

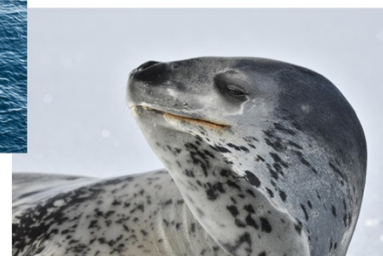
ANTARCTICA WEDDELL SEA EXPLORER

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 13, 2027

10% Early Bird Savings!

on Twin Window category

**Must book before March 27, 2026*



Betchart Expeditions Inc. Call 800-252-4910
www.BetchartExpeditions.com



Betchart Expeditions INC.

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THE BEST OF MAN AND NATURE WORLDWIDESM

ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION WEDDELL SEA EXPLORER

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 13, 2027

March 2 - 12, 2027 (voyage dates)



*We invite you to join us embark on the **Antarctica - Weddell Sea Voyage** from Ushuaia, Argentina, aboard the **M/V Plancius**, to visit one of the wildest and least-traveled places on the planet!*

Be part of a true Expedition. The great Weddell Sea not only features massive tabular icebergs, wildly dramatic landscapes, and fascinating historical sites, but it is also one of the best places in Antarctica for viewing iconic wildlife like whales, seals and many rarely seen seabirds.

The continental borders of the Weddell Sea are formed by huge floating sheets of ice. These ice-shelves produce the huge tabular ice-bergs that are so abundant in the Weddell Sea. Scientists have declared the waters of the Weddell Sea to be the clearest water of any sea on Earth, on par with distilled water.

The Weddell Sea is frequented by a large number of Orcas, Humpback, and Minke Whales as well as Leopard, Weddell, and Crabeater Seals. The area is also home to a large number of penguins, namely the Adelie Penguins - who have a colony of more than 100,000 breeding pairs - which nest on Paulet Island. Recently a colony of Emperor Penguins was also found nearby on Snowhill Island.

This is truly a trip of a lifetime!

Call for reservations! Phone (800) 252-4910 or Email: info@BetchartExpeditions.com

Betchart Expeditions Inc. - 17050 Montebello Road - Cupertino, CA 95014

VOYAGE ITINERARY

FEB 28/MAR 1 Depart home Sunday, Feb 28, 2027 on overnight flights. Arrive Buenos Aires Argentina on March 1. Take connecting flights from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia and overnight (*1 night hotel \$tba*).

MAR 2 Voyage Day 1: End of the world, start of a journey

Your voyage begins where the world ends. 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 Tierra del Fuego, and will sail down the mountain-fringed Beagle Channel towards Antarctica.

MAR 3/4 Voyage Days 2 – 3: Path of the polar explorers

Over the next two days on the Drake Passage, you will enjoy some of the same experiences encountered by the great polar explorers who first charted these regions: cool salt breezes, rolling seas, maybe even a fin whale spouting up sea spray.

After passing the Antarctic Convergence – Antarctica's natural boundary, formed when north-flowing cold waters collide with warmer sub-Antarctic seas – you are in the circum-Antarctic upwelling zone.

Not only does the marine life change, the avian life changes too. Wandering albatross, grey-headed albatross, black-browed albatross, light-mantled sooty albatross, cape pigeons, southern fulmars, Wilson's storm petrels, blue petrels, and Antarctic petrels are a few of the birds you might see.

MAR 5 Voyage Day 4: From Point Wild to the Weddell Sea

We will arrive early to the famous Point Wild, Elephant Island, where Shackleton's crew made their first landing after the loss of their ship, Endurance. This inhospitable spit of land is a favorite among our guests, and if conditions permit, we will offer activities around the point before setting off for the Weddell Sea.

MAR 6-9 Voyage Days 5 – 8: Entering the Weddell Sea

The great Weddell Sea features massive tabular icebergs, wildly dramatic landscapes, and fascinating historical sites. It is also one of the best places in Antarctica for viewing iconic wildlife like whales, seals, and rarely seen seabirds.

We may visit the following locations, depending on local conditions:

Antarctic Sound - Antarctic Sound is nicknamed "Iceberg Alley," as we often see enormous tabular icebergs here.

Brown Bluff - Possibly the most scenic location in the northern Antarctic Continent, Brown Bluff is characterized by sheer canyon walls, fallen boulders, and beautiful volcanic creations capped with ice.

Herbert Sound - We will focus our attention on the visually impressive areas of Naze Peninsula and Comb Ridge.

Devil Island - This island offers a magnificent advantage point for hikers willing to walk to the top of the hill. Melting ice sometimes forms a waterfall dropping from the cliffs close to Cape Well-met.

Erebus and Terror Gulf - Here we look for new activity opportunities and may visit Vega Island, experiencing the wilderness of Antarctica in its most remote places.

MAR 10/11 Voyage Days 9 – 10: Once more to familiar seas, familiar friends

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

MAR 12 Voyage Day 11: Arrive Ushuaia & Depart for Home

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. Flights must depart Ushuaia after 11:45 am. Upon arrival Buenos Aires, take connecting overnight flights home. **MAR 13: Arrive Home.**

Note: All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on ice, weather, and wildlife conditions. Landings are subject to site availabilities, permissions, and environmental concerns per IAATO regulations. Official sailing plans and landing slots are scheduled with IAATO prior to the start of the season, but the expedition leader determines the final plan. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises. The average cruising speed for our vessel is 10.5 knots.

COSTS & CONDITIONS

Voyage Fees: Are per person twin, triple, or quad share (depending on cabin category), cruise only, for 10 nights onboard *M/V Plancius*. All air fares and land arrangements are additional.

Prices are per person based on quad, triple, or twin share + air + pre/post hotel nights:

___ Quad Porthole	\$9,650 PP, based on 4 per cabin (upper & lower beds, 2 portholes)
___ Twin Porthole	\$11,900 PP, based on 2 per cabin (2 single beds, 2 portholes)
___ Twin Window	*\$11,100 PP , based on 2 per cabin *If booked by March 27, 2026 <i>*Early Bird Savings!</i> After 3/27/26 \$12,350 PP, based on 2 per cabin (2 single beds, 1 window)
___ Twin Deluxe	\$13,600 PP, based on 2 per cabin (2 single beds, sofa, 2 windows, fridge, coffee maker)
___ Superior Cabin	\$14,350 PP, based on 2 per cabin (1 double bed, sofa, 2 windows, fridge, coffee maker)

Singles: We encourage singles to register on a “twin share” basis or book in a quad or triple. Should you desire single accommodations, the supplement is 1.7 x the Twin rate.

Expedition Fee Includes: 10 nights accommodations on board ship; meals aboard the ship throughout the voyage including snacks, coffee and tea; shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac; use of rubber boots; program lectures by naturalists; leadership, and administration.

Expedition Fee Does Not Include:

Air fare to Ushuaia, roundtrip; pre voyage night in Ushuaia (highly recommended); any hotel nights; pre/post voyage transfers or tours; passport and visa expenses; government arrival and departure taxes; fuel surcharges; meals ashore; optional diving/kayak experiences; baggage, cancellation and personal insurance (which is mandatory); airline baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and communication charges; the customary gratuity to ship’s crew and naturalists (guidelines will be provided); other items of a personal nature.

Polar Diving Option: \$880 per person. You must be advanced and experienced in dry suit and cold water diving. Diving is subject to local ice and weather conditions. Group size: minimum 8. Inquire for details.

What to Expect: This expedition is planned for the travel enthusiast who would enjoy exploring Antarctica and the remote Weddell Sea. March is the beginning of autumn with a mean temperature of 28°F. Days are shorter with beautiful sunrises/sunsets. This expedition is physically demanding and you should be in general good health and able to walk short distances over muddy, wet, icy, uneven and rough terrain. Since you are traveling to a remote area without access to sophisticated medical facilities you must not join this expedition if you have a life-threatening condition. You may encounter rolling seas and wind while crossing the Drake Passage. Our goal on this itinerary is to explore the iconic wildlife of the Weddell Sea, but please keep in mind the polar regions are known for their unpredictability. The weather can change rapidly. There is always the chance conditions may alter the pre-planned route. The ship’s captain has the final word on any decision made with regard to the vessel’s itinerary, and it is understood that such decisions will be made in the interest of the safety of the vessel and all passengers on board. With this in mind, you will have a once-in-a-lifetime voyage of discovery and adventure.

Leadership: The expedition team of noted naturalist will provide a program of lectures, and insights into the polar region.

Reservations, Deposits & Payments: Please contact **Betchart Expeditions Inc.** to reserve a space:
Telephone: (408) 252-4910 or (800) 252-4910. Email: info@betchartExpeditions.com

Deposit of 25% of voyage fare is due to confirm your space.

Full Payment is Due at Betchart Expeditions Inc., 17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014 **no later than** October 31, 2026 (4 months prior to departure). **Full Payment by Check or Bank Wire only.** No credit cards.

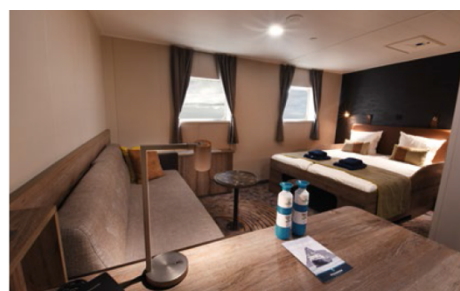
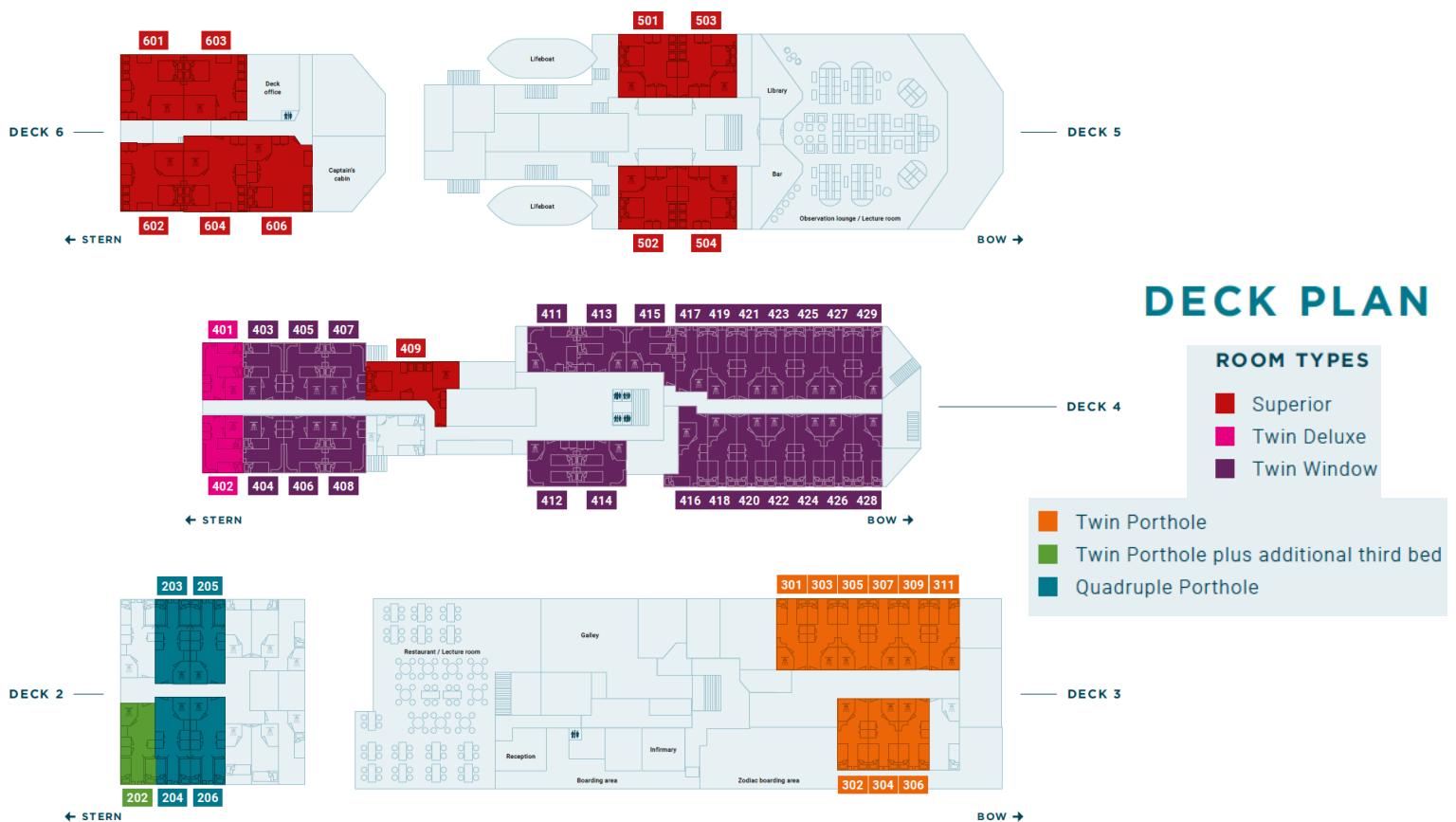
Cancellations & Refunds: Cancellations received at least 121 days prior to departure, 21% of the voyage fare is non-refundable. Within 120 days of departure there is no refund for any cancellation. Trip cancellation insurance will be offered. No refunds are made for unused services. All requests for cancellation must be made in writing.

Insurance. The ship’s operator, Oceanwide Expeditions, requires that all travelers have Emergency Evacuation and Medical Insurance for this Antarctica voyage in the unlikely case of a medical evacuation/repatriation.

Health: This expedition is physically demanding and you should be in general good health and able to walk short – medium distances over uneven and rough terrain. Since you are traveling to a remote area without access to sophisticated medical facilities you must not join this expedition if you have a life-threatening condition.

ABOUT THE SHIP

m/v Plancius was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and sailed as such until June 2004 when it was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. Plancius is a Dutch flagged completely rebuilt and converted passenger vessel, complying with the latest SOLAS- regulations, classed by Lloyd's Register in London. The name Plancius is a tribute to the predecessor of Oceanwide Expeditions (Plancius Foundation, 1981-1996), the first cruise operator on a yearly base in Spitsbergen, offering voyages with a small cruise vessel. Plancius is 'basecamp' for our activity program. Oceanwide Expeditions offers an exploratory educational travel program in the polar regions spending as much time ashore as possible. Special interest activities are available on selected voyages: kayaking, hiking, polar diving and Zodiac cruising. Please check if they are offered on your voyage. Comfortable and welcoming, but not overly luxurious, Plancius was made for explorers. The ship is spacious yet retains a small ship character, combining comfort & style with modern technology. The perfect platform for various polar expedition cruise activities, including being the base camp for active, adventure and wildlife-minded modern explorers. All cabins offer lower berths (either two single beds or one queen-size bed), except for quadruple cabins (two bunk beds). While aboard, you can enjoy the comforts of an onboard restaurant. In addition, an interior communal space boasting a combined lecture room, bar, and observation lounge is also open throughout your voyage - the perfect place for conversation or a warming drink. Large, full panoramic windows offer superb views of the polar world beyond the ship. Plancius has large open deck spaces with full walk-around possibilities, giving excellent opportunities to enjoy the scenery and wildlife. The ship is equipped with 10 Mark V inflatable Zodiacs, including 40 HP 4-stroke outboard engines. She has two gangways on her starboard side, ensuring swift Zodiac operation.



Superior cabins



Standard cabins

RESERVATIONS

#1818

Mail Reservation Form & Deposit Check to: Betchart Expeditions, 17050 Montebello Rd, Cupertino CA 95014

YES! I/We want to join the Antarctica Weddell Sea Explorer Voyage onboard *MV Plancius* March 2-12, 2027 offered by Betchart Expeditions Inc. Please reserve _____ space(s) and include a deposit of \$ _____ (25% of voyage fare, per person) payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust. I/we understand full payment is due no later than October 31, 2026 by check or wire.

Name(s) _____ Age _____ Sex _____

_____ Age _____ Sex _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Membership (please circle): AAAS Sigma Xi ACS Planetary Society

Accommodations Preference:

Prices are cruise only, per person based on twin share (or quad) + air + pre/post night arrangements:

Category:

_____ Quad Porthole	\$9,650 PP, based on 4 per cabin (upper & lower beds, 2 portholes)
_____ Twin Porthole	\$11,900 PP, based on 2 per cabin or _____ Solo \$20,230
_____ Twin Window	*\$11,100 PP , based on 2 per cabin or _____ Solo *\$18,870 *Early Bird Savings!
	*Must book by March 27, 2026
	After 3/27/26 \$12,350 PP, or _____ Solo \$20,995
_____ Twin Deluxe	\$13,600 PP, based on 2 per cabin or _____ Solo \$23,120
_____ Superior Cabin	\$14,350 PP, based on 2 per cabin or _____ Solo \$24,395

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Responsibility: Betchart Expeditions Inc. acts only as agent in booking passengers on this cruise program and with respect to transportation and hotels, and exercise every care possible. Operation of the ship is solely the responsibility of Oceanwide Expeditions, Betchart Expeditions Inc. acts only as agent for the suppliers providing air and other transportation and land services and assumes no responsibility, however caused, for your personal or property loss or damage in connection with any service. Betchart Expeditions Inc. can assume no liability for injury, damage, delay, loss, accident or irregularity in connection with the services of any airplane, ship, motorcoach, or any other conveyance used in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to substitute another leader of similar expertise, alternate ship, or to cancel any tour prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded with no further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. The price of the program is based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, or fuel increases will be passed on to participants. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. It is understood that the air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. ©2026 Betchart Expeditions Inc. preliminary 1/7/26. All rights reserved. Prices quoted are based on group participation, and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which passengers choose not to participate, including any optional excursions (if applicable and which at the discretion of the captain and expedition leader may or may not be utilized). It should be understood that refunds will not be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for any reason whatsoever. Oceanwide Expeditions (Operator hereafter) reserves the right to cancel any departure due to insufficient reservations up to eight weeks before the date of departure (passengers may be offered alternative cruise dates). Operator also reserves the right to cancel any departure up until the date of that departure due to force majeure, compelling reason, or other circumstances beyond the control of Operator that prevents the operation of the tour (this also includes governmental and administrative decisions). Operator or its agents are not responsible for any costs or penalties relating to air transport or other services that are cancelled. Operator is not liable for failure to provide the services or accommodations offered to the extent that such services or accommodations cannot be provided due to force majeure, delay in vessel completion, or other circumstances beyond its control. Passengers and staff members who participate in tours, operated by Operator, agree that any photographs or video, that include their person, may be used by Operator and its associates for promotional purposes. Passengers may not charge for their appearance in any photographs or video. By forwarding a deposit the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/her or other passengers. Operator reserves the right to cancel or withdraw any person as a member of a tour at any time. By purchasing this product you accept the above Terms and Conditions as well as all operator Terms & Conditions. In case you disagree to any of the Terms and Conditions of Operator you will not be able to take part in the expedition cruise. All rates are USD
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