

Scott & Shackleton's Antarctic Ross Sea Expedition

Dunedin to Dunedin | 21 nights aboard *Le Soléal* | 26 January 2026 per person in a Deluxe Stateroom with balcony on Deck 3 per person in a Prestige Stateroom with balcony on Deck 4





A voyage to the Ross Sea is an epic adventure exploring the least visited, wildest and historically significant destinations Antarctica has to offer. Regarded as the 'heart of Antarctica', it is undoubtedly one of the most pristine and untouched landscapes on Earth, accessible to only the privileged few.

The Ross Sea is the largest ocean wilderness left on our planet home to 12 whale species, 5 seal species and the world's largest colonies of Adélie penguins. Located as far south as one can go by sea, the Ross Sea became the launching point for the race to the South Pole during the 'Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration'. Your voyage will follow in the footsteps of the great explorers including James Clark Ross, Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton.

On route to and from the Ross Sea you will also have the opportunity to discover the prolific and unique flora and fauna of the NZ Subantarctic Islands.



LEAVING FROM NEW ZEALANDI



Highlights:

- Outings and shore visits in zodiac inflatables with a team of experienced naturalist guides.
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Macquarie Island and New Zealand's Subantarctic Islands (Campbell and the Snares islands).
- Visit the Ross Sea, the most pristine piece of ocean on earth.
- Follow in the footsteps of the heroic age of Antarctic exploration and have the opportunity to explore the historic huts of Scott, Shackleton and Borchgrevink.
- The opportunity to see 9 of the world's penguin species.
- Opportunity to view the Ross Ice shelf, the massive Dryglaski Ice Tongue and the phenomenal Scott Coast
- Gain an insight into the history and the diversity of flora and fauna from your expert expedition team.



26 January 2026 - Dunedin

Dunedin is New Zealand's oldest city and is often referred to as the Edinburgh of New Zealand. This city of the south, wears its Scottish heritage with pride. The city contains some of the best preserved Victorian and Edwardian architecture in the Southern Hemisphere. The Silverpeaks hinterland to the North West provides a picturesque backdrop and The Otago Peninsula, which lies within the city boundaries, has internationally renowned wildlife reserves, including the only mainland breeding colony of Northern Royal Albatross.

27 January 2026 - At sea

28 January 2026 - Campbell Island

Campbell Island is the most southerly of the five New Zealand subantarctic groups. Described by the English botanist Joseph Hooker as having a "flora display second to none outside the tropics." It is known for its megaherbs, herbaceous, perennial wildflowers 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. Campbell Island is also home to six species of albatross, and several critically endangered endemic birds including the Campbell Island teal and snipe. You will have the opportunity to undertake a guided walk on the Col Lyell Saddle boardwalk as well as undertake a zodiac tour around the coastline of Perseverance Harbour.

29 January 2026 - 31 January 2026 - At sea

1 February 2026 8 February 2026 - Ross Sea Region

The Ross Sea, the southernmost sea in the world, owes its name to Sir James Clark Ross, both a naturalist and a Royal Navy officer, who first explored the area in 1841 with HMS Erebus and HMS Terror. It is bounded on the east by Roosevelt Island and the Edward VII Peninsula in Mary Byrd Land, on the west by Ross Island and the coastal mountains of Victoria Land, and on the south by the Ross Ice Shelf, the largest ice shelf in Antarctica located some 320 km from the geographic South Pole. The history and treasures of the world's ultimate marine sanctuary will be revealed during this extraordinary expedition.

You will be able, weather and ice conditions permitting, to discover several emblematic sites in the region. Among the possible stopovers, Cape Adare, at the northern end of the Borchgrevink coast, home to the world's largest colony of Adélie penguins. We will attempt to reach Terra Nova Bay where the Italian and South Korean scientific stations are located to the north and the Drygalski Ice Tongue to the south. Dating back at least 4000 years, it extends 70 km offshore from the David Glacier and is 24 km at its widest point. On the Inexpressible Island, discover the exceptional survival conditions of a group of six men of the Terra Nova expedition, led by Robert Falcon Scott (1910-1913), forced to winter in a cave dug in the ice, today classified as an Antarctica historical monument. On Ross Island, follow in the footsteps of the polar explorers Sir James

Clark Ross and discover Sir Ernest Shackleton's hut, classified as an Antarctica historical monument. Built at Cape Royds during the British expedition Nimrod (1907-1909), it proudly stands at the bottom of Mount Erebus. Sixty years earlier, while Captain James Ross was trying to reach the South Magnetic Pole, he discovered Franklin Island, located 130 km east of Cape Hickey in Victoria Land. He named it after Sir John Franklin, Arctic explorer and governor of the territory of present-day Tasmania. You will be offered there, a privileged position to observe Adélie penguins in their daily ballet as well as Weddell seals, resting on the shore.

9 February 2026 - 11 February 2026 - At sea

12 February 2026 - Macquarie Island

Long celebrated as one of the wonder spots of the world, Macquarie Island is an island of great beauty and outstanding natural diversity, a breeding place for more than 3.5 million seabirds, most of which are penguins. There are four species breeding on Macquarie Island: Royals, Kings, Gentoos and Rock Hoppers. There are also three types of fur seals and one seventh of the world's population of elephant seals breeding on the Island. In 1948 The Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) established its expedition headquarters on Macquarie Island. If time and weather permit, guests will have the opportunity to land ashore and view the prolific wildlife that resides here.

13 February 2026 - At sea

14 February 2026 - The Snares

Amongst the Subantarctic Islands of New Zealand, the Snares have the distinction of being the only forested group without introduced mammals, not even mice. Consequently, it is a remarkable haven for wildlife. The island boasts more nesting seabirds than the entire realm of the British Isles. Over 2 million Sooty Shearwaters breed here in the summer months. Four species of Albatross are listed as breeding on the Snares along with 35,000 endemic Snares crested penguins. There are also approximately 1,000 New Zealand fur seals and 500 New Zealand sea lions. Landing on the Snares is prohibited. If time and weather permit, you will have the opportunity to explore the coastal environments and view the prolific wildlife from our fleet of zodiac.

15 February 2026 - At sea

16 February 2026 - Dunedin

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*Pricing is in Australian Dollar, per person based on twin share. 1 stateroom is available for a solo traveler, with NO surcharge. Cruise fare is all-inclusive. Terms and Conditions apply, contact Kerry Graham at The Private Travel Company for more information. Photographs © StudioPONANT