Duke

Expedition to

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Featuring Dr. Andrew Read, Ph.D. Stephen A. Toth Professor of Marine Biology Aboard the Deluxe M.S. LE BORÉAL January 26 to February 8, 2016

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Duke

Dear Duke Alumni and Friends:

"Everything wears an aspect of unreality," Ernest Shackleton wrote. "Icebergs hang upside down in the sky, the land appears as layers of silvery or golden cloud, cloud banks look like land, and icebergs masquerade as islands." Discover how normal human scales and reference points disappear amid the grandeur of nature in its most pristine form. From the long sunrises that paint the icescape in soft shades of pink and gold to the lingering light of the austral summer, humpback whales, leopard seals and Adélie penguins mingle amid glimmering turquoise glaciers and sparkling icebergs. Antarctica's spectacular illuminations reveal the contrasts and marvels of the most unique place on Earth to those fortunate enough to visit.

Retrace the sea-lanes traveled by storied explorers Ernest Shackleton, Roald Amundsen and Robert Falcon Scott as they sought out the final frontier of "The White Continent" on this extraordinary 14-day program featuring a nine-night cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, state-of-the-art, Five-Star, ice-class M.S. LE BORÉAL (launched in 2010), one of the finest vessels plying Antarctic waters. The custom-crafted M.S. LE BORÉAL showcases private balconies in 95 percent of the all ocean-view, deluxe accommodations, encompasses a new generation of ship design and technology and sets the highest standards in elegance and comfort.

Your Antarctic adventure will be enhanced by a comprehensive schedule of exclusive and specially arranged lectures. Joining you is Duke Professor Andy Read Ph.D., whose research for Duke's Nicholas School of the Environment and Duke Marine Lab has taken him to the region several times. His depth of knowledge and experience will provide an educational perspective of the highest caliber. In addition, the onboard expedition team of expert naturalists will guide you on excursions aboard sturdy Zodiac craft to explore the intricate ecosystems and marvelous nuances of the abundant wildlife found ashore, especially penguins and seals, who are unafraid of humans.

Explore Antarctica now with this comprehensive educational program and optimal cruising experience. This exceptional travel program sells out year after year, so I urge you to make your reservation soon, while Early Booking Savings and space are available.

Forever Duke,

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Beth Ray-Schroeder '83 Director, Alumni Travel Duke Alumni Association

Wildlife Conservation



The unique international Antarctic Treaty protects Antarctica's wildlife and its natural habitats and provides a guide for visitors to this great continent, where no

country has sovereignty. To protect the fragile Antarctic

environment, all travelers will go ashore in small groups, so as not to over visit rookeries, disturb nesting sites or disrupt research. All visitors will be asked to take and leave—nothing ashore.

U.S.

Tuesday, January 26 Depart the U.S.

Buenos Aires, Argentina Wednesday, January 27

Arrive in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires and check into the deluxe PLAZA HOTEL BUENOS AIRES, overlooking the lovely Plaza San Martin park and adjacent to the chic boutique-lined Calle Florida. This evening, attend the Welcome Reception.

Buenos Aires Thursday, January 28

Buenos Aires, birthplace of the tango, is a city of diverse and dynamic barrios (neighborhoods). See the colorful La Boca district, Monserrat's grand public buildings and historic Plaza de Mayo, Palermo's lavish parks, Puerto Madero's riverfront

Cover photo: Discover a magical world of stunning mountain vistas, abundant marine life and pristine seas on this journey of a lifetime.



The majestic albatross has a wingspan of up to 11 feet, enabling it to fly for hundreds of miles at a time.

community and the charming old quarter of San Telmo. Visit the city's historic Recoleta Cemetery, famous for its ornate vaults and sculptures and as the final resting place of the legendary Evita Perón, the former First Lady of Argentina.

Buenos Aires/Ushuaia Friday, January 29

This morning, fly to remote Ushuaia, the world's southernmost city, the capital of Tierra del Fuego and the gateway to Antarctica, where you will embark M.S. LE BORÉAL. This afternoon, cruise through the Beagle Channel, named for the ship that carried Charles Darwin on his South American voyages. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening.

Cruising Drake Passage Saturday, January 30

Cross the legendary Drake Passage. Upon reaching the Antarctic Convergence, watch for breaching fin, humpback and minke whales and seabirds feeding on

Photo this page: Both captivating and entertaining, penguins are often the first to greet visitors on Antarctica's shores.



plankton and krill brought to the surface by the cold Antarctic currents merging with the warmer waters of the South Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. The expedition team of naturalists will present insightful lectures to prepare you for your first landing in Antarctica.

Cruising Antarctica Sunday, January 31 to Friday, February 5

The ship cruises below the 60th parallel to the outer shores and islands of the Antarctic Peninsula, Earth's last frontier. Here, explore some of the world's most pristine wilderness, where towering mountains of ice and lava create precipitous coastlines and islands, and constantly changing patterns of ice stretch as far as the eye can see. In this seemingly harsh environment, a vast array of marine wildlife flourishes, including millions of penguins, countless seabirds and thousands of seals and whales. From spectacular volcanic topography and majestic glaciers to fascinating wildlife and historic outposts, this itinerary reveals the highlights of the region for the complete Antarctic experience.

Please note that the ship's cruising pattern and positionings are dependent on weather, ice and sea conditions and are subject to change.

One of the smallest but most beautiful of the South Shetland Islands, **Half Moon Island**, is a crescent-shaped isle known for its craggy volcanic rock formations and tranquil lagoons. It is also the site of Cámara Station, a base monitored by Argentine biologists studying regional wildlife. Here, observe the antics of the island's colony of chinstrap penguins and enjoy the lingering twilight of the Antarctic summer.

Deception Island is actually the rim of a massive dormant volcano crater that encircles a caldera known as Port Foster, where the ship enters through dramatic Neptune's Bellows, a sublime harbor ringed by snowcapped peaks and sheer cliffs. In **Pendulum Cove**, see the steaming, geothermally heated waters of the Antarctic. Observe the amazing colony of tens of thousands of chinstrap penguins at Baily Head. Then walk along the black sand beaches of Telefon Bay to nearby craters, which offer fascinating insight into the volcanic activity that created the island and played a pivotal role in the natural history of the region.

In **Paradise Bay**, awesome cliffs of ice descend from the surrounding mountains into the floating iceberg-laden waters along the western coast of the Antarctic Peninsula. Named by 19th-century whalers who sought shelter in its coves, Paradise Bay is an ideal sanctuary for marine wildlife including humpback whales, crabeater seals and Cape petrels. Listen for the low rumbling of Rudolf Glacier as it calves chunks of ice into Neko Harbor, named for an early 20th-century whaling boat. The harbor is surrounded by soaring glaciers and snow-covered mountains and is one of the most dramatic and spectacular sights in Antarctica. Here, make your first "continental landing" in Antarctica.

Cruise through breathtaking, glacier-lined **Neumayer Channel** to **Port Lockroy**. Originally constructed in 1944 by an eight-man team as an intelligence post for British espionage during World War II, Port Lockroy was converted into a whaling station and scientific base in the 1950s. It is nestled among glistening





A visit to Antarctica offers an unparalleled opportunity to get an up-close view of chinstrap penguins in their natural habitat.

mountain peaks as high as 6000 feet, and the surrounding grounds are populated by blue-eyed shags and gentoo penguins. Gain insight into the lives of past explorers at the British Antarctic Survey Museum and mail a postcard stamped with an Antarctica postmark from the official British Post Office. Just beyond Port Lockroy, enjoy an excursion to the rocky shores of **Jougla Point** on **Wiencke Island**. Experience this rare opportunity to view the nearly intact skeleton of a full-size blue whale, and see populous colonies of gentoo penguins and kelp gulls. Convergence and past **Cape Horn**, the southernmost point of South America and a milestone on world trade routes from the 18th century until the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914. Attend the Captain's Farewell Reception this evening.

Ushuaia, Argentina/ Buenos Aires

Sunday, February 7 Disembark and fly to Buenos Aires. Continue on the Iguazú Falls Post-Program Option with an overnight stay in Buenos Aires, or depart for the U.S.

U.S.

Monday, February 8 Arrive in the U.S.

Left: Weighing up to 50 tons, this breaching humpback whale migrates to Antarctic waters to feed during the austral summer.

Iguazú Falls Post-Program Option February 7 to 11

The UNESCO World Heritage site of Iguazú Falls, one of the most incredible wonders of nature along the Brazil-Argentina frontier, features more than 275 spectacular waterfalls cascading from heights of 270 feet through the breathtaking virgin rainforest. Walk among the Argentine Falls and admire magnificent panoramic views of Devil's Gorge, the highest of the falls. The lush jungle setting of Parque das Aves is a nature lover's paradise as it is home to more than 350 species of birds, 66 varieties of mammals and a mind-boggling array of reptiles, fish, butterflies and flora. This exclusive three-night Post-Program Option features one night of accommodations at the deluxe PLAZA HOTEL BUENOS AIRES and two nights in the deluxe SHERATON IGUAZÚ RESORT & SPA. Buenos Aires round-trip airfare is included.

Flanked by sheer cliffs of towering glaciers between the Antarctic Peninsula and

Booth Island, Lemaire Channel offers views of seven majestic miles of mountains and wildlife combined with fascinating patterns of ice floes. Call at **Petermann Island**, the southernmost point of your journey, and watch its thriving rookeries of Adélie and gentoo penguins and blue-eyed shags.

Cruise the **Weddell Sea** and see the enormous tabular icebergs that have calved from the Larsen Ice Shelf. See **Brown Bluff's** spectacular 2450-foot-high promontory jutting into the Antarctic Sound. Observe the area's flourishing colony of friendly Adélie penguins, who may approach you for an up-close encounter.

Cruising Drake Passage/ Cape Horn, Chile Saturday, February 6

Relax and reflect on board as the ship turns north and crosses the Drake Passage. Enjoy lively, informative discussions with the ship's naturalists. Watch for endangered albatross and the many different species of petrels as you cruise across the Antarctic

Post-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.



FIVE-STAR m.s. Le Boréal

Five-Star, Ice-Class Ship, State-of-the-Art Design

The highly acclaimed, exclusively chartered M.S. LE BORÉAL, launched in 2010, represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

Spacious 100% Ocean-View Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies Each deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower and luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities. Most accommodations have two twin beds that convert to one queen bed,

individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, minibar, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

Chic and Casual Dining

International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious La Licorne dining room in single, unassigned seatings; in the casual La Boussole Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Continental and buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.

Spacious Public Areas/ World-Class Service and Facilities

Inviting and spacious public areas accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge, nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge, and lectures, cultural performances and film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment and two elevators. The infirmary is staffed with a doctor and nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

Respect for the Environment

The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage by minimizing vibration and engine noise. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious "Clean Ship" rating, an extreme rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has 10 Zodiacs.



Stateroom with Balcony



Dining Room



Lounge



Forward Observation Deck



Included Features

In Buenos Aires, Argentina

• Two nights in the deluxe PLAZA HOTEL BUENOS AIRES, and breakfast each morning.

- Welcome Reception.
- City tour featuring the popular neighborhoods of Palermo, Monserrat, La Boca, Puerto Madero and San Telmo, and visit to the historic Recoleta Cemetery.

Flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia with return to Buenos Aires.

On board the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, Ice-Class M.S. LE BORÉAL

- Nine nights round trip Ushuaia, Argentina, cruising to Antarctica's Half Moon Island, Deception Island, Paradise Bay, Neko Harbor, Port Lockroy, Wiencke Island, Lemaire Channel, Petermann Island and Brown Bluff, conditions permitting.
- Spacious, Five-Star, ocean-view Suite or Stateroom accommodations, each with a private bathroom.
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- All meals—continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.
- Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.
- Exploration by Zodiac landing craft, accompanied by an expert naturalist from the expedition team.
- Shore excursions to explore Antarctica's diverse wildlife habitats, including major penguin rookeries.
- Onboard expedition team of naturalists who provide a series of lectures about local wildlife and topography.
- Souvenir polar-grade red parka to wear.

 Enhanced Travel Services
 Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).

- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Hospitality desk in the hotel and aboard ship.
- The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

Duke Study Leader



Andrew Read is the Stephen A. Toth Professor of Marine Biology in the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke and teaches at the Duke University Marine Lab in Beaufort, NC.

Andy was born in England and educated in Canada, receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Guelph in 1990. He is interested in the ecology and conservation biology of marine mammals, seabirds and sea turtles. He has conducted field research on marine mammals, sea birds and sea turtles in North and South America, Europe and the Antarctic. Andy has spent several field seasons working on humpback and minke whales along the western Antarctic Peninsula, most recently in February 2015. He is a member of the Cetacean Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission. Andy lives with his wife Kim in Gloucester, NC.

Your Expedition Team

Seasoned naturalists, who have studied and traveled extensively in Antarctica and the most remote regions of the world, will accompany you aboard the M.S. LE BORÉAL as your Antarctic Expedition Team. Their areas of expertise span marine biology, ornithology, ecology, geology, glaciology, conservation and environmental education, history and photography. The team's collaborative efforts, experience, particular interest in the world's ecosystems and enthusiasm for sharing their knowledge make them exceptionally well-suited to lead your Expedition to Antarctica.

M.S. LE BORÉAL	——————————————————————————————————————
for the second s	————Deck 5, Le Normandie ———Deck 4, Le Lafayette
	Deck 3, Le Champollion

LAND/CRUISE TARIFF (per person, based on double occupancy)								
Stateroom	Description- Staterooms r two twin beds that convert	ange from 200 to 484 to make one queen be	sq. ft. and most have d. All feature a privat	Early Booking Price	Regular Price after			
Category*	<i>bathroom and individual c</i> Ocean-view, one large winde	limate control.	, 1	May 29, 2015	May 29, 2015			
8	Deck 3, Le Champollion, for Ocean-view, small window a	ward. (limited availability		\$9845	\$10845			
7	shower. Deck 3, Le Champo	ollion, aft. (limited availat	pility)	\$10645	\$11845			
6	Ocean-view, small window a shower. Deck 3, Le Champo	ollion, midship.		\$12145	\$13145			
5	Ocean-view, expansive floor- wall balcony , shower. <i>Deck</i>			^{al} \$12645	\$13645			
4	Ocean-view, expansive floor- shower. Deck 4, Le Lafayette		loor onto private balco	^{ony,} \$13445	\$14445			
3	Ocean-view, expansive floor- shower. Deck 5, Le Norman		loor onto private balco	^{ony,} \$13545	\$14545			
2	Ocean-view, expansive floor- shower or tub/shower. Deck			^{ony,} \$13845	\$14845			
1	Ocean-view, expansive floor- shower or tub/shower. Deck (to-ceiling sliding glass d	,	^{ony,} \$14245	\$15245			
Deluxe Suite	Ocean-view, expansive floor- tub/shower and sitting area	to-ceiling sliding glass d			\$15545			
Prestige Suite II	Two-room, ocean-view, expans balcony, two bathrooms: tub/ closets, writing desk and dress	sive floor-to-ceiling sliding 'shower and shower, large	glass door onto large pr i e sitting area with sofa, tw	vate vo \$14845	\$15845			
Prestige Suite I	Two-room, ocean-view, expansional balcony, two bathrooms: tub/	sive floor-to-ceiling sliding shower and shower, large	glass door onto large pri e sitting area with sofa, tw	vate	\$16445			
 Sulte 1 closets, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 6, Le France. (limited availability) An Owner's Suite (Deck 6, Le France) is available upon request at a cost to be advised, on a first-come first-served basis. Singles are available in category 6 at \$21845 and in category 4 at \$23845 on or before May 29, 2015. 								
 Singles Add \$10 	are available in category 6 000 for reservations made a	at \$21845 and in cate after May 29, 2015.	gory 4 at \$23845 on	or before May 29, 201	5.			
	e an additional \$865 per p trip airfare Buenos Aires/Us							
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Stand on the bow of the M.S. LE BORÉAL and watch Antarctica's drama unfold before you.

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LUGGACE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. Please contact your airline(s) for the most current luggage allowance policy. PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: No sophisticated medical facilities are available in the Antarctic. The vessel carries a physician and a limited infirmary with basic medications and equipment, and its medical facilities are not equipped for serious illness or accidents. Evacuation is difficult, time consuming and expensive. Consequently, you should consult with your physician before booking this trip. We recommend you purchase medical evacuation insurance. All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing (for example, the need for a where that index be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment.

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