



SUB ANTARCTIC ISLANDS

ITINERARY



An insightful journey to some of the 'forgotten islands' of the South Pacific.

Timed to coincide with magnificent floral displays, you will enjoy coastal cruising and walking on Snares, Auckland, Enderby and Campbell Islands. Such is the richness of the mega-herbs, the region has been named by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) as a world centre of floristic diversity.

Hike through the windswept rata forests, and along the exposed coastal cliffs of the Auckland Islands.

The lack of fear that the wildlife has means close encounters are common along with great photographic opportunities. The jewel in the crown of the sub-Antarctic is Enderby Island, a small wildlife-rich island in the north of the group.

Here you may enjoy close encounters with the royal albatross, however, you would be wise to be a little wary of the impressive Hooker's sea lions.

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| LENGTH | 8 days | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GRADE | A - You need to be in reasonably good health | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| START | Invercargill, Kelvin Hotel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FINISH | Bluff / Invercargill | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DEPARTURES | 23rd December 2020 - Spirit of the Enderby | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PRICES | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Main Deck Triple</td> <td>USD \$4,600.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Main Deck Twin</td> <td>USD \$5,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Superior</td> <td>USD \$5,200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Superior Plus</td> <td>USD \$5,600.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mini Suite</td> <td>USD \$6,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Heritage Suite</td> <td>USD \$6,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landing Fees</td> <td>USD \$400.00</td> </tr> </table> | | Main Deck Triple | USD \$4,600.00 | Main Deck Twin | USD \$5,000.00 | Superior | USD \$5,200.00 | Superior Plus | USD \$5,600.00 | Mini Suite | USD \$6,000.00 | Heritage Suite | USD \$6,500.00 | Landing Fees | USD \$400.00 |
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ITINERARY

DAY 1 DEPART INVERCARGILL

Make your way to the Kelvin Hotel, Invercargill, from where you will be transferred by coach to the Port of Bluff (27km south of Invercargill) to embark the 'Spirit of Enderby'. Once shown to your cabin, you will be able to familiarise yourself with the ship. Formal introductions to the staff will be followed by safety briefings before we depart for the Snares Islands.



DAY 2 SNARES ISLAND

North East Island

The closest Subantarctic Islands to New Zealand, they were appropriately called The Snares as they were once considered a hazard for sailing ships. The islands are uninhabited and enjoy the highest protection as Nature Reserves.

It is claimed by some that these islands are home to more nesting seabirds than all of the British Isles together.

Weather permitting, you will cruise the jagged coastline by Zodiac allowing you to see some of the features of the island. From the water you can view the unique large tree daisies *Olearia lyallii* and *Brachyglottis stewartiae* which dominate much of the island, creating a forest canopy and draping the hills.

Your cruise should also allow you to encounter some of the birdlife that inhabits these islands, including the endemic Snares Crested Penguin. You may also catch glimpses of the Snares Island Tomtit and Fernbird which are unique to these islands. On the cliffs you will likely see Buller's Albatross whose Maori name translates as 'flying wind' which could be an apt description of The Snares. This species only nests here and at the Solander Islands.



DAY 3 AUCKLAND ISLANDS

Enderby Islands

The Auckland Islands group was formed by two volcanoes which erupted some 10-25 million years ago and were subsequently eroded and dissected by glaciations creating the archipelago as we know it today.

Enderby Island is a wildlife rich island offering a varying landscape where the Rata forests are regenerating and there is a resurgence of herbaceous plants. The island is home to the Hooker's or New Zealand Sea Lion which breeds on Sandy Bay beach where we plan to land. This animal is the rarest sea lion in the world.

During your day ashore there will be several options, some longer walks, some shorter walks and time to spend just sitting and enjoying the wildlife. The walking is relatively easy, a board walk traverses the island to the dramatic western cliffs and from there you follow the coast on the circumnavigation of the island.

You are likely to encounter a great number of bird species on the island from the famous Southern Royal Albatross and Northern Giant Petrel to parakeets, bellbirds and the endemic shag, teal and snipe. Plan to spend some time with the Yellow-eyed Penguin, the world's rarest penguin and the fourth largest of the world's penguins.



DAY 4 AUCKLAND ISLANDS

Carnley Harbour

Auckland Island is the largest of the islands in the group. The western coastline has been sculpted into formidable cliffs by the prevailing westerly winds, and to the east, the coast has been carved by glaciers into some of the most picturesque fiords in the world.

Your anchorage in Carnley Harbour offers a range of activities, depending on weather and sea conditions. Climb to South West Cape for magnificent views of a Shy Mollymawk Albatross colony and perhaps spot the beautiful Wandering Albatross spreading its huge wingspan above the cliffs.



Other possibilities include visiting the abandoned World War II coastwatcher's station or the remains of a ship wrecked in 1864 and made famous by two books written by the survivors.

You depart Carnley Harbour for Campbell Island this afternoon.

DAY 5 - 6 CAMPBELL ISLANDS

Explore Campbell Island by foot and take in the panorama of rocky islets and sea stacks, once the lonely preserve of settlers and seal hunters and now returned to nature.

Campbell Island is known for its megaherbs – herbaceous, perennial wild flowers characterised by their great size, with huge leaves and very colourful flowers, which have developed as an adaptation to the harsh weather conditions on the islands. Our visit should coincide with the flowering of the *Pleurophyllum speciosum*, an endemic daisy carpeting the hills and startling in size with leaves sometimes half a metre wide.

A range of walks will be offered. You can explore an abandoned Meteorological Station at the head of the harbour or take the Col Lyall Saddle walk which offers an opportunity to view and photograph the Southern Royal Albatross nesting amongst the flowers and tussocks.

Alternatively, walk to remote Northwest Bay across the tussock tops and megaherb fields to an isolated coastline that Southern Elephant Seals haul out on and New Zealand Sea Lions and Yellow-eyed Penguins call home. Another option is to climb the beautifully-named Mt Honey which offers dramatic views from its summit.

DAY 7 AT SEA

A day at sea provides a great opportunity to reflect on the voyage and the Subantarctic Islands that you have visited. Today spend time on deck and view pelagic species that come close. You may also see cetaceans such as the Dusky Dolphins which sometimes surf the bow waves of the ship, and if sea conditions are good, a number of different whale species are a possibility. The day is interspersed with illustrated lectures on the biology and history of the area we have visited and the Southern Ocean.

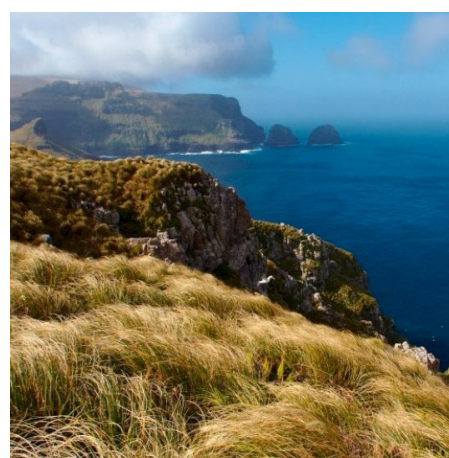
DAY 7 ARRIVAL BLUFF

On arrival at the Port of Bluff this morning, you have a final breakfast and say your farewells before disembarking and taking a complimentary coach transfer to either a central city point in historic Invercargill or to the airport.

In case of unexpected delays due to weather and/or port operations we ask you not to book any onward travel from Invercargill until after midday today.

ITINERARY CHANGES

Due to the nature of this expedition, weather or government regulations may require changes to be made to the itineraries and/or the cancellation of certain shore excursions. Every attempt will be made to adhere to the itineraries described within the limits of safety and time. The ship's captain has the last word on any decision made with regard to the vessels itinerary and it is understood that such a decision will be made in the interest of safety of the vessel and of all the passengers on board. In the event of changes, passengers have no right to any refund or other compensation. Expedition fees are based on group participation. Should you choose not to take part in any activity or make use of services provided, no refund will be made.



LIFE ON THE TRAIL

GRADE A

- General good health necessary.
- No specific fitness requirements.

Clients must be in good general health to join our expeditions.

The expedition is ship-based, and physically not very demanding. Although we spend as much time as possible ashore, you are welcome to remain aboard the ship if you like.

To join the voyage, you must be able to get up and down steps between the different ship levels and up and down the gangway to board the zodiacs for the excursions ashore.



GUIDES AND SAFETY

Rodney Russ – Expedition Leader

Rodney trained with and worked for the New Zealand Wildlife Service (now Department of Conservation) as a “Protected Species Officer” – responsible for the management and conservation of rare and endangered bird species. His work took him the length and breadth of New Zealand and to the Sub Antarctic Islands. He became more passionate about the need to share the natural world with people, emphasising the need for advocacy in a successful conservation strategy.

In addition to New Zealand Expeditions Rodney has led expeditions to the Pacific and Asia and more recently to South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula. His goal in everything that he does is to provide opportunities, which enhances the traveller’s experience and understanding of the natural world.

Expeditions are also led by some of the most experienced

FOOD

Dining is informal and relaxed, and the cuisine outstanding. Award winning chefs prepare delicious meals and are able to cater to most dietary requirements. A selection of fine New Zealand and Australian wines is available. Unfortunately, Kosher, Halal and Vegan meals are NOT available onboard.

TRANSPORT

Expedition Vessel ‘Spirit of Enderby’ is one of the best-run ships of its kind. On board the atmosphere is peaceful and warm. With just 50 passengers a very tangible camaraderie is created amongst passengers and crew. The ship is under the command of an experienced team of Russian Officers, with a passionate and knowledgeable expedition team. Built in 1984, the ‘Spirit of Enderby’ measures 72 metres in length and is fully ice-strengthened. Powered by two, 1,156 horse-power, diesel engines, it is capable of speeds of up to 12 knots. The vessel is fitted with stabilisers, making travel much more comfortable.

You are encouraged to spend time on the bridge to witness the experienced captain and officers in action, recognised as experts in polar navigation. The team of expert staff is always on hand to assist with every need and question.

Throughout the voyage a log is recorded of seabirds, dolphins or whales and an expedition log is kept, a bound copy of which will be sent to everybody at the conclusion of the expedition.

The key to these expeditions is the fleet of semi rigid inflatable Naiad (Greek for water nymph) craft, also known as zodiacs. These extremely safe and stable craft will land you at some of the most amazing places, where few others have ever been.



ADDITIONAL COSTS

Not included in expedition and landing fee:

- Airfare to and from your home to the port of departure or arrival in New Zealand.
- Items of a personal nature such as insurance, and excess baggage charge.
- Passport, visa and vaccination fees.

On board the ship: beverages, communication charges, medical supplies, laundry, sea shop purchases.

LIFE ON THE TRAIL

ACCOMMODATION

Heritage Suite:

Has a large lounge area, a separate bedroom with double bed, a single bed in the lounge, writing desk, wardrobe, drawers, fridge. There is a private bathroom with shower, toilet and washbasin. There are large forward and side facing windows with great views.

Mini Suite:

Has a separate bedroom with a double bed, a single bed or sofa in the lounge, wardrobe, drawers, a desk and a private bathroom with shower, toilet and washbasin. This suite has windows.

Superior Plus:

Cabins have two lower berths, wardrobe, drawers, a private bathroom with shower, toilet and washbasin. These cabins have windows.

Superior:

Cabins have one bunk (an upper and lower berth), wardrobe, drawers, a desk, a private bathroom with shower, toilet and washbasin. These cabins have windows.

Main deck:

Cabins have two lower berths, wardrobe, drawers, a desk and a wash-basin. The nearby showers and toilets are shared with other Main deck cabins. These cabins have a porthole.

Main Deck Triple:

This cabin has one bunk (an upper and a lower berth), and one lower berth, wardrobe, drawers, a desk and a wash-basin. The nearby showers and toilets are shared with other Main deck cabins. This cabin has a porthole.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Single Travellers

Single travellers who wish to share their cabin/hotel room should so indicate on the booking form. The published per person double occupancy fare is guaranteed in this case, whether or not a cabin mate is available.

Single travellers who require sole occupancy of cabins will be charged 1.8 x the published fare on all cabins except suite cabins which will be charged at 2 x the published fare.

Payment

You may request to pay for this tour in US or NZ dollars. You may do so either by credit card or directly into our US or NZ dollar account.

NZ bank account details can be found on our booking form, or we can send the US bank account details to you by email. Please specify if you wish to take this option when you make your booking.

If paying in NZ\$ the current exchange rate on the day of booking will be used. As exchange rates are constantly changing there is no guarantee that your credit card bill will come out to the exact US dollar price as advertised.

Deposit

A deposit of 25% of the expedition fee is required upon booking to confirm participation. The balance of the fee is payable 95 days prior to departure date.

Cancellations

Cancellations must be received in writing.

For cancellations received more than 180 days before departure date, a full refund will be made less \$US750.00 per person administration/handling fee.

For cancellations received within 179 days and 91 days of your embarkation date, the full deposit is forfeited.

Within 90 days of your departure date, the full expedition fee is forfeited.

If cancellation occurs within 90 days and full payment has not yet been received, the total price will still apply and any unpaid monies are due immediately.

On forwarding the deposit you agree to be bound by the terms and conditions found here.

Price Changes

We reserve the right to alter our prices should there be substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, cost of fuel, labour or materials.

PACKING LIST

ON BOARD THE SHIP:

The ship is heated throughout with the normal temperature 17-25C. In keeping with the expedition's atmosphere, dress on board is informal. Bring casual and comfortable clothing. Keep in mind that much of the spectacular scenery can be appreciated from deck, which can be slippery. Bring sturdy shoes with no-slip soles and make sure your raincoat is never far away in case of call "Whales!" comes over the loud speaker and you have to dash outside. Wear layers since it is comfortably warm on board the ship – and cooler on deck. There may be an occasion, i.e., Christmas Day, New Year's Eve or a spontaneously Posh Night where you may require clothing that is a little more formal.

TIPS TO STAY COMFORTABLE AND WARM IN COLD WEATHER:

❑ Avoid overdressing to reduce perspiration. Wear water repellent outer garments that will keep you dry on the outside and still breathe enough so that moisture from your body can escape. Body heat is most likely to be lost from parts that have a lot of surface area in comparison to total mass – namely, the hands and feet. Keep them warm and dry. For hands, mittens are better than gloves.

❑ If the rest of your body is covered, as much as 90% of heat can come from your head, so be sure to wear a hat, beanie or balaclava. These items can be pulled down to protect your ears, forehead, neck and chin. The neck also needs protection with a woollen or synthetic scarf that can be wrapped around the face, when travelling against the wind.

❑ Dress in comfortable, loose layers. For anyone out in the cold, it is far better to wear layers of relatively light, loose clothing than one thick, heavy item. Between each layer there is a film of trapped air which, when heated by your body, acts as an excellent insulator. Keep from overheating.

❑ Wool and silk are superior to cotton because they can trap warm air. Synthetic fabrics that spring back into shape after compression are also good. When damp or wet, polyester down is better insulator than goose or duck down.

❑ Polar fleece is popular and recommended.

WHAT TO TAKE

- ❑ Several layers of wool, polypropylene and/or Warm Trousers
- ❑ Waterproof trousers
- ❑ Thermal Underwear
- ❑ Sweaters/Jerseys
- ❑ Turtlenecks
- ❑ Mittens and Gloves
- ❑ Woollen Hat or Balaclava
- ❑ Warm Socks
- ❑ Rubber Boots (Gumboots or Wellingtons as we commonly call them)
- ❑ Waterproof & Windproof Jacket
- ❑ Backpack
- ❑ Sunglasses
- ❑ A pair of Binoculars – highly recommended
- ❑ Other:
- ❑ Sandals or similar (slip on sandals) are very useful to wear around the ship
- ❑ Earplugs may be useful if sharing a cabin with a snorer

