Antarctica Expedition

In the Footsteps of Ernest Shackleton

January 16 to February 6, 2015

a program of the stanford alumni association
Few places capture the image of an unspoiled wilderness as stunningly as Antarctica. Yet our increasing awareness of climate change shows us that even this pristine environment is vulnerable to human activity. This is clearly one compelling reason why explorers, researchers and travelers are urgently making the journey to the “last continent” to experience firsthand the wild terrain and huge numbers of seabirds and mammals that make their home on the ice. Learn from renowned Stanford climate change expert, Rob Dunbar, as well as a team of naturalists, as they share with us their wealth of knowledge about this extraordinary wonderland. The time is now … join us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, '83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**Witness** the vast penguin colonies of South Georgia—king, macaroni, gentoo and chinstrap—as well as large numbers of fur and elephant seals.

**Step** foot on the Antarctica Peninsula and revel in the sweeping panorama of snow-capped peaks, mighty glaciers and glistening icebergs.

**Learn** about early polar exploration and whaling history, with a special focus on the gripping tale of Ernest Shackleton and his crew of the doomed *Endurance*.

**Visit** the remote Falkland Islands with their huge populations of rockhopper and Magellanic penguins, as well as regal black-browed albatrosses.

COVER: KING PENGUINS ON SOUTH GEORGIA

CRABEATER SEALS
Itinerary

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 & 17
DEPART U.S. / USHUAIA, ARGENTINA
Depart from the U.S. on independent overnight flights to Ushuaia, connecting in Buenos Aires. Upon arrival on Saturday, transfer to our centrally located hotel in Ushuaia. Spend the rest of the day relaxing or enjoy a sightseeing tour. Gather for a welcome orientation and dinner at our hotel on Saturday evening. LAS HAYAS HOTEL (1/17: D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18
USHUAIA / EMBARK SEA SPIRIT
Enjoy a morning excursion to nearby Tierra del Fuego National Park, where we hike surrounded by dramatic mountain scenery. After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the small End of the World Museum before boarding the Sea Spirit in the afternoon and settling sail for the Falkland Islands. SEA SPIRIT (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 19
AT SEA
Enjoy a day at sea with lecturers who introduce us to the natural and historical highlights that lie ahead. This evening gather with fellow travelers for a “welcome aboard” cocktail reception. SEA SPIRIT (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20
CARCASS & SAUNDERS ISLANDS, FALKLAND ISLANDS
On Carcass Island explore gentoo and Magellanic penguin rookeries and walk along the beautiful beaches teeming with seabirds. On Saunders Island we wander amid colonies of gentoo, rockhopper, Magellanic and king penguins, as well as black-browed albatrosses. SEA SPIRIT (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, JANUARY 21 & 22
CRUISING THE SOUTH SCOTIA SEA
During two days at sea our lecturers recap our experiences and prepare us for our visit to South Georgia. On deck, join naturalists in search of the seabirds and marine mammals that flourish in these nutrient-rich waters. SEA SPIRIT (B,L,D—ALL 3 DAYS)

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, JANUARY 23 TO 25
SOUTH GEORGIA
During our three-day exploration of South Georgia, we call at some of the many bays, coves and glaciers where we can see outstanding birdlife and fur and elephant seals close at hand. Flexibility is a given, and our expedition staff will want to take advantage of the long daylight hours, perhaps making a landing before breakfast or after dinner.

Following is a list of places we plan to visit on South Georgia (subject to change, pending local conditions). SEA SPIRIT (B,L,D—ALL 3 DAYS)

Elsehul Bay
This beautiful bay is home to thousands of fur seals as well as macaroni penguins, the most numerous of all penguin species.

Salisbury Plain
Two glaciers flank Salisbury Plain on South Georgia’s north coast. Here, more than 200,000 king penguins congregate and breed—an incredible sight...and sound!

Stromness Bay
The arrival site of Sir Ernest Shackleton and his party after their harrowing crossing of the island’s glaciers on foot, Stromness Bay offers views of cliffs and the glacier from which the famous adventurer and his companions descended.

Grytviken
Go ashore to explore the ruins of this once-active whaling station. The cemetery holds a special fascination, as it is here that Shackleton is buried.

Gold Harbour
At the foot of the Bertrab Glacier, Gold Harbour is often referred to as the “jewel in the island’s crown.” In addition to a large king penguin colony, we are likely to see fur and elephant seals, gentoo penguins and giant petrels.

MONDAY & TUESDAY, JANUARY 26 & 27
SOUTH SCOTIA SEA
As our lecture series continues, our naturalists introduce us to the history, geology and wildlife of the Antarctic Peninsula and its surrounding islands. SEA SPIRIT (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28
ELEPHANT ISLAND
This morning we arrive at Elephant Island, made famous by the Shackleton expedition. Awesome glaciers, speckled with pink algae, create a dramatic backdrop. Weather permitting, take a Zodiac cruise around the island and enjoy the opportunity to view a thriving chinstrap penguin colony. SEA SPIRIT (B,L,D)

THURSDAY TO MONDAY, JANUARY 29 TO FEBRUARY 2
ANTARCTIC PENINSULA
As we cruise the waters of the Antarctic Peninsula and its adjacent islands for the next five days, our daily schedule of landings will be dependent upon weather and ice conditions. There is the possibility that we may visit a research station and witness the scientific activities conducted.
by the multinational community of scientists working there. The expeditionary nature of our voyage precludes guaranteeing specific stops. The list below provides a glimpse of the places we may experience. **SEA SPIRIT** *(B,L,D—ALL 5 DAYS)*

**Brown Bluff**
Located on the Antarctic continent, the volcanic promontory of Brown Bluff rises 2,450 feet above an ash beach littered with huge and bizarrely shaped boulders. Some 20,000 pairs of Adélie penguins and hundreds of gentoo penguins make their home here.

**Deception Island**
As we approach Deception Island through Neptune’s Bellows, a channel just wide enough for our ship to navigate, southern fulmars and pintado petrels soar overhead. Our anchorage is inside a volcano whose collapsed cone has been filled by seawater.

**Lemaire Channel and Pleneau Island**
Cruising the beautiful Lemaire Channel, keep watch for the humpback and minke whales frequently spotted here. This narrow channel is one of the most visually impressive areas of the Antarctic Peninsula. Steep mountain peaks jut out of the sea on both sides, and the waters are often choked with icebergs and frequented by crabeater seals. A stunning labyrinth of grounded icebergs lies in the shallow waters west of Pleneau Island, presenting a superb Zodiac cruising experience.

**Tuesday & Wednesday, February 3 & 4**

**Drake Passage**
During our crossing of Drake Passage, enjoy numerous opportunities to see and photograph wandering and black-browed albatrosses, sooty shearwaters and white-chinned petrels. Also keep a lookout for the whales often seen in these waters. On our last evening at sea, celebrate our adventure at a farewell cocktail reception.

**Sea Spirit** *(B,L,D—Both Days)*

**Thursday, February 5**

**Ushuaia, Argentina / Disembark / Buenos Aires**
Disembark in Ushuaia and transfer to the airport for overnight flights to the U.S., with connections in Buenos Aires.

**Friday, February 6**

**U.S.**
Arrive in the U.S. in the early morning hours and connect to flights homeward.

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**Pre-Trip Extension**

**Patagonia and Torres del Paine**

**January 11 to 18, 2015 (5 Additional Days)**

Encompassing 615,000 acres of expansive grasslands and the fantastic pinnacles of the Andean mountains, Chile’s Torres del Paine National Park is a stunning UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and Patagonia’s premier destination. Here peaks of twisted, snow-dusted granite—endowed with waterfalls, emerald lakes and verdant valleys—tower above the plains of Patagonia. During our two full days in the park, we take every opportunity to observe the unique flora and fauna of the region. Nearly 150 native animal species reside in the steppe and forested areas, including Patagonian foxes, vicunas and guanacos. Overnight accommodations in the park are at the Hosteria Las Torres. In addition to our time in Torres del Paine, we enjoy a stay in the colorful village of El Calafate, our base for exploring Argentina’s Glacier National Park.

**Extension Cost**

- $3,980 per person, double occupancy
- $4,960 per person, single occupancy
Sea Spirit

The Sea Spirit is a deluxe 110-passenger expedition ship built in 1991 and refurbished in 2010. It has a total of 56 spacious outside staterooms, each with ocean views, a separate seating area, picture window or portholes, en suite bathroom with marble vanity and sink, generous storage space (either walk-in closet or wardrobe), safe, refrigerator, individual climate and audio controls and TV; 15 suites feature sliding glass doors that open onto private balconies, and all cabins can be configured with either two twin beds or one king bed. Public areas include two lounges, a library, a hot tub, an elevator providing access to all passenger decks, and a dining room that can accommodate all guests at a single seating for meals. A fleet of Zodias is at our disposal for shore excursions and wildlife cruises.

**Program Cost**

Rates are per person, based on double or single occupancy, as specified.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Double Rate</th>
<th>Single Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATEGORY 1</td>
<td>$18,980</td>
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<td>Main Deck, approx. 215 sq. ft., two portholes</td>
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<td>CATEGORY 2</td>
<td>$19,980</td>
<td>$24,980**</td>
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<td>Oceanus Deck, approx. 250 sq. ft., picture window</td>
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<td>CATEGORY 3</td>
<td>$21,980</td>
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<td>Club Deck, approx. 235 sq. ft., large picture window, walk-in closet</td>
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<td>CATEGORY 4</td>
<td>$23,980</td>
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<td>Sports Deck, approx. 277 sq. ft., sliding glass door, private balcony</td>
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<td>CATEGORY 5</td>
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<td>Sun Deck, approx. 353 sq. ft., sliding glass door, private balcony</td>
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<tr>
<td>OWNER’S SUITE</td>
<td>$27,480</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Deck, approx. 550 sq. ft., sliding glass door, private balcony</td>
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*Association nonmembers add $200 per person.

**Single accommodations are limited at this rate. Additional singles may be available at 1.6 times the share rate.

D A T E S
January 16 to February 6, 2015 (22 days)

S I Z E
Limited to a total of 103 participants, including travelers from Stanford and Zegrahm Expeditions

I N C L U D E D
1 night of deluxe hotel accommodations in Ushuaia. ▪ 18-night cruise aboard the Sea Spirit ▪ 19 breakfasts, 18 lunches and 19 dinners ▪ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions ▪ Bottled water on excursions ▪ Gratuities to guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities ▪ All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary ▪ Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days ▪ Port fees and embarkation taxes ▪ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance ▪ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information ▪ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

N O T I N C L U D E D
International and U.S. domestic airfare ▪ Passport and visa fees ▪ Immunization costs ▪ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included ▪ Independent and private transfers ▪ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance ▪ Excess-baggage charges ▪ Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

A I R A R R A N G E M E N T S
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare from San Francisco to Ushuaia, Argentina, is approximately $1,925 as of November 2013 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent approximately 180 days prior to departure.

F U E L C O S T S
In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

W H A T T O E X P E C T
For most activities, a relatively moderate level of exertion is required. You will need to climb into and out of Zodiacs for excursions ashore. Onshore, you must be able to walk moderate distances, unaided, over rough terrain (e.g. rocky, uneven beaches in the sub-Antarctic islands, and occasional ice and snow on the Antarctic Peninsula). Daytime temperatures range from 45 to 55 degrees (F) in the sub-Antarctic region, and may drop to the 30s on the Antarctic Peninsula itself, although sunshine and low humidity create a very temperate atmosphere. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 12 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space for this program. An additional $200-per-person deposit is required to hold space for the optional pre-trip extension. Complete and return the attached reservation form or sign up online. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply. We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. We strongly recommend that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation about one week after we receive your deposit. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you postmark your insurance payment within a specified window: 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter for the Waiver of Pre-existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency; 21 days for the Cancel for Any Reason benefit.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. Parents and their children under 21 may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in November 2013 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50

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reservation form
antarctica expedition
january 16 to february 6, 2015

I/we have read the terms and conditions for the program and agree to them.
signature _________________________________________________________

if this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:
☐ i wish to have single accommodations.
☐ i plan to share accommodations with __________________________
☐ i’d like to know about possible roommates.

category preference:
1st choice: ____________________________
☐ twin beds ☐ king bed
2nd choice: ____________________________
☐ twin beds ☐ king bed

here is my deposit of $________ ($1,000 per person) for ______ space(s),
plus $________ ($200 per person) for the optional pre-trip extension.

☐ enclosed is my check (make payable to stanford alumni association) or
☐ charge my deposit to my: ☐ visa ☐ mastercard ☐ american express

authorized cardholder signature ____________________________

mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?antarctica2015. please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.
"The trip of a lifetime. It changed my perspective of the world."

JUDY AVERY, ’59, ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION, 2013