Have you ever wondered what it’s like to be first? The first to attempt a new route that has never been climbed before? Climb Antarctica is truly the continent’s best kept secret, promising unlimited terrain and stunning scenery in the most remote and pristine place on Earth!

Explore the virtually untouched alpine peaks of the Heritage Range, cradled within the Ellsworth Mountains. Take on steep ice couloirs, classic ridge traverses, icy crests, rock pyramids, and hidden valleys. The Heritage Range has the breadth and depth of terrain to suit any climber’s level of experience.

Over the last few seasons, our guests have made some amazing first ascents including Mount Dolence, Linder Peak, the north face of Mount Rossman, and Mount Sporli, the highest peak in the range. It’s no coincidence this is our guides’ favorite trip.
**ITINERARY**

**Arrival Day**
Punta Arenas, Chile

**Pre-departure Day**
Luggage Pick-Up & Briefing

**Day 1**
Fly to Antarctica

**Day 2-4**
Expedition Preparations

**Day 5-11**
Climbing Expedition

**Day 12**
Return to Chile

**Flexible Departure Day**
Fly Home

*Subject to change based on weather and flight conditions.*
We ask you to arrive in Punta Arenas, Chile at least **two full days prior** to your scheduled Antarctic flight in order to fully prepare you for your upcoming experience. These days also allow a buffer for flight and luggage delays should your travels to Chile not go as scheduled. We do not hold Antarctic flights for delayed passengers or luggage.

**Do not forget to collect your checked luggage in Santiago, before clearing customs!** Upon arrival in Chile, you will pass through immigration, collect your checked luggage, go through customs, and then go to the 3rd floor of the terminal and re-check your bags for your domestic flight to Punta Arenas. If your luggage does not arrive, complete a missing form for lost luggage before leaving the Santiago airport.

Upon arrival at Presidente Carlos Ibáñez del Campo International Airport (PUQ), our representative, holding an ALE sign, will be waiting for you at the exit of the luggage claim area and will transport you to your hotel. **Please notify our Punta Arenas team if you are delayed or your arrival time changes:**

- **Guest Services Manager**
  - guests.punta@antarctic-logistics.com
  - +56 9 6832 7472

- **Guest Transport Services**
  - +56 9 9640 0135

- **Office Address**
  - Calle Bernardo O’Higgins 568

You will receive a Welcome Pack which includes your **Gear Check** time, your **Luggage Pick-Up** time, and the time of the **Welcome & Safety Briefing**. These events are required and very important steps in preparing you for arrival in Antarctica.

**Gear Check**

We will arrange a specific time to come to your hotel and review your personal clothing and equipment. Please lay out all of the items on our **Required Clothing and Equipment List** in your hotel room so we can go through each item with you. We will help sort the items to pack in your checked luggage vs. your carry-on bag and what items to leave behind in Punta Arenas.
PRE-DEPARTURE DAY

Luggage Preparations

Keep the following requirements in mind as you prepare your luggage:

- All luggage must comply with international air transport regulations.
- Fuels or other hazardous substances are prohibited on flights to Antarctica.
- Spare or loose lithium batteries are prohibited in checked luggage and must be packed in your carry-on.
- For the safety of our staff, individual bags must not weigh more than 55 lb (25 kg).

On the morning before your Antarctic flight, we will come to your hotel at your scheduled Luggage Pick-Up time. Be ready in the lobby with ALL of the luggage you will be taking to Antarctica including checked luggage and items that will be carried on. We will weigh everything but will only collect your checked luggage at this time.

You will need to separate your luggage into three categories: Checked Luggage, Carry-on Luggage, and Left Luggage.

Checked Luggage

Checked luggage is collected the day before your Antarctic flight in order to preload the aircraft so it is ready to depart as soon as the weather is suitable. Keep in mind, you will not have access to your checked luggage until it is delivered to your tent in Antarctica, even if the flight is delayed. Do not put anything in your checked luggage that you might need during your stay in Punta Arenas, on the flight, or for the first few hours in Antarctica.

Your checked luggage allowance is 55 lb (25 kg). Any checked luggage in excess of this amount will be charged at $34 USD per lb ($75 USD per kg). You can pay in US cash or we can invoice you for the excess luggage. Carry-on luggage and clothing worn aboard the aircraft are not included in your checked luggage allowance.

CARRY-ON ITEMS

*Do NOT pack these items in your checked luggage

- Passport
- Medications
- Cameras
- Spare lithium batteries
- Perishable food
- Sunscreen and sunglasses
- Clothing for your arrival in Antarctica

Carry-on Luggage

Pack all of your essential personal belongings in your carry-on. The Ilyushin-76 does not have overhead bins, so your carry-on bag must fit below the seat in front of you. Carry-on luggage is restricted to 18” x 16” x 10” (46cm x 41cm x 26cm). Carry-on items that do not fit under the seat will be gate checked and may result in additional fees.

We recommend wearing the boots and outer clothing you will need for your arrival in Antarctica to board the aircraft. The temperature on board the aircraft will be adjusted accordingly, so don’t worry about getting too hot.
Camera Equipment
If you are bringing a camera pack that is larger than the carry-on size limit or as a 2nd carry-on, it will be considered part of your checked luggage allowance, and it will need to be weighed at the luggage pick-up. You will keep the pack with you to board the aircraft but once on board, your camera pack will be stored behind the last row of passenger seats. You may not have access to your camera pack during the flight. If you want to take pictures during the flight, keep that camera with you. Remember to retrieve your camera pack before disembarking the aircraft in Antarctica.

Left Luggage
You can leave luggage in Punta Arenas if there are items you do not need in Antarctica but we do not recommend leaving valuables. We will provide Left Luggage Tags with a tear-off claim receipt. Please give the bottom portion of the tag to an ALE staff member as you board the bus for your Antarctic flight. In the event you stay in a different hotel upon your return, our staff will need this claim receipt to move your left luggage for you. ALE is not responsible for lost or stolen luggage.

Welcome and Safety Briefing
The evening before your Antarctic flight, you are invited to our office for an important safety briefing. Here, we will describe the flight dispatch process, update you on the current weather, and prepare you for arrival at Union Glacier. Please stay to enjoy hors d’oeuvres and pisco sours served over Antarctic ice with your fellow travelers. And don’t forget to take your boarding pass and commemorative cocktail glass with you!
We will call you at your hotel in the morning to advise you of current conditions in Antarctica. If the weather is suitable for our flight, we will pick you up at your hotel within the hour. Please meet us in the lobby with hotel bills paid, ready to board the bus.

At the Punta Arenas airport, we board our chartered jet for the 4¼ 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 (8 km) shuttle to our main camp. Our friendly staff will provide a welcome tour of camp and show you to your tent.

*Every effort will be made to keep to the scheduled flight date and we will depart as soon as weather and runway conditions permit. Please understand that delays are common in Antarctic travel. All flights are dependent on weather, aircraft serviceability, and local conditions. Our staff will stay in close contact with you and will provide you with regular flight updates.
Your climbing team will spend the first few days at Union Glacier brushing up on skills and getting acclimated to the Antarctic conditions. You’ll practice rope work, crevasse rescue, navigation, weather observations, and polar camping skills. During this period, you will also discuss and plan your objectives with your guide and pack your equipment to ready for departure.

While based in Union Glacier Camp, you may also have time to join an excursion to one of the following destinations:

**Elephant’s Head**
Ride in one of our wheeled vehicles to this dramatic marble buttress overlooking the blue-ice runway. Geology lovers will be delighted to find this is a hotspot for ichnofossils. Our experienced guides can help you navigate by GPS to known trace fossils or accompany you on a mission to discover new ones. For photographers, beautiful ice pools and moraines offer endless opportunities to capture close-up frozen formations or wide angle glacial landscapes. Hikers can trek up to the base of Elephant’s Head or all the way to the top of Rhodes Bluff for panoramic views of Union Glacier and the Heritage Range.
Buchanan Hills
Board our one-of-a-kind Tucker Bus, a custom designed tracked vehicle, for the scenic drive to the remote Buchanan Hills. You’ll arrive at a high pass that offers expansive views of Union Glacier as it flows into Constellation Inlet. Higgins Nunatak pokes through the ice, like an atoll in a frozen ocean. For the fit and adventurous, there are two easy hiking routes that require no prior experience and grant you the rare opportunity to summit a peak in the heart of Antarctica.

Drake Icefall
Named in the 1960s after geologist Benjamin Drake IV, this impressive icefall tumbles off the polar plateau into Union Glacier. Winds from the South Pole carve huge waves into the blue-ice and polish the surface into a high shine.

Charles Peak Windscoop
Discover the power of wind on ice as you wander through a sparkling turquoise corridor. If you’re truly adventurous, this is a prime place to try ice climbing with one of our experienced guides. For the less vertically inclined, you can rock hunt to your heart’s content. Just remember to leave them in place, as nothing may be removed from Antarctica.

The Beach at Rossman Cove
Another spectacular setting for blue-ice photography and panoramic views! Take cross-country skis with you or a picnic lunch and enjoy Antarctica’s version of a glacial beach getaway.

If you’d prefer to stay closer to camp, we have a variety of activities for all abilities. You can check out a pair of cross-country skis or a fat-tire bike and take a spin around our groomed 10K loop or you can enjoy a cup of tea, an Antarctic book, or fun game in our camp library.

In the evenings, we regularly offer lectures and films tailored to your experience.
It’s time to explore Antarctica as it should be, untracked and pristine. Peaks, ridges, and canyons await and your itinerary is up to you and your guide. Together you’ll develop an expedition plan to match your skills and interests. You can do local day trips and return home to Union Glacier Camp each evening for dinner, or you can set out on a multi-day expedition to explore many of the valleys and peaks in the Heritage Range.

Routes vary from technical ascents and easy snow climbs to magnificent ridge traverses with views over the Ronne Ice Shelf and Polar Plateau.

Each experience is unique and the opportunities for exploration are endless. Only a handful of people have traversed this remote region and you may be the first person to attempt a new route and marvel at the view below.

Once your climbing dreams are fulfilled, you’ll return to Union Glacier Camp to enjoy a celebration meal and toast your achievements!
When weather and runway conditions permit, our intercontinental aircraft will arrive at Union Glacier to transport you back to Chile. Our staff will meet you at the airport and transfer you back to your hotel.

We recommend booking your flight home one week after your return Antarctic flight. If you purchase a full-fare ticket, most airlines will allow you to move your departure date. It is important to give yourself a buffer as delays are common in Antarctic travel. Our Punta Arenas team can provide a list of local tour operators and excursions if you wish to explore Chile before you return home.

When it is time for your flight home, our staff will provide transportation from your hotel to the Punta Arenas airport.
Activity Level
Strenuous—vigorous activity at altitudes up to 9800 ft (3000 m), sleeping in basic field camps.

Weather
Possible severe storms with temperatures ranging from -10°F to 25°F (-23°C to -4°C).

What’s Included
• Airport transfers in Punta Arenas, Chile
• Round trip flight to Antarctica from Punta Arenas
• Meals and tented accommodation in Antarctica
• Group camping and climbing equipment
• Mountain Guide
• Celebration dinner and Certificate of Achievement
• Checked luggage up to 55 lb (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
• Personal equipment and clothing
• Expenses incurred due to delays
• Luggage over 55 lb (25 kg)
• Satellite phone charges