Mortimer](#) | Departures 8 Feb 2026 | 7 Jan 2027

[More information here](#)

## Itinerary at a Glance

**DAYS 1 & 2:** Dunedin. Enjoy a hotel night before embarkation.

**DAY 3: At Sea.** Relax, meet travellers, attend lectures.

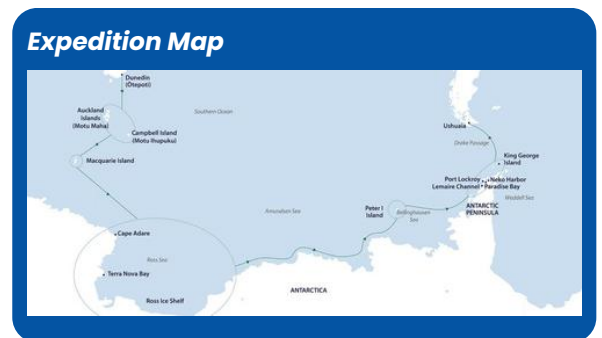
**DAY 4–6: New Zealand's Subantarctic Islands.** Explore remote islands, learn Māori history, witness extraordinary biodiversity, enjoy guided excursions.

**DAY 7: At Sea.** Observe albatross, hear Macquarie Island.

**DAYS 8 & 9: Macquarie Island.** Macquarie Island, a subantarctic wildlife haven, hosts millions of seabirds, multiple penguin species, seals, and kelp forests, while historically hosting Mawson's 1911 Antarctic radio relay station.

**DAYS 10–12: At Sea.** Cross Antarctic Convergence, watch seabirds, icebergs, relax, enjoy lectures, socialise.

**DAYS 13–18: Ross Sea.** Arriving in Antarctica's Ross Sea is an awe-inspiring experience, with fresh, crisp air and dramatic icy landscapes. The region boasts extraordinary wildlife, including orcas, penguins, and seals, alongside historically significant expedition sites. Preserved under the Antarctic Treaty, its rich biodiversity and cultural heritage, combined with expert-guided exploration, ensure an unforgettable journey through one of the planet's most pristine and remarkable polar environments.



**DAYS 19–26: At Sea.** Reflect at sea, attend lectures, participate in science, observe wildlife, relax onboard.

**DAYS 27–31: Antarctic Peninsula.** Landings, Zodiac cruises, explore penguin rookeries, icebergs, glaciers, optional polar plunges.

**DAYS 32–33: At Sea.** Visit South Shetlands, see wildlife, historic sites, cross Drake Passage northwards.

**DAY 34: Disembark in Ushuaia.** Cruise Beagle Channel, disembark Ushuaia, farewell team, onward travel arrangements.

# SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS

## PACKING LIST

Packing for the Subantarctic Islands and Antarctica requires preparation for changeable conditions. Layers are key—focus on warmth, waterproofing, and comfort for Zodiac excursions, wildlife landings, and time spent exploring.

### CLOTHING:

- Warm trousers
- Waterproof trousers
- Thermal Underwear
- Sweaters/jerseys
- T-shirts
- Warm socks
- Windproof & waterproof jacket

### FOOTWEAR:

- Hiking boots (optional for longer walks)
- Rubber boots (generally provided)
- Casual footwear (for onboard use)



### MISCELANEOUS:

- Woolen hat / balaclava / scarf
- Backpack with dry bag
- Mittens and gloves
- Moisturiser
- Sunglasses (optional snow goggles for Antarctica)
- Sunscreen and chapstick (to protect from water & ice (Antarctica) glare)
- Binoculars
- Earplugs (in case your cabinmate snores!)
- Walking stick (optional for uneven terrain)



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\*Prices quoted are per person, twin share and may incur additional fees such as port taxes and/or transfers. All information contained within this publication is accurate and in effect at the time of publication (Oct 2025). Wild Earth Travel reserves the right to correct any errors and/or omissions in the event of such error and/or omission. Itineraries are indicative only and subject to change. Cover image: Subantarctic Islands, Heritage Expeditions. Images courtesy of Aurora Expeditions; Heritage Expeditions; PONANT Explorations.