

WELCOME ABOARD THE USHUAIA

Some useful information during your stay on board



Photo: Enrique López-Tapia

Dear Expedition Traveler,

We are delighted to have the opportunity to welcome you aboard the **USHUAIA** for what we are sure will be a memorable and truly rewarding expedition cruise.

The following information is designed to answer any questions that you may have about the ship and life on board. Subjects are listed alphabetically and a deck plan of the ship can be found on the last page. We hope you will find this information useful.

Should there be anything else we can assist you with, please do not hesitate to contact any of the crew or staff members - we will be happy to help you solve any problem or fulfill any wish.

The Captain and crew of the **USHUAIA** are looking forward to having an extraordinary cruise with you. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further question you may have.

Have a wonderful voyage!

Sincerely yours,

The USHUAIA Team

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About the USHUAIA	3
Zodiac Safety Guidelines	10
Nautical Terminology	11
USHUAIA Technical Facts	14
USHUAIA Deck Plan	15



Photo: Tim Fisher

ABOUT THE USHUAIA

Announcements

All announcements are made via our Public Announcement (PA) system on board. The bridge announces interesting events and wildlife attractions. Should there be an emergency call from the bridge we will make sure that you receive it!

Bridge

The **USHUAIA** encourages you to take advantage of our open bridge policy. During the days we are underway, the officers invite you to observe the navigational operations of the ship and will gladly answer any questions you may have. We kindly ask you to respect the bridge as the working area for the officers. Occasionally, for reasons of safety, the bridge may be closed to visitors.

Cabins

Your cabin attendant will make your cabin in the morning.

- **Change of bedlinen**
Your bedlinen will be changed once a trip. If you prefer to have it changed more frequently please inform our Hotel Manager.
- **Change of Towels**
In order to limit the use of washing powder for our environment, we only change your towels upon request. Please leave your towels on the floor if you want them changed. If you hang up your towel we understand that you will use it again. Thank you for your cooperation.
- **Toilets**
The marine toilets are very efficient but also very sensitive. Please treat them gently and do not put anything into them except small amounts of toilet paper. Dispose of used tissues, etc. in the garbage can.
- **Water supply**
The water from the tap is safe to drink. Fresh water is produced by evaporating and condensing seawater. Normally there is no reason for water-rationing on board, but water conservation is encouraged.

Communication

- **Telephone**
The **USHUAIA** is equipped with the INMARSAT system, which allows direct communication with the ship by telephone from any location in the world. For communications with the **USHUAIA** from home you will receive a list of numbers prior to your departure. On board you will find a list of important numbers and instructions for the use of your phone in the folder in your cabin. Costs will be charged to your cabin at US\$4 per minute and will be paid at the end of your voyage.
- **Email and Internet access**
Passengers may use dedicated computers to access the internet and to check their personal emails. You can purchase an internet code at the rate of US\$10 for 30 minutes internet access. Kindly note that there is no Wi-Fi available.

Conservation

Please keep in mind that many of the places you are visiting on the voyages are unique. We at Antarply Expeditions are very proud of our outstanding reputation for conservation and respect for all the ecosystems we visit. Please assist us in maintaining this reputation. Our lecturers and staff will accompany you on shore excursions and provide you with guidance and specific information for the region. We kindly ask you to bring back any kind of garbage to the ship where it will be correctly disposed of. For cruises to Antarctica you will receive our Antarctic Guidelines with your travel documents.

Currency

The currency aboard the **USHUAIA** is US Dollar and Euro is accepted as well as the following credit cards: MasterCard, Visa and American Express (see Payment below). However, for credit card payments minimum charge is US\$100.

Daily Program

Each evening during the Recap the daily program for the next day will be presented by your Expedition Leader. Included in the program is information about the next day's activities, events, landing times, meal times, and lecturers.

Please remember that the expeditionary nature of this voyage may result in changes to the daily program due to sea, weather, ice and local conditions. Also, your Captain and Expedition Team may deviate from the program to take advantage of unexpected opportunities such as wildlife sightings, advantageous sea conditions, or other local events. Any changes to the daily program will be announced over the PA system. We thank you in advance for your understanding and flexibility.

Dietary Requests

With advance notice, our Executive Chef will happily accommodate a variety of special dietary requests. Please note that it is imperative to inform Antarply Expeditions three weeks prior to your departure at the latest. Kindly also state this request on your Booking Form. We regret that Kosher meals are not available.

Dining Room

The Dining Room on the Main Deck F comfortably accommodates all guests at a single seating. This is an open seating for all meals and guest tables are unassigned.

Dress Attire on Board

Casual attire (expedition style) is the accepted apparel for the voyage. Clothing should be comfortable and versatile as described in the detailed packing list enclosed with your preliminary documentation.

Dress Attire on Shore

Comfortable, casual clothing in expedition spirit is the rule for attire worn on shore excursions. The most important factor in determining appropriate clothing for your time ashore will be your route and mode of travel. Please refer to the detailed packing list enclosed with your preliminary documentation.

Electrical Appliances and Outlets

Electric current on board is 110 V/ 60 Hz and cabins are fitted with multi-type sockets suitable for several international plugs. However, we recommend bringing any converters and special adapters with you as only a limited number can be borrowed on board.

Some outlets in public areas are 220v-240v and are clearly marked. However, they are fitted with Argentine outlets. This plug has two flat pins in V-shape and also has a grounding pin. The ungrounded version of this plug, with only two flat V-shaped pins or a plug with two thin round pins, also work.

Emails on board the USHUAIA

Please see COMMUNICATION (above).

Emergency

In case of emergency please call the Bridge (phone #108). When in port, please contact the watchman at the gangway.

Expedition Staff

Your voyage will be directed by an Expedition Leader in conjunction with staff assistants, zodiac drivers, and a team of lecturers. Staff members are specially selected and trained to provide an eventful cruise.

Gift shop

The gift shop on the Main Deck F is stocked with ladies and men's clothing, sundry items, apparel, gift and souvenir items. Please see the daily program for opening hours.

Gratuities

The customary gratuity to the ship's service personnel is made as a blanket contribution at the end of the voyage and is divided among the crew. You will receive detailed guidelines aboard.

Tipping is a very personal matter and the amount you wish to give is at your discretion. As a generally accepted guideline, we suggest US\$15 per person per day. Cash US Dollars would be appreciated, unfortunately credit cards cannot be accepted.

Hairdryers

All cabins are equipped with a hairdryer for your comfort.

Heating

The ship is fully climate controlled. Each cabin is equipped with individual temperature controls. Please contact our staff in case you wish to change these controls to your own comfort level.

Itinerary changes

The highest priority of the Captain is always safety for passengers and ship. Therefore we might have to change the itinerary due to local conditions and unforeseeable reasons. Please rest assured that the crew will do their utmost to offer you the best possible alternatives.

Language

As part of your voyage experience, you will find many languages are spoken aboard the ship.

English and Spanish are the languages used and spoken by all officers and crew (although some crew members may only speak Spanish). Lectures are given in English and Spanish.

Laundry and Valet Service

We regret not to be able to offer Laundry or Dry Cleaning services on board.

Lecturers

Our team of lecturers will accompany you throughout your voyage. While they will give lectures and lead shore excursions, they will also be on hand to answer your questions and provide ready knowledge throughout the day. Antarpply Expeditions has selected these lecturers for both their professional accomplishments and reputations. We hope you enjoy exploring with them.

Lectures and Films

Both lectures and films are offered in the observation lounge / lecture room with modern multimedia equipment on the Main Deck F. Passengers are encouraged to participate in all the ship's activities, including the stimulating and informative lectures.

Library

The ship's library on the Main Deck F contains a good selection of international titles, with an emphasis on reference material essential to your voyage. A variety of games, including playing cards and board games, are also at your disposal.

Life Vest

You have been provided with a lightweight inflatable life jacket, which inflates automatically by pulling the rip-cord. **These life jackets must be worn at all times in the zodiac while cruising.** Please take care of your life jacket. It will be collected at the end of the cruise.

Additionally there is a large "heavy duty" life jacket in your cabin, which is to be used in case of ship emergency and for life boat drills.

Lost and Found

Lost and found items can be left with/recovered on board. Please contact the Hotel Manager.

At the end of each voyage all items will be sent to our office in Ushuaia. Should you miss something, please do not hesitate to contact Antarpply Expeditions at phone +54 (2901) 433636/436747, or email: info@antarpply.com or infoantarpply@speedy.com.ar.

Meals on Board

You will find the following dining options while aboard the **USHUAIA**:

- Continental and American Breakfast Buffet
- Buffet or Seated Served Lunch
- Afternoon Tea
- Three-course Dinner

Meal times vary depending upon shore excursions. Coffee and tea is offered throughout the day.

Medical Facilities

A qualified physician accompanies every voyage to provide both emergency and routine health care. The ship's infirmary is located on Deck E. Office hours are posted in your daily program. In case of emergency, please call the bridge (phone #108).

There is a charge for this consultation:

- In ship's infirmary US\$ 20
- In your cabin US\$ 25

Seasickness is treated free of charge. If you are in need of constant and / or special medication, please make sure you bring a sufficient supply as the infirmary only carries supplies for emergency medication.

Motion Sickness

Note: This section is for your reference only and should not be construed as medical advice. Many of the treatments mentioned here may have side effects. **Always check with your own doctor before taking medications and ask him/her for the most suitable seasickness medication to bring along.** The ship's doctor is available for additional advice.

Seasickness, or mal de mer, is an unpleasant - but generally treatable - condition. There are a variety of effective over-the-counter and prescription remedies. Remember that these treatments are generally most effective when taken **BEFORE** the onset of nausea; so if you are prone to seasickness, consider taking a preventative before sailing or entering open seas.

Other treatments include inter-dermal patches and bands. To avoid seasickness, limit your time below deck. Fresh air and watching the horizon can help to allay symptoms.

Open Door Policy

The **USHUAIA** maintains an open-door policy. If you wish to store your valuables, please contact the Hotel Manager.

Passports

All passports are collected upon embarkation and kept with the purser during the voyage.

Passports must be kept for administrative and safe-keeping purposes.

Payment: Your Personal Account

We suggest that you bring at least US\$300 to US\$400 (in small bills). On most voyages, particularly to Antarctica, this sum will be more than sufficient spending money as we will be navigating through isolated areas where spending opportunities are rare.

For services rendered aboard the ship, you will be provided with a personal account using a "chit" system. Your purchases will be kept on record and totalled at the end of your voyage.

Your account must be settled prior to disembarkation in cash (U.S. Dollar and Euro). If you prefer to pay by credit card, please advise the Hotel Manager at the beginning of the voyage. We accept MasterCard, Visa and American Express for charges over US\$100. However, we cannot accept gratuities by credit card.

Phone on board the USHUAIA

Please see COMMUNICATION (above), for detailed information.

Photographic Etiquette

When photographing do not approach wildlife to the point that it becomes frightened, agitated, or must flee. Give extra space to animals with young. Special guidelines will be provided.

In some areas, photographing military installations, airports, and other sensitive objects is restricted. Your Expedition Team will advise you of local regulations.

Recaps and Briefings

On a daily basis, the Expedition Team will summarize experiences ashore and update you on our plans for the next day. These informal sessions are generally held during cocktail hour.

Rubber Boots

A supply of rubber boots or Wellingtons is available on board and includes a wide variety of sizes. It is recommended that you bring your own only if you require a special size. Please note that the boots on board have been used by previous passengers.

Safety at Sea

Our highest priority during your cruise is the personal safety of all passengers and crew. Our vessel meets all international requirements. Officers and crew are well trained and regularly practice emergency procedures to ensure your comfort and safety. Within 24 hours of embarkation there will be an emergency drill which all guests are required to participate. Through this exercise, you will become familiar with procedures that must be followed in the unlikely event of an emergency.

Please be aware:

- Always obey all safety announcements given by the Captain, the officers, or your Expedition Team.
- For your safety and the safety of your fellow passengers, please do not leave any china or glass on the outside decks.
- The exterior decks may be wet - we ask you therefore not to run but to walk slowly and hold on to the ship's railings.
- We recommend all ladies to wear low heel shoes for their own comfort and safety.
- In rough seas please hold on to banisters and fixed objects. Please expect pitching and rolling, especially in the ice, as there will be sudden lurches, rolls and other motions as the ship sails through the ice. Use the handrails whenever possible, especially going up stairways, ladders etc.
- Please mind the high steps in many exterior doorways. When passing through all doorways, and while in your cabin, **PLEASE DO NOT PLACE YOUR HANDS ON THE EDGE OF THE DOORS**. A lurching movement could slam the door on your fingers.

Shore Excursions

Shore excursions will be outlined during recap and briefings the day before. Before disembarkation information on the length of time on land and the type of landing ("wet" or "dry") will be announced. Your Expedition Team will accompany you on daily shore excursions and provide you with extensive information. Please carefully follow their instructions and advice.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is permitted on all exterior decks with the exception of the "Zodiac Deck". Inside the ship, all areas, including cabins, are designated non-smoking. **For safety and environmental reasons, NEVER throw cigarette butts or other (burning) materials into the sea!**

Valuables

Your cabin is not equipped with a safety deposit box. However any valuables such as money, jewellery or documents could be deposited with the hotel manager who will store them safely for you. Antarpply Expeditions is not responsible for the loss of personal effects and valuables.

Weather and Sea Conditions

Weather and sea conditions play important roles in expeditionary cruising. All planned activities are subject to modification or cancellation due to changing weather and/or sea conditions. We thank you in advance for your understanding and flexibility.

Wildlife Watch

During the time we are in areas where there is a possibility of sighting wildlife, the ships' officers and staff are constantly on the lookout. However, please don't hesitate to report a sighting to the bridge or staff. If we are fortunate enough to sight wildlife, we will announce it from the bridge, regardless of the hour. If you wish to go back to sleep please do so!

Zodiacs

The **USHUAIA** carries her own fleet of zodiacs and RIB's. Zodiacs accommodate up to 12 guests and, in the hands of our skilled boatmen, are stable, safe and manoeuvrable. Constructed of high-performance plastimer fabrics, with several airtight compartments, they are easy to board and disembark. Their versatility, their ability to open whole new worlds of exploration make zodiacs the key to expedition cruising enabling you to go ashore and investigate some of the world's most unique regions. Instructions will be provided on how to properly embark and disembark these water craft.



Photo: Eric Giuliani

ZODIAC SAFETY GUIDELINES

Zodiacs

One of the objectives of our cruise is to land our guests ashore at places that are accessible only to our versatile inflatable zodiacs. This requires special landing techniques. Our zodiac drivers are extremely safety conscious, but we cannot maintain our excellent safety record without your full cooperation.

The pre-excursion briefings are important. The Chief Officer or Expedition Leader will explain specific excursion procedures in detail. Please familiarize yourself with the following instructions:

1. Prior to landing, information about weather conditions (temperature, wind speed, etc.) and what type of landing to expect (“wet” or “dry”) will be announced over the PA system. A “wet” landing means that your feet may be submerged as you disembark the zodiac. We suggest wearing rubber boots. Sufficient time will be provided for you to prepare for the landing.
2. Smoking is prohibited in zodiacs and on the zodiac deck.
3. Before embarking the zodiacs you will need to don a life vest. The Expedition Team will help you with this procedure. After putting on your life vest, you will be issued with your personal number. Please wear it so that it is easily visible for the officer who is on gangway watch as he has to check each passenger off when disembarking and embarking. It is of utmost importance to control who is onboard and who is ashore.
4. Both hands must be free for boarding and disembarking from our landing craft. It is recommended that you use a backpack. Handheld items (such as walking sticks and tripods) should be handed to the crewmen who will be on hand to assist you in boarding and disembarking the zodiacs. Loose items should be carried in your backpack. You may want to put your camera and other sensitive items in a plastic bag (no lightweight plastic bags though) before placing it in your pack.
5. If you carry heavy items in your backpack (cameras, video cameras, etc.) we recommend that you put it on the bottom of the zodiac while in motion. Otherwise you could lose your balance when seas are rough. Please ask your Expedition Leader and/or zodiac driver for details.
6. The driver is the captain of the zodiac at all times. Your immediate compliance with the driver’s directions is mandatory and will ensure your safety.
7. Always hold the nearest safety rope while seated in the boat.
8. Please remain seated while taking photographs. Your zodiac driver will often stop to enable you to take pictures.
9. NEVER jump into or out of the zodiac. Please step quickly and carefully and accept the assistance offered to you. Do not hold a hand but grip each other by the forearm. This permits a firmer, more stable hold.
10. When disembarking, NEVER step over the zodiac engine. The Expedition Team and crew will aid you in disembarking. Please follow their instructions closely.
11. If, while on shore, you hear the **USHUAIA**’s signal with several short blasts of the ship’s horn, return to the landing site IMMEDIATELY.

NAUTICAL TERMINOLOGY (for land lubbers only)

Abeam

At right angles to the keel of the ship, but not on the ship.

Aft

Towards the stern or back of the ship.

Amidships

In or toward the part of the ship midway between the bow and stern.

Beam

The greatest width of the ship.

Bow

The forward part of the ship.

Bridge

The raised, transverse platform of the ship from where the vessel is steered.

Bulkheads

Walls on board the ship.

Course

The direction in which the ship is steered.

Current

The horizontal movement of the water.

Dead Ahead

Directly ahead.

Dead Astern

Directly aft.

Deck

Each level of floor of the ship is referred to as a deck.

Draft

The depth below the surface that the keel of the ship reaches.

Ebb

A receding current.

Fathom

Six feet or 1.8 meters.

Flood

An incoming current.

Fore or Foreward

Towards the bow or front of the ship.

Gangway

The opening path or path through which the ship is boarded.

Galley

The food preparation area on board the ship.

Gross Tonnage

The scale by which the complete vessel size is measured.

Heading

The direction in which the ship's bow points at any given time.

Hull

The main body of the ship.

Jetty

A structure, usually masonry, projecting out from the shore.

Keel

The center line of a boat running fore and aft.

Knots

The unit of measurement used to describe the ship's speed.

1 knot = 1 nautical mile/h = 1.15 mph or 1.852 km/h.

Lee or Leeward

The side of the ship sheltered from the wind.

Log or Ship's Log

The ship's diary. Every noteworthy fact concerning the navigation of the vessel is recorded here.

Muster Stations

Areas on board designated as meeting places in case on an emergency.

Nautical Mile

One minute of latitude; equal to 1.15 land miles, 1.852 km or one knot.

Piloting

Navigation by use of visible references, the depth of the water, etc.

Port

The left side of the ship (red light).

Quarter

The sides of a boat aft of amidships.

Roads

A designated place where a ship may ride at anchor, also called a roadstead. A ship may anchor "in the roads".

Satellite Navigation

A form of position-finding, using radio transmissions from satellites with onboard automatic equipment.

Set

The direction toward which the current is flowing.

Sounding

A measurement of the depth of water.

Starboard

The right side of the ship (green light).

Stem

The forward most part of the bow.

Stern

The rear of the ship.

Tenders

Typically the ship's own motor boats and launches used to ferry passengers from ship to shore and back while the vessel is anchored "in the roads".

Windward

The side or direction from which the wind is blowing.



Photo: Paul O'Neill

USHUAIA: TECHNICAL FACTS

Length: 84.73 m / 278.3 feet

Breadth: 15.54 m / 51 feet

Draught: 5.48 m / 18.08 feet

Gross Tonnage: 2,963 tonnes

Speed (Max): 14 knots

Cruise Speed: 12 knots

Passengers: 90

Crew & staff: 40

Zodiacs & RIBs: 7

Electrical Outlets: 110 V, 60 Hz

Yard: American Shipbuilding, Toledo, Ohio

Date of Build: 1970

Classification: INSB Ice Class C

Flag: Union of Comoros

Engine: 2 ALCO 1600 HP each

Bow thrust: 1x 500Kw

Facilities

FOUR DECKS - DINING ROOM (ONE OPEN SEATING) - OBSERVATION LOUNGE / LECTURE ROOM, BAR & LIBRARY - PANORAMA DECK - GIFT SHOP - INFIRMARY - ZODIACS

Version: June 12, 2017

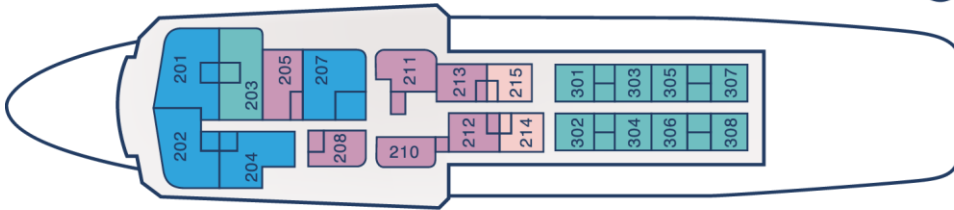
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USHUAIA: DECK PLAN

BRIDGE DECK **H**

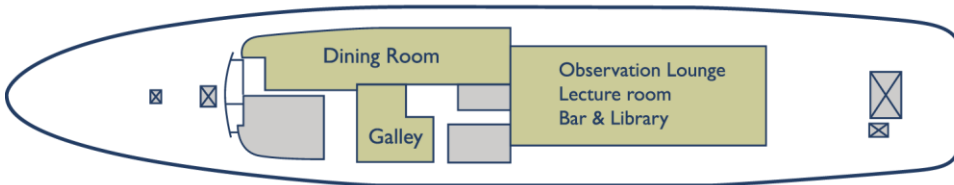


UPPER DECK **G**



- 4 Suites
- 6 Premier twin private cabins
- 2 Premier single private cabins
- 9 Superior twin private cabins

MAIN DECK **F**



DECK **E**



- 12 Standard twin semi-private cabins
- 11 Standard Plus twin private cabins
- 2 Standard Plus triple private cabins