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THE VOICE OF THE CRUISE INDUSTRY

CRUISE

Trade News

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EXPEDITION TOOLKIT

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NEW HORIZONS

From pristine poles to tantalising tropics:
a guide to boosting your expedition business



DIVE INTO THE INDUSTRY'S BIGGEST STORIES



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EXPEDITION TOOLKIT



Earlier this summer, travel agents and cruise line executives travelled north to Svalbard for CLIA's first overseas Expedition Showcase. The event

was underpinned by the sector's staggering 22 per cent booking growth last year compared with 2023, indicating a clear appetite from travellers to expand their horizons with once-in-a-lifetime trips to the world's most delicate landscapes.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to introduce you to *Cruise Trade News*' first-ever Expedition Toolkit. We've partnered with

six expedition experts to give you a holistic overview of everything you need to know to sell adventure sailings with confidence. From warm weather destinations (p. 8) and polar experiences (p. 10) to wildlife encounters (p. 14) and onboard amenities (p. 16), this guide is your one-stop-shop to becoming an expedition sales supremo.

Will Payne
Editor



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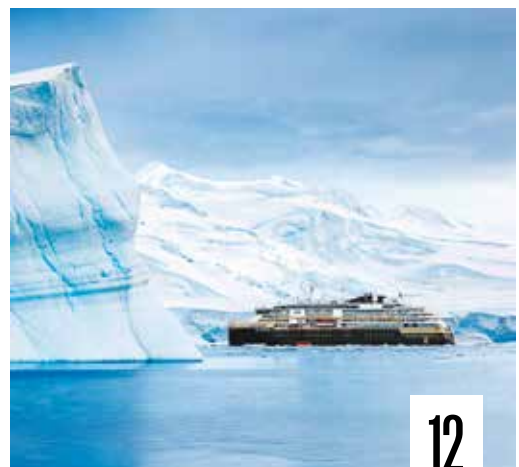
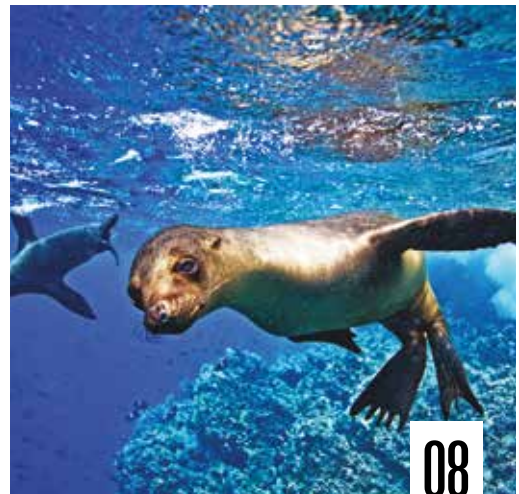
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LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

As interest in expedition cruising continues to rise, travel agents are seeking fresh opportunities to maximise sales and bolster repeat rates with this burgeoning sector. **Will Payne** reports

Nearly 20 per cent of travel agents canvassed by *Cruise Trade News* in a recent study say expedition cruise bookings are performing “significantly better” so far this year than the same time last year.

It’s therefore no surprise that CLIA’s first overseas Expedition Showcase in Longyearbyen, Norway earlier this year resonated with trade delegates,

who praised the event for providing “invaluable” insights into the world of adventure cruising.

The showcase brought together travel agents, cruise line representatives and members of the media for four days of seminars, business meetings and excursions. Delegates also had the chance to hike in the mountains to look for fossils, join a coastal boat tour and visit six expedition ships from AE Expeditions, Ponant, Quark

Expeditions, Albatros Expeditions, Atlas Ocean Voyages and Swan Hellenic.

The first day saw presentations from industry leaders on how to boost expedition sales, which consumers to target and the destinations that are proving popular. Delegates then joined one-to-one product training sessions from individual cruise lines and operators. Atlas Ocean Voyages, for example, highlighted its extended 28-30 day voyages in the Arctic.

“Expedition is one of the fastest growing sectors in the cruise industry

experiences” and Antarctica remains the most popular expedition destination.

“We are seeing really big growth in the expedition sector,” he adds. “This is going to become a regular thing that your clients are looking at. It’s something that will grow your business and separate you from the wider field.

EXPERT VERDICT

Robbie O’Grady, co-founder of The Cruise Room, tells *Cruise Trade News* he is now better equipped to sell expedition cruises to his customers following the event.

“It was an amazing conference,” he adds. “It’s been absolutely invaluable to see the differences between the ships and operators, and how they appeal to different customers yet offer similar experiences.

“Being able to do this while in a location like Longyearbyen makes it even better. Understanding the area and the culture, learning about the weather and all the challenges that come with that really helps us in promoting the destination and sector.”

O’Grady says the 50-plus market is the agency’s target audience for expedition itineraries, as well as solo travellers and semi-retired passengers.

Selling tips

“Expeditions can happen all over the world – there are no specifics on climate, location or culture. Remote destinations, however, remain a great way to convince well-travelled clients to try an expedition cruise. They might have done a safari, but they haven’t gone to the North Pole. Look at your clients who’ve done a safari, or a wildlife-focused holiday. These clients are perfect for expedition cruises.”

Andy Tait, senior business development manager for AE Expeditions

“Don’t be afraid to pitch an expedition cruise to a customer who may seem less able to join physically demanding activities. With all expeditions, regardless of destination, it’s not about age, it’s about attitude. It’s about the client who wants to do something different. These clients have done safaris and polar cruises, so use their previous trips to tailor an expedition cruise for them.”

Anthony Daniels, UK general manager for Ponant

“Expedition cruises don’t have to involve 12-hour flights and choppy waters. I took an expedition cruise to Lundy Island in the UK and it changed my whole view of wildlife and nature. I went on a ship with no interest in birdwatching, but now I can’t stop. This is what can happen with your clients – they can pick up a hobby, like me. Photographers are a perfect target. It’s not just about the shots, but what you then learn while onboard.”

Jos Dewing, CEO and founder of ExplorEarth



CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Longyearbyen was the ideal site for the showcase; polar bears are never far away in the Arctic; delegates had time to explore; wildlife is always a draw for adventurous clients

“Expedition is certainly growing,” he says. “We’ve done a bit, but it is an area we want to get into more. We’re now better equipped to talk to our guests and explain the differences in the sector.”

O’Grady is echoed by Kirsty Van Wyk, owner of KVV Luxury Travel, who praises CLIA for “getting the balance right” between product training for agents and immersive experiences.

“We’ve been very fortunate to get a look at six ships, especially seeing three X Bows and the differences between them,” she adds.

“Expedition is an area that I’m going into – I’ve sold one 23-night *Seabourn Venture* cruise already and I’ve got two or three people I’ve spoken to who will hopefully book in the near future.” ●



THE WHITE CONTINENT

Penguin colonies, imposing glaciers and polar plunges beckon your discerning clients on a frozen southern adventure with Seabourn, writes **Will Payne**

As one of the world's most popular expedition cruise itineraries, Antarctica is teeming with rich wildlife, stunning sights and discoveries awaiting to be made.

Ensure your customers have the exploration of a lifetime in the frozen south on an ultra-luxury voyage with Seabourn, thoughtfully designed to entice high-net-worth clients who may have never cruised before and ensure seasoned sailors experience something new on every cruise.

The line's season runs from November to March in the Antarctic Peninsula and associated Antarctic islands, with some voyages including stops in Patagonia, the Chilean Fjords and South Georgia as well as the Falkland Islands.

“
Guests will find luxurious veranda suites and a host of expedition amenities

ALL ABOARD

The line operates two ultra-luxury purpose-built expedition ships, *Seabourn Venture* and *Seabourn Pursuit*, with PC6 ice-strengthened hulls and advanced manoeuvring technology for superior stability, safety and comfort in the region.

Onboard, guests will find luxurious veranda suites, together with a host of expedition amenities including 24 Zodiacs, eight double sea kayaks, two six-seater submarines and an onboard 23-strong expedition team comprised

of world-renowned scientists, historians and naturalists, who set the stage for an unforgettable, immersive and educational experience.

Interior spaces feature natural materials, colours and textures to create a sense of intrepid adventure. As well as 132 veranda suites, there are eight bars and lounges, eight dining experiences, ample deck space, a luxury spa and infinity pool.

Meanwhile, the Expedition Lounge – where guests convene before and after off-ship expeditions – features two fireplaces producing lifelike water vapour “flames,” a glass partition etched with a vintage map and a bar.

Custom furniture crafted from wood, wool and leather echoes the quality and craftsmanship of tools and instruments used by early explorers. The Bow Lounge is the place to watch for marine life such



as beluga whales and gentoo penguins, and is designed to mimic the Bridge, with a range of monitors displaying updated navigational information.

What's more, all drinks, dining and gratuities are included, while complimentary expedition experiences include nature walks, hikes and Zodiac cruising, daily excursions and Seabourn Conversations talks by experts.

SHORESIDE SOIREE

The ultra-luxury experience doesn't end shoreside. As well as Zodiac landings and guided hikes, guests can indulge in exquisite caviar and tartare service surrounded by glittering glaciers.

As they return to the ship from a thrilling cruise, another boat appears from behind an iceberg bearing champagne for thirsty explorers.

If they have energy left, they can head down to the Landing Zone to indulge in

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT *Seabourn Pursuit* takes guests to the end of the earth; sweeping views can be admired from the top deck; gentoo penguins await; imposing mountain ranges are around every corner



some liquid courage and take the polar plunge, followed by steaming cups of hot cocoa, melting away the cold into a heartwarming memory.

On Seabourn's 11 and 13-night Antarctica Voyages, abundant and diverse wildlife is around every corner, from schools of tiny krill to majestic blue whales, plus five species of seal, four of whales and birdlife of all kinds. Travellers also receive a complimentary expedition parka and backpack to keep.

Guests will be accompanied on landings by members of a veteran expedition team, who in many cases have made Antarctica the focus of their life's work. They'll tell them what they know, point out what they ought to see, and step ashore to share the profound experience of adventure and discovery that brings them back year after year. Optional submarine and kayak tours are also available to book at extra cost. ●



EXPERT TAKE

Dani Scannella, senior business development manager, Seabourn

"Our ships are not just 'expedition' ships, they are ultra-luxury, all-veranda suite Seabourn expedition ships. We are committed to working with travel partners, and, through our expert-led webinars and training, we really want to equip you to sell an adventure product that is like no other, that really is the 'best of the best' in terms of luxurious surroundings and the most immersive experience."

The Ultimate Polar Adventure

Seabourn's 11-night Antarctica voyages start from £7,199pp, but for clients seeking bucket list experiences, a 94-day Grand Exploration: Pole to Pole voyage onboard *Seabourn Venture* sails from Reykjavik to Buenos Aires via Canada, Greenland, the Northwest Passage, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Brazil and Antarctica, departing 17 August 2027, from £79,199pp.



SEABOURN®

For more information, visit
seabourn.com





TREASURED ISLANDS

Wildlife encounters, other-worldly landscapes and unforgettable family time are all on the cards on a Galápagos expedition cruise with National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions, writes **Sarah Holt**

When most people think of expedition cruising, they picture ships knifing through ice floes, RIBs gliding past blue-hued glaciers and passengers padded plumply with thermals and waterproof clothing.

Yet the polar regions aren't the only places expedition ships sail. There are intrepid adventures to be had in destinations where the mercury rarely drops below 22°C, too.

With its gummy half-tonne tortoises, Mohican-headed marine iguanas and the finches that inspired Charles Darwin to develop his theory of evolution, the Galápagos Islands are one of these destinations. While it took the great

“
Landings place passengers on lava flows and close to bird nesting spots

naturalist five years to reach the island chain, 600 kilometres off the coast of Ecuador, it has never been easier for 21st-century adventurers to visit.

With more than 50 years' experience in the region, National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions offers Galápagos itineraries year-round. Plus, the line's newly launched fly cruise packages on *National Geographic Endeavour II* make planning the journey there even simpler.

IN THE KNOW

Expedition ships tend to home in on the 13 main Galapagos islands. Roughly from west to east, these are Fernandina, Isabela, Santiago, Bartolomé, Rábida, Floreana, Santa Cruz, North and South Seymour, Genovesa, Santa Fé, Española and San Cristóbal.

National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions takes cruisers past thousand-foot volcanoes, sculptural sea cliffs, and beaches that flux in colour from blood red to blinding white. Landings place passengers on lava flows, on the shores of flamingo-filled lagoons and close to bird nesting spots, whilst swim and snorkel stops give travellers the chance to get into the water with penguins, sea turtles and even sea lions.



Wherever visitors go in the Galápagos, there will be wildlife at every compass point, from scuttling lava lizards and soaring Galápagos hawks with 100 metre wings to the famous hefty tortoises that can be spotted in the highlands of Santa Cruz.

EXPERTISE ENCAPSULATED

Custom-built for expedition cruising, *National Geographic Endeavour II* has a shallow drift, meaning it can inch closer to exploration spots and nose into areas many other ships can't reach.

This Galápagos vessel also teems with exploration facilities. A glass-bottomed boat lets passengers witness the region's otherwise private underwater world without having to get wet. Video microscopes allow guests to scrutinise the plankton they collect in nets during Zodiac rides. Kayaks, paddleboards and dedicated snorkelling gear for every guest, meanwhile, make it simple for passengers to get out into the region's waters, which average between 21-25°C throughout the year.

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT

National Geographic Endeavour II; guests can spot a range of colourful wildlife; there's as much life below the vessel as there is above it

When it comes to sleeping, there are 52 cabins on *National Geographic Endeavour II*, all facing outwards with panoramic landscape framing windows.

Communal areas, meanwhile, are cosy thanks to lots of soft furnishing and curves and include a lounge with a full-service bar, a library and a dining room where the menu is international with Ecuadorian flair.

GALAPAGUESTS

As well as its standard cabins, in which two single beds can be converted into a queen, *National Geographic Endeavour II* has dedicated solo rooms as well as triple and interconnecting rooms, which are ideal for families.

Families can also take advantage of the National Geographic's Explorers-in-Training programme, which has been designed to immerse young travellers in all things Galápagos.

Once onboard, children and teens are given a field notebook to log the results of activities like in-field spot-it challenges, storytelling tasks and onboard experiments, completed with the guidance of a certified field instructor and expert team members such as undersea specialists.

All activities and excursions are included in the upfront cost of the cruise, making it easier to budget, even for families. ●



EXPERT VERDICT

Danielle Bates, head of UK sales, National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions

"My own experience in the Galápagos earlier this year was truly transformational. Travelling to this remote and unique part of the world felt like an immense privilege, offering a travel experience like no other. Within an hour of boarding the ship, we were out on a Zodiac cruise witnessing giant sea turtles brushing past us, and blue footed boobies dive into the water to catch their dinner - it was incredibly humbling. The expedition packed in so much every day from dawn until dusk, all led by our pioneering, expert team who are so passionate about the archipelago. A once-in-a-lifetime adventure."

Get on board

National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions' 10-day Exploring

Galápagos itinerary aboard *National Geographic Endeavour II*, return from Quito via North Seymour, Isabela, Fernandina, Espanola, Floreana, Santa Cruz, Bartolome, Santiago, Genovesa and San Cristobal, departs 1 May 2026, from £5,980pp.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC | LINDBLAD
EXPEDITIONS

For more information, visit
uk.expeditions.com



THE COOLEST

Settle for nothing less than Scenic's superyacht chic – with helicopters and submersibles – amid the polar bears and whales in the Arctic, says **Nick Dalton**

There are glaciers, there are snow-covered peaks, there are monumental icebergs, there are whales – and there are polar bears. The Arctic has many differences to the Antarctic, but it's the polar bears that will take a guest's breath away.

For so many of us, our take on the Arctic is heading way north up the Norwegian coast, yet there's so much more. The Arctic Circle clips Iceland's tiny isle of Grimsey, there's a whole northern Norwegian world of white, including Honningsvåg, mainland Europe's northernmost city, and there's the magical archipelago of Svalbard,

“
In 2027 *Scenic Eclipse* launches a whole new raft of itineraries heading even further

illuminated by 24-hour sun in summer and the Northern Lights in winter. Go farther and there's Greenland, iceberg-dotted waters giving way to the remote Arctic islands of Canada's Hudson Bay.

THE SCENIC ROUTE

Guests can discover these frost-capped wonderlands aboard Scenic's two Discovery Yachts, *Scenic Eclipse*

and *Scenic Eclipse II*, which combine superyacht design, understated luxury and world-beating technology to take the excitement of an expedition to another level. Guests will struggle to find another vessel that features both helicopters and a submersibles* alongside a fleet of Zodiac inflatables.

Both Discovery Yachts will be in the Arctic and Northern Europe in 2026, including a return to Greenland after a year away. But in 2027, *Scenic Eclipse* launches a whole new raft of itineraries heading even farther, using Greenland as a starting point for an exploration of Canada's Arctic isles and coast, a vast, unspoiled region with the port town of Churchill known as the polar bear capital of the world.



The icy waters are also rich in beluga whales, and the land is populated by indigenous communities. Each Discovery Yacht caters to only 200 guests on Polar voyages (against 228 on other cruises), with the true millionaire feel of a superyacht. No cabins, only roomy suites that range from those with a veranda to those with terrace and spa pool, and everyone has butler service.

There are up to 10 culinary experiences, from main restaurant Elements to Lumiere (French), Koko's (Asian fusion) and Azure Café, an extraordinary selection you'd not expect to find amongst the Arctic icebergs. Add to that nine bars for socialising and taking in the ever-changing views – with drinks coming as part of the deal.

UNIQUE EXPLORATIONS

Those mega views can also be experienced from the six-passenger helicopters* (an extra charge), from the Zodiacs that head for remote

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Guests can spot polar bears; *Scenic Eclipse*; there's ample space to relax; Tony Lumpkin is part of the Discovery Team



shores (landings led by Discovery Team experts), from kayaks and also through state-of-the-art Swarovski telescopes. Dreamily exciting is an underwater excursion* (also chargeable), where whales might be among the sealife on show.

Not relaxed enough already? There's the Senses spa for massages and other treatments, along with a Pilates studio, gym and on-deck pools. And once the almost ever-present sun has slipped low, there's showtime in the theatre (where there are also daytime talks on nature and geography).

The Arctic is a first-class destination and these are cruises for adventurers who demand a champagne lifestyle. There's no better way to get up close and personal than on The World's First Discovery Yachts. ●



EXPERT VERDICT

Helena Gale-Hasleham,
trade support and marketing
manager, Scenic

"On most days, we had the opportunity to take a Zodiac tour. At the incredible Eilson Glacier in Greenland, our Zodiac was boarded mid-trip by Captain Ned, who brought guests a glass of champagne to enjoy while we watched the glacier calving and seals swimming by. Our *Scenic Eclipse* Discovery Leader pulled 2,000-year-old ice from the water for us to add to our drinks. It was certainly a moment I'll remember forever."

Get on board

Scenic's 17-day Greenland to Hudson Bay & the Canadian Arctic adventure on *Scenic Eclipse* from Kangerlussuaq, Greenland, to Churchill, Canada, with hotel night and flights from Copenhagen, and flights from Churchill to Toronto for overnight stay, via Sisimiut, Ilulissat, Disko Bay, Evighed Fjord, Baffin Island, Monumental Island, Lady Franklin Island and Lower Savage Islands, departs on 27 August, 2027, from £18,446.



For more information, visit
sceniceclipse.com

* Experiences on board Scenic's two helicopters and submersible are subject to regulatory approval, availability, weight restrictions, medical approval and weather, tide and ice conditions. Helicopters and submersible are not operational in Svalbard and Greenland.



ENTHRALLING EXPEDITIONS

From marine biology and oceanography to Antarctic survival skills and photography, an adventure with HX is more than just a holiday, writes **Rashmi Narayan**

Nothing prepares you for the first glimpse of Antarctica's raw, frozen frontier. Towering monoliths of icebergs drifting quietly through frigid straits with their luminous blues and whites everchanging with the light.

On the rugged shoreline, you might spot Gentoo, Chinstrap or Adélie penguins standing sentinel, curiously watching travellers as they arrive on shore. This is a place where nature doesn't simply exist, it dominates every corner. It's this very sense of awe and pristine isolation that draws adventurers and explorers to the edge of the world.

Since 1896, HX's expedition cruises

“
Each voyage is an opportunity to contribute to vital, long-term research

have given clients more than just the journey of a lifetime. Each voyage is also a meaningful opportunity to contribute to vital, long-term scientific research, bringing a sense of purpose for guests with every adventure.

Over the years, the line has offered hands-on engagement through their science and education programmes, where clients don't merely observe one

of the planet's most fragile ecosystems – they play an active role in protecting it. Every expedition is designed to inform, inspire and leave a lasting impact that extends beyond the voyage home.

Itineraries range from exploring not just Antarctica, but also sailing through the Strait of Magellan, visiting the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, an option for pre and post cruise add-ons in South America and tracing the footsteps of explorers like Ernest Shackleton.

HANDS ON

Unlike traditional cruise ships where you'll find casinos and water slides, expedition vessels offer a different kind of luxury, one that is rooted in



purpose and discovery. There are of course, hot tubs, saunas and gyms, but at HX, the Science Centre is the beating heart of the onboard experience, where clients have access to state-of-the-art equipment, thought-provoking lectures and interactive sessions that illuminate the polar regions in fascinating depth.

It's an experience that's designed not just to take you somewhere extraordinary, but to help you truly understand it. Clients can attend a wide variety of talks and lectures, from marine biology and oceanography to Antarctic survival skills and photography, as Expedition Team members share their deep passion and expertise.

DEEP INTO THE DESTINATION

HX offers guests the rare opportunity to step directly onto some of the most remote and pristine landscapes. Landings are carried out via small boats (weather permitting), taking guests to harbours and penguin rookeries. Once ashore, the Expedition Team prioritises safety and provides guidance on where to explore and what to observe, while

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Guests trek frozen mountains; *MS Roald Amundsen*; experts are on hand to provide insight; data collection is vital



allowing clients the freedom to roam.

The journey also goes beyond the shoreline. Expeditions include the opportunity to go on small-boat cruises through iceberg-filled waters, and extras like kayaking alongside seals and even camping overnight on the Antarctic ice.

Wildlife encounters extend to the skies as well. Bird enthusiasts can spot Antarctic seabirds such as skuas, petrels and terns, which are just a selection of the avian species that thrive in this extreme region.

For those seeking a more daring form of engagement, they can try the legendary polar plunge. Available at select landings, this icy dive into Antarctic waters is not for the faint-hearted but, for the adventurous few who take it on, it's an unforgettable moment of exhilaration and triumph. ●



EXPERT VERDICT

Mark Walter, director of sales UK and Ireland, HX

"With HX, our guests don't just see a destination – they truly experience it. Our Expedition Teams bring each place to life through hands-on activities and inspiring talks, whether at sea or ashore. As we approach our 130th anniversary in 2026, that spirit of exploration and connection continues to guide us. Guests head home with memories, insights and a fresh perspective, happy in the knowledge they've made a positive contribution to the world through our citizen science programmes."

Get on board

Celebrate **HX's** 130th birthday by booking the line's 23-day In-depth South Georgia, Falklands & Antarctica Expedition aboard *MS Fram* from Santiago de Chile to Punta Arenas via The Falkland Islands, South Georgia, the Antarctic Peninsula, and South Shetland Islands, departs on 27 February 2026. Domestic flights and an overnight hotel stay in Santiago de Chile included.



For more information, visit travelhx.com or call 02031315129

ANIMAL KINGDOM

From Arctic foxes to gentoo penguins, the polar regions are teeming with wildlife. G Adventures has everything your guests need to savour every sighting, writes **Will Payne**

Imagine standing on the deck as the silence of the polar wilderness is broken only by the crack of shifting ice. A pod of orcas arcs gracefully through the midnight-like depths, while a colony of penguins chatter on the shore, seemingly unbothered by their curious human visitors.

These are the kinds of experience today's travellers crave; the rare, authentic encounters that can only be found on an expedition cruise. For travel agents, the allure of wildlife which can only be found in the vast

“G Adventures offers the chance to see the planet in its rawest, most inspiring form

corners of the earth is a vital tool when it comes to tempting a traveller to try an adventure itinerary for the first time.

With decades of experience leading small-group adventures across the globe, G Adventures prides itself on its community-driven ethos and passion for exploration to the seas.

EXPERTLY GUIDED

Their expedition cruises combine expert guides, sustainable practices and immersive experiences that resonate with today's conscientious traveller. With G Adventures, you're offering your clients more than just a trip, you're offering them the chance to see the planet in its rawest, most inspiring form – without breaking the bank.

The line offers attractive lead-in fares of just £4,724pp for an 11-day Antarctica cruise, making it the perfect pick for a keen adventure enthusiast



on a budget. The line is also one of the only to offer twice-daily landings for all passengers, thanks to its smaller ship size of 128 passengers sitting comfortably in the IAATO regulations.

Spotting wildlife is one thing, but capturing the moment to last forever can take a certain amount of skill. While G Adventures encourages guests to bring their own photography equipment, an expert photographer on every departure is on hand to offer tips on capturing the perfect picture. They will also take their own photos, with a slideshow of the best captures sent to guests at the end of the cruise at no extra cost.

Meanwhile, onboard ornithologists, marine mammal specialists, geologists and historians are on hand to provide your guests with insightful commentary into the destinations they're visiting.

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Marvel at majestic king penguins; get nearer the action in a kayak; smaller ships create a community spirit; experience the wonders of whale-watching



CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY

With ships only holding up to 128 passengers, G Adventures prides itself on offering its cruisers a sense of community onboard – a key aspect of the line's mantra.

In Greenland, for example, guests can visit the tiny settlement of Ittoqqortoormiit for a look at how these most northerly people live and keep an eye out for majestic whales, which are known to feed in the Greenland Sea in the summer months.

This Arctic Highlights Southbound cruise also gives guests the chance to experience a partial or full solar eclipse on 3 August 2026 while in the Kejser Franz Joseph Fjord, adding further to the immersive experience. ●



EXPERT VERDICT

Stu Darnley, national sales manager, G Adventures

"G Adventures has been established for 35 years, and for over 20 of those, we've led the way in small-ship polar expedition itineraries. We're proud to deliver a fantastic, value price point, so you can witness Antarctica's penguin colonies, or the Arctic's polar bears firsthand, experienced from inclusive, daily Zodiac excursions. However, with G Adventures, the magic lies in the community we build on board. With just 128 guests and our passionate team of historians, biologists and geologists, we create a fun, laid-back atmosphere where a real sense of family quickly develops."

Get on board

G Adventures' 11-day Antarctica Classic cruise aboard *Expedition*, return from Ushuaia via the Drake Passage, South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula, departs 22 March 2026, from £4,724pp. Price includes a one-night hotel stay in Ushuaia, as well as arrival and departure transfers.



For more information, visit
gadventures.com



Onboard Enrichment

SERENITY AT SEA

The onboard experience can make or break an expedition cruise. That's why Atlas Ocean Voyages is firmly cemented as one of the globe's leading adventure operators, writes **Will Payne**

The allure of snow-capped mountain ranges, deep blue oceans teeming with wildlife and magnificent icy vistas is enough to convince anyone to embark on an expedition cruise.

But these once-in-a-lifetime opportunities are only as good as the experience a guest has while they're onboard. Enter Atlas Ocean Voyages. The luxury expedition cruise line prides itself on its ability to transport guests beyond the veil to see the real history, culture and the culinary delights of the regions its ships visit thanks to its onboard offering.

International guest chefs, culinary demonstrations, full-ship immersion events ashore, wine tasting with local vintners and guest cook-off competitions set the line's Epicurean Expeditions apart from the rest.

ALL ABOARD

After an inspiring day of exploring with the line's expert guides, the luxurious comfort of Atlas' suites and staterooms offer the perfect place to unwind and relax. Before they take in a final view of the seascape from the comfort of their balcony or panoramic window and retire for the evening, guests can visit their ship's main restaurant, which is inspired by the vessel's birthplace, or the 7 Aft Grill – a casual poolside spot by day and an open-air chop house at night.

“
The luxurious comfort of Atlas' suites and staterooms offer the perfect place to relax



Here, the finest cuts of steak and fresh seafood are seared to perfection on a legendary Jospier grill, the world leader in charcoal gastronomy. If your guests prefer an intimate meal in the comfort of their well-appointed suite, an always-available menu with free 24-hour room service is on offer.



Once awake, guests can start their day with a cup of Nespresso Coffee or Kusmi Tea in their stateroom and indulging in lavish L'Occitane amenities in their bathroom. Then, before preparing for a shoreside adventure, guests can visit the fitness studio, the Seaspa or the pool, complete with a hot tub and sun deck.

To help guests learn more about the destinations they are visiting, Atlas Ocean Voyages provides an exceptional curation of special guest speakers and lecturers. Seminars and demonstrations led by specialists take place in the yacht's auditorium.

On polar itineraries, expedition leaders, naturalists, kayak guides, photographers, scientists and other experts guide and educate travellers through their exploration of polar regions, both on board and on shore.

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Rolling mountains beckon; guides are on hand for shoreside explorations; the Observation Deck offers sweeping views; guests can unwind and spot wildlife from the sauna

TRUE IMMERSION

To boost its excursion and insights portfolio further, Atlas partnered with Afar Recommends to offer a collection of cultural expeditions which help take guests even closer to a destination. These include stargazing and astronomy workshops, excursions that immerse travellers in local customs, and hands-on workshops in ports across the globe.

Following the sell out of two Solar Eclipse sailings in 2026, on 27 July 2027, Atlas will sail a new Solar Eclipse Expedition aboard *World Traveller*, from Barcelona to Lisbon via Ibiza, Cartagena, Motril, Puerto Banus and Portimao.



EXPERT VERDICT

Bernard Carter,
International sales lead, Atlas Ocean Voyages

"As our following continues to grow, we at Atlas Ocean Voyages are finding new ways to enthrall our adventurous and curious guests. From drone and photography classes to dedicated astronomy sailings, we are always trying to discover what our seasoned travellers want to do next – so we ask, they tell us and we strive to deliver."

Guests will have the chance to experience the wonder of a solar eclipse alongside a resident astronomer, who will offer insights into the totality while they take in the marvel on deck. Along the way, guests will enjoy an overnight stay in Ibiza with a wine tasting in Santa Gertrudis. In Cartagena, a city inhabited for more than two millennia, guests can search for secret tunnels and in Puerto Banús, they can explore one of Spain's oldest cities, Ronda, with a late night call in port. ●



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FAR REMOVED, YET INTIMATELY CONNECTED.

At Atlas, we have set a new course for expedition cruise travel, curated for spirited explorers, led by expert guides, and enhanced by a genuine and caring crew who share a desire to connect with people, places, and our cherished natural world. From bold adventures in the Arctic and Antarctica to Cultural and Epicurean Expeditions year-round, travellers return to our luxury yachts to savour moments well-lived among new friends in a relaxed, après expedition atmosphere.

Begin exploring at www.AtlasOceanVoyagesUK.com



ALWAYS INCLUDED BY ATLAS:

Expedition Guides + Enriching Experiences, L'OCCITANE Amenities,
Unlimited Wines + Spirits, Gratuities and More

Explorer's Choice
CHOOSE YOUR AMENITY



AIR CREDIT OF UP TO
£1,600 PER STATEROOM



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To book your guests call us on **0800 008 7855**

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Special offers and inclusions are capacity controlled and may be changed or withdrawn from any voyage at any time without notice. Additional restrictions may apply.
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