

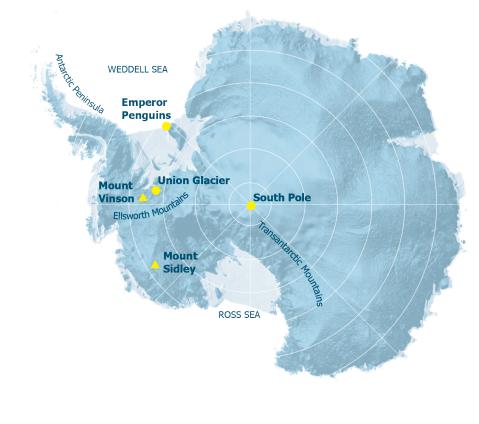
# SOUTH POLE OVERNIGHT THREE GLACIERS RETREAT

### WAKE UP AT The south pole

**Combine** the ultimate comfort of our Three Glaciers Retreat with a night spent at 90°S. Fly to the Geographic South Pole, the holy grail of polar explorers, and camp overnight at the World's Southernmost Resort. Below your feet, all 360 lines of longitude meet and in just a few steps you can walk around the world!

History and modern science converge as you take photographs at the Ceremonial Pole, surrounded by flags of the Antarctic Treaty signatory nations, and just steps away from Amundsen-Scott South Pole station. Your overnight stay at our private camp allows you ample time to reflect on your surroundings and experience this special place on Earth.





## **ITINERARY**\*



**Arrival Day** Punta Arenas, Chile

**Pre-departure Days** Gear Check, Welcome and Safety Briefing

**Day 1** Fly to Antarctica



DAY

Day 2-6 Explore Three Glaciers



Flexible Overnight Fly to the South Pole

day 7

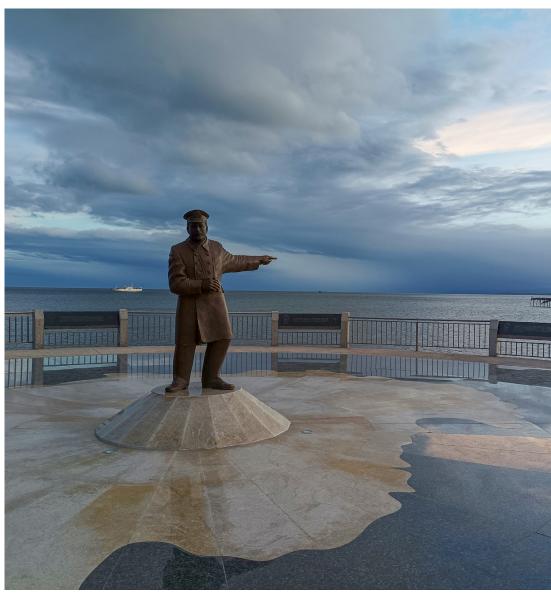
Day 7 Return to Chile



Flexible Departure Day Fly Home

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





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. If you have requested any rental items, they will be issued from our warehouse.

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.







### 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 (8 km) shuttle to our main camp. Our friendly staff will provide a tour of Union Glacier Camp, outfit you with skis or any other recreational gear you may want to use during your stay.

When you're ready for the final leg of your journey, board our Twin Otter for the scenic 15-minute flight to Three Glaciers Retreat. Celebrate your arrival with a champagne toast and settle into your personal suites, as our talented chefs put the finishing touches on a special welcome dinner.

If weather prevents flying to Three Glaciers, you may travel overland, or overnight at Union Glacier Camp until conditions improve.





Wake up on your first morning in the heart of Antarctica and enjoy a hearty breakfast to fuel a day of exploration. Our meteorologists will carefully monitor the weather conditions and find the best day for your South Pole Overnight.

In the meantime, take advantage of this magnificent setting where the opportunities for adventure are almost endless. Our experienced guides will tailor each day to suit your preferences and the weather. Excursions around Three Glaciers can include any of the following destinations or activities:

#### **Sporli Col**

Snowmobile below the stunning cliffs of Mount Sporli to the foot of Sporli Col. A short hike takes you up the col to Larson Valley Overlook where you'll have fantastic views of Antarctica's highest mountain range. This spot is also ideal for downhill skiing, with expansive views of Antarctica. For backcountry skiers looking to 'earn their turns', the col is a scenic 2-hour skin from Three Glaciers.

#### **Larson Valley**

Travel over the Schneider Glacier by snowmobile or enjoy the terrain from the comfort of our heated Tucker Sno-Cat. This landscape is a photographer's dream with views across the Ellsworth Mountains, all the way to Mount Vinson, Antarctica's highest peak. Pass the Mhire Spur and journey into the secluded Larson Valley towards Hall Peak. The peaks in this valley showcase impressive geological folds and create the perfect setting for a picnic lunch or a climber's base camp.





#### **Drake Icefall**

Depart Three Glaciers for an overland journey towards Union Glacier aboard one of our Tucker Sno-Cats or snowmobiles. After a scenic lunch-stop, your traverse will continue on to the 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. The ridges of this frozen sea of ice tower high above your head and deliver brilliant photos of the polar landscape.

#### **Charles Windscoop**

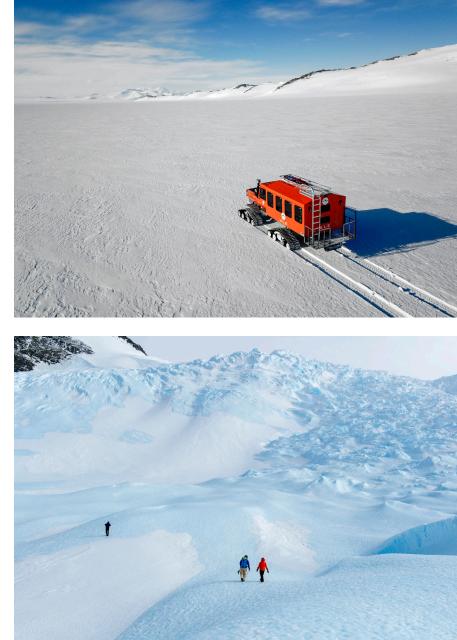
Discover the power of wind on ice as you wander through a sparkling turquoise corridor. If you're truly adventurous, this is a prime place to try ice climbing with one of our experienced guides. For the less vertically inclined, you can rock hunt to your heart's content. Just remember to leave them in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

#### **Custom Adventures**

This corner of the Heritage Range has something for everyone, no matter your skill level or prior experience. Our guides can lead you on spectacular treks across cols or take you up a local peak for your first Antarctic summit! For downhill skiers, we'll seek out prime slopes and the best powder for carving fresh tracks. Or take advantage of the perfect hill behind Three Glaciers for some quick turns. If you'd prefer to stick to the groomed trails, grab cross-country skis or a fat-tire bike for a tour through stunning scenery. Looking for a bit more speed? Follow our guides on a snowmobile tour across glaciers, into hidden valleys, and over mountain cols.

#### Dine, Wine, & Recline

Want to relax? That's our specialty! Let us pour the wine as you breathe in the absolute quiet and gorgeous panoramas from one of our secluded viewing platforms. Take advantage of our cozy lounge and enjoy a cup of tea, a polar book, or a fun game on the comfy sofa. In the evenings, we can offer lectures and films tailored to your specific interests.











Once weather conditions permit, you will board our ski aircraft and head for the southernmost point on Earth!

The flight takes 4 to 5 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours depending on the aircraft, the shortest flight-time fom any private camp. En route, you will fly over the high, polar plateau, viewing wind affected snow called sastrugi, crevasse fields, and an endless expanse of white. As you near 90° South, you will catch sight of Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station, a cluster of buildings surrounded by snow and sky.

We land on a groomed ski-way and you'll deplane near the South Pole marker. Here all 360 lines of longitude meet and beneath your feet the ice is almost 10,000 ft (3000 m) thick! You have joined an exclusive group of people who have journeyed this far south on our planet. Congratulations!







Our overnight stay offers a relaxed pace to experience this unique destination. There will be plenty of time for photos at both the Geographic and Ceremonial Poles, as well as time for reflection. Imagine how it must have felt to stand here a century ago, with only the sound of the wind and an endless expanse of white stretching northward in all directions.

A .6 mi (1 km) walk brings you to our private South Pole Camp. Enjoy a hot meal prepared by one of our talented chefs and mingle with your fellow explorers in the large, heated dining tent. Depending on when you visit, you may also get the chance to greet ski teams just completing their journey to the Pole. After a momentous day, climb inside your heated tent and get snuggled up for a southerly snooze at 90°S.

Be prepared for extreme cold and the effects of altitude during your stay. South Pole temperatures range from -31° to -13°F (-35° to -25°C) and even the slightest breeze can quickly freeze exposed skin. Wear warm layers and cover your hands and face completely when outside.

The physiological altitude (how high it feels) at the South Pole is roughly 11,000 ft (3300 m). You may feel the effects of altitude, including shortness of breath and mild headache. Take it slow and steady to help your body cope with these unfamiliar conditions.

One of our experienced medics accompanies all South Pole flights and is ready to assist you should you have any issues with the cold or altitude.

The next morning, you'll pack up for the return flight to Three Glaciers Retreat where you'll celebrate your achievement and receive a certificate to commemorate your South Pole Overnight Experience in Antarctica!

If weather prevents flying to Three Glaciers, you may travel overland, or overnight at Union Glacier Camp until conditions improve.





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.



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

Possible severe storms with temperatures down to -40  $^{\circ}$ F (-40  $^{\circ}$ C).



#### Activity Level

Moderate to Strenuous—light walking on uneven snow and ice at a physiological altitude of 11,000 ft (3300 m); option to hike or cross-country ski at your own pace.



#### What's Included

- Airport transfers in Punta Arenas, Chile
- Round trip flight to Antarctica from Punta Arenas
- Round trip flight to South Pole
- Meals and tented accommodation in Antarctica
- Antarctic guides and lecturer
- Celebration event and Certificate of Achievement
- Checked luggage up to 55 lb (25 kg)
- Sleeping bag for South Pole Camp

#### 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



#### 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.







# SOUTH POLE

#### Accommodations

Our tented camp at the South Pole is designed to provide as much comfort and security as possible given the extreme environment. You will be sleeping in Arctic Oven tents. These double-walled, heated tents are designed to withstand Antarctic conditions. We provide cots, padded sleeping mats sleeping bags and pillows.

#### Facilities

Our South Pole Camp toilets are surprisingly comfortable and private. Housed in a tent and similar to those at Union Glacier Camp, we clean them regularly and provide hand sanitizer in each. There are no showers at our South Pole Camp. We recommend bringing Wet Wipes or one of our staff can show you how to take a "Snow Shower," if you are feeling brave.

#### Meals

Meals are prepared by one of our talented chefs and can include breakfasts of pancakes, bacon, and oatmeal, lunches of warm soups and cold meats and cheeses, afternoon snacks, and fantastic evening meals. Beverages include hot drinks, juice, beer and wine. Meals are served in a large heated dining tent and are open to expedition groups and guests to enjoy together.

#### Charging and Power

Limited charging facilities are available at the South Pole Camp and two types of outlets are available: USB and 120V A/C (North American Type A or B plugs).

#### **Medical Support**

Our field guides all hold advanced first aid certification, are trained in emergency response protocols, and carry comprehensive first aid kits. Additional support is available from our medics at both our South Pole and Union Glacier Camps.

#### South Pole ASMA #5

The South Pole has been designated as an Antarctic Specially Managed Area (ASMA #5) to conserve the environment, scientific and historical values of the area. 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.