EXPEDITION TO
ANTARCTICA
ABOARD THE DELUXE M.S. LE BORÉAL
JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 8, 2015

Early Booking Savings
Reserve by June 27, 2014 ■ Save $2,000 Per Couple
SMITHSONIANJOURNEYS.ORG ■ 1-877-338-8687
Dr. Jim Zimbelman is a planetary geologist at the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum where he has served as the chairman of the Center for Earth and Planetary Studies. He has expertise in physics and mathematics (B.A.), geophysics and space physics (M.S. University of California at Los Angeles), as well as geology (Ph.D. Arizona State University). Jim was co-editor of the book *Environmental Effects on Volcanic Eruptions: From Deep Oceans to Deep Space*, and has written more than 60 papers and maps for various peer-reviewed scientific journals and books. Over the past 20 years at NASM, he has been involved in the analysis of high-resolution spacecraft imaging and geophysical data of the Earth and terrestrial planets, geologic mapping of Mars and Venus, and other geologic studies of terrestrial planets. Dr. Zimbelman’s lecture topics include the geology of South America and Antarctica, glaciers and climate change, and plate tectonics.

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**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- From the long sunrises that paint the icescape in soft shades of pink and gold to the lingering light of the austral summer, experience Antarctica’s spectacular illuminations that reveal the contrasts and marvels of the most unique place on Earth.

- An extraordinary 14-day program featuring a nine-night cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, state-of-the-art, five-star, ice-class M.S. LE BORÉAL (launched in 2010), the finest of vessels plying Antarctic waters.

- A comprehensive schedule of exclusive and specially arranged lectures.

- The onboard expedition team of expert naturalists will guide you on excursions aboard sturdy Zodiac craft to explore the intricate ecosystems and marvelous nuances of the abundant wildlife found ashore, especially penguins and seals, who are unafraid of humans.

- This once-in-a-lifetime, comprehensive program features the finest five-star accommodations available on an expedition ship and includes all excursions and all meals while on board.

- Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner on board ship.

- Exclusive three-night Iguazú Falls Post-Program Option.

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**BOOK NOW TO SAVE $2,000 PER COUPLE!**

1-877-338-8687

SmithsonianJourneys.org/Antarctica-Cruise
Wildlife Conservation

The unique international Antarctic Treaty protects Antarctica’s wildlife and its natural habitats and provides a guide for visitors to this great continent, where no country has sovereignty.

To protect the fragile Antarctic environment, all travelers will go ashore in small groups, so as not to over visit rookeries, disturb nesting sites or disrupt research. All visitors will be asked to take—and leave—nothing ashore.

U.S.
Monday, January 26
Depart from the U.S.

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Tuesday, January 27
Arrive in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires and check into the deluxe PLAZA HOTEL BUENOS AIRES overlooking the lovely Plaza San Martin park and adjacent to the chic boutique-lined Calle Florida. This evening, attend the Welcome Reception. (R)

Buenos Aires
Wednesday, January 28
See Buenos Aires’ elegant and diverse barrios (neighborhoods) on a city tour including the colorful La Boca district, Monserrat’s historic Plaza de Mayo and grand public buildings, Palermo’s lavish parks, Puerto Madero’s riverfront community, and the charming old quarter of San Telmo.

Visit the historic Recoleta Cemetery, famous for its ornate vaults and sculptures and as the final resting place of the legendary Evita Perón, the former First Lady of Argentina. (B)

Buenos Aires/Ushuaia
Thursday, January 29
Board an early morning flight to remote Ushuaia, the world’s southernmost city, the capital of Tierra del Fuego, and the gateway to Antarctica. This afternoon, embark M.S. LE BORÉAL and cruise through the Beagle Channel, named for the ship that carried Charles Darwin on his South American voyages. Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception this evening. (B,R,D)

Cruising Drake Passage
Friday, January 30
Cross the legendary Drake Passage. Upon reaching the Antarctic Convergence, watch for breaching fin, humpback, and

Cover photo: Discover a magical world of stunning mountain vistas, abundant marine life and pristine seas on this journey of a lifetime.

Photo this page: Both captivating and entertaining, penguins are often the first to greet visitors on Antarctica’s shores.

The majestic albatross has a wingspan of up to 11 feet, enabling it to fly for hundreds of miles at a time.
minke whales, and seabirds feeding on plankton and krill brought to the surface by the cold Antarctic currents merging with the warmer waters of the South Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. The expedition team of naturalists will present insightful lectures to prepare you for your first landing in Antarctica. (B,L,D)

Cruising Antarctica
Saturday, January 31 to Thursday, February 5
The ship cruises below the 60th parallel to the outer shores and islands of the Antarctic Peninsula, Earth’s last frontier. Here, explore some of the world’s most pristine wilderness, where towering mountains of ice and lava create precipitous coastlines and islands, and constantly changing patterns of ice stretch as far as the eye can see. In this seemingly harsh environment, a vast array of marine wildlife flourishes, including millions of penguins, countless seabirds, and thousands of seals and whales. From spectacular volcanic topography and majestic glaciers to fascinating wildlife and historic outposts, this itinerary reveals the highlights of the region for the complete Antarctic experience.

Please note that the ship’s cruising pattern and positionings are dependent on weather, ice, and sea conditions and are subject to change.

One of the smallest but most beautiful of the South Shetland Islands, Half Moon Island, is a crescent-shaped isle known for its craggy volcanic rock formations and tranquil lagoons. It is also the site of Cámara Station, a base monitored by Argentine biologists studying regional wildlife. Here, observe the antics of the island’s colony of chinstrap penguins and enjoy the lingering twilight of the Antarctic summer.

Deception Island is actually the rim of a massive dormant volcano crater that encircles a caldera known as Port Foster, where the ship enters through dramatic Neptune’s Bellows, a sublime harbor ringed by snowcapped peaks and sheer cliffs. In Pendulum Cove, see the steaming, geothermally heated waters of the Antarctic. Observe the amazing colony of tens of thousands of chinstrap penguins at Baily Head. Then walk along the black sand beaches of Telefon Bay to nearby craters, which offer fascinating insight into the volcanic activity that created the island and played a pivotal role in the natural history of the region.

In Paradise Bay, awesome cliffs of ice descend from the surrounding mountains into the floating iceberg-laden waters along the western coast of the Antarctic Peninsula. Named by 19th-century whalers who sought shelter in its coves, Paradise Bay is an ideal sanctuary for marine wildlife including humpback whales, crabeater seals, and Cape petrels. Listen for the low rumbling of Rudolf Glacier as it calves chunks of ice into Neko Harbor, named for an early 20th-century whaling boat. The harbor is surrounded by soaring glaciers and snow-covered mountains and is one of the most dramatic and spectacular sights in Antarctica. Here, make your first “continental landing” in Antarctica.

Cruise through breathtaking, glacier-lined Neumayer Channel to Port Lockroy. Originally constructed in 1944 by an eight-man team as an intelligence post for British espionage during World War II,
Port Lockroy was converted into a whaling station and scientific base in the 1950s. It is nestled among glistening mountain peaks as high as 6,000 feet, and the surrounding grounds are populated by blue-eyed shags and gentoo penguins. Gain insight into the lives of past explorers at the British Antarctic Survey Museum and mail a postcard stamped with an Antarctica postmark from the official British Post Office. Just beyond Port Lockroy, enjoy an excursion to the rocky shores of Jougla Point on Wiencke Island. Experience this rare opportunity to view the nearly intact skeleton of a full-size blue whale, and see populous colonies of gentoo penguins and kelp gulls. Flanked by sheer cliffs of towering glaciers between the Antarctic Peninsula and Booth Island, Lemaire Channel offers views of seven majestic miles of mountains and wildlife combined with fascinating patterns of ice floes. Call at Petermann Island, the southernmost point of your journey, and watch its thriving rookeries of Adélie and gentoo penguins and blue-eyed shags.

Cruise the Weddell Sea and see the enormous tabular icebergs that have calved from the Larsen Ice Shelf. See Brown Bluff’s spectacular 2,450-foot-high promontory jutting into the Antarctic Sound. Observe the area’s flourishing colony of friendly Adélie penguins, who may approach you for an up-close encounter. (b,l,d)

Cruising Drake Passage/ Cape Horn
Friday, February 6
Relax and reflect on board as the ship turns north and crosses the Drake Passage.

Enjoy lively, informative discussions with the ship’s naturalists. Watch for endangered albatross and the many different species of petrels as you cruise across the Antarctic Convergence and past Cape Horn, the most southerly point of South America and a milestone on world trade routes from the 19th century until the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914. Attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception this evening. (b,l,r,d)

Ushuaia/Buenos Aires
Saturday, February 7
Disembark and fly to Buenos Aires. Continue on the Iguazú Falls Post-Program Option with an overnight stay in Buenos Aires, or depart for the U.S. (b)

U.S.
Sunday, February 8
Arrive early this morning in the U.S.

A visit to Antarctica offers an unparalleled opportunity to get an up-close view of chinstrap penguins in their natural habitat.

Weighing up to 50 tons, this breaching humpback whale migrates to Antarctic waters to feed during the austral summer.

Iguazú Falls
Post-Program Option
February 7 to 11

The UNESCO World Heritage site of Iguazú Falls features more than 275 spectacular waterfalls cascading from heights of 270 feet through the breathtaking virgin rain forest along the Brazil-Argentina frontier. The lush jungle setting is home to more than 350 species of birds, 66 varieties of mammals and a mind-boggling array of reptiles, fish, butterflies and flora. This exclusive three-night Post-Program Option features accommodations in the deluxe Sheraton Iguazú Resort & Spa. Buenos Aires round-trip airfare is included. Post-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
**FIVE-STAR, SMALL SHIP**
**M.S. LE BORÉAL**

**Five-Star, Ice-Class Ship, State-of-the-Art Design**
The highly acclaimed, exclusively chartered M.S. LE BORÉAL, launched in 2010, represents the newest generation of **Five-Star small ships**, featuring only 120 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

**Spacious 100% Ocean-View Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies**
Each deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower and luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities. Most accommodations have two twin beds that convert to one queen-size bed. Each stateroom includes individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, minibar, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

**Chic and Casual Dining**
International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious La Licorne dining room in single, unassigned seatings; in the casual La Boussole Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Continental and buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea, and a four-course dinner are served daily. Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.

**Spacious Public Areas/World-Class Service and Facilities**
Inviting and spacious public areas accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge, nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge, and lectures, cultural performances, and film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, and two elevators. The infirmary is staffed with a doctor and nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

**Respect for the Environment**
The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet, and comfortable voyage by minimizing vibration and engine noise. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” rating, an extreme rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has 10 Zodiacs.
What is Included

◆ All accommodations (based on double occupancy) including two nights in Buenos Aires, Argentina in the deluxe PLAZA HOTEL BUENOS AIRES and a nine-night cruise aboard the exclusively chartered five-star M.S. LE BORÉAL
◆ Expertise of a Smithsonian Expert, Travel Directors, and local guides throughout the tour
◆ Meals, including special Welcome and Farewell Receptions, as noted in the itinerary (B-breakfast; L-lunch; R-reception; D-dinner)
◆ Complimentary wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner while aboard ship
◆ All sightseeing and visits as noted in the itinerary
◆ Souvenir polar-grade red parka to wear
◆ Pre-tour information including a reading list
◆ Gratuities to guides and drivers
◆ All on-tour transportation unless otherwise noted
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for all participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s)
◆ On-tour emergency evacuation insurance (up to $50,000), medical expense coverage (up to $25,000), and dental expense coverage (up to $500)

What is Not Included

◆ Airfare and air and departure taxes
◆ Port dues and departure taxes
◆ Passport fees, visas, and visa photos as required
◆ Transfers and baggage handling abroad for those not traveling on the designated program departure and arrival dates
◆ Travel insurance
◆ Personal items such as wines, liquors, à la carte orders, meals other than specified
◆ Gratuities to ship and hotel staff
◆ Expenses incurred by our tour operators in making travel arrangements in conjunction with the tour
◆ Other items not specifically mentioned as included

On The Web

SmithsonianJourneys.org/Antarctica-Cruise

Visit our website to find a photo slide show and reading list for Expedition to Antarctica.

Also, visit our website for full Terms & Conditions for this tour.
Your Expedition Team

Seasoned naturalists, who have studied and traveled extensively in Antarctica and the most remote regions of the world, will accompany you aboard the M.S. LE BORÉAL as your Antarctic expedition team. Their areas of expertise span marine biology, ornithology, ecology, geology, glaciology, conservation and environmental education, history and photography. The team’s collaborative efforts, experience, particular interest in the world’s ecosystems and enthusiasm for sharing their knowledge make them exceptionally well-suited to lead your Expedition to Antarctica.

Exploration of Antarctica

The intrepid deeds of Europeans Roald Amundsen, Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton, Americans Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd and Lincoln Ellsworth and Canadian Sir Charles Seymour Wright, legendary explorers of Antarctica, have long been recounted in gripping personal tales and history books. Admiral Byrd, scion of a distinguished Virginia family, led the U.S. Antarctic expedition (1928-30) and made the first overflight of the South Pole (1929). Byrd later led three additional expeditions to Antarctica and named a large portion of the continent Marie Byrd Land after his wife.

Another American prominent in the exploration of the South Polar region was Lincoln Ellsworth. This Chicago native made the first flight across Antarctica (1935). In the course of his journey, he discovered the mountain range with the continent’s highest peaks, later named Ellsworth Mountains in his honor.
**LAND/CRUISE TARIFF** (per person, based on double occupancy)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stateroom Category*</th>
<th>Description: Staterooms range from 200 to 484 sq. ft. and must have two twin beds that convert to make one queen bed. All feature a private bathroom and individual climate control.</th>
<th>Early Booking Price through June 27, 2014</th>
<th>Regular Price after June 27, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ocean-view, one large window, shower. Deck 3, Le Champollion, forward. (Limited availability)</td>
<td>$8,195</td>
<td>$9,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony, shower. Deck 3, Le Champollion, aft. (Limited availability)</td>
<td>$9,095</td>
<td>$10,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony, shower. Deck 3, Le Champollion, midship.</td>
<td>$10,195</td>
<td>$11,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private, partial wall balcony, shower. Deck 4, Le Lafayette, forward.</td>
<td>$10,895</td>
<td>$11,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony, shower or tub/shower. Deck 4, Le Lafayette, midship.</td>
<td>$11,595</td>
<td>$12,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony, shower. Deck 5, Le Normandie, forward.</td>
<td>$11,795</td>
<td>$12,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony, shower or tub/shower. Deck 5, Le Normandie, midship.</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
<td>$12,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony, shower or tub/shower. Deck 6, Le France.</td>
<td>$12,195</td>
<td>$13,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deluxe Suite II</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony, tub/shower and sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, Le France. (Limited availability)</td>
<td>$12,695</td>
<td>$13,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prestige Suite II</td>
<td>Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, two bathrooms: tub/shower and shower, large sitting area with sofa, two closets, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 6, Le France. (Limited availability)</td>
<td>$13,195</td>
<td>$14,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prestige Suite I</td>
<td>Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, two bathrooms: tub/shower and shower, large sitting area with sofa, two closets, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 6, Le France. (Limited availability)</td>
<td>$13,695</td>
<td>$14,695</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- An Owner’s Suite (Deck 6, Le France) is available upon request at a cost to be advised, on a first-come first-served basis.
- Singles are available in category 6 at $18,595 and in category 4 at $20,795 on or before June 27, 2014. Add $1,000 for reservations made after June 27, 2014.
- Taxes are an additional $795 per person and are subject to change.
- Round-trip airfare Buenos Aires/Ushuaia (internal program air) is $850 per person additional and subject to change.

*Prestige Suites I and II, capacities to be advised.
| Indicates one fixed Queen bed

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**The Smithsonian Difference**

- **Smithsonian Experts**—These inspiring scholars bring our destinations to life.
- **Small Groups**—Forge lasting friendships with like-minded travelers.
- **Stress-Free**—Our first-rate staff meticulously manages every aspect of each trip to ensure the highest quality.
- **Local Culture**—Enjoy authentic cuisine and travel in comfort and style, from unique lodgings in far-flung regions to charming hotels in well-traveled places.
- **The Extras**—Discover real value when you add up the experts, meals, and little luxuries we include as a matter of course.