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# DAP ANTARCTICA BRIEFING

Visitor's Guide and Antarctic Treaty Information



## **SCENIC FLIGHTS OVER PATAGONIA:**

*Torres del Paine, Fitz Roy, Perito Moreno and more!*



## DAP ANTARCTICA **BRIEFING**

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Visitor's Guide and Antarctic Treaty Information



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## Our Story

In 1989, DAP began flying to King George Island in Antarctica, where it has continued operating uninterrupted to this day. DAP is the private airline with the greatest experience flying to Antarctica. This destination is one of the few places in the world that remains untouched, making it an important Biosphere Reserve. Its unique beauty contrasts with the extreme weather conditions, turning it into an exotic and mesmerizing destination for the privileged travelers who reach this remote corner of the planet.

On board our aircraft, you will fly over the Strait of Magellan, Tierra del Fuego, the Darwin Mountain Range, the legendary Cape Horn, and cross the stormy Drake Passage, before arriving at King George Island, the gateway to the Antarctic continent.



The acronym DAP comes from the name of its founder, the Magellanic entrepreneur of Croatian descent, Domingo Andrés Pivcevic.

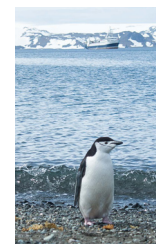
Throughout nearly 40 years of operations, DAP has transported millions of passengers while upholding the highest safety standards in the industry.



## 1980

**First Flight Operation with a DHC-6 Twin Otter**

Punta Arenas – Porvenir, later expanding to Puerto Natales and Coyhaique.



## 1989

**Beginning of the Commercial Route to Antarctica**

Creation of DAP Helicopters

## 2002

**Aerovías DAP was granted authorization to conduct aeromedical evacuations from Antarctica.**



## 2011

**Mr. Andrés Pivcevic Rajcevic (R.I.P.) is awarded the “Aeronautical Merit Cross” by the DGAC of Chile.**



## 2015

**DAP is officially recognized with the IATA code V5.**



## 2021

**Direct flight Santiago – Puerto Williams with two BAe aircraft.**



## 2024

**Incorporation of the DASH-8 Series 400**

Aerovías DAP obtains BARS certification.



## 2025

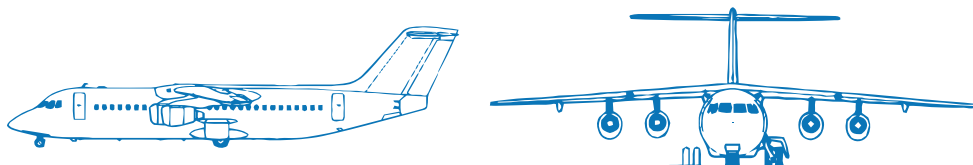
**Two DAP helicopters circumnavigated Antarctica.**



## BAe 146-200 - RJ100

The BAe aircraft, powered by four engines, ensure passengers a safe, comfortable, and pleasant journey.

Their quiet operation makes them environmentally friendly. In addition, these aircraft are equipped for landings on short and unpaved runways. All flights are operated by experienced crews and offer a high cargo capacity.



### General Specifications

|                                                     |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Seats:</b> 95 (including crew)                   | <b>Cargo Capacity:</b> Up to 7,200 kilograms |
| <b>Cruise Speed:</b> 720 km/h (389 knots)           | <b>Onboard Service:</b> Included             |
| <b>Maximum Altitude:</b> 9,150 meters (30,000 feet) |                                              |
| <b>Pressurized Cabin</b>                            |                                              |

In Antarctic configuration, flights operate with only 70 passengers.

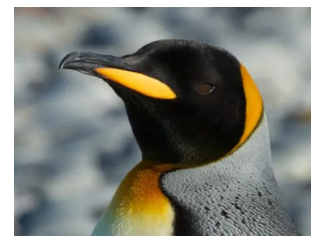
The Antarctic flight lasts approximately 2 hours, depending on weather conditions.

### Penguins don't fly... or do they?

We wanted to pay tribute to the wildlife of the Magallanes region and the Chilean Antarctic. For this reason, four of our aircraft exteriors were inspired by and painted to represent some of the penguin species found in Antarctica: **King Penguin**, **Chinstrap**, **Macaroni**, and **Gentoo**.

#### King Penguin

(*Aptenodytes patagonicus*)



#### Chinstrap Penguin

(*Pygoscelis antarcticus*)



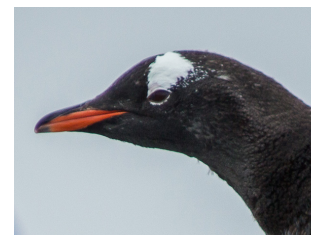
#### Macaroni Penguin

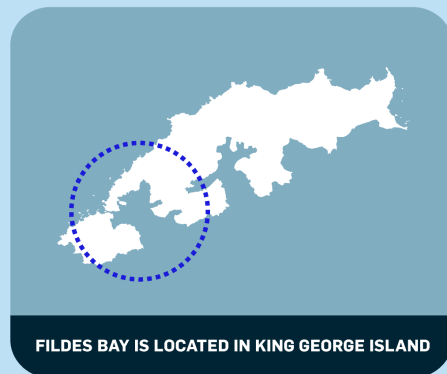
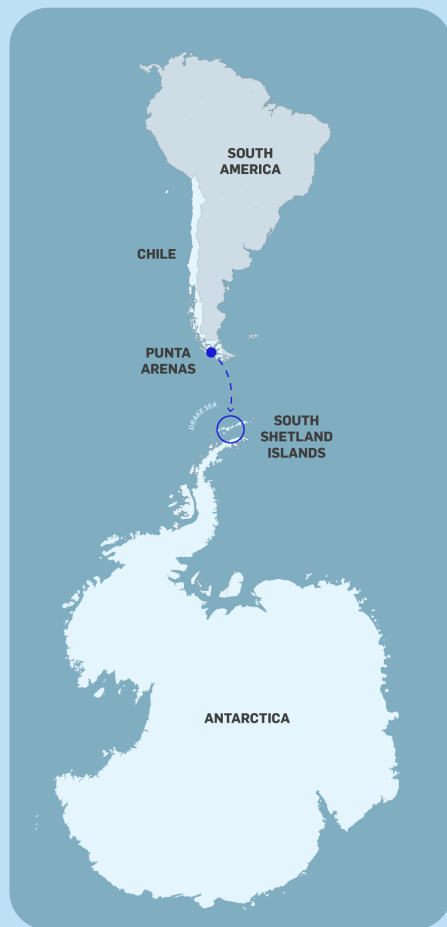
(*Eudyptes chrysolophus*)



#### Gentoo Penguin

(*Pygoscelis papua*)





FILDES BAY IS LOCATED IN KING GEORGE ISLAND



**Aerodrome**  
*You arrive here!*



**Elephant Seal colonies**

Drake Passage



**Bellingshausen**  
Russian Station



**Villa las Estrellas**  
Chilean Station



**Great Wall**  
Chinese Station



**Artigas**  
Uruguayan Station

Maxwell Bay



**Ardley Island**  
(Penguins & other species)



**Collins Glacier**  
*Rubber boat ride*



**Glacier**



**Seabird Colony**  
(Penguins & other species)



**Signpost**



**Russian Orthodox Church**



**Rubber boat ride**



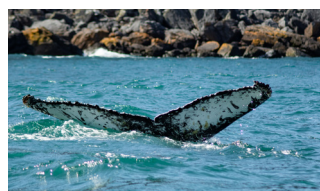
**Elephant Seal colonies**

Nelson Island



## FULL DAY ANTARCTICA

12



## Full Day Antarctica



**5 Hours**  
approximately



**Navigation**  
(Subject to weather conditions)

### About the Program:

A transfer will pick you up from your hotel and take you to the Punta Arenas airport, where you will board the DAP flight to **King George Island**. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed by our expert local guide, who will take you to visit some of the island's most characteristic sites, including **Villa Las Estrellas** (the first settlement inhabited by civilians), the Orthodox Church at the Russian "Bellingshausen" Base, the Chinese "Great Wall" Base, the elephant seal colonies, and—weather permitting—a navigation to the Collins Glacier.

**After a 5-hour tour**, you will board the return flight to Punta Arenas, where a transfer will take you back to your hotel—after an unforgettable experience at the end of the world.



**Please Note:** Your safety is our priority. Therefore, the execution of the program and its activities are **subject to weather conditions**, and it will be at the sole discretion of DAP staff to determine whether or not they can take place.



## FULL DAY ANTARCTICA

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### Program Recommendations:

- Use the restroom before the flight.
- Bring your passport.
- Wear appropriate clothing for this trip (ski or winter gear).
- Carry cash (Chilean pesos or US dollars) for souvenir purchases.
- Please let us know if you have any medical or dietary restrictions so we can provide what you need.

### About the excursion:

- All visits are conducted as walking tours.
- For your own safety, you must follow all staff instructions.

### Included:

- Transfers IN/OUT.
- 4 nights of accommodation in Punta Arenas (the arrival day, the day of the trip, and two extra nights in case it is necessary to wait for the flight).
- Round-trip flight Punta Arenas / King George Island / Punta Arenas.
- Antarctic program.
- Onboard service.
- Alternative programs in Punta Arenas during flight waiting time.

### Not included:

- Insurance.
- Tips.
- Arrival and departure expenses to and from Punta Arenas.
- Meals and services not mentioned in the previous section



**Bag/Backpack Recommendation:** If you wish, you may bring a small backpack that allows you to enjoy the tour with comfort and ease (**Max. 5 kg / 11 lbs**).



## FACTS ABOUT CHILE

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1. The Strait of Magellan, discovered in 1520, stretches 570 km and was the most frequently used natural route before the Panama Canal.
2. Rapa Nui preserves more than 900 moai statues carved between the 13th and 16th centuries, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995.
3. The Chuquibambilla Mine is one of the world's largest open-pit copper mines.
4. Torres del Paine National Park protects 181,000 hectares, was declared a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 1978, and receives over 300,000 visitors each year.
5. Chiloé is home to more than 150 wooden churches, 16 of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
6. Chile extends over 4,300 km from north to south, but its average width is only 177 km.
7. The largest lake in Chile is General Carrera Lake, shared with Argentina, with 978 km<sup>2</sup> lying within Chilean territory.
8. The country has more than 2,000 volcanoes, around 90 of which are active.
9. Chile has over 4,000 islands and islets, including Rapa Nui and the Juan Fernández Archipelago.
10. Chile produces approximately 30% of the world's copper, making it the leading global producer.
11. Chile has 43 national parks, covering nearly 20% of its territory.



## FACTS ABOUT ANTARCTICA

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1. Antarctica is the southernmost continent in the world.
2. The South Pole is located in Antarctica.
3. King George Island is the largest in the Antarctic Peninsula region.
4. Antarctica is larger than Europe and nearly twice the size of Australia.
5. Most of Antarctica is covered by ice averaging 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) thick.
6. The lowest temperature ever recorded on Earth was measured in 1983 at Vostok Station in Antarctica: -89.2 °C (-128.6 °F).
7. Humans do not reside permanently in Antarctica; however, several thousand people live and work at scientific stations throughout the continent.
8. Although Antarctica's conditions make life difficult, a group of plants and animals have adapted to inhabit this place.
9. Among the most well-known animals in Antarctica are penguins and seals.
10. The name "Antarctica" comes from Greek and means "Opposite of the North."
11. About 90% of the Earth's ice is located in Antarctica.



## Antarctic Clothing Guide

**Essentials:** Among the basic and indispensable items, do not forget gloves, appropriate footwear (considering snow and mud), a waterproof jacket, a hat, and a scarf or buff to cover your neck. The ozone layer is considerably thinner over Antarctica, so you must take precautions when exposed to solar radiation. **Apply sunscreen before disembarking the aircraft.**

**Extras:** It is recommended to bring an extra pair of gloves and socks in case of any inconvenience. Keeping your feet and hands dry is essential to maintaining body temperature. If you take medication, don't forget to bring it with you!



Dress in layers to stay comfortable and prepared for walking.



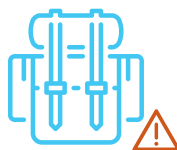
Avoid bulky clothing that makes it difficult to move comfortably.

## Bags, Backpacks, and the Zodiac Boat Ride

Keep in mind the importance of being comfortable during the tour. Bring only essential items in small backpacks.

The maximum capacity of a Zodiac is 11 passengers, comfortably seated, with life jackets worn at all times.

**Large backpacks are not allowed.**

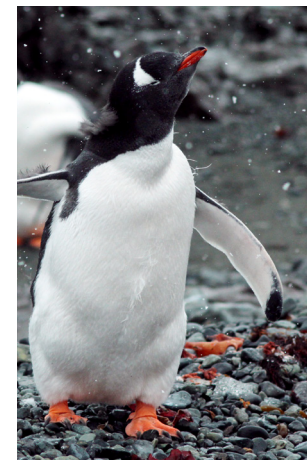


## Weather conditions

**The execution of the program and its activities are subject to weather conditions.**

Certain storm conditions, strong winds, or crosswinds over the runway, as well as low cloud cover or, in general, reduced visibility, may affect the possibility of carrying out the flight.

Weather is monitored several days in advance of each flight; however, conditions in this region are unstable and can change from one moment to the next.



### BEFORE THE FLIGHT:

The captain in charge of the flight is the only person who makes the final decision on whether or not the flight will take place. This decision is based on the weather reports issued by the Antarctic Meteorological Center, which is part of the DGAC (General Directorate of Civil Aviation).

**For this reason, the departure time is determined the night before the flight.**

On some occasions, it may be necessary to postpone the departure; in such cases, it is important that passengers remain in constant contact with their host.



### DURING THE PROGRAM:

All scheduled visits depend on favorable weather conditions. Upon arrival at King George Island, specialized company staff will welcome and guide you.

You will visit all the points of interest possible given the conditions. The decision in each case is the responsibility of our staff.

If, for any reason, a site cannot be visited, don't be discouraged—you are in Antarctica, an amazing place! **Flexibility is the key word on this journey.**



## Onboard Menu

### About the menú:

Flights on the BAe 146-200 and RJ 85/100 aircraft include onboard service provided by our crew, offering meals for both your outbound and return journey.

We have designed a practical menu for you to enjoy onboard, featuring sweet and savory delights crafted in the region and specially prepared for this trip.



*For safety reasons, alcoholic beverages are not served during the flight to Antarctica. However, they will be available on the return flight to Punta Arenas, so you may enjoy them responsibly.*



## General Guidelines for Visitors to Antarctica

The general guidelines apply to all visitors and to all activities within the Antarctic Treaty area <sup>1</sup>. All visits to Antarctica must be conducted in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty, its Protocol on Environmental Protection, and the relevant Measures, Decisions, and Resolutions adopted at the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings (ATCM). All activities must be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment and must have prior approval or permits, or otherwise comply with all requirements set by the relevant national competent authority.

These Guidelines provide general orientation for visits to all locations, in order to ensure that visits do not cause adverse impacts on the Antarctic environment, including wildlife and ecosystems, or on its scientific, wilderness, and aesthetic values. [ATCM Site Guidelines for Visitors](#) provide additional, site-specific advice for certain locations. Guidelines may also apply to particular risks, such as the use of aircraft, or to avoid the introduction of non-native species.

Please review these Guidelines before visiting Antarctica and plan how to minimize your impact.

If you are part of a guided visitor group, follow these Guidelines, pay attention to your guides, and follow their instructions. If you are organizing your own visit or that of a group and its activities, you are responsible for complying with these Guidelines. You are also responsible for identifying features of the sites you visit that may be vulnerable to visitor impacts, and for complying with specific requirements related to protected areas, [historic sites and monuments](#), activities, or risks. Specific requirements may be included in ATCM Site Guidelines for Visitors, [Antarctic Specially Protected Areas \(ASPA\)](#) and their management plans, [Antarctic Specially Managed Areas \(ASMA\)](#), or station visit guidelines.



## PROTECTING ANTARCTIC WILDLIFE

### WILDLIFE

- The capture of, or harmful interference with, Antarctic wildlife is prohibited.
- When near wildlife, whether on land or at sea, move or maneuver slowly and carefully, and keep noise to a minimum.
- Maintain an appropriate distance from wildlife to avoid disturbance. While greater distances may sometimes be required, in general keep at least 5 meters (16 feet) away from wildlife on land. Follow any species- or site-specific distance guidelines.
- Always give animals the right of way and do not block their access routes between the sea and the land, nesting sites, or other destinations.
- Animals may change their behavior if disturbed. Observe wildlife carefully: if they alter their behavior (e.g., stand up when resting, move their head in alert, begin vocalizing when silent), stop moving or slowly increase your distance.
- Stay at the edges of colonies and observe from a safe distance. Animals are particularly sensitive to disturbance during breeding (including nesting) and molting periods.
- Each situation is different. Take into account the topography and the specific circumstances of the site, as these may affect wildlife vulnerability to disturbance.
- Watch where you step for eggs, chicks, or nesting materials of skuas, penguins, or petrels.
- Unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) must not be used near wildlife.
- Do not feed wildlife, and do not leave food or scraps behind.

<sup>1</sup> It is recognized that exceptions to the application of certain elements of these guidelines may be made for governmental, scientific, and official activities, if the conduct of such activities so requires, provided that prior approval has been granted by the competent national authority and that the activity complies with all requirements of the relevant national authority.



## PROTECTING ANTARCTIC WILDLIFE

### VEGETATION

- Vegetation, including mosses and lichens, is fragile and grows very slowly. Do not walk, drive, or land on moss beds or lichen-covered rocks to avoid damage.
- When moving on foot, stay on established trails whenever possible to minimize disturbance or damage to soils and vegetated surfaces. Where no trail exists, choose your route carefully, taking the most direct path while avoiding vegetation, fragile terrain, scree slopes, and wildlife.
- To prevent the transfer of non-native species and diseases between sites in Antarctica, ensure that all clothing, boots, and equipment are thoroughly cleaned before moving between sites and regions.

### INTRODUCTION OF NON-NATIVE SPECIES AND PATHOGENS

- Do not introduce plants or animals into Antarctica.
- To prevent the introduction of non-native species and diseases, thoroughly wash boots and clean all equipment—including clothing, bags, tripods, tents, and walking sticks—before bringing them to Antarctica. Pay special attention to boot treads, Velcro fastenings, and pockets that may contain soil or seeds. Vehicles and aircraft must also be cleaned.



## RESPECT PROTECTED AREAS AND HISTORIC SITES

### ANTARCTIC SPECIALLY MANAGED AREAS (ASMA) AND ANTARCTIC SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS (ASPA)

- Activities in [ASPAs](#) and [ASMAs](#) must comply with the provisions of their respective management plans and adhere to any restrictions regarding activities within these areas.

A permit from a competent national authority is required to enter any ASPA. Carry the permit with you and comply with its conditions at all times while visiting an ASPA.

Verify the location and boundaries of ASPAs and ASMAs in advance, and review the provisions of their management plans ([all are available on the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat website: \[www.ats.aq\]\(http://www.ats.aq\)](#)).

### HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS (HSM) AND OTHER STRUCTURES

- Some historic huts have been designated as ASPAs and require a permit to visit; such visits must follow the provisions established in the relevant management plan.
- Historic huts and structures may, in some cases, be visited for tourism, recreational, and educational purposes. Visitors must not use

them for other purposes, except in emergency circumstances.

- Do not damage, remove, destroy, or alter any historic site, monument, artifact, or other buildings or emergency shelters (whether occupied or unoccupied).
- Refer to the ATCM Site Guidelines for Visitors for specific rules concerning historic sites, monuments, features, buildings, and other nearby structures.
- Before entering any historic structure, clean snow and dirt from your boots and remove snow and water from your clothing, as these can damage structures or artifacts.
- Be careful not to step on artifacts that may be hidden by soil or snow when moving around historic sites.
- If you find an item that may have historical value and authorities may not be aware of it, do not touch or alter it. Report it to your expedition leader or the competent national authorities.
- A list of formally designated HSMs can be found on the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat website.



## RESPECTING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

- Some Antarctic stations may accept visitors when arrangements are made in advance. Obtain permission before visiting any Antarctic station.
- Reconfirm scheduled visits well in advance, or according to the guidance provided by the station manager before arrival.
- In addition to these general guidelines, comply with any site-specific rules or current visitor guidelines when visiting Antarctic stations.
- Do not interfere with or remove scientific equipment or markers, and do not disturb experimental study sites, field camps, or stored supplies.

## KEEP ANTARCTICA PRISTINE – LEAVE NO TRACE OF YOUR VISIT

### WASTE

- Do not dispose of trash or waste on land or throw it into the sea.

- Smoking is not permitted except in designated areas at stations or camps, in order to prevent litter and reduce the risk of fire in structures. Collect ashes and waste for removal outside of Antarctica.
- Ensure that waste is managed in accordance with Annex III (Waste Disposal) and Annex IV (Marine Pollution) of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty.
- Make sure that all belongings, equipment, and waste are secured at all times to prevent dispersal into the environment due to strong winds or scavenging wildlife.

### VALUES OF WILDLIFE AND VEGETATION

- Do not alter or contaminate lakes, streams, rivers, or other bodies of water (e.g., by walking, personal or equipment washing, or throwing stones).
- Do not paint, carve names, or make graffiti on any natural or human-made surface in Antarctica.
- Do not collect or remove, as souvenirs, biological or geological specimens or human-made items such as feathers, bones, eggs, vegetation, soil, rocks, meteorites, or fossils.
- Whenever possible, place tents and equipment on snow or in sites previously used as camps.



## KEEPING SAFE

### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS / PREPARATIONS

- Be prepared for extreme and changing weather. Ensure that your equipment and clothing meet Antarctic standards. The Antarctic environment is inhospitable, unpredictable, and potentially dangerous.
- Know your abilities, the hazards posed by the Antarctic environment, and act accordingly. Plan all activities with safety in mind at all times.
- Keep a safe distance from potentially dangerous wildlife, such as fur seals, both on land and at sea. Stay at least 15–25 m (50–80 ft) away whenever possible.
- Watch where you walk, as seals may be camouflaged on or among the rocks. Keep a safe distance from the edge of sea ice and use caution when crossing cracks in the ice.
- Skuas are highly territorial birds and will attack intruders by dive-bombing anyone who approaches their nests. If this occurs, move away from the point where the attack began.
- Any wildlife, even penguins, can cause serious injury. Do not underestimate the risks.
- If traveling in a group, follow the guide and respect the instructions of your leaders. Do not

stray from the group, as survival in Antarctica can be a matter of minutes (especially in cases of acute hypothermia).

- Do not walk on glaciers or extensive snowfields without proper equipment and experience. There is a real danger of falling into hidden crevasses.
- Be alert near calving glaciers. Breaking ice can generate dangerous waves.
- Pay special attention when climbing rocks or boulders, as thawing permafrost due to temperature changes increases the risk of rockfalls.
- Do not rely on rescue services. Self-sufficiency is enhanced, and risks are reduced, when planning is thorough, equipment is high-quality, and personnel are properly trained.
- Enter emergency shelters only in the case of a real emergency. If you use equipment or food from a shelter, report it to the nearest research station or to the national authority that has authorized or permitted visitor activity in Antarctica once the emergency has ended.
- Do not rely on rescue services. Self-sufficiency is strengthened, and risks are reduced, when planning is thorough, equipment is of high quality, and personnel are properly trained.

## KEEPING SAFE

- Enter emergency shelters only in the event of a real emergency. If you use equipment or food from a shelter, report it to the nearest research station or to the national authority that has authorized or permitted visitor activity in Antarctica once the emergency has ended.
- Respect smoking restrictions. The use of combustion lanterns or open flames inside historic structures or in surrounding areas must be avoided. Always take precautions against fire hazards, as fire poses a real risk in Antarctica's dry environment.

## LANDING AND TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS

### TRANSPORT

- Do not use aircraft, vessels, small boats, hovercraft, or other means of transport in ways that may disturb wildlife, either at sea or on land.
- Avoid flying over concentrations of birds and mammals. Follow the guidance of Resolution 2 (2004), [Guidelines for the Operation of Aircraft Near Concentrations of Birds in Antarctica](#).

- Refueling of aircraft (both fixed-wing and rotary) must be carried out in a way that minimizes spillage and must use adequate spill containment equipment.
- Refueling of small boats should be conducted in such a way that any spill can be contained, for example, onboard a support vessel.
- Small boats must be free of soil, plants, or animals, and should be inspected for such material before any landing operations.
- Small boats must maintain control of course and speed at all times to minimize disturbance and to avoid collisions with wildlife.

### SHIPS/VESSELS<sup>2</sup>

- Only one ship is permitted to visit a site at a time.
- Ships carrying more than 500 passengers must not disembark in Antarctica.

<sup>2</sup> A vessel is defined as one carrying more than 12 passengers.





## LANDING AND TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS

### PASSENGER LANDINGS FROM SHIPS/ VESSELS

- A maximum of 100 passengers may go ashore from a vessel at one time, unless site-specific guidelines require a lower number.
- During vessel landings, maintain a ratio of one guide for every 20 passengers at all sites, unless site-specific guidelines require more guides.

<sup>2</sup> A vessel is defined as one carrying more than 12 passengers.



## Reduce the amount of waste

### BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

When traveling to Antarctica, there are steps you can take to reduce the amount of plastic and other waste produced. Waste is removed from Antarctica by ship or aircraft and taken to ports outside the region for disposal. However, depending on their location, these ports may have limited facilities. Your operator is working to reduce single-use plastics in its operations.

You can contribute to these efforts and help ensure that no permanent trace of your visit remains by reducing the number of disposable items you bring, use, and discard during your trip. There are also steps you can take to prevent litter and harmful plastics from ending up in the environment.

**Refuse:** Decline items you do not need, such as bags, bottles, cutlery, and cups.

**Reuse:** Extend the life of your belongings. If you no longer need them, give them away.

**Reduce:** By consuming less and using reusable items, you can help reduce the overall amount of waste worldwide.

**Recycle:** Learn about waste recycling at home and separate materials accordingly. Look for recycling opportunities when you travel.



## BEFORE THE TRIP

- Travel with reusable items such as water bottles, cups, bags, cutlery, etc., that you can take home with you.
- Use durable, reusable waterproof bags to protect your camera and other devices from the weather. The use of plastic bags is discouraged under any circumstances, including resealable ones.
- Do not bring hand or foot warmers, as most are single-use and wrapped in plastic. Invest in good-quality clothing to stay warm. Seek advice before traveling if needed.
- Remove unnecessary packaging from new items before packing your luggage.
- When packing toiletries, choose eco-friendly alternatives such as cosmetics without plastic microbeads.
- Choose products such as bar soap and shampoo with non-plastic packaging. Your accommodation may also provide refillable dispensers. If you need to use bottles or containers, bring only reusable ones.
- Synthetic clothing sheds small plastic fibers. While it may not be possible to completely avoid synthetic clothing, reducing the amount we use is an important first step.

## DURING THE TRIP

- Avoid using disposable items such as cups, straws, bottles, food containers, and others.
- Do not flush any non-organic items down the toilet, including wet wipes.
- Ensure that all your belongings are well secured when outdoors, paying special attention to fabrics and camera bags.
- Learn about local environmental initiatives and how you can reduce your plastic footprint to support the communities you visit. If necessary, take your waste home to dispose of and recycle it properly, helping to reduce the pressure on remote areas with limited waste management facilities.
- Engage with fellow travelers and staff: not everyone has the same level of experience or knowledge, so this is a great opportunity to learn and encourage others.

**These items are commonly found on beaches worldwide. By working together to eliminate them, we can reduce our plastic footprint.**



### Plastic Bottles and Caps

Bring reusable bottles and cups.



### Cigarette Butts

Filters contain plastic. Smoke only in designated areas. Dispose of them carefully.



### Plastic Bags

Refuse plastic. Bring durable bags made from natural materials.



### Plastic Straws and Cutlery

Bring your own reusable items. Refuse plastic straws.



### Wet Wipes

Contain plastic fibers. Instead, use reusable cloths made of cotton, wool, or bamboo.



### Cotton Swabs

Choose products made of 100% cotton or paper.



### Candy Wrappers and Food Packaging

Look for non-plastic wrappers. Keep in mind that most chewing gum is synthetic.

## IMPORTANT NOTE

- Products labeled as “degradable” or “bio-degradable” break down faster than regular plastic items but may still contain fossil fuels, generating microplastic particles. To effectively reduce waste, avoid using these alternatives and choose reusable items instead.

## WHAT IS THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY DOING?

IAATO (International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators) and AECO (Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators) have joined the United Nations Clean Seas campaign for cleaner oceans. Together with their members, they are working to systematically reduce the use of disposable plastics and other items.

Operators also involve guests in beach cleanups around the world, removing tons of marine debris each year. Through providing information to crew, staff, and visitors, IAATO and AECO help raise awareness and promote engagement in environmental protection—both at sea and on land—by sharing best practices.



## DON'T PACK A PEST!

Help protect Antarctica's unique environment from non-native species.

The Antarctic Treaty prohibits the introduction of non-native species into Antarctica. As a guest of Antarctica, you play a crucial role in protecting the unique environment of the White Continent. Thank you for doing your part.

### ANTARCTICA IS AT RISK

Non-native species are organisms that do not occur naturally in an area and are often associated with human activity. They have both direct and indirect impacts on the Antarctic ecosystem, which have already been documented in many regions of Antarctica.

Examples of non-native species and related elements include, among others:

- **Plants:** seeds, flowers, roots, leaves, dried plants.
- **Animals:** rodents, insects, feathers.
- Soil:** mud, earth, rocks.
- **Microscopic organisms:** bacteria, yeasts.

### BEFORE LEAVING HOME, REMEMBER TO INSPECT AND CLEAN YOUR EQUIPMENT

Always inspect and clean your belongings before leaving home. This will allow you to com-

ply with biosecurity measures in the countries you travel through, and it is essential to do so before boarding your flight or vessel bound for Antarctica. This is especially important if you plan to go hiking, backpacking, guided touring, excursions, or farm visits.

Carefully check and clean everything you plan to bring. Non-native species can attach themselves to many types of items:

- Boots and shoes.
- Pant cuffs.
- Pockets.
- Velcro®, fleece, and outerwear (it is discouraged to bring clothing or equipment with Velcro).
- Backpacks, camera cases.
- Outdoor activity equipment, including research gear.
- Hiking poles, tripods.



### WHEN IN ANTARCTICA / SUB-ANTARCTIC ISLANDS: PREVENTING CROSS-CONTAMINATION

It is important to avoid transferring any species between locations in Antarctica and the sub-Antarctic areas. Always inspect your equipment when moving from one site to another and clean it to minimize the chance of spreading species inadvertently.

**When traveling on a vessel** and participating in landings, use the onboard boot-wash station to clean and disinfect boots, clothing, hiking poles, traction devices, etc., both before going ashore and upon returning to the vessel.



**The boot-wash station** is typically located on the vessel, either at the head of the gangway or near the passenger embarkation point. It allows staff, crew, and guests to thoroughly disinfect, brush, and clean debris from boots and clothing, ensuring complete decontamination. The disin-

fectant should not be rinsed off but left to dry completely on the items.

**Non-native species can be microscopic** and not always visible to the naked eye, so do everything possible to clean all items thoroughly. **Take care when walking in areas that contain organic material**, as it can easily be transported to other sensitive sites. Avoid placing equipment on the ground. Any item that comes into contact with the ground, such as backpacks, must be checked and disinfected.

## MEASURES TO PROTECT ANTARCTICA AND THE SUB-ANTARCTIC AREAS



### 1.- Clean and inspect your equipment between landings and between different camps and regions.

This includes boots, suitcases, backpacks, clothing, and any other items where non-native species might hide. If moving between sites, camps, or regions, thoroughly clean clothing and equipment before leaving the location and use a disinfectant wash. Ensure that disinfectant is left to dry on boots and equipment between landings.



### 2.- Report the presence of any "pest."

All non-native species are considered "pests" to the Antarctic environment. Inform your guides if you believe you have found a non-native species. Guides will contact [environmental@usap.gov](mailto:environmental@usap.gov) to report any findings of non-native species.



### 3.- Spread the word.

Share this information with others. We all contribute to the conservation of the Antarctic environment.

[WWW.IAATO.ORG](http://WWW.IAATO.ORG)

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The Antarctic Treaty and its related agreements, collectively known as the Antarctic Treaty System (ATS), regulate international relations with respect to Antarctica, the only continent on Earth without a native human population. For the purposes of the Antarctic Treaty System, Antarctica is defined as all land and ice shelves south of latitude 60° South. In force since 1961, the Treaty establishes Antarctica as a place devoted to scientific preservation, guarantees freedom of scientific investigation, and regulates military activity on the continent.

The Treaty was officially signed on 1 December 1959 and entered into force on 23 June 1961. The signatory countries were the 12 nations conducting activities in Antarctica at the time: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

As of 2016, there are 53 Parties to the Treaty, of which 29—including the original 12—have consultative (voting) status. The other Parties are: Austria, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Monaco, Mongolia, the Netherlands, North Korea, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, and Venezuela.



## Article I

### Peaceful Purposes

1. Antarctica shall be used for peaceful purposes only. There shall be prohibited, inter alia, any measures of a military nature, such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military maneuvers, as well as the testing of any type of weapons.

2. The present Treaty shall not prevent the use of military personnel or equipment for scientific research or for any other peaceful purpose.

## Article II

### Scientific Investigation and Cooperation

Freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica and cooperation toward that end, as applied during the International Geophysical Year, shall continue, subject to the provisions of the present Treaty.

## Article III

### Scientific Observations and Exchanges

1. In order to promote international cooperation in scientific investigation in Antarctica, as provided for in Article II of the present Treaty, the Contracting Parties agree that, to the greatest extent feasible and practicable:

- a) information regarding plans for scientific programs in Antarctica shall be exchanged to permit maximum economy of and efficiency in operations;
- b) scientific personnel shall be exchanged in Antarctica between expeditions and stations;
- c) scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available.

2. In implementing this Article, every encouragement shall be given to the establishment of cooperative working relations with those specialized agencies of the United Nations and other international organizations having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica.

## Article IV

### Territorial Sovereignty

Nothing contained in the present Treaty shall be interpreted as:

- a) a renunciation by any Contracting Party of previously asserted rights of or claims to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica;
- b) a renunciation or diminution by any Contracting Party of any basis of claim to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica which it may have, whether as a result of its activities or those of its nationals in Antarctica, or otherwise;



## Article VI

### Scope

The provisions of the present Treaty shall apply to the area south of 60° South Latitude, including all ice shelves, but nothing in the present Treaty shall prejudice or in any way affect the rights, or the exercise of the rights, of any State under international law with regard to the high seas within that area.

## Article VII

### Inspections

1.-In order to promote the objectives and ensure the observance of the provisions of the present Treaty, each Contracting Party whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings referred to in Article IX shall have the right to designate observers to carry out any inspection provided for by the present Treaty. Observers shall be nationals of the Contracting Party which designates them. The names of observers shall be communicated to every other Contracting Party having the right to designate observers, and observers shall be given full facilities for carrying out their functions.

c) prejudicing the position of any Contracting Party as regards its recognition or non-recognition of any other State's right of or claim or basis of claim to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica.

No acts or activities taking place while the present Treaty is in force shall constitute a basis for asserting, supporting, or denying a claim to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica or create any rights of sovereignty in Antarctica. No new claim, or enlargement of an existing claim, to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica shall be asserted while the present Treaty is in force.

## Article V

### Nuclear Explosions and Disposal of Radioactive Waste

1. Any nuclear explosions in Antarctica and the disposal there of radioactive waste material shall be prohibited.

2. In the event of the conclusion of international agreements concerning the use of nuclear energy, including nuclear explosions and the disposal of radioactive waste material, to which all of the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX are parties, then rules established under such agreements shall apply in Antarctica.



2. All areas of Antarctica, including all stations, installations, and equipment within those areas, and all ships and aircraft at points of discharging or embarking cargoes or personnel in Antarctica, shall be open at all times to inspection by any observers designated in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. All observers designated in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article shall have complete freedom of access at any time to any or all areas of Antarctica.

4. Aerial observation may be carried out at any time over any or all areas of Antarctica by any of the Contracting Parties having the right to designate observers.

5. Each Contracting Party shall, at the time when the present Treaty enters into force for it, inform the other Contracting Parties, and thereafter shall give them advance notice of:

- a) all expeditions to and within Antarctica, on the part of its ships or nationals, and all expeditions to Antarctica organized in or proceeding from its territory;
- b) all stations in Antarctica occupied by its nationals;
- c) any military personnel or equipment intended to be introduced into Antarctica subject to the conditions prescribed in paragraph 2 of Article I of the present Treaty.

## Article VIII

### Jurisdiction

1. In order to facilitate the exercise of their functions under the present Treaty, and without prejudice to the respective positions of the Contracting Parties relating to jurisdiction over all other persons in Antarctica, observers designated under paragraph 1 of Article VII and scientific personnel exchanged under subparagraph 1(b) of Article III of the Treaty, and members of the staff accompanying any such persons, shall be subject only to the jurisdiction of the Contracting Party of which they are nationals in respect of all acts or omissions occurring while they are in Antarctica for the purpose of exercising their functions.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, and pending the adoption of measures referred to in subparagraph 1(e) of Article IX, the Contracting Parties concerned in any case of dispute with regard to the exercise of jurisdiction in Antarctica shall immediately consult together with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable solution.

## Article IX

### Treaty Meetings

1. Representatives of the Contracting Parties named in the preamble to the present Treaty shall meet at the city of Canberra within two months after the date of entry into force of the Treaty, and thereafter at suitable intervals and places, for the purpose of exchanging information, consulting together on matters of common interest pertaining to Antarctica, and formulating, considering and recommending to their governments measures in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty, including measures regarding:

- a) use of Antarctica for peaceful purposes only;
- b) facilitation of scientific research in Antarctica;
- c) facilitation of international scientific cooperation in Antarctica;
- d) facilitation of the exercise of the rights of inspection provided for in Article VII of the Treaty;
- e) questions relating to the exercise of jurisdiction in Antarctica.
- f) preservation and conservation of living resources in Antarctica.

2. Each Contracting Party which has become a Party to the present Treaty by accession under Article XIII shall be entitled to appoint representatives to participate in the meetings referred to in paragraph 1 of the present Article, during such time as that Contracting Party demonstrates its interest in Antarctica by conducting substantial scientific research activity there, such as the establishment of a scientific station or the despatch of a scientific expedition.

3. Reports from the observers referred to in Article VII of the present Treaty shall be transmitted to the representatives of the Contracting Parties participating in the meetings referred to in paragraph 1 of the present Article.

4. Measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall become effective when approved by all the Contracting Parties whose representatives were entitled to participate in the meetings held to consider those measures.

6. Any measure adopted under paragraph 1 of this Article shall enter into force when approved by all the Contracting Parties entitled to participate in the meetings.

7. The rights established in the present Treaty shall be exercised from the date of its entry into force, whether or not any measures referred to in this Article have been proposed, considered, or approved.





## Article X

### Consistency with the Charter of the United Nations

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to exert appropriate efforts, consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, to the end that no one engages in any activity in Antarctica contrary to the principles or purposes of the present Treaty.

## Article XI

### Settlement of Disputes

1. If any dispute arises between two or more of the Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Treaty, those Contracting Parties shall consult among themselves with a view to having the dispute resolved by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, or other peaceful means of their own choice.

2. Any dispute of this character not so resolved shall, with the consent, in each case, of all parties to the dispute, be referred to the International Court of Justice for settlement; but failure to reach agreement on reference to the International Court shall not absolve parties to the dispute from the responsibility of continuing to seek to resolve it by any of the various peaceful means referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

## Article XII

### Modificación y duración

1. a) The present Treaty may be modified or amended at any time by unanimous agreement of the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX. Such modification or amendment shall enter into force when the Depositary Government has received notice from all such Contracting Parties that they have ratified it.

b) Thereafter such modification or amendment shall enter into force as to any other Contracting Party when notice of ratification by it has been received by the Depositary Government. If, however, such notice of ratification has not been received within a period of two years from the date of entry into force of the modification or amendment, that Party shall be considered as having ceased to be a Party to the Treaty as from the date of expiration of such period.

2. a) If after the expiration of thirty years from the date of entry into force of the present Treaty, any of the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX so requests by a communication addressed to the Depositary Government, a Conference of all the Contracting Parties shall be held as soon as practicable to review the operation of the Treaty.



## Article XIII

### Ratification and Accession

b) Any modification or amendment to the present Treaty approved at such a Conference by a majority of the Contracting Parties there represented, including a majority of those whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX, shall be communicated by the Depositary Government to all the Contracting Parties immediately after the termination of the Conference and shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article.

c) If any such modification or amendment has not entered into force in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph a) of this paragraph within a period of two years after the date of its communication to all the Contracting Parties, any Party may at any time thereafter give notice to the Depositary Government that it withdraws from the Treaty; and such withdrawal shall take effect two years after the receipt of the notice by the Depositary Government.

1. The present Treaty shall be subject to ratification by the signatory States. It shall be open for accession by any State which is a Member of the United Nations, or by any other State which may be invited to accede to the Treaty with the consent of all the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX of the Treaty.

2. Ratification of or accession to the present Treaty shall be effected by each State in accordance with its constitutional processes.

3. Instruments of ratification and instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Government of the United States of America, hereby designated as the Depositary Government.

4. The Depositary Government shall inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each deposit of instruments of ratification or accession, and of the date of entry into force of the Treaty and of any modification or amendment thereto.

5. Upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by all the signatory States, the Treaty shall enter into force for those States and for States which have deposited instruments of accession.

