

The Subantarctic Islands

LUXURY SMALL SHIP EXPEDITION



The Subantarctic Islands Expedition

Auckland - Dunedin | Departs 29 December 2020 aboard Le Bellot
15 days / 14 nights | From **\$20,699***

BONUS: FLIGHTS, ACCOMMODATION & TRANSFERS

Includes: Return Flights, Private Transfers and 1-Night Pre or Post Cruise 5* Accommodation



Discover the wild and untouched beauty of the Subantarctic Islands of Australia and New Zealand. Set sail on a 15-day Expedition with an exceptional itinerary and allow yourself to be transported to another world where the wildlife rules and we are but visitors. Often described as the “Galapagos of the Southern Ocean”, the Subantarctic Islands of Australia and New Zealand are among some of the best preserved and protected environments on the planet where you will experience scenery and wildlife like nowhere else on earth. Le Bellot will plot a course South towards the New Zealand Subantarctic Islands and Australia’s very own Macquarie Island. These remote island outposts are collectively designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to a myriad of wildlife with many species endemic to the region and even to individual islands. You will be captivated by the breathtaking scenery, meadows of megaherbs forming a colourful tapestry and towering cliffs buffeted by the power of the waves and wind - the playground of the Royal Albatross. With a myriad of penguins patrolling the black sandy beaches it is truly a nature-lover’s dream come true.



Expedition Highlights:

- This PONANT Expedition will allow you to be one of the few to explore the Subantarctic Islands of New Zealand & Australia, one of the least visited regions in the world.
- Spend an unforgettable New Year’s eve in New Zealand.
- Zodiac® outings & shore visits with your expedition team.
- Opportunities for guided walks on the Auckland Islands, Campbell Island and Macquarie Island, all of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Wildlife: colonies of fur seals, elephant seals along with king, royal & yellow-eyed penguins. A wide variety of birds including Gibson’s albatross, giant petrels, Auckland shags & Campbell Island teals.
- Landscapes: beaches of black sand, hidden inlets and undulating meadows.



The Subantarctic Islands - Itinerary

Day 1. Auckland. Embarkation.

Auckland is New Zealand's largest, most populated and busiest city. Surrounded by dormant volcanoes such as Mt Eden, Auckland is noted for its abundant nature and magnificent black-sand beaches. A blend of Maori, European and Asian cultures give the city a vibrant atmosphere.

Day 2. At Sea.

Day 3. Bounty Islands.

The Bounty Islands are a scattering of 20 igneous islets and rocks lying 700 km east-south-east of New Zealand. The Bounty Islands can be smelt and heard from far away, as every available rock is covered in New Zealand fur seals and seabirds. If time and weather permit, you will have the opportunity to explore the coastal environments and view the prolific wildlife from our fleet of zodiacs.

Day 4. Antipodes Islands.

The volcanic islands of the Antipodes Island group lie 860 km to the southeast of New Zealand. The group consists of one main island, Antipodes Island, Bollons Island to the north, and numerous small islets and stacks. The islands are home to a wide variety of sea and land bird species including two species of parakeet.

Day 5. At Sea.

Day 6. Campbell Island.

The most southerly of the five New Zealand subantarctic groups. It is known for its megaherbs, herbaceous, perennial wildflowers characterised by their great size, with huge leaves and very colourful flowers. 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.

Day 7. Enderby Island, Auckland Islands.

Enderby Island is situated off the North Eastern tip of Auckland Island and is the second largest Island in the group. You will head ashore and have the opportunity to undertake a guided walk on the Northern Cliffs track as well as spend time viewing the New Zealand Sea Lion colony. There is also the opportunity to undertake a zodiac tour around the coastline of Enderby Island in search of the Auckland Island Teal and other endemic species

Day 8. At Sea.

Day 9. Anare Station, Macquarie Island.

Long celebrated as one of the wonder spots of the world, the 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. You will have the opportunity to undertake a guided walk around the ANARE Station to view the facility and the prolific wildlife that resides here.

Day 10. Sandy Bay, Macquarie Island.

Macquarie Island is an island of unique natural diversity and one of the truly remarkable places on earth. Located on the East Coast of the Island and home to significant Royal and King Penguin rookeries as well as a breeding colony of Southern Elephant Seals. You will have the opportunity to land ashore in Sandy Bay to view both the King and Royal colonies as well as the other prolific wildlife in the Bay.

Day 11. At Sea.

Day 12. Snares Islands.

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. 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 wildlife from our fleet of zodiacs.

Day 13. At Sea.

Day 14. Dunedin. Disembarkation.

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 picturesque 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.



Want to travel to the Subantarctic Islands in 2021 instead?

Auckland - Lyttelton | Departs 8 February 2021 aboard Le Bellot
15 days / 14 nights | From \$18,599*

Discover our alternate 2021 itinerary, with disembarkation changed to Lyttelton. On the eastern coast of New Zealand's South Island, Lyttelton (or Te Whaka Raupe in the Maori language) served, thanks to its proximity with Ross Island, as the starting point for the British expeditions in the mythical age of the South Pole explorations. In this colourful port town full of history, you'll be able to discover the Time Ball: constructed in 1876, it rang at 1.00 pm every day for 58 consecutive years to give Greenwich meridian time, enabling ship captains to set their chronometer and very precisely calculate their position.

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR TRAVEL ADVISOR FOR MORE INFORMATION

*Fares are per person in NZD, twin share, in Prestige, Deck 6 stateroom (29 Dec 20) & Prestige, Deck 5 stateroom (08 Feb 21). Price includes port charges, government taxes and current PONANT Bonus (correct as at 12/08/20). PONANT Bonus is a promotional fare with savings up to 30% off the full cruise price. The fare is yield managed and subject to change at any time. Gratuities are additional. Subject to availability and currency fluctuations. All fares and taxes are subject to change until full payment is received. Itinerary is subject to change. A surcharge will apply for credit card payments. Cancellation of cruise by Client or PONANT will result in a Future Cruise Credit or a Refund less management fee. Certain restrictions apply. Note: Open bar is for select alcoholic beverages, top shelf is not included. Internet access may be slower or in some situations interrupted, depending on certain geographic locations or other circumstances beyond our control. *Flights, Hotel and Transfers offer is on The Sub Antarctic Islands Expedition departing 29 Dec 2020 or 8 Feb 2021 only. It is valid for Guests 1 & 2 only and is valued at up to \$2000 AUD per person. Offer is subject to availability, non-retroactive and can be modified and/or withdrawn without notice. Offer cannot be combined with the Welcome offer or any other current offers, is non-transferable or redeemable for cash. Flights and accommodation are subject to availability at time of booking. Additional conditions may apply. Travel Advisors: For more information and bookings please contact Francis Travel Marketing on 09 444 2298 | 0800 422 784 | reservations@francistravelmarketing.co.nz. Photographs © PONANT Mick Fogg.