

Aboard the Five-Star M.S. LE SOLÉAL February 9 to 22, 2017

ALC DATA

Expedition to

ALABAMA

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Dear Alabama Traveler:

"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, icebergs masquerade as islands..." Discover how normal human scales and reference points disappear amidst the grandeur of nature in its most pristine form. From 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 among sparkling turquoise glaciers and glimmering icebergs. Antarctica's spectacular illuminations reveal the mystique and contrasts 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 SOLÉAL (launched in 2013), one of the finest vessels plying Antarctic waters. The custom-crafted M.S. LE SOLÉAL—limited to 90 Suites and Staterooms on this special expedition—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 experience will be enhanced by a comprehensive schedule of exclusive and specially arranged lectures. 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 have no fear of humans.

This once-in-a-lifetime, comprehensive program is the best Antarctic cruise value offered. It features the finest Five-Star accommodations available on any expedition ship, includes all excursions, all meals and complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages on board ship and is simply the optimal cruising experience that has sold out quickly year after year. I urge you to place your reservation soon, while Early Booking Savings and space are available!

Sincerely,

Ashley Olive

Ashley Olive Alumni Tour Coordinator University of Alabama National 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.

**Thursday, February 9** Depart the U.S.

#### Buenos Aires, Argentina Friday, February 10

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

Saturday, February 11 Birthplace of the tango, Buenos Aires is a city of diverse and dynamic *barrios* (neighborhoods). See the colorful La Boca district, Monserrat's grand public buildings, historic Plaza de Mayo, Palermo's lavish parks, Puerto Madero's lively riverfront community and the charming old quarter of San Telmo.

The southern giant petrel spends most of its life at sea but is known to return to the same nest annually.

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 Sunday, February 12

This morning, fly to remote Ushuaia, the world's southernmost city, capital of Tierra del Fuego and the gateway to Antarctica. This afternoon, embark M.S. LE SOLÉAL and 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** Monday, February 13 to Tuesday, February 14

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

Cover photo: Naturalist-led Zodiac expeditions bring you up close to Adélie penguins and crabeater seals, bearty wildlife that make their home in remote Antarctica.

Photo this page: Majestic nature endures in "The White Continent," where an international treaty limits the number of visitors to sustain the pristine ecosystem.



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

#### Cruising Antarctica Wednesday, February 15 to Sunday, February 19

Cruise 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 ever-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 Earth's most inaccessible continent 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.

Cruise through breathtaking, glacier-lined Neumayer Channel to rugged Goudier Island. Visit Port Lockroy, originally constructed in 1944 by an eight-man team as an intelligence post for British espionage during World War II and converted into a whaling station and scientific base in the 1950s. It is nestled among glistening mountain peaks as high as 6000 feet, and the surrounding grounds are populated by blue-eyed shags and gentoo penguins. Gain insight into the daily activities of past researchers at the living museum known as "Base A" and mail a postcard stamped with an Antarctica postmark from the official British Post Office.

Just beyond Port Lockroy, the rocky shores of Jougla Point on Wiencke Island offer a rare opportunity to view the skeletal remains of an adult blue whale and to see populous colonies of gentoo penguins and kelp gulls. Call at Petermann Island, the southernmost point of your journey, and watch its thriving rookeries of Adélie and gentoo penguins and blue-eyed shags.

Flanked by sheer cliffs of towering glaciers between the Antarctic Peninsula and Booth Island, cruise through the Lemaire Channel, offering views of seven majestic miles of mountains and wildlife combined with fascinating patterns of ice floes.

Listen for the low rumbling of Rudolf Glacier as it calves chunks of ice into Neko Harbor, named for an early 20<sup>th</sup>-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.

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.

In contrast to sociable Adélie penguins, who congregate in large colonies, the leopard seal cherishes his solitude and independence.



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

Named by 19<sup>th</sup>-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.

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. 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 Convergence.

## Ushuaia/Buenos Aires

**Tuesday, February 21** 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.

Wednesday, February 22 Arrive in the U.S.

Left: Look for breaching humpback whales, who migrate to Antarctic waters to feed during the austral summer.

### Iguazú Falls Post-Program Option February 21 to 25

The UNESCO World Heritage site of Iguazú Falls is one of the world's most incredible natural wonders, where more than 275 spectacular waterfalls span nearly two dramatic miles of the Argentina-Brazil frontier. Walk the trails along the edges of these thundering falls and watch as they cascade from as high as 270 feet down verdant cliffs in one of South America's last remaining virgin rainforests. Visit the lush Parque das Aves jungle reserve, a nature lover's paradise, 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 in the deluxe PLAZA HOTEL BUENOS AIRES and two nights in the Five-Star Sheraton Iguazú Resort & Spa. Buenos Aires round-trip airfare is included. Post-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

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.

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. Attend the Captain's Farewell Reception.

## Cruising Drake Passage/ Ushuaia, Argentina Monday, February 20

Relax and reflect on board as the ship turns north and crosses the Drake Passage.



## FIVE-STAR M.S. LE SOLÉAL Five-Star, Ice-Class Small Ship, State-of-the-Art Design

The highly acclaimed, exclusively chartered M.S. LE SOLÉAL, launched in 2013, represents the newest generation of **Five-Star small ships**, featuring only 90 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

## Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies

Each air-conditioned **deluxe Stateroom** and **Suite** (200 to 484 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages; most feature two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. All accommodations have individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, hair dryer, plush robes and slippers.

## Chic and Casual Dining

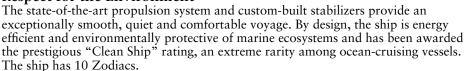
International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious L'Eclipse dining room in single, unassigned seatings; in the casual Pytheas Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Continental and buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are served throughout the cruise.

## Spacious Public Areas/

World-Class Service and Facilities

In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting and can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy sweeping 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 suite, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, a full range of fitness equipment and two elevators. The infirmary is staffed with a doctor and nurse. The highly trained international crew provides personable and attentive service.

## **Respect for the Environment**





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 a visit to the historic Recoleta Cemetery.

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

- Nine nights round trip Ushuaia, Argentina, cruising to Antarctica's Port Lockroy, Wiencke Island, Petermann Island, Lemaire Channel, Neko Harbor, Paradise Bay, Deception Island and Half Moon Island, weather, ice and sea conditions permitting.
- Elegantly appointed, 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 alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are served throughout the cruise.
- Exploration by Zodiac landing craft, accompanied by an expert naturalist guide 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).

- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides and expedition team.
- 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.

Note: Internal program air (round trip Buenos Aires/Ushuaia) is required and is *4* purchased individually at an additional cost.

## Exploration Antarctica

The intrepid deeds of Europeans Roald Amundsen, Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton, Americans Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd and Lincoln Ellsworth and Canadian Sir Charles Seymour Wright, legendary explorers of Antarctica, have long been recounted in gripping personal tales and history books. Admiral Byrd, scion of a distinguished Virginia family, led the U.S. Antarctic expedition (1928-30) and made the first overflight of the South Pole (1929). Byrd later led three additional expeditions to Antarctica and named a large portion of the continent Marie Byrd Land after his wife.

Another American prominent in the exploration of the South Polar region was Lincoln Ellsworth. This Chicago native made the first flight across Antarctica (1935). In the course of his journey, he discovered the mountain range with the continent's highest peaks, later named Ellsworth Mountains in his honor.

## Your Expedition Team

Seasoned naturalists, who have studied and traveled extensively in Antarctica and the most remote regions of the world, accompany you on board 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 Soléal	Deck 6, Solstice
- Cran Mi	Deck 5, Equinoxe Deck 4, Pégase
	Deck 4, Fegase Deck 3, Andromède

LAND/CRUISE TARIFF (per person, based on double occupancy)						
Stateroom Category*	<b>Description-</b> Staterooms range two twin beds that convert to r bathroom and individual clima	e from 200 to 484 sq. ft. and most have nake one queen bed. All feature a private ate control.	Early Booking Price through June 3, 2016	Regular Price after June 3, 2016		
8	Ocean-view, one large window, s Deck 3, Andromède, forward. (lir		\$9395	\$10395		
7		single door onto private, partial wall balcor	<sup>1y,</sup> \$10395	\$11395		
6		single door onto private, partial wall balcor	<sup>1y,</sup> \$11695	\$12695		
5		iling sliding glass door onto private, partial w	<sup>all</sup> \$12195	\$13195		
4		eiling sliding glass door onto private balco	<sup>ny,</sup> \$13195	\$14195		
3		iling sliding glass door onto private, partial w	4	\$14395		
2	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-c	eiling sliding glass door onto private balco		\$14495		
1		eiling sliding glass door onto private balco	-	\$14895		
Deluxe	shower or tub/shower. Deck 6, 5 Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-cei	So <i>lstice.</i> Iing sliding glass door onto private, partial w	•	\$15195		
Suite Prestige		with sofa. Deck 6, Solstice. (limited availabil oor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large priva	ate .			
Suite II	two closets, writing desk and dres	ower and shower, large sitting area with sof sing table. <i>Deck 5, Equinoxe.</i> (limited availabi	ity)	\$15495		
Prestige Suite I	balcony, two bathrooms: tub/shi	oor-to-ceiling slicling glass door onto large <b>priva</b> ower and shower, large sitting area with sol ssing table. <i>Deck 6, Solstice.</i> (limited availabi	a, <b>\$15195</b>	\$16195		
		ailable upon request at a cost to be adv				
	are available in category 6 at \$ 000 for reservations made after	21995 and in category 4 at \$24995 on June 3, 2016.	or before June 3, 20	16.		
	e an additional \$865 per perso	on and are subject to change. ia (internal program air) is \$850 per per	ron additional and s	ubject to change		
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	÷ ,	the only valid cabin categorization of				
E	<b>XPEDITION</b> TO	O ANTARCTICA RES	ERVATION F	ORM		
Alabama Al P.O. Box 86 Tuscaloosa, Phone: (205) Fax: (205)	AL 35486-0017 5) 348-1547	For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.	lease make my/ou 1 Stateroom Categ st Choice 2n 1 Double occupancy 1 Double occupancy 2 Single accommod	ory: d Choice (two twin beds). one queen bed). ations.		
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Card Numb	per	Exp. Date	at additional cost to Class:	be advised. <sup>‡</sup>		
	Signature as it appear		Note: Airfare is subject wailability and is nonr	to change and efundable.		
	PAYMENTS are required fer by November 4, 2016.		I/we will make my air arrangements.			



Stand on the bow of M.S. LE SOLÉAL and watch Antarctica's drama unfold before you.

#### **RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK** AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection

majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders or third parties, or who Gohagan determines to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the borel or cruise line. hotel or cruise line.

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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 that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must 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 ourpanion and climb stars 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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Alabama Alumni Association P.O. Box 861928 Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-0017

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by June 3, 2016. In the event a "discounted" reservation must be cancelled, no "replacement" reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A "replacement" reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply. CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a \$200 (\$50 Pre/Post Program(s) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through

terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a \$200 (\$50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, \$800 (\$200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Because our cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program.

In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation.

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conscionability, or formation of this contract, including out not infinited to any claim that all or any part of this contract, including of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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