



## 2023 ANTARCTIC PENINSULA ADVENTURE CRUISE OCTOBER 18-30, 2023

### Welcome Aboard!

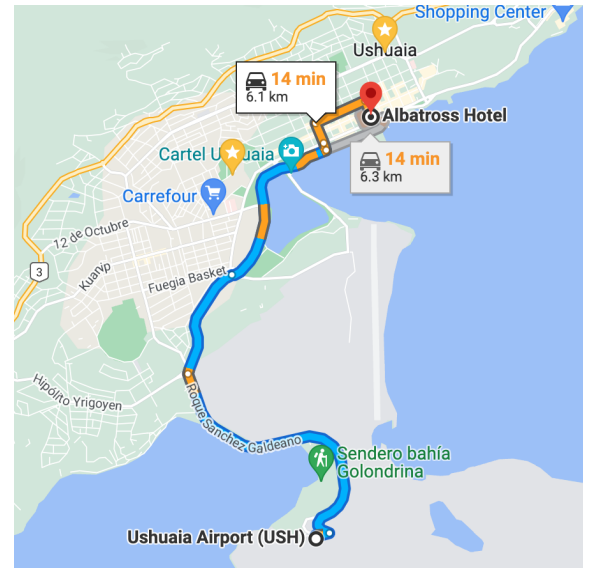
This packet is designed to provide detailed arrival information, Ushuaia itinerary details, and overall expedition information about your upcoming Antarctic voyage. The journey ahead of us is one filled with great company, good food and amazing natural and physical experiences. Your memories of your Antarctic journey will be something you will cherish for the rest of your life.

### Hotel Accommodations

Your hotel reservation will match your name on your passport. Please have your passport handy to check in to the hotel upon your arrival. The group hotels for **October 18th** are at the Albatross Hotel. It is a 15 minute taxi ride from the airport in Ushuaia. Taxis can be easily obtained outside the airport upon arrival.

- **Albatross Hotel**, Av. Maipu 505, Ushuaia V9410,  
Tel +54 2901 43-7300

All reservations for those arriving prior to October 18th are at the same hotel.



### Money Matters:

#### Currency on Board

The US dollar is the standard currency on board. You can also use Visa, MasterCard, or American Express credit cards to pay your shipboard account.

#### Payment System

After embarking, you will be advised of a time to provide your credit card to the Hotel Manager. This will be used to pay for your cabin charges, which include beverages, laundry, postage, and communication charges.

A "chit" system is used on the ship. This means you will sign for items, such as alcoholic drinks, when you take them, but pay your account balance on the final day of the voyage. Your final payment can be made using cash or major credit cards. Personal checks are not accepted.

Note: If you are sharing a cabin and would like separate accounts, you must advise the Hotel Manager.

### Cash on Hand

You will want to maintain a cash reserve to pay for your guide tips, clothing purchases made directly through Ice Axe onboard, incidental charges such as shipboard items on your last day of the voyage, airport taxes or taxi fares.

### Tippling for Guides and Hospitality Staff

Tips are always greatly appreciated and for ski guides, it is recommended to tip in the range of \$50-\$100 for each guided day. Tips for ski guides should be paid in cash directly to the guide at the end of the trip or provided to Ice Axe in an envelope to distribute to the guide.

Tips for hospitality staff can be added to your onboard account to be settled by credit card at the end of the trip. We suggest this guideline for hospitality staff aboard the ship US\$14 to \$20 per traveler per day. The amount you choose to give is at your discretion and can be added to your shipboard account.

### Electrical Outlets

The ship has a 220v / 50 Hz cycle system. Please check your appliances before use. 110-volt appliances require an adapter prior to use aboard the ship. The electrical outlets on board are also called 'F-type sockets', round 2-pin, 220-240 V, grounded, used in continental Europe and Russia. They take C, E, and F-type 2-pin plugs.

### Polar Plunge

Depending on the weather conditions, you will be offered to participate in this once in a lifetime - chilling experience. Jump into the icy waters of the Antarctic directly from our vessel- with our guides standing by at all times.

### WHITE PARTY AT WHITE CONTINENT – Last Night in Antarctica

The costume party is back this year, with the White Party at the White Continent. Celebrate an epic voyage with your fellow expedition members while dressing up in your best formal or fun wear. Come dressed as a snow petrel, a storm trooper, in your fabulous winter whites or as your smashingly stylish self! Don't be afraid to get creative!

### Social Media

Please help us in promoting Ice Axe and the Antarctic Peninsula Adventure Cruise on your social media channels!

- Please follow us on Instagram and Facebook @iceaxeexpeditions
- Ice Axe hashtags to be used: #iceaxeski #iceaxeexpeditions #iceaxeantarctica2023

### IAE Contact Information

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-or-

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### WELCOME TO USHUAIA, ARGENTINA WHERE THE WORLD ENDS AND OUR JOURNEY BEGINS...

#### OCTOBER 15-16TH

##### **8:30am - 4pm, Antarctic Prep/Glacier Clinic**

Meet in the lobby of Albatross Hotel by 8:30am to head to the Martial Glacier (for those participating).

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

##### **6pm - 8pm, Early Arrival Happy Hour**

Join the Ice Axe team for an informal gathering at KUAR, a great local restaurant right on Beagle Channel. The restaurant is a short taxi ride from the center of town: **KUAR** Av. Perito Moreno 2232, Ushuaia 9410, Argentina, Phone: 0054 (2901) 43-7396

Ice Axe will be hosting music and hors d' oeuvres, but recommends that you contact the restaurant directly to make reservations should you wish to stay for dinner. Please note, dinner is not part of the formal Ice Axe program, all participants are responsible for any expenses incurred.

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH (OFFICIAL START TO PROGRAM)

##### **10am - 5pm, Orientation for Ski Clients**

Meet in the lobby of Albatross Hotel unless otherwise specified by your ski guide. Meeting time will be communicated to you by your ski guide prior to your arrival.

##### **6pm - 7pm, Open Bar**

Open Bar at 1210 Club where our Welcome Dinner will be held.

##### **7pm, Welcome Dinner will be at the 1210 Club.**

Av. Maipú 1210, Ushuaia 9410, Argentina (called "El Nautico Eventos" on Maps).

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

##### **9:30am, Check Out, Luggage Drop**

Check out of hotel. Make sure all your incidentals are paid directly with the hotel. A continental breakfast is part of your package in the hotel restaurant. Meet in the lobby of your hotel by 9:30am with all your luggage labeled properly. Your luggage will be loaded on to a secure truck and delivered directly to your cabin on the ship. Please do not pack any expensive camera equipment or anything fragile. Please remember not to pack your passport and to keep wet weather clothes with you should the weather change unexpectedly.

##### **1pm, Ushuaia-Transfer to Ship**

You will have the morning to explore Ushuaia and make any last-minute preparations. As your ski gear will be loaded on the ship, you will not be able to ski tour the morning of the 19th.

Meet in the plaza in front the Albatross Hotel for a group photo at 1pm. We will load shuttles at the Plaza to enter port and clear customs.

### EXPLORING THE WHITE CONTINENT

#### Expectations

Polar travel is more unpredictable than your common tour, so we encourage you to arrive with sense of adventure. Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy – and excitement – of expedition travel. Something new tends to happen on every voyage, so while we cannot guarantee that you will experience everything in our suggested itineraries, nature will likely treat you to a number of special surprises, or perhaps even some expedition ‘firsts.’ Flexibility is something that our Expedition Team, crew and passengers must all bring. Your Expedition Leader and Ski Guides always have your safety as their highest priority and they will make adjustments to each expedition itinerary in order to create the most rewarding trip experiences. Remember that skiing, your planned excursions and optional activities are highly dependent on weather, especially sea and ice conditions. We treat every day as a new opportunity for discovery and with many sites at our disposal, we’re sure your Antarctic expedition will be unlike any travel experience you’ve had before.

#### Crossing the Drake Passage

The infamous Drake Passage extends about 1,000 km (600 miles) between Cape Horn, on the tip of South America, and the South Shetland Islands. Crossing the Drake is a rite of passage for polar travelers. The channel, especially when the waves are high, is called the “Drake Shake.” (Conversely, when it’s calm, it earns the nickname “Drake Lake.”) The huge swells that frequently arise in the Drake Passage are the result of cold seawater from the south colliding with the warm seawater from the north, which results in powerful eddies. Crossing the Drake can take up to 48 hours in favourable conditions. Temperatures range from 5°C (41°F) in the north to -3°C (26°F) in the south. A good pair of eyes – or a strong set of binoculars – is handy to spot whales (humpback, orca, minke and fin) and seabirds (albatrosses, petrels, shags, skuas, and gulls) during the crossing.

#### Landings & Wildlife

Please ensure that your impact on the environment is negligible while viewing wildlife during your expedition. You must always follow our basic principle: do not disturb wildlife, historical remains or the landscape. When going ashore you must abide by the conservation guidelines set out by the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators (IAATO). We strongly encourage you to follow the link below and review the detailed IAATO’s ‘guidelines for visitors’ document. <http://iaato.org/visitor-guidelines>. It is prohibited to fly a drone at any point during this expedition.

#### GENERALLY, THE BASIC PRINCIPLES ARE:

- Leave no lasting signs of your visit
- Do not take anything with you
- Do not disturb the animals or birds
- Be safe and follow the direction of your ski guide

#### PROTECTING FRAGILE VEGETATION

- Avoid walking on moss beds, lichens, or grasses. They are very delicate and slow growing.
- Always wash your boots on the ship before and after each landing.
- Leave nothing but foot prints.



### PROCEDURES FOR LANDINGS

- Always listen to and obey the instructions from your Expedition Team/Guide.
- If you hear the ship's horn, or a Team member asks, you must return to the landing site immediately.
- Do not walk onto glaciers – there may be hidden crevasses.
- No smoking ashore.
- No littering, souvenir collecting, or urinating ashore.
- Avoid taking items ashore that could become accidental litter such as film boxes or tissues.
- Anything that you carry to a landing should be returned to the ship.

### SAFE BEHAVIOR NEAR WILDLIFE

- Do not touch animals.
- Keep a minimum distance of 5 meters (15 feet) from all animals – especially nesting birds.
- If an animal's behavior changes – you are too close. Although the animal may not show obvious fear, they could still be distressed. Remember, if a bird leaves its nest, the eggs or chicks are at risk.
- Fur seals are usually dangerous, therefore keep a greater distance than 5 meters from them at all times.
- Always give wildlife the right of way.
- Avoid coming between an animal and the shore or ocean.

## THE ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

### CUVERVILLE ISLAND

Rising out of the mouth of the Errera Channel, this tall, steep island is covered by a colorful spectrum of lichens and mosses. A large gentoo penguin rookery is situated on a rocky beach at the north end of the island. Depending on when in the season you arrive, you may see the penguins building nests, incubating eggs, or attending to their chicks.

### DAMOY POINT

Damoy Point is the site of a historical ice runway used by the British Antarctic Survey for their flights further south since 1975. The well-maintained hut was used as a staging-post to store supplies and for accommodation while awaiting ideal flying conditions. The point is also home to a penguin rookery and allows for spectacular views of the mountains of Anvers Island.

### DANCO ISLAND

Home to gentoo penguins, this small dome-shaped island provides you with a stunning view of the Errera Channel.

### ENTERPRISE ISLAND

Located in Wilhelmina Bay, this island's protected coves were once used by whalers. A Zodiac cruise exploring the island passes the rusting remains of a wrecked whaling ship, and provides opportunities to search for humpback whales.

## THE ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

### PARADISE HARBOR

Paradise Harbor is a wide bay and natural harbor on the West Antarctic Peninsula. Mountains, glaciers and ice cliffs offer spectacular views. Icebergs occasionally calve from the glaciers, providing a place for seals, penguins and seabirds to rest and play. An Argentine research base, Almirante Brown Station—named after Admiral Guillermo Brown, father of the Argentine Navy—is also located in Paradise Harbor, and was operated from 1951 until a large section of it burned down in 1984. It has since been partially rebuilt and today is used during summer months for scientific research.

### PETERMANN ISLAND

Here, near the Lemaire Channel, you can stand ashore and see the southernmost breeding colony of gentoo penguins. Adélie penguins, shags and south polar skuas also inhabit the island.

### WILHELMINA BAY

Humpback whales abound in “Whalemina Bay,” as it’s nicknamed, and the scenery is spectacular. Sheer cliffs and glaciers surround the calm waters of the protected bay, named after Wilhelmina, queen of the Netherlands from 1890 to 1948. If you’re lucky, you may see the humpbacks bubble-net feeding: they exhale while swimming in a wide circle below the surface, trapping krill in a “net” of bubbles, and then swim straight up from below, mouths open, to engulf their prey. A truly astounding sight!

### LEMAIRE CHANNEL

One of the most scenic locations on the peninsula’s west coast, this dramatic strait runs between Booth Island and the Antarctic Peninsula. The channel may become impassable when ice fills the narrow, 6.8-mile (11 km)-long passageway, so we’ll hope for clear waters.

### NEKO HARBOUR

Little evidence remains that this bay was once used by the floating whale factory ship Neko. You might see whale vertebrae being used by resident gentoo penguins as shelter from the wind. Climb up a steep slope for spectacular views of the glacier-rimmed harbor.



### SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

#### HANNAH POINT

On the southern coast of Livingston Island at Hannah Point, you may see chinstrap and gentoo penguin rookeries, along with the occasional breeding macaroni penguin. Due to the rather congested area available to the nesting penguins.

#### DECEPTION ISLAND

Deception Island is a flooded circular caldera formed by the collapse of an active volcano. To reach this protected harbor, it is necessary to sail through a narrow passage called Neptune's Bellows. Inside are several bays used at various times for whaling and scientific research. Along with waddling penguins and lounging seals, you'll see the rusting remains of whaling operations on the beach in some locations. The landscape of Deception Island often presents opportunities for longer walks to striking vistas. The stark contrast between snow and dark volcanic sand and the steam along the shoreline from geothermic activity when the tide is right, gives this location an atmospheric feel.

#### HALF MOON ISLAND

This crescent-shaped island was known to sealers as early as 1821. While they tried to keep this productive location secret, we're happy to bring you ashore on this impressive island. Many Antarctic birds breed here, including chinstrap penguins, shags, Wilson's storm petrels, kelp gulls, snowy sheathbills, Antarctic terns and skuas.

### EXPEDITION SPIRIT

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team and Guides must consider the sea, the ice and the weather to guide the route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you'll experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. By the same token, wildlife encounters as described are expected, but not guaranteed. Your Expedition Team will use their considerable experience to seek out wildlife in known habitats, but the presence of any particular species of bird or marine wildlife is not guaranteed.

### ANTARCTIC PENINSULA ITINERARY

#### *Optional, Early Arrival Itinerary:*

OCTOBER 15th: 8:30am meet for Antarctic Prep/Glacier Travel Clinic, until 4pm.

OCTOBER 16th: 9am meet for Antarctic Prep/Glacier Travel Clinic, until 4pm.

OCTOBER 17th: Free day in Ushuaia to explore or ski. 6pm early arrival happy hour 'Meet & Greet'.

OCTOBER 18th - Arrive in Ushuaia, Argentina. Orientation with ski or trekking guide. Welcome Dinner. Overnight in Ushuaia.

OCTOBER 19th - Board the Ocean Albatros and set sail down the Beagle Channel.

OCTOBER 20th - Cross the Drake Passage. Sperm, fin, and humpback whales, along with skies of seabirds will accompany our journey.

OCTOBER 21st - Continue crossing the Drake Passage, possible afternoon ski and trekking objectives at Deception Island in the South Shetlands.

OCTOBER 22nd - Ski and trekking objectives at Charlotte Bay and Bluff Island. Zodiac cruises, penguin rookeries, and kayaking.

OCTOBER 23rd - Ski and trekking objectives at Nansen and Enterprise Islands. Zodiac cruises, penguin rookeries, and kayaking.

OCTOBER 24th - Ski and trekking objectives at Wenke Island and Damoy Point. Potential to cruise the Lemaire Channel.

OCTOBER 25th - Ski and trekking objectives at Ronge Island, Mt. Britannia. Visit penguin rookery at Georges Point on Cuverville Island.

OCTOBER 26th - Ski and trekking objectives on Brabant Island at Chiguano Bay. Killer whale and leopard seal sightings. Zodiac cruises, penguin rookeries, and kayaking.

OCTOBER 27th - New ski descents and nature cruises Livingston Island and Half Moon Bay in the South Shetlands. Zodiac cruises, penguin rookeries, and kayaking; begin journey north in the evening.

OCTOBER 28th - Sail Drake Passage; pass the dramatic cliffs of Cape Horn.

OCTOBER 29th – Continue sailing Drake Passage.

OCTOBER 30th - Disembark the Ocean Albatros in Ushuaia, Argentina.

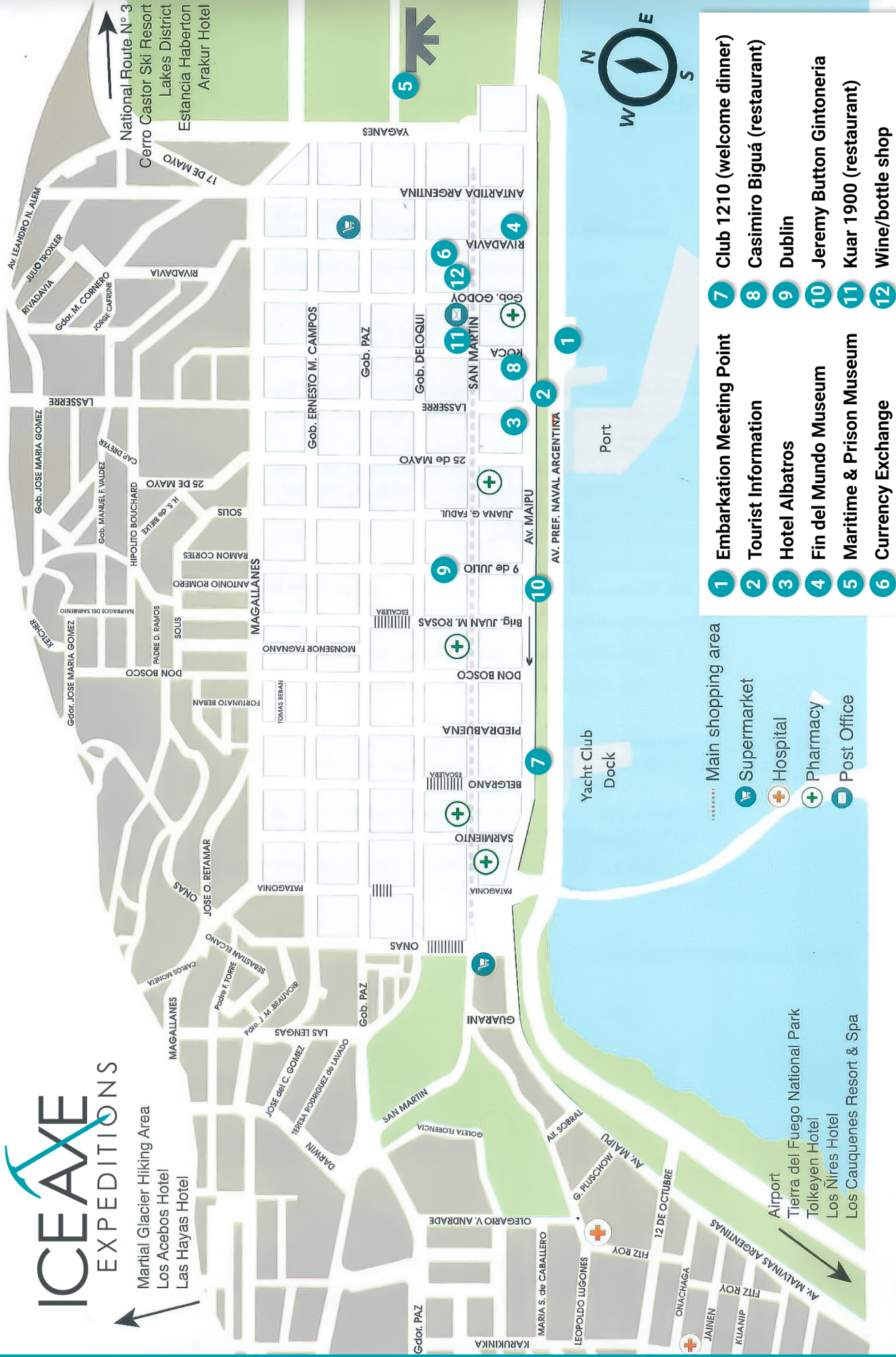
\*Flexibility is necessary for all Antarctic travel. This program is subject to change throughout the journey depending on ice, weather, and local conditions.



# ICEAXE

## EXPEDITIONS

Martial Glacier Hiking Area  
 Los Acebos Hotel  
 Las Hayas Hotel



..... Main shopping area

- Supermarket
- Hospital
- Pharmacy
- Post Office

- 1 Embarkation Meeting Point
- 2 Tourist Information
- 3 Hotel Albatros
- 4 Fin del Mundo Museum
- 5 Maritime & Prison Museum
- 6 Currency Exchange
- 7 Club 1210 (welcome dinner)
- 8 Casimiro Biguá (restaurant)
- 9 Dublin
- 10 Jeremy Button Gintoneria
- 11 Kuar 1900 (restaurant)
- 12 Wine/bottle shop