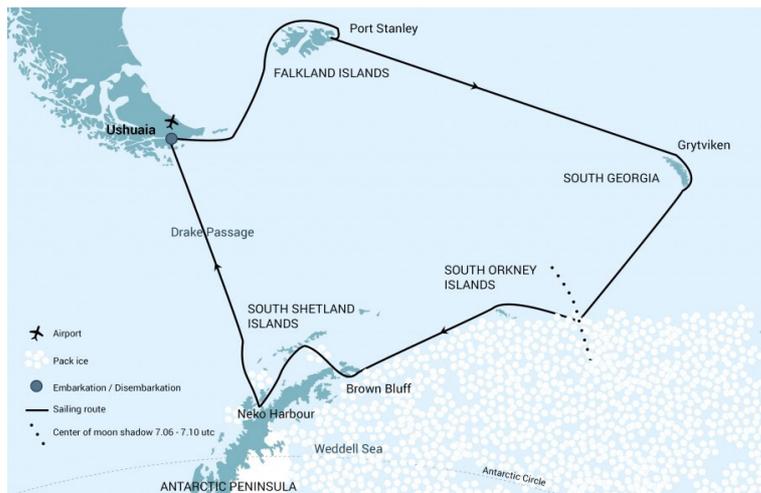


# Falkland Islands – South Georgia – SOLAR ECLIPSE – Antarctic Peninsula

A riveting cosmic event only fully experienced along a narrow terrestrial pathway



Title:	Falkland Islands – South Georgia – SOLAR ECLIPSE – Antarctic Peninsula
Dates:	23 Nov - 12 Dec, 2021
Tripcode:	PLAEC-21
Duration:	19 nights
Ship:	m/v Plancius
Embarkation:	Ushuaia
Disembarkation:	Ushuaia
Language:	German speaking voyage, English speaking voyage
Important:	This is an English and German speaking voyage

## ITINERARY

*PLEASE NOTE: All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on local ice and weather conditions and in order to take advantage of opportunities to see wildlife. The on-board expedition leader determines the final itinerary. Itineraries may mention places that require permission to land, which must be granted by the relevant national authorities. Such permission is not granted prior to the publishing of these itineraries. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises. Average cruising speed of m/v Plancius is 10,5 knots.*

Though you can see the total solar eclipse along a few key path locations around the globe, none of them offers as unique a “venue” as Antarctica. Combine that with everything else you’ll enjoy during this voyage and you end up with one truly exceptional adventure. Reserve your place on one of our ships soon and experience that adventure for yourself!

### Day 1: End of the world, start of a journey

Your voyage begins where the world drops off. Ushuaia, Argentina, reputed to be the southernmost city on the planet, is located on the far southern tip of South America. Starting in the afternoon, you embark from this small resort town on Tierra del Fuego, nicknamed “The End of the World,” and sail the mountain-fringed Beagle Channel for the remainder of the evening.

### Day 2: The winged life of the westerlies

Several species of albatross follow the vessel into the westerlies, along with storm petrels, shearwaters, and diving petrels.

### Day 3: Finding the Falklands

The Falkland Islands offer an abundance of wildlife that is easily approachable, though caution is always advised. These islands are largely unknown gems, the site of a 1982 war between the UK and Argentina. Not only do various species of bird live here, but chances are great you’ll see both Peale’s dolphins and Commerson’s dolphins in the surrounding waters.

During this part of the voyage, you may visit the following sites:

**Carcass Island** – Despite its name, this island is pleasantly rodent-free and hence bounteous with birdlife. Anything from breeding Magellanic penguins and gentoos to numerous waders and passerine birds (including Cobb’s wrens and tussock-birds) live here.

**Saunders Island** – On Saunders Island you can see the black-browed albatross and its sometimes-clumsy landings, along with breeding imperial shags and rockhopper penguins. King penguins, Magellanic penguins, and gentoos are also found here.

### Day 4: Porting in Port Stanley

The capital of the Falklands and center of its culture, Port Stanley offers a little Victorian-era charm: colorful houses, well-tended gardens, and English-style pubs are all to be found here. You can also see several century-old clipper ships nearby, silent witnesses to the hardships of 19th century sailors. The small but interesting museum is also worth a visit, covering the

early days of settlement up to the Falklands War. Approximately 2,100 people live in Port Stanley. Admission to the museum is included.

## Day 5 - 6: Once more to the sea

On the way to South Georgia, you cross the Antarctic Convergence. The temperature gradually cools, and nutritious water rises to the surface of the sea due to colliding water columns. This phenomenon sometimes attracts a multitude of seabirds near the ship, including several species of albatross, shearwaters, petrels, prions, and skuas.

## Day 7 - 10: South Georgia journey

Today you arrive at the first South Georgia activity site. Please keep in mind that weather conditions in this area can be challenging, largely dictating the program.

You may visit the following sites over the next few days:

**Fortuna Bay** – A beautiful outwash plain from Fortuna Glacier is home to a large number of king penguins and seals. You may have the chance to follow the final leg of Shackleton's route to the abandoned whaling village of Stromness. This path cuts across the mountain pass beyond Shackleton's Waterfall, and as the terrain is partly swampy, be prepared to cross a few small streams.

**Salisbury Plain, St. Andrews Bay, Gold Harbour** – These sites not only house the three largest king penguin colonies in South Georgia, they're also three of the world's largest breeding beaches for southern elephant seals. Only during this time of year do they peak in their breeding cycle. Watch the four-ton bulls keep a constant vigil (and occasionally fight) over territories where dozens of females have just given birth or are about to deliver. You can also see a substantial number of Antarctic fur seals here during the breeding season (December – January).

**Grytviken** – In this abandoned whaling station, king penguins walk the streets and elephant seals lie around like they own the place – because they basically do. Here you might be able to see the South Georgia Museum as well as Shackleton's grave.

**Cooper Bay** – A Zodiac cruise in Cooper Bay offers a great opportunity to see macaroni penguins below a large rookery. Numerous fur and elephant seals are found on the beach, while majestic light-mantled albatrosses can be seen gracefully gliding above.

## Day 11: Southward bound

There may be sea ice on this route, and at the edge of the ice some south polar skuas and snow petrels could join the other seabirds trailing the vessel south.

## Day 12: Weddell Sea pack ice & total solar eclipse (Dec 4, early morning)

The ship positions itself in the center of the shadow of the moon, and if possible, some distance into the Scotia Sea drift ice. The ice edge will be about 60°S, 41°W.

Some coordinates for the path of the moon's shadow:

7.06 UTC: 58° 47.7' S – 42° 45.2' W, 1' 39" , 8 degrees above horizon

7.08 UTC: 60° 42.4' S – 40° 59.8' W, 1' 42" , 9 degrees above horizon

7.10 UTC: 62° 22.3' S – 39° 48.0' W, 1' 44" , 11 degrees above horizon

## Day 13 - 14: Last push to Antarctica

Enormous icebergs and a fair chance of fin whale sightings ensure there's never a dull moment on this last sea voyage south. Also, your best chance to spot Antarctic petrels is here.

## Day 15 - 17: Awe-inspiring Antarctica

If the ice conditions permit, you now sail into the Weddell Sea. Here colossal tabular icebergs herald your arrival to the eastern side of the Antarctic Peninsula. Paulet Island, with its large population of Adélie penguins, is a possible stop. You might also visit Brown Bluff, located in the ice-clogged Antarctic Sound, where you could get the chance to set foot on the Antarctic Continent itself.

If conditions aren't favorable to enter the Weddell Sea from the east, the ship will set course for Elephant Island and head into the Bransfield Strait, between the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula.

The volcanic islands of the South Shetlands are windswept and often cloaked in mist, but they nonetheless offer many subtle pleasures. A wide variety of flora (mosses, lichens, flowering grasses) and fauna (gentoo penguins, chinstrap penguins, southern giant petrels) live here.

On Deception Island, the ship plunges through Neptune's Bellows and into the flooded caldera. If a landing here is possible, you will find hot springs, an abandoned whaling station, and thousands of cape petrels. A number of kelp gulls, brown skuas, south polar skuas, and Antarctic terns can be spotted here too.

Your last activities before venturing into the Drake Passage are likely to find you around the northern Gerlache Strait. One option is Cierva Cove and the rugged, ice-gripped mountains of the Davis Coast. Mikkelsen Harbour on the south coast of Trinity Island is another alternative. Here you may enjoy a gentoo penguin rookery as well as some fine scenic cruising.

Conditions on the Drake Passage determine the exact time of departure.

## **Day 18 - 19: North by sea**

Your return voyage is far from lonely. While crossing the Drake, you're greeted by a vast array of seabirds. But they seem a little more familiar to you now, and you to them.

## **Day 20: There and back again**

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. It's now time to disembark in Ushuaia, but with memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.

### **Included in this voyage**

- *Voyage aboard the indicated vessel as indicated in the itinerary*
- *All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.*
- *All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.*
- *Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.*
- *Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes.*
- *Luggage transfer from pick-up point to the vessel on the day of embarkation, in Ushuaia.*
- *Pre-scheduled group transfer from the vessel to the airport in Ushuaia (directly after disembarkation).*
- *All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.*
- *Comprehensive pre-departure material.*

### **Excluded from this voyage**

*Any airfare, whether on scheduled or charter flights*

*Pre- and post- land arrangements.*

*Passport and visa expenses.*

*Government arrival and departure taxes.*

*Meals ashore.*

*Baggage, cancellation and personal insurance (which is mandatory).*

*Excess baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and telecommunication charges.*

*The customary gratuity at the end of the voyages for stewards and other service personnel aboard (guidelines will be provided).*

## ACTIVITIES YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN

### Hiking

FREE



There will be easy, moderate and more demanding walks available in the vicinity of the landing sites. We recommend bringing a proper pair of hiking boots and gaiters. Snowshoes will be provided (for hikers only) on board. Those will fit all boot sizes and can be used in combination with Oceanwide's rubber boots.

### Snowshoeing

FREE



Snowshoe walking is easy and does not require any technical skills. The snowshoes will fit all boot sizes and can be used in combination with Oceanwide's rubber boots

# CABINS & PRICES

## Quadruple Porthole



1 porthole  
 2 upper & lower berths  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space  
 This cabin is suitable for families traveling with children, or passengers who do not require a twin or more luxurious cabin



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

65600 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

16400 USD

## Triple Porthole



1 porthole  
 1 upper berth & 2 lower berths  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space  
 This cabin is suitable for families traveling with children, or passengers who do not require a twin or more luxurious cabin



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

0 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

0 USD

## Twin Porthole



1 porthole  
 2 lower berths  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

39600 USD



Single cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

33660 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

19800 USD

## Twin Window



1 window  
2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied. 41200 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate). 35020 USD



Sharing berth  
Share your cabin with others for the best price 20600 USD

## Twin Deluxe



2 windows  
2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space  
These cabins are corner cabins and are slightly more spacious than the normal twin porthole/window cabins



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied. 44200 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate). 37570 USD



Sharing berth  
Share your cabin with others for the best price 22100 USD

## Superior



2 windows  
1 double bed  
1 sofa bed  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Refrigerator  
Coffee & tea maker  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied. 47400 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate). 40290 USD