



# EMPEROR PENGUINS: SNOW HILL ISLAND SAFARI



**KAPITAN KHLEBNIKOV**

**Emperor Penguins:  
Snow Hill Island Safari**

A penguin-lovers dream come true! This expedition spends three days at an Emperor Penguin rookery, where we'll have the opportunity to watch the adult birds tending to their chicks. We'll sail on to the Antarctic Peninsula - a vast expanse of whites and blues - where we hope to visit Adelie, Chinstrap and Gentoo penguin rookeries while the birds are selecting nesting sites and choosing partners.

### **BBC Film Crew Aboard this Expedition in 2009**

When the BBC decided to produce a sequel to *Planet Earth - Frozen Planet* - the filmmakers turned to Quark Expeditions for logistical support. As a result, a BBC film crew will be shooting footage aboard the first two departures of Emperor Penguins: Snow Hill Island.

During the October 10, 2009 and October 22, 2009 departures, the crew will deliver presentations and show dailies - raw footage captured during each day's filming. The dailies will be filmed with the technology that enables the BCC's Natural History Unit to capture never-before-seen footage of wildlife in their natural habitat.

### **Expedition Summary**

- Day 1** Ushuaia
- Day 2** Embarkation
- Day 3-4** The Drake Passage
- Day 5-7** Wildlife Viewing
- Day 8-11** Antarctic Peninsula
- Day 12-14** Drake Passage



## Dates

Oct 22 - Nov 04, 2009

Nov 03 - 16, 2009

## ITINERARY

### Day 1: Ushuaia, Argentina

Ushuaia is a picturesque community with excellent restaurants and intriguing museums. You'll spend the night at our host hotel.

### Day 2: Embarkation Day

You'll have time to explore before boarding in the afternoon. The icebreaker follows the Beagle Channel into the open waters of the Drake Passage.



### Day 3-4: Crossing the Drake Passage

Emperor Penguins will be on your mind while you cross the Drake Passage. En route, our ornithologist will make presentations on the biology, habitat and behavior of Emperors.



### Day 5-7: Unparalleled Wildlife Viewing

Reaching the Snow Hill rookery under the best possible conditions is the goal of the expedition. The Captain and Expedition Leader consult charts, weather bulletins and satellite images to determine where to park the icebreaker for efficient helicopter flights to the rookery. Our plan is to spend three days at the rookery.

### Day 8-11: The Peninsula

While the Emperors are our priority, we also plan to visit the Antarctic Peninsula. Our exact route will be determined by local conditions. We plan to sail Iceberg Alley. Use your newly acquired photographic skills to snap pictures of massive tabular icebergs until your camera beeps a warning that the memory is full.



While passing through Antarctic Sound, you will see more fantastic ice sculptures, from pure white to deep blue.

A soulful silence may engulf you, unless a glacier calves or an iceberg overturns - then suddenly, everything is noise and waves.

While visiting the Peninsula, we hope to explore penguin rookeries under construction. Adelie, Chinstrap and Gentoo Penguins court, lay eggs and raise their young during the austral summer. Your voyage takes place at a time when these smaller penguins are selecting nesting sites and choosing partners.



### Day 12-14: The Triumph of Life

You'll be recalling the details of the voyage, as you cross the Drake Passage once again. These memories will stay with you, as clear and powerful as the day they were formed. The existence of the Emperor Penguin is more than a story of survival and endurance. It is the triumph of life itself.

## Peter Fretwell

- British Antarctic Survey mapping specialist.
- Discoverer in 2009, via satellite imaging, previously unknown Emperor Penguin rookeries.
- Special Guest aboard Emperor Penguins: Snow Hill Island Safari, October 25 to November 7, 2010.

A study published in the journal of Global Ecology and Biogeography in June 2009 described how a team of British Antarctic Survey (BAS) scientists used satellite images to survey the sea-ice that surrounds Antarctica to search for Emperor Penguin rookeries. The survey identified 38, ten of which were new. The team determined of the previously known rookeries, six has relocated and six were not found.

The key to the findings was guano (penguin poo) stains visible from space.

Peter Fretwell, the team's mapping expert explained, "We can't see the actual penguins on the satellite maps, because the resolution isn't good enough. But during the breeding season the birds stay at a colony for eight months. The ice gets pretty dirty and it's the guano stains that we can see."

Quark Expeditions is pleased that Peter Fretwell will be special guest aboard our October 25 to November 7, 2010 Emperor Penguins: Snow Hill Island Safari. In addition to sharing a close-up view of Emperors in the wild with our guests, Mr. Fretwell will share his insight into the latest techniques for studying the fragile ecosphere of Antarctica.

This expedition is offered on our icebreaker *Kapitan Khlebnikov*. The specifications for the ship are below. The departure schedule is available on the dates and rates page.



# KAPITAN KHLEBNIKOV

A polar-class icebreaker, combining power and technology with creature comforts. Originally designed for the rigors of northern Siberia, *Kapitan Khlebnikov* is one of a few vessels of its kind in the world.



## Cabins and Amenities

- 54 first-class outside cabins and suites, all with private facilities, large windows, desk, hair dryer, robes and large closets.
- Twin cabins have one fixed berth and one convertible sofa bed.
- Triple cabins are identical to twin cabins, with a third pull-down berth.
- All suites have a sitting room separate from the bedroom, DVD player and television.
- Dining rooms with unreserved seating where an abundant breakfast is served with a wide choice of hot and cold items; and lunch and dinner with menus that change daily.
- 24-hour coffee, tea and hot chocolate self-service station.
- Lounge and bar staffed by a professional bartender; open late afternoon and evening with a wide selection of wines and spirits.
- Heated indoor swimming pool, exercise room and sauna.
- Theater-style auditorium for Expedition Team presentations.
- Onboard shop and library books and videos.
- Ship-to-shore communications via satellite.
- Passenger elevator.
- Clinic with licensed doctor.

## Ship Specifications

<b>Staff &amp; Crew:</b>	70
<b>Guests:</b>	112
<b>Lifeboats:</b>	4, fully enclosed, capacity of 184
<b>Length:</b>	122.50 m
<b>Breadth:</b>	26.50 m
<b>Draft:</b>	8.50 m
<b>Propulsion:</b>	Diesel-electric engines - 24,000 total horsepower
<b>Ice Class:</b>	LL3
<b>Cruising Speed:</b>	15 knots in open water
<b>Registered:</b>	In Russia by Far Eastern Shipping Company

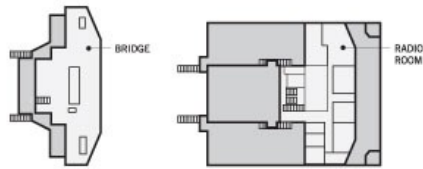
## DECK PLANS

**Triple** 1 lower berth, 1 sofa bed, 1 pull-down upper berth, private facilities, opening window, desk and chair

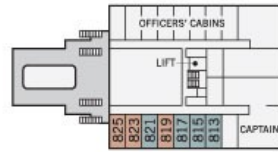
**Twin** 1 lower berth, 1 sofa bed, private facilities, opening window, desk and chair

**Suite** 1 wider bed and sofa bed, private facilities, separate sitting room, 2 opening windows, 2 desks/chairs, table, TV/DVD

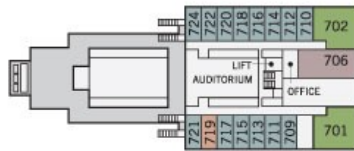
**Corner Suite** 1 wider bed, 1 sofa bed, private facilities, separate sitting room, 4 opening windows, 2 desks/chairs, table, refrigerator, TV/DVD



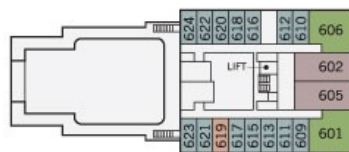
BRIDGE & RADIO DECK



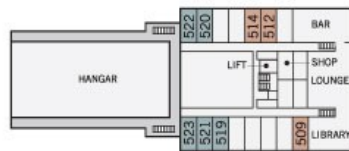
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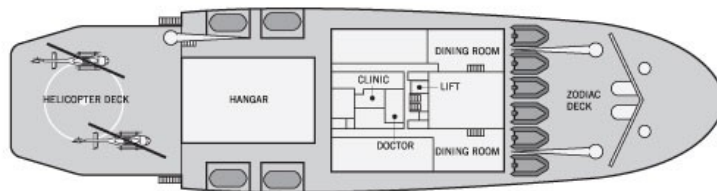
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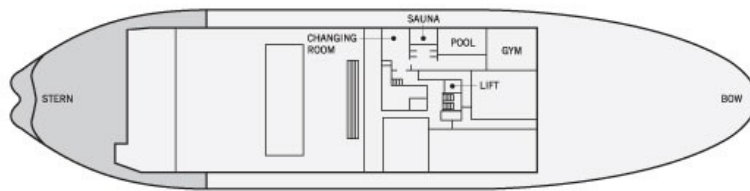
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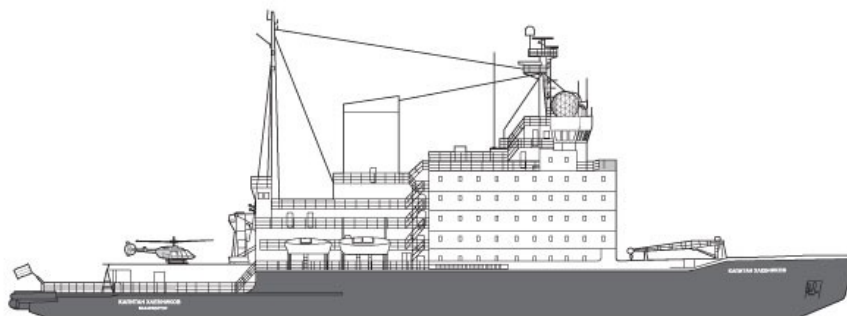
DECK 5



DECK 4



DECK 3



BRIDGE  
RADIO DECK  
DECK 8  
DECK 7  
DECK 6  
DECK 5  
DECK 4  
DECK 3

## **Rates Include**

### **Inclusions for departures between October 2009 and February 2010:**

- 2 nights hotel accommodation with breakfast as indicated in the itinerary. (The number of guests per room is the same as cabin occupancy on the ship. Due to limited availability, travelers who reserve a suite on board are accommodated in standard rooms at the hotel.)
- Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping.
- All breakfasts, lunches and dinners on board throughout your voyage. (Please inform us of any dietary requirements as far in advance as possible.

Unfortunately, the ships' galleys cannot prepare kosher meals.)

- All shore landings and Zodiac excursions per the daily program.
- Leadership throughout the voyage by our experienced Expedition Leader, including shore landings and other activities.
- Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and guest speakers as scheduled.
- Photographic Album on DVD.
- A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings.
- Hair dryer in every cabin.
- A Quark Expeditions parka.
- Coffee, tea, cocoa and bottled water available around the clock.
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials, including a map and an informative Antarctic Reader.
- Group transfers from the hotel to the ship at the embarkation port, and from the ship to the local airport on disembarkation – plus all baggage handling aboard ship.
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program.
- Emergency Evacuation Insurance for all passengers to a maximum of \$100,000 per person.
- All helicopter transfers and aerial sightseeing according to each day's program.
- Group transfers from the group flight to the group hotel in Santiago, Chile.
- One post-expedition night accommodation in Santiago, Chile.
- All helicopter transfers and aerial sightseeing according to each day's program.

## **FAQ**

### **If I book this expedition, what additional major expenses will I incur?**

1. Transportation to Ushuaia, Argentina and from Santiago, Chile is not included in the cost of the expedition. The charter flight from Stanley, Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) to Santiago is available at an additional cost.
2. Wearing the right clothes is essential. Mean coastal temperatures are seldom far below freezing. However sunny conditions may swiftly shift to storms with very cold winds and snow flurries. A complimentary parka is provided and we loan you a pair of boots for the duration of the expedition. Once you have booked, we will provide you with a complete list of what to pack.
3. Of course gratuities are always at your discretion, but we recommend \$10-15 per person day if you were pleased with the service level on board. This will be anonymously collected at the end of the voyage and distributed amongst staff and crew. You can make this payment in cash or charge to your shipboard account.

### **What is the average age and nationalities of travelers on this expedition?**

Icebreaker travelers range in age from 45 to 80 - with the majority between 55 and 75. Most members of Icebreaker Expeditions are sophisticated, independent-minded travelers from around the world.

### **Must I understand English to participate?**

Our voyages appeal to an international audience. About 40% of the travelers who join our voyages come from countries where English is not the first language. English is the language used for all documents, communications, shipboard announcements and education program presentations. While most of our travelers have a working knowledge of English, their level of proficiency with the language varies greatly. If you have questions on how your knowledge of English may impact your experience, please contact our office and one of our Sales Representatives will be happy to discuss this with you.

### **Do I have to be fit to join one of these expeditions?**

Travelers must be able to make their way down a steep, narrow gangway, on the side of the ship to the Zodiac for shore landings. You should be able to walk steadily about the ship, keeping one hand free for the railing, and be able to negotiate through a heavy steel sea door. This expedition is not appropriate for people with restricted mobility as none of our ships offer handicap facilities. Shore landings usually offer a choice of a shorter hike and longer hikes. Of course, if you wish to remain back at the landing site with some of the staff, you are welcome!

### **May my children accompany me on the expedition?**

On this expedition we welcome children that are at least 12 years of age. All children must be accompanied by at least one adult willing to supervise them at all times. Note that the shipboard education programs are designed for adults.

### **How long will it be light during my trip?**

The time of year you travel to Antarctica will determine the amount of daylight. October, November are typically the month where the night falls around 9 or 10pm with sunrise in the early morning. This is the beginning of the Summer Season. Peak daylight is Mid December through early February with nearly 24 hours of sunlight, depending on how far south your voyage travels.

### **What about seasickness?**

In general, the roughest seas encountered are during the open ocean crossings to and from Ushuaia through the Drake Passage; it takes roughly 2 and one half days to get to/from the peninsula and 2 days to/from the Falkland Islands. Everyone reacts differently to the seas, so our Medical Director suggests you consult your physician for a recommendation for your specific circumstances.

### **Do your ships have stabilizers?**

Yes, all our ships have stabilizers.

### **What is the food like on your ships?**

Our passengers rave about the food and the food service offered on our ships. We have standardized our Catering operations on all our ships, so regardless of which ship you travel on, you will receive the same variety of food and excellent service. We offer breakfast, lunch and

dinner, and can accommodate most dietary requests and restrictions provided you notify us at time of booking. Afternoon tea with desserts is served each afternoon, and coffee/tea/water service is available in the lounge areas around the clock.

**Book air transportation at the same time as your expedition.**

**Q: What are the benefits of reserving my air arrangements through Quark Expeditions?**

A: When you reserve your cruise with Quark Expeditions we can also handle your air arrangements. Our air arrangements offer a seamless, worry-free way to get from your home airport to the cruise ship and back again. You will be speaking with individuals who have been to the airports you will be traveling through, and know and understand the unique logistics of the departure city. Arrangements include round-trip air transportation to and from the port of departure and arrival.

Air arrangements via Quark will also allow you to choose a preferred airline, specific times and/or premium-class seats.

**Q: What do air arrangements include?**

A: Air arrangements include round-trip air transportation to and from the port of departure and arrival, all airlines taxes and fees.

**Q: When do I receive my airline flight schedules?**

A: Air reservations receive immediate confirmation of the itinerary.

**Q: Can I get airline seat assignments through Quark Expeditions?**

A: We will attempt to secure seat assignments (Based on availability as the airlines have ultimate control over all seat selection).

**Q: Can I use frequent flyer miles to upgrade my seat?**

A: Some of our air carrier contracts restrict you from using any additional incentives, coupons or discounts. However, most carriers allow guests to accrue frequent traveler miles. Please provide your Frequent Flyer information at the time of booking and you will be advised if your purchase qualifies for frequent flyer points.

**Q: Can I get one-way air transportation?**

A: Yes, our Air Department can assist you with your request. Additional costs may apply. Round trip air add-on will apply.

**Q: How does Quark Expeditions notify guests/travel agents of schedule changes?**

A: Quark Expeditions will attempt to notify guests/travel agents of schedule changes. However it is the guest's and travel agent's responsibility to reconfirm flights prior to departure. Once tickets have been issued it is the airlines responsibility to protect schedule changes resulting in missed connecting flights.

**Q: What if I'm trying to travel with a group?**

A: We love groups. Guests from the same departure city that are booked at the same time will be placed on the same flights. We cannot guarantee all other guests from departure cities other than your own will be on the exact same flights. Additional air costs may apply.

**Enjoy a Slideshow of Antarctic Wildlife Paintings  
by Internationally Acclaimed Artist Robert Bateman**

Robert Bateman will be the special guest aboard Emperors & Kings: Snow Hill and South Georgia, from November 15 to December 6, 2009.

Robert's work and commitment to the environment has been recognized with many awards. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada, and was named one of the 20th Century's Champions of Conservation by the United States National Audubon Society.

Robert has graciously allowed us to share a selection of his artwork with you here, including a piece that he painted from a photo taken during a Quark voyage to Port Lockroy. Enjoy!

**Interested in traveling with Robert Bateman on the only 2009 expedition to visit an Emperor Penguin and a King Penguin rookery? Fill in these fields request a free**