EXCLUSIVE ANTARCTICA CHARTER
Classic Antarctica: The Falklands, South Georgia & Antarctica

27th October to 14th November 2020 (19 days)

Aboard the RCGS Resolute

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Antarctica is surely the ultimate destination! The scenic settings are as magnificent as any on earth, and the scale of nearly everything is grand, to say the least. Complementing these astounding vistas are vast colonies of majestic penguins, brash skuas, giant petrels, weird sheathbills, somnolent seals and feeding whales that all add life to the region’s stark and amazing beauty.

Our voyage traverses some of the most interesting areas in the Southern Ocean; notably the Falkland and South Georgia Islands, both of which are renowned as among the richest of all Subantarctic islands. South Georgia’s rugged beauty is worthy of Antarctica itself, while the Falkland Islands are better known as the battlegrounds for the 1982 Anglo-Argentine War. Several days are spent at sea, cruising from one island group to the next until we find ourselves at the very tip of the icy continent itself. These crossings provide thrilling pelagic birding, with huge numbers of albatrosses, petrels, prions, skuas and other seabirds making a daily appearance. Cetaceans are also regular, ranging from the largest whales to the striking Hourglass and Commerson’s Dolphins.

This journey to Antarctica is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience and cannot come more highly recommended!
Although Rockjumper has journeyed to Antarctica annually, this will be the third time since 2008 that we are taking a full Antarctic charter. We will have a team of Rockjumper Birding and ORYX Photographic tour leaders aboard the very comfortable, well-appointed, safe and ice-strengthened RCGS Resolute. Our voyage will be the first of the season, which besides offering pristine snowscapes, will mean that we will encounter displaying penguins and other breeding birds, as well as duelling Southern Elephant Seal beachmasters (these giants are usually gone by late November when most expeditions come south). However, the main reason for our early season departure is to maximise our chances of finding the holy grail of the Antarctic; the Emperor Penguin. We have designed our cruise route to ensure we have time to head through the Antarctic Sound, and as far into the Weddell Sea as ice and weather conditions will allow us, to search for the Emperors here, and get as close as we can to their breeding colony on Snow Hill Island.

The other advantage of this early season cruise is a lower cost structure; and this being our own charter, we will be able to ensure our landings will give us the best birding and photographic opportunities possible.

We look forward to sharing this adventure of a lifetime with you.

**DAY 1 SANTIAGO TO PORT STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS**

We will start our day off with a flight from Santiago, Chile to Stanley. The roughly 2,000 people inhabiting the historic town of Stanley represent about 80% of the population of the entire Falkland Islands. Our visit will give perspective on the history of British settlement of the islands, plus the 1982 Anglo-Argentine War in which Argentinean forces invaded but were subsequently defeated and expelled by the British. We have the afternoon to explore various birding sites in the vicinity, which should put us in touch with several specials, including the endemic Falkland Steamer Duck, White-bridled Finch and Black-chinned Siskin. Additional species may include Two-banded and the attractive Rufous-chested Plover, Brown-hooded Gull and South American Snipe. Time will also be available to explore the museums, shipwrecks, historical trails and shops of Stanley, before we board our well-appointed vessel.

**DAYS 2 & 3 AT SEA BETWEEN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS & SOUTH GEORGIA**

For the seabird enthusiast, these are some of the most exciting waters in the world. As we cruise from the Falklands to South Georgia, we cross the Antarctic Convergence, where the warmer, saline water from the north meets the colder and less salty Antarctic water. This is a very rich feeding ground for seabirds and marine mammals, attracting large volumes of wildlife from distant breeding islands and waters. Though the Convergence attracts birds from both north and south, we will notice a shift of species and relative numbers between the waters on either side of it. Albatrosses and petrels will predominate here. We are likely to see Royal Albatross (usually both the Northern and Southern species are observed), Light-mantled Albatross (arguably the most attractive of all albatrosses), Southern Fulmar, both Northern and Southern Giant Petrels, Soft-plumaged, White-headed and Blue Petrels, Antarctic Prion, Grey-backed and Black-bellied Storm Petrels and Common Diving Petrel. We will also look for rarer prizes, such as Kerguelen, Grey and Great-winged Petrels, and albatrosses from the other side of the Subantarctic.
DAYS 4 TO 7 SOUTH GEORGIA; PLANNED LANDINGS AT SALISBURY PLAIN, ST ANDREW’S, FORTUNA AND STROMNESS BAYS, GOLD HARBOUR, PRION ISLAND AND GRYTVIKEN

As we approach South Georgia, the marine avifauna is dominated increasingly by the species breeding there. Given the enormous numbers of seabirds nesting on South Georgia and its surrounding islets, this is not surprising. Although this island lies south of the Antarctic Convergence, its waters don’t freeze in winter, meaning it can support life throughout the year. As a result, vast numbers of birds and pinnipeds live here year-round — over 500,000 pairs of King Penguins call this island home, and walking through their packed colonies is without a doubt one of the single greatest wildlife experiences on the planet. In fact, the area around Salisbury Plain is believed to have the highest density of wildlife of anywhere on Earth!

We have several days to explore this mountainous, glaciated island. So stark, but home to such mind-bogglingly abundant and exciting wildlife. All landings will be weather permitting, but we will make every effort to explore the Salisbury Plain, where beyond the black sand beach, lies one of the world’s largest King Penguin colonies. In addition, we plan a landing at St Andrew’s Bay, where an even bigger King Penguin colony exists. The breeding grounds for Light-mantled Albatross, White-chinned Petrel, Snowy Sheathbill, Brown Skua and Antarctic Tern are also nearby.

The beaches heave with South American Fur Seal, but one of our special targets of this early season voyage will be to watch enormous Southern Elephant Seal beachmasters battling for supremacy. These enormous animals, the largest species in the order Carnivora, reach weights of up to 4,000 kg (8,800 lb) and lengths of 5.8 m (19 ft). Their large proboscis, which gives them their name, allows them to roar extraordinarily loudly. This, combined with their fierce fighting, results in an incredible spectacle to experience.

We also plan to visit Grytviken, the whaling station where the largest individual animal known to have lived on earth, a huge Blue Whale specimen, was butchered. Here, we will visit the South Georgia Museum, remnants of the whaling station and the grave of the famed Antarctic explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton. Of course, birds and pinnipeds are also resident, and photographic opportunities will be breathtaking throughout (Please bear in mind, that throughout Antarctica and the Subantarctic, landings are subject to the weather conditions; alternatives are usually available when winds and surf are unfavourable at a planned site).

Other birds we seek during these unforgettable days include South Georgia Diving Petrel, the endemic South Georgia Shag, inquisitive Snowy Seathbills, the Subantarctic race of Brown Skua and Antarctic Tern. The endemic South Georgia Pipit, the world’s most southern passerine, was completely restricted to small offshore islands, but great news is that it has now expanded due to the eradication of rats from South Georgia, and is now far more easily located than before. Over 3 million pairs of Macaroni Penguin breed on the island. Though they are nowhere near as obvious as the Kings, we will no doubt encounter them. Another target is the “South Georgia” Yellow-billed Pintail, a strange race of this more widespread species which is known to be carnivorous here on South Georgia.
Our final day on spectacular South Georgia features some of the most dazzling scenery yet, especially around the south-east tip of the island; where the stunning Drygalski Fjord is framed by sharp, non-glaciated mountain peaks. For photographers, this day offers some truly spectacular photographic opportunities, and seabirding will be at its very best as we depart from South Georgia. In particular, we will look out for our first pure-white Snow Petrels, as well as South Georgia Diving Petrels and most of the species already mentioned, but in particular Kerguelen Petrels.

**DAYS 8 TO 10** **AT SEA TOWARDS ANTARCTICA AND POSSIBLY ELEPHANT ISLAND**

Weather and ice will dictate our crossing of the Scotia Sea from South Georgia to Antarctica, leading us perhaps to Elephant Island. As with all of our itinerary planning, our expedition leader and captain will make a decision based on the conditions at the time, also bearing in mind our plan to try to access the Weddell Sea.

As we cruise south-west towards Antarctica, we cross increasingly polar waters. More temperate species disappear; while the true Antarctic species become more prominent, but total numbers and diversity will drop. Our informative onboard lectures will continue to provide breaks from the hours of watching seabirds, whales, dolphins and icebergs. At some point, we will encounter sea-ice, and it is at the ice-edge where we increase our chances for high-Antarctic species, such as Snow Petrel, Chinstrap Penguin and the predatory Leopard Seal. We will keep our eyes peeled to pick out the sought-after Antarctic Petrel in and amongst sometimes vast flocks of Cape Petrel.

As we edge ever closer to the frozen continent, large icebergs announce our arrival in Antarctic waters. If conditions allow, we will hope to see the dark cliffs of Elephant Island appear on the horizon. Shackleton and his men were encamped here for many months, having lost HMS Endurance in the thick sea ice, far to the south in the Weddell Sea, in 1915. From the desolate beach at Point Wild, Shackleton and six companions set off on the rescue mission to South Georgia, aboard the tiny lifeboat, James Caird. To this day, the epic ocean crossing is considered one of the greatest in history. If conditions and time allow, we will attempt a landing at Point Wild on Elephant Island.

Brown Skua and Southern Giant, Cape, Snow and Wilson’s Storm Petrels should entertain us in this region, and cetaceans might include Sei Whale and Hourglass Dolphin.

*All in all, it truly was/is the trip of a lifetime, and it tugs on my heart to want to return - very very well done! - LM*
DAYS 11 TO 15  ANTARCTICA AND THE SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

On the morning of day 11, we hope to wake up in the Antarctic Sound, a channel between the north-eastern tip of the Antarctic Peninsula and Joinville Island. Here, we will encounter awe-inspiring tabular icebergs, large fragments of the vast Weddell Ice Shelf, and the ice shelves along the east side of the Antarctic Peninsula. At this time of year, we stand a very reasonable chance to find the holy grail of Antarctica, the Emperor Penguin. This highly sought-after true denizen on the Antarctic, famed for its ability to nest through the hard polar winter, is only guaranteed on exceedingly expensive fly-in tours to their colonies. However, we will head as far south through the Antarctic Sound into the Weddell Sea as ice conditions will allow. Each mile southwards to the Emperor colony on Snow Hill Island will improve our chances of finding one of these incredible birds resting on the ice.

We may make our first landing at Paulet Island, a tiny island boasting a huge colony of beautiful Adelie Penguins. Whilst we enjoy these delightful creatures, we will also be entertained by more Snowy Sheathbill, Brown Skua and a nearby colony of Antarctic Shag, a very beautiful cormorant. Our first steps on the Antarctic continent itself may be at Brown Bluff, where we will be treated to spectacular scenery, colonies of Gentoo and Adelie Penguins, and possibly even nesting Snow Petrels, for those willing to partake in a hike. Mammals in this region include Leopard Seal and its favourite prey, Weddell and Crabeater Seals, as well as Antarctic Minke Whale and pods of Orca.

Next, we will head north again, and around 60 miles off the coast of the Antarctic mainland, we find the South Shetland Island chain. Possible landing sites could include Half Moon Island or King George Island, and dazzling wildlife sightings await us on our excursions to these islands. Weather conditions permitting, we will sail the ship into the flooded volcanic caldera of Deception Island. With rugged scenery, great sites of geologic interest and an overwhelming display of whaling and scientific exploration history, Deception Island is a perfect museum of natural and exploration history. For those wanting to stretch their legs, a spectacular hike to the crater rim offers a challenge! At one or more of these landings, we can expect to find the delicately-patterned Chinstrap Penguin, which, despite its looks, emits a yowl that is far from pleasant! We will also add another new bird to our list: South Polar Skua, which occurs in smaller numbers than Brown Skuas.
Later, we will zigzag back through the Bransfield Strait heading south-westwards to Mikkelsen Harbour and Cierva Cove. In this area, we will enjoy zodiac excursions through the pack ice, marvelling at the myriad of shapes and colours of these ancient formations. Here we may even be lucky enough to encounter another Emperor Penguin, as we did during our 2016 cruise. Although we are unlikely to get many new additions to our list, we will have plenty of photo opportunities and time to experience the scenery and wildlife of this amazing region. We again plan to make landings on the Antarctic continent. The scenery here, from the colossal icebergs to the seemingly endless Antarctic ice-sheet with distant high mountains, is truly breathtaking.

Later, we sail past or maybe even land on the Orne Islands with its large colonies of Chinstrap Penguin and a beautiful view across the Gerlache Strait to Cuverville Island – a small precipitous island nestled between the mountains of the Antarctic Peninsula. Cuverville Island is home to the region's largest Gentoo Penguin colony and most of the region's breeding bird species. Such penguin colonies and their inevitable attendants are frequent highlights. Here, again, we can explore by zodiac, join our photographic guides for close-up penguin photography, hike to the top of a snowy mountain saddle with one of our adventure guides, and possibly visit a science base or an old historic hut if the opportunity presents itself. For the more adventurous, kayaking* up to several miles from the ship is an option for a truly memorable experience.

*Sea kayaking – Please note, if you have some experience with sea kayaking and are interested in doing this activity during the expedition, you will need to book this option prior to departure from home (sea kayaking price is extra and is not included in the tour cost). We cannot book this activity once onboard. There is a separate document for sea kayakers that you will need to review beforehand. It's also important you have some prior paddling experience. If you are unsure, please contact our office for further information.

DAYS 16 & 17 AT SEA IN THE DRAKE PASSAGE

Sadly, we will bid farewell to this frozen wonderland and head north through the famous Drake Passage between Antarctica and Tierra del Fuego. With another crossing of the Antarctic Convergence, we will again have many opportunities to enjoy and study the region's rich seabirds and cetaceans. While encountering the pelagic seabirds of the Subantarctic Southern Ocean, especially the now-familiar albatrosses and petrels, we will examine each bird in search of rarer species – perhaps a Westland Petrel, Subantarctic Shearwater, or one of the Shy Albatross complex of species will put in an appearance. We will also keep our eyes peeled for breaching whales and bow-riding dolphins. Lectures will continue to provide entertaining diversions and educational information.

"The trip was wonderful, the ship's staff were exceptional, the weather was perfect, and the two sightings of Emperor Penguin were outstanding (thank you for arranging that). And I saw my favorite bird in the world, the elegant Wandering Albatross, several times!"
DAY 18 FALKLAND ISLANDS; WEST POINT AND CARCASS ISLANDS

This morning, we will wake up back in the Falkland Islands! Whilst in these waters, we will hope for Atlantic Yellow-nosed and Sooty Albatrosses and Atlantic Petrel, three species typical of this more temperate ocean. We will spend the entire day on the fascinating western side of the archipelago. Our first stop will likely be West Point Island, with its vast rookeries of Southern (Western) Rockhopper Penguin; while South American Sea Lion, South American Fur Seal and Peale’s and noisy Commerson’s Dolphins are likely in the surrounding waters (the latter known locally as “Puffing Pigs” due to their load huffing noises). Blackish Cinclodes should be waiting for us at the dock as we land, and here we usually also find a nesting pair of Blackish Oystercatcher and a pair of Falkland Steamer Ducks.

Other birds occurring here include Austral Thrush, Dark-faced Ground Tyrant, Black-chinned Siskin and Long-tailed Meadowlark. We will also carefully scan flocks of geese to find the rare Ruddy-headed Goose. We should come across confiding Striated Caracaras on the lovely hike to a Black-browed Albatross colony, the main objective for this morning. Here, we will soak up the beauty of the spectacular wildlife in view; thousands of Black-browed Albatrosses nesting on a magnificent cliff; pairs in display and a continuous stream of individuals landing and taking off, all at touching distance – a truly incredible sight! As if that isn’t enough, entertaining Southern Rockhopper Penguins also nest among the albatrosses.

After lunch back on board, we plan to proceed to the pristine Carcass Island, which supports the highest diversity and abundance of land and waterbirds in the Falklands. Our explorations here will seek out Magellanic and Gentoo Penguins, Rock and Imperial Shags, the lovely Dolphin Gull, the aptly-named Kelp Goose that forages in the beds of giant kelp, Correndera Pipit, the lovely White-bridled Finch, Grass Wren and the endemic Cobb’s Wren, amongst other species. The approachability of these birds is remarkable, and superb photographic opportunities can be expected. In the late afternoon, we will steam towards Stanley, and will toast the conclusion of our amazing venture with a celebratory dinner on our last night together.

DAY 19 RETURN TO PORT STANLEY, AND FLIGHT TO SANTIAGO

Today, we cruise back into Port Stanley, where we will disembark from our home away from home for the past 18 days. There may be time to do one last stint of exploring around Stanley before we board our return flights to Santiago, and bid farewell to the fellow travellers with whom we have shared this voyage of a lifetime.

“It was an incredible trip. Exhilarating, intense, thought-provoking and really fun!” - SB
SHIP SCHEMATURES AND ROOMS

TRIPLE & THIRD DECK TWIN

- Located on Deck 3
- These cabins feature the option for a double or two single beds and a third Pullman berth, which can fold out from the wall if required. A sectional lounge is placed by the portholes with a writing desk and chair, ample storage and private washroom facilities. These cabins provide easy access to the expedition room and gangway.

TWIN PRIVATE

- Located on Deck 4
- Spacious and well-appointed, these cabins have the option for either a queen or two single configured beds. Features include a comfortable lounge adjacent to the large picture window, writing desk and chair, ample storage and private washroom facilities with shower. These cabins provide easy access to the main dining room on the ship as well as the gift shop.

SUPERIOR

- Located on Deck 5
- These cabins have the option for either a queen or two single beds. Features include a comfortable lounge adjacent to the large picture window, writing desk and chair, ample storage and private washroom facilities with shower. These cabins provide easy access to the forward stairs leading up to the bridge on Deck 6 and the forward observation lounge located on Deck 7.
SUPERIOR PLUS  $21,895
- Located on Deck 5
- These cabins are spacious and well-appointed with the option for either a queen or two single beds. A comfortable lounge is placed by the large picture window, writing desk and chair, ample floor to ceiling cabinet storage and private washroom facilities with shower. Centrally located, these cabins provide easy access to the aft observation lounge featuring 180 degree views and the ship’s dining areas.

SHACKLETON SUITE  $24,195
- Located on Deck 6
- Suites include the comfort of a sectional lounge, writing desk, substantial floor to ceiling cabinetry, and washroom facilities with shower. Sleeping quarters feature the option for either a queen or two single beds with upgraded linen/pillows. These suites provide easy access to the ship’s bridge, the bistro and outdoor observation spaces. The forward panoramic observation lounge and recreation facilities are also located nearby on Deck 7.

ONE OCEAN SUITE  $26,695
- Located on Deck 6
- These suites offer an indulgent amount of space. Sleeping quarters feature a queen size bed with upgraded linen/pillows. Included is a comfortable sectional lounge with matching club chairs, a large desk, expansive floor to ceiling cabinetry, and spacious washroom facilities with both a shower and bathtub. These suites provide easy access to the ship’s bridge, the bistro and outdoor observation spaces. The panoramic observation lounge and recreation facilities are located nearby on Deck 7.

Please note the following Payment Schedule:

25% - Deposit to secure your place aboard the vessel

25% - Due by the 30th of September, 2019

50% - Due by the 19th of July, 2020

* Once payments are made, they are non-refundable. We highly suggest you take out comprehensive travel insurance to cover you in the event that you need to cancel.
Why do you think this is such a good time to go to Antarctica?

Early season trips have several advantages. Ask any Antarctic veteran and they’ll tell you straight off, this season is your best chance for Emperor Penguin. Even still, you need some luck, but your chances are probably best around November. The ice is much more pristine around this time of the year too. As it is still in the early stages of the season, breeding colonies still tend to be less messy, so the new ice remains relatively unspoilt by the life here. Also, as a tubenose fiend, this is not only a good time for certain scarce species – like the beefy Atlantic Petrel or the unique Kerguelen Petrel – but is also a time when these speed demons are in fine feather. A quest bird for so many, the Antarctic Petrel is quite reliable in the early season, and also usually hasn't begun molting, so they look quite trim compared to later on. Add to this that now is the time when seabirds like Light-mantled Sooty Albatrosses perform their synchronized courtship flights, and many other species are engaged in display as they pair up, and it is pretty dramatic. It's a great time to photograph seabirds. While the scenery is always otherworldly. Personally, my experience is that I see more seals in the early season too. There is nothing quite like looking into the menacing eyes of a Leopard Seal, as it smirks with its reptilian grin.

Why the RCGS Resolute?

The ship is super. Modern, tough, and ice-strengthened, it's the ideal vessel for navigating this remote corner of the globe. There's a library for study, a bar for celebrating, good meeting spaces for groups, and the food is good too. I think Antarctica is the only trip I've done where I eat ravenously at every opportunity and yet still manage to come home a little lighter in weight. We eat well, and we burn calories too. We've even got a fitness room, a massage room, a hot water spa, a sauna and a plunge pool too, should you want.

What are some of the things you are most looking forward to on this tour?

South Georgia most of all. There's no place like it. And the scene-scapes around the peninsula.... WOW! It's the only place I've ever been where I feel like I'm on another planet.

Everyone knows about the penguins. They are nature's best comedians, and yet you have to admire them. They are funny and cute, but tough too, and smart. It's impossible not to take a million photos. I like the Adelies and Chinstraps best of all. But honestly, the thing I like best is the time at sea. The landings are a thrill, but it's the sea that holds all the mystery and intrigue. Which seabirds will we see? Can anyone spot a Grey, White-headed or Westland Petrel, a Yellow-nosed Albatross, a Manx Shearwater, or another rare seabird? Which whales will make an appearance? Will anyone spot a Berardius? (I'll buy them a beer if so). You have to be on deck, and at the ready. And your time there is always rewarded. Unexpected birds find the boat. Usually a Sheathbill shows up at some point and waddles around the boat, and sometimes songbirds show up too. Virtually constantly, Cape Petrels and Black-browed Albatrosses circle the boat. So common, and so elegant.

Why travel with Rockjumper in 2020?

Well, we have the entire boat. Every. Last. Berth. Unlike so many Antarctic trips, where there can be competing agendas, this year we are running the show, and we all have the same goals. That may be the most exciting thing of all to me. We have an uncommon level of control, with a number of our best guides at the helm, which can help when it comes to searching for that big penguin, or when there is a really unusual whale sighting. We know what we want to see, and we'll have a unique level of maneuverability in trying to see it. That is rare on these trips.
OTHER TOUR LEADERS

**Penny Robartes** is a professional fine art wildlife photographer whose images are easily recognised by her iconoclastic work that is recalibrating the way the world sees wildlife. She has emerged as one of Africa’s great nature photographers and is moving her Tour Leading expertise and portfolio to incorporate destinations abroad. Her stunning creations breathe life into natural encounters with the deftness of an artist’s brushstrokes and the enthralling narrative of the best storytellers.

**Adam Walleyn** was born and raised on the Canadian prairies. A birder and naturalist from a very young age, he has seen over 8,000 bird species and has been involved in research and recovery plans on critically endangered species such as Black Robin and Spoon-billed Sandpiper. He has also spent over 1,000 days at sea, and has visited Antarctica over 50 times. Adam loves to travel and learn, and delights in sharing his knowledge of all aspects of natural history with others.

**Jeff Gordon** is the President of the American Birding Association. Jeff’s special areas of interest include how to build a bigger, more inclusive tent of birders, and how we can come together to have the greatest possible positive impact on the future of birding and the birds that have meant so much to us all. Prior to coming aboard at the ABA, Jeff spent several decades leading birding tours, working as an interpretive naturalist, and learning about the birding industry as a freelance writer, speaker and video editor.

**Liz Gordon** has been a birder for 25 years. After growing up in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas and not knowing about the birds in her backyard for 13 years, she discovered Green Jays and chachalacas. There was no stopping her after that. She helped found the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, and was a mentor for the ABA/Leica Tropicbirds in Texas and Cape May. She first volunteered and eventually became Adjutant at the ABA office. A passion for birds and protecting their habitats drives her every day.

**Clayton Burne** hails from Durban, South Africa. His previous experience includes working as a museum technician, five years of safari guiding and several years of ophthalmology. Craving an adventure, Clayton packed his bags and completed a year-long birding expedition around South America, accumulating an in-depth knowledge of the region’s birds and wildlife. His time is now spent mostly behind a desk in the guise of Operations Manager, but he does still get into the field to lead the odd tour.

**Holly Faithfull** has a passion for nature and wildlife that began at a young age growing up in rural England. Her curiosity about the world took her travelling at the age of 17, and she has not looked back since, with her interest in wildlife taking her to more than 100 countries. Since 2000, she has been involved in ecotourism full-time, scouting and operating wildlife-watching trips all over the world, as well as guiding tours to more than 50 countries on six continents.

**Alvaro Jaramillo** is an internationally-known ornithologist and tour leader. An expert on the birds of Chile, California and North America, he has published numerous books, papers and articles on a great variety of avian subjects, but what he enjoys most is time in the field with others that share his enthusiasm for birds and nature. Rockjumper is proud to partner with Alvaro’s Adventures, and guests will have the opportunity to bird with Alvaro on deck and also to hear him speak as a lecturer onboard the Resolute.
WHAT IS INCLUDED:

• All meals (including afternoon tea) from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 19
• Due to a change in tour dates, a glass of house wine or beer will be available with every dinner during the voyage
• 24 hour availability of tea, coffee, hot chocolate in bars and lounges and in-cabin tea and coffee making facilities
• Shipboard accommodation in your selected cabin category with daily housekeeping. All cabins feature outside views with opening windows or portholes
• Port fees and all landing permits
• Expedition gear package (waterproof/windproof jacket, bib pants, insulated rubber boots)
• Zodiac excursions
• Educational presentations
• Dedicated Rockjumper professional bird tour leaders
• Dedicated ORYX professional photographic tour leader
• Experienced expedition leader and naturalist guides supplied by One Ocean Expeditions
• Hospitality team including a hotel manager, chefs, professional bar staff and adventure concierge staff
• An emergency trained physician
• Bright & modern, naturally lit, well-equipped gymnasium with panoramic windows & easy access to outer decks
• Jacuzzi protected from the elements with a clear, glass-covered cupola & a heated outdoor saltwater pool
• Early morning fruit smoothy bar (casual/bistro lounge) with various healthy add-ons
• Heart healthy & dietary menu options
• Access to a well-stocked library including many polar reference books

WHAT IS EXCLUDED:

• Any flights (both international and domestic). Except where specifically noted as included. *Charter flights from Santiago (Chile) to Stanley (Falkland Islands) return cost $995 per person.*
• Visa and passport expenses
• Pre or post-cruise hotel accommodation
• Pre or post-cruise transfers
• Sea kayaking program (additional $795 per person and it must be reserved at the time of booking your voyage and you need to have prior paddling experience)
• Personal expenses on board including alcoholic beverages, bar charges, massages or laundry expenses
• Telecommunication charges including email and satellite phone
• Insurance - cancellation or medical and related expenses (travel insurance is mandatory on all voyages)
• Voluntary gratuity for crew, staff and tour leaders at the end of the cruise

PLEASE ALSO NOTE:

a) Costs are subject to unforeseen increases in tour-related costs and may have to be adjusted as a result. You will be notified by email if fuel surcharges or other price adjustments need to be implemented however this is considered highly unlikely.
b) We may be forced to change or alter the itinerary and/or the designated Rockjumper and ORYX leaders at short or no notice due to unforeseen circumstances; please be aware that we will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.
c) Lastly, the above schedule is approximate and depends on sea, ice and weather conditions and other factors.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DETAILS:

This tour does not include any airfares. The tour will depart from Santiago, Chile on day 1 with a morning charter flight to Port Stanley, Falkland Islands. The cruise will conclude in the afternoon on day 19 after a charter flight from Port Stanley, Falkland Islands back to Santiago, Chile.

The above information in respect of arrivals and departures is a guide only. Precise arrival and departure information will be sent to you in your Tour Confirmation package once the tour has been officially confirmed. If you wish to arrive early and/or depart late and would like assistance in this regard, kindly contact the Rockjumper office.
FLIGHTS:
Comodoro Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport, Santiago (IATA: SCL), is the main port of entry for international flights into Chile. **Please DO NOT book any flights until you have consulted the Rockjumper office for confirmation on the status of the tour.**

We utilise a special charter flight service between Santiago (Chile) and Stanley (Falkland Islands) and different luggage limits apply. Please observe a limit of 20kg for checked baggage and 5kg for carry-on baggage. There is no facility to purchase excess luggage on this flight.

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Rockjumper Birding Ltd
The Hive, Lot 23
Centre Commercial du Barachois
La Place Cap, Tamarin
Mauritius

Tel: (USA & Canada) toll-free: 1-888-990-5552
Email: info@rockjumperbirding.com
Alternative email: rockjumperbirding@yahoo.com
Website: www.rockjumperbirding.com