VOYAGE TO THE ANTARCTIC

SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE FALKLANDS

October 20 to November 7, 2016

a program of the stanford alumni association
Few assemblages of wildlife can top those of South Georgia and the Falkland Islands during their early summer when snow still blankets the mountains and the peak of breeding season allows us up-close encounters via Zodiac during our voyage. Gaze upon more than one million penguins, including king penguins with their offspring; witness lumbering elephant seals with their young pups; and observe albatrosses nesting on cliffs. The backdrop of this wildlife spectacle? Glaciers pouring into the sea, jagged mountains and tussock-carpeted slopes. Stanford climate change expert, Rob Dunbar, joins a team of naturalists to share with us their wealth of knowledge about this extraordinary wonderland. Join us on this special voyage, which coincides with the 100th anniversary of Shackleton’s ill-fated expedition.

**Highlights**

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

**Go Ashore** on remote and seldom-visited Steeple Jason Island in the Falklands, home to more than 400,000 black-browed albatrosses.

**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.

**Watch** for pods of killer whales circling close to shore or spot Peale’s and Commerson’s dolphins riding alongside our Zodiacs.

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

WANDERING ALBATROSSES
ROBERT DUNBAR, whose research interests span climate change, marine ecology and biogeochemistry, has traveled to the Antarctic more than 30 times and has spent over seven full years working there—much of it at sea in the Southern Ocean. He heads a research group at Stanford that works on past and present changes in the ocean and their impacts on both climate and marine organisms. Rob is also engaged in interdisciplinary studies of global change in collaboration with environmental scientists, economists, lawyers and policy specialists. He has studied climate change at both poles as well as on small islands and in developing nations. Rob is currently serving on a U.S. National Academy of Sciences committee tasked with developing strategic visions for U.S. investment in Antarctic research. Rob has led more than 20 previous Travel/Study programs, including six to Antarctica. On this program, he will lecture on the fiery and icy origins of the islands of the Scotia Sea, exciting new research discoveries coming out of the region and Shackleton’s polar expeditions.

— William Keck Professor of Earth Science and J. Frederick and Elisabeth B. Weintz University Fellow in Undergraduate Education, Stanford University
— Senior fellow, Woods Institute for the Environment
— BS, geology, University of Texas, Austin
— PhD, oceanography, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC-San Diego

Rob will be joined by a team of naturalists who are experts in their fields and passionate about the natural wonders we will encounter.
**Itinerary**

**THURSDAY & FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 & 21**
**DEPART U.S. / SANTIAGO, CHILE**
Depart from the U.S. on independent flights to Santiago. Upon arrival on Friday, transfer to our hotel. Spend the rest of the day relaxing or exploring historic and colorful Santiago. SANTIAGO RITZ CARLTON

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22**
**FALKLAND ISLANDS / EMBARK**
After our morning flight to Stanley, transfer to the Sea Spirit. Enjoy time this afternoon exploring the town before returning to our ship for dinner. SEA SPIRIT (B.L.D.)

**SUNDAY & MONDAY, OCTOBER 23 & 24**
**AT SEA**
Enjoy two days at sea with lecturers who introduce us to the natural and historical highlights that await us in the coming days. SEA SPIRIT (B.L.D.—BOTH DAYS)

**TUESDAY TO SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 TO 30**
**SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND**
During our six-day exploration of South Georgia, we call at some of the island’s many bays, coves and glaciers where we can view a profusion of birdlife and fur and elephant seals close up. Flexibility is a given, for instance, given the long daylight hours, our expedition staff may decide to schedule a landing before breakfast or after dinner. Following is a list of some of the places we plan to visit (subject to change, pending local conditions). SEA SPIRIT (B.L.D.—ALL 6 DAYS)

**ELSEHUL**
Here we have the opportunity to see up close both gray-headed and black-browed albatrosses on their nests, as well as a huge colony of fur seals and macaroni, gentoo and king penguins.

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

**STROMNESS BAY**
The site where Sir Ernest Shackleton and his party arrived 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.

**GODHUL**
Whalebones cover the beach here, vestiges of the whaling industry that once dominated the area. Catch sight of gentoo penguins, now the principal residents, and delight in the redy courtship calls of light-mantled albatrosses as they soar in synchronized flight overhead.

**ST. ANDREWS BAY**
Marvel at the sight of one of the densest concentrations of life on the planet as we view some 150,000 pairs of king penguins and huge numbers of southern elephant seals, the world’s largest pinniped.

**COOPER BAY**
Hike along tussock-covered slopes to get close to macaroni penguins engaged in a frenzy of breeding activity.

**DRYGALSKI FJORD**
The Risting Glacier calves frequently into the waters of the Drygalski Fjord, stirring up marine life that is quickly snapped up by Antarctic terns and pure white snow petrels. Enjoy the spectacle!
CAPE DISAPPOINTMENT
Named thus by Captain Cook upon his discovery that this land mass was not the tip of Antarctica as he had hoped, Cape Disappointment boasts large numbers of black-browed albatrosses.

MONDAY & TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 & NOVEMBER 1 AT SEA
As our lecture series continues, our faculty leader and naturalists introduce us to the history and wildlife of the Falkland Islands. SEA SPIRIT (B.L.D—ALL 3 DAYS)

WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2 TO 4 FALKLAND ISLANDS
Out of the 300 or more islands in the Falklands, we plan to land on three of the best for wildlife viewing and photography. Highlights include three species of penguins: rockhoppers, magellanics and gentoos. SEA SPIRIT (B.L.D—ALL 3 DAYS)

SEA LION ISLAND
In addition to scores of penguins, the island boasts nests of southern giant petrels, South American snipes, rufous-chested dotterels, and the endemic Cobb’s and sedge wrens. The biggest attractions here are the large number of southern elephant seals that breed here and newly hatched gentoo penguin chicks.

STEPPLE JASON ISLAND
More black-browed albatrosses nest here than anywhere else on earth—nearly half a million birds! Enjoy the view of thousands of birds resting on the water like tiny icebergs while multitudes circle in the air over the island.

NEW ISLAND
Here we are greeted by flightless steamer ducks, ruddy-headed geese, caracaras, shorebirds, and passerines such as tussock-birds, long-tailed mudploarks and black-throated finches.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5 AT SEA
During our final day at sea, enjoy numerous opportunities to spot and photograph whales, dolphins and seabirds, especially southern and northern royal albatrosses. Celebrate our adventure at a farewell cocktail reception. SEA SPIRIT (B.L.D)

SUNDAY & MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6 & 7 USHUAIA, ARGENTINA / DESEMBARK / U.S.
Disembark in Ushuaia and transfer to the airport for overnight flights to the U.S. with connections in Buenos Aires or Santiago. Arrive in the U.S. on Monday. (11/6; B)

Falkland Islands Pre-trip Extension
OCTOBER 13 TO 22, 2016 (10 DAYS)

Enjoy a week-long exploration of the Falkland Islands. Spend three nights on seabird-rich Carcass Island and three nights on Sea Lion Island, where we view gentoo and rockhopper penguins and seek out sea lions, orcas and elephant seals. Discover the largest accessible king penguin colony outside of South Georgia along the turquoise waters of Volunteer Point before boarding the ship for our voyage to South Georgia. Additional details and pricing will be sent to confirmed travelers. (Limited to 12 participants.)

Optional Mid-voyage Shackleton Crossing Trek
Our more intrepid travelers have the option to retrace the final leg of Shackleton’s epic journey across northern South Georgia in the spring of 1916, six months after the crushing of his ice-bound ship, the Endurance. Depart from our ship and travel overland for two to three days, depending on conditions, from King Haakon Bay, where Shackleton’s 22-foot-long lifeboat landed, to Stromness Bay. Previous mountain and glacier hiking/trekking experience is required. Additional details will be sent to confirmed travelers. (Limited to 12 participants.)
The Sea Spirit is an “all suite” luxury vessel. All cabins have private, en suite bathrooms; exterior views; and TVs with DVD players. The ship is equipped with a presentation room for onboard lectures and internet access, plus a gym, library, game room, lounge, bar with bartender and chef-prepared meals. The Sea Spirit provides comfortable accommodation for 100 passengers, our expedition staff and the crew members.

Program Cost*

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

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<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DOUBLE RATE</th>
<th>SINGLE RATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>CATEGORY 1</td>
<td>$15,195</td>
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<td>Main Deck, approx. 215 sq. ft., two portholes</td>
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<tr>
<td>CATEGORY 2***</td>
<td>$16,195</td>
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<td>Oceania Deck, approx. 250 sq. ft., large picture window</td>
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<td>CATEGORY 3</td>
<td>$17,650</td>
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<td>Club Deck, approx. 235 sq. ft., sliding glass door, private balcony</td>
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<td>CATEGORY 4</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>
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<td>Sun Deck, approx. 437 sq. ft., sliding glass door, private balcony</td>
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*Association nonmembers add $300 per person.

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

***Triple rate available in Category 2. Call for details.

DATES
October 20 to November 7, 2016 (19 days)

SIZE
This program can accommodate a total of 100 participants, including travelers from Stanford and Cheesemans’ Ecology Safaris. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

INCLUDED
1 night of deluxe hotel accommodations ■ 15-night cruise aboard the Sea Spirit ■ 16 breakfasts, 15 lunches and 15 dinners ■ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions ■ 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

NOT INCLUDED
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

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on United Airlines from San Francisco to Stanley, Falkland Islands, via Santiago, Chile, and return from Ushuaia, Argentina, is approximately $2,200 as of June 2015 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.

FUEL COSTS
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.

WHAT TO EXPECT
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 and occasional ice and snow). Daytime temperatures range from the mid-40s (°F) to the mid-50s in the sub-Antarctic region and may drop to the 30s 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 your space for this program. A $200-per-person deposit is required to hold space for the optional pre-trip extension. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?antarctic2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. 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.

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. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be provided to U.S. residents with their welcome materials. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within a specified window: 14 to 21 days of the date listed on the welcome letter, depending on your destination and state of residence.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. Families and travel companions 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. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. 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 June 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
“Every day was exceptional. Every place was a favorite.”

JAMES TUSTIN, ’66, ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION, 2015