



SKI LAST DEGREE

89°S To **90°S**

Ski the last 60 nautical miles (69 mi/111 km) to reach the most southerly point on Earth and experience firsthand the challenges faced by early explorers.

Ski Last Degree captures the essence of polar exploration in an incredible twelve day expedition.

You'll witness the stark beauty and silence of the high polar plateau, feel the physical demands of sled hauling, enjoy the bonds of friendship built through shared challenge, and know that you have arrived at the ultimate destination – the South Pole – through your own effort and determination.



ITINERARY ❄️



Arrival Day

Punta Arenas, Chile



Pre-departure Days

Gear Check, Welcome and Safety Briefing



Day 1

Fly to Antarctica



Day 2-3

Expedition Preparations



Day 4

Fly to 89°S and Start Skiing



Day 5-9

Ski to the Pole



Day 10

Arrive at the Pole



Day 11

Return to Union Glacier



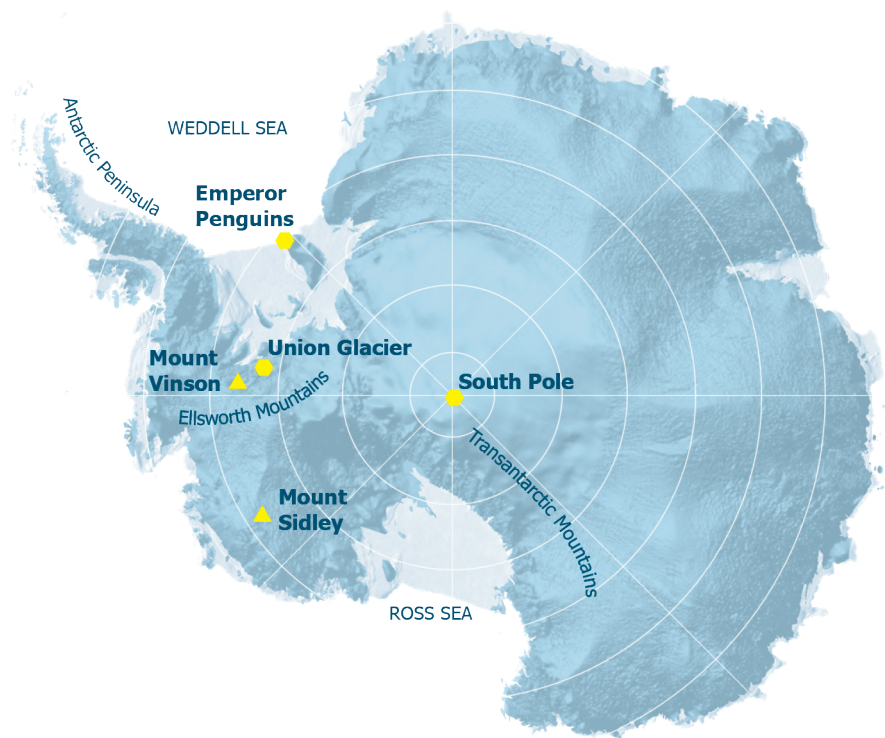
Day 12

Return to Chile



Flexible Departure Day

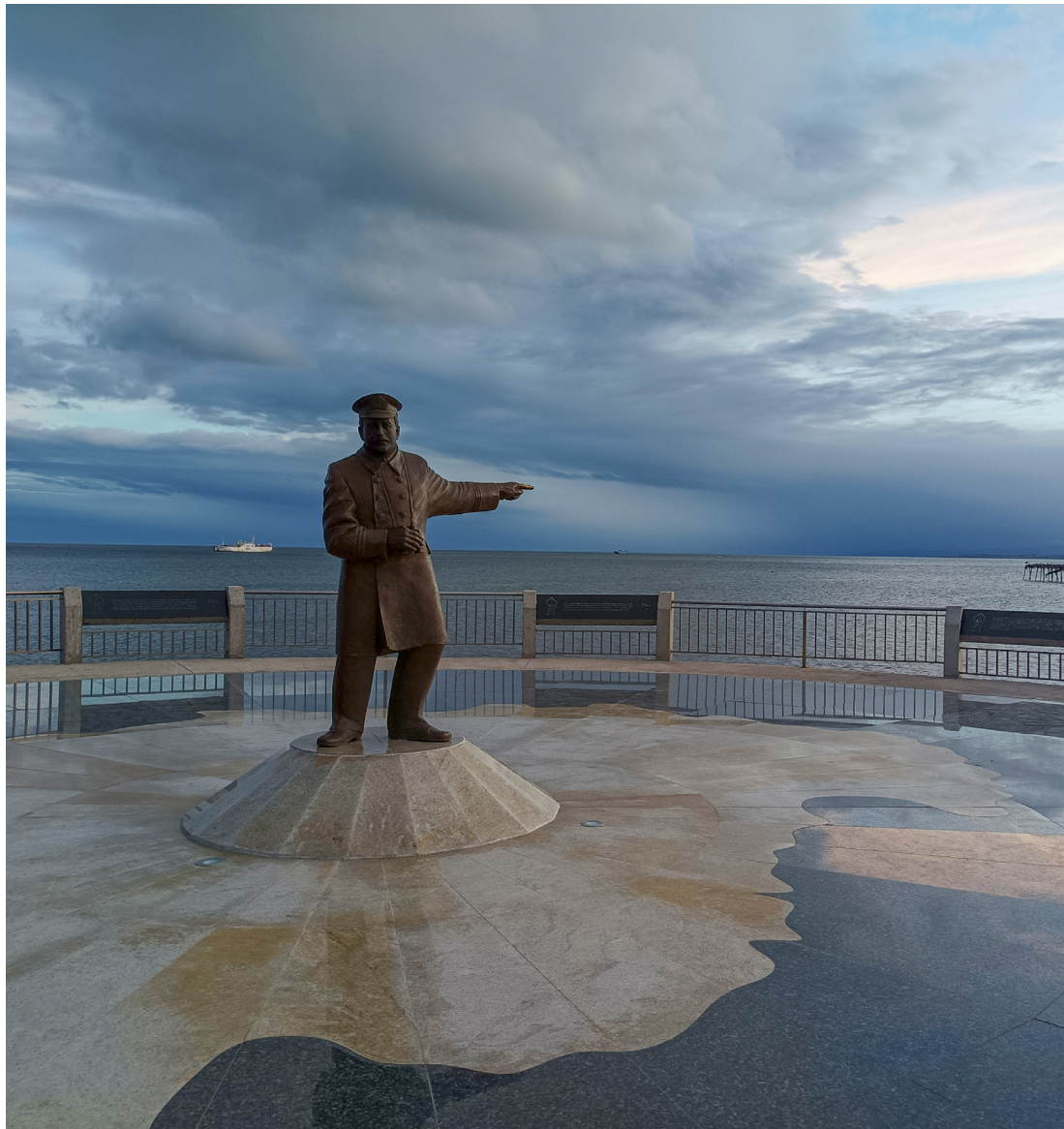
Fly Home



❄️ All itineraries are subject to change based on weather and flight conditions.



ARRIVAL IN PUNTA ARENAS



Known as the gateway to Antarctica, all of our flights depart from the Chilean city of Punta Arenas.

We ask you to arrive in Punta Arenas at least three nights prior to your trip start date, to allow time to complete the pre-departure process. This also provides a buffer for flight and luggage delays should your travels to Chile not go as planned. We do not hold Antarctic flights for delayed passengers or luggage.

We will be waiting for you in the terminal when you arrive at Punta Arenas airport and will transport you to your hotel. The following day, you will have an individual Gear Check at your hotel, where we will review the personal clothing and equipment you will need in Antarctica.

The day before your Antarctic flight there is a Welcome and Safety Briefing in the ALE Office. Here we will explain the flight dispatch process, review environmental and safety procedures for your stay in Antarctica, and provide the latest weather updates.



DAY 1 FLY TO ANTARCTICA

At the Punta Arenas airport, you will check-in for your flight, pass through normal Airport Security then board our chartered jet for the 4 hour flight to Antarctica. Our route crosses the Drake Passage, then follows the west side of the Antarctic Peninsula and the spine of the Ellsworth Mountains. We land on a naturally occurring blue-ice runway on Union Glacier where you will take your first steps in Antarctica.

Climb aboard one of our specially-adapted vans for the 5 mi (8km) shuttle to our main camp. Our friendly staff will provide a welcome tour of camp and show you to your tent.





DAY
2-3

EXPEDITION PREPARATIONS

You will spend a couple of days at Union Glacier to test your clothing and equipment and practice sled hauling on a mini-expedition outside of camp with your team. Then you'll pack your sleds, ready for departure.



DAY
4

FLY TO
89°S

Fly by ski aircraft to 89° South, 60 nautical miles (69 mi/111 km) from the South Pole. As the aircraft disappears from view, you'll be struck by the stark beauty and emptiness surrounding you. There is nothing but snow and wide horizons in all directions.

Your team will pack sleds and ski a short distance before setting up camp for your first night on expedition. You have just arrived at altitude and it is important that your pace is slow during this initial ski.



DAY
5-9

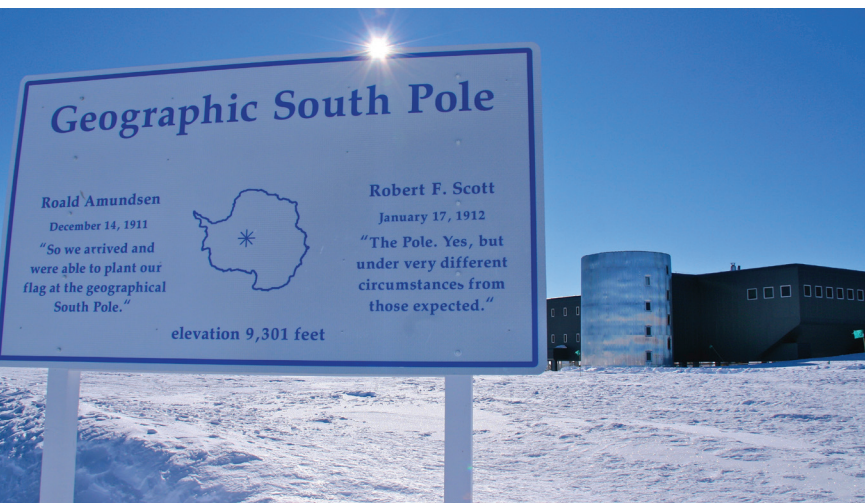
SKI TO THE POLE

Continuing your trek south, you'll ski longer periods each day as you acclimatize to the cold and altitude. The elevation here is 9,300ft (2,835m) but to your body it will feel more like 10,500ft (3,200m) due to the lower atmospheric pressure at the Poles. Throughout the expedition you'll notice the altitude's impact on your breathing and your stamina.

This journey is physically demanding. Your sled will weigh approximately 100lb (45kg) and the snow may be sculpted by the wind into steep ridges called sastrugi, adding to the challenge. A rigorous pre-expedition training program and gradual acclimatization are essential for success.

A 'typical' day starts with breakfast at 8am and the team packed up and skiing by 10am. You'll make a series of 1 hour marches, stopping for 5-10 minutes each hour for a brief rest and snack break. You'll travel until about 7pm and then stop to set up camp and enjoy dinner together. As on all expeditions, success is a team effort, with everyone helping to pitch tents and prepare meals.

Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station may be visible from around 15mi (24km) away but those last miles can seem the longest and may take another 1-2 days of travel.



DAY 10 ARRIVE AT THE POLE

Finally, you'll take the last steps to your goal and reach the most southerly point on Earth – the Geographic South Pole! Here, beneath your feet, all 360 lines of longitude meet and the ice is almost 10,000 ft (3,000 m) thick.

Feel the satisfaction of having arrived here under your own power and reflect on how it must have felt to stand in this place over one hundred years ago, with only the sound of the wind and an endless expanse of white stretching northward in all directions.

ALE has a seasonal camp at the South Pole. You may camp there overnight, until your pick-up by ski aircraft.

The South Pole is an Antarctic Specially Managed Area (ASMA #5). A management plan directs all activities in the Area and specific guidelines apply to all non-governmental visits. We ask for your cooperation in respecting visitor guidelines during any time we may spend at the South Pole.

DAY
11

RETURN TO UNION GLACIER

Our field staff will stay in close contact with Union Glacier Camp to identify the best 'weather window' for your return flight.

A celebration event, either at the Pole or at Union Glacier Camp, offers an opportunity to share stories and celebrate your achievement. You will also receive a certificate to commemorate your Ski Last Degree Expedition.



DAY
12

RETURN TO CHILE

When weather and runway conditions permit, our intercontinental, passenger aircraft will arrive at Union Glacier to transport you back to Chile. Upon your arrival our staff will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel.



FLY HOME

Your flight home concludes this remarkable adventure. We recommend keeping a flexible schedule due to the possibility of weather delays. Allow yourself to savor your experience without the pressure of other commitments.





Weather

Temperatures ranging from -13 °F to -40 °F (-25 °C to -40 °C) with wind-chill down to -50 °F (-50 °C).



Activity Level

Extremely Strenuous—skiing up to 9 hours per day while pulling a 100lb (45 kg) sled at a physiological altitude of 11,000ft (3,350m).



Requirements

Skiing and cold weather camping experience as well as a high level of fitness. Participants must undertake training for several months prior to the expedition.



What's Included

- Airport transfers in Punta Arenas, Chile
- Round trip flight to Antarctica from Punta Arenas
- Flight to 89°S from Union Glacier
- Flight to Union Glacier from South Pole
- Meals and tented accommodation in Antarctica
- Camping and skiing equipment
- Expedition Guide
- Celebration event and Certificate of Achievement
- Checked luggage up to 55lb (25 kg)



Not Included

- Insurance coverage—personal, medical, evacuation, or otherwise
- Commercial flights to and from Punta Arenas
- Airport transfers outside of Punta Arenas
- Meals and accommodation in Punta Arenas
- Additional flights within Antarctica
- Vehicle pick-up and transfer to South Pole if you are unable to complete the expedition
- Personal equipment and clothing
- Expenses incurred due to delays
- Luggage over 55lb (25 kg)
- Satellite phone charges



Weather Delay Advisory

All itineraries are subject to change based on weather and flight conditions. Every effort will be made to keep to the scheduled itinerary and flights will depart as soon as weather and runway conditions permit. Our staff will provide you with regular updates in the event of a delay.

Please understand that delays are common in Antarctic travel. For this reason we advise you not to plan any important meetings, functions, or other trips for at least one week following your scheduled return from Antarctica. We strongly suggest that you purchase a full-fare, flexible airline ticket that easily permits date changes without penalty.