



Snorkelling in the Polar Regions

Floating through the crystalline waters, you can view the colossal underbelly of icebergs, explore the remains of sunken ships, and witness graceful penguins dive into the icy waters in search of food. Aurora Expeditions pioneered snorkelling and scuba diving in the polar regions, activities that have been enjoyed by many of our expeditioners.

Required Experience & Fitness

While it is an advantage to have previous snorkelling experience, complete beginners are welcome to participate. Our expert guides will provide all the necessary equipment, guidance and instructions needed to enjoy this activity. However, you must be a competent swimmer and our guides reserve the right to suspend you from the activity if they assess your ability to swim as insufficient.

Our Guides

Aurora Expedition's team of highly-qualified guides have over 20 years of polar diving and snorkelling experience and provide snorkellers with detailed briefings and best practice procedures to ensure a safe and enjoyable snorkelling experience.

Number of Outings

During the expedition we aim to snorkel as often as possible. Our outings will allow you enough time to witness wildlife in action, as well as marvel at the fascinating display of life under the water. You are not obliged to join all snorkelling outings and can choose to enjoy regular shore excursions if you wish. We generally expect to have between 5-10 outings in the Antarctic and Arctic depending on the itinerary and weather. Antarctic voyages that include South Georgia can have 7-12 outings, depending on the weather.

Please Note

Passengers are unable to 'share' a snorkelling place as the gear is customised for each individual at the beginning of each voyage.



Group Sizes

Our groups normally range from 4-10 snorkellers per guide per Zodiac. A minimum of four snorkellers is required for the activity to operate.

Equipment Included

All the necessary gear for your polar snorkelling experience is included in the activity cost. We provide the following gear:

- Snorkelling drysuit – these light, flexible and breathable suits are specially designed to keep you dry in the icy polar waters
- Hood, gloves and boots – a thick neoprene hood with face and neck seal will keep you warm and dry from the neck up, while neoprene mittens and boots protect your hands and feet
- High quality and polar-tested fins, mask, and snorkel. However, you are welcome to bring your own fins, masks, and snorkel if you prefer

Every snorkeller will be issued with a snorkelling safety pack with additional buoyancy aids and means of communications.

What to Pack

You will need to bring your own insulating undergarments to wear under your drysuit – two to three layers will provide sufficient insulation for the water temperatures we encounter. A detailed packing list is provided in your voyage essentials document.

We recommend:

- Thermal top and bottoms: one light-weight and one medium- to heavy-weight.

- Socks: Heavy thermal socks (2 pairs)
- Headgear: Warm cap, beanie or balaclava
- Water bottle: 1 to 2 litre capacity. Note: complementary water bottles available upon request
- Waterproof case or bag for camera/phone.

Activity Surcharge

The polar snorkelling activity is available for an additional surcharge and includes your guides, permits, outings and some equipment. Please check the website for specific activity cost.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance, including emergency evacuation coverage, is mandatory on all Aurora Expeditions voyages. You will need to ensure that your insurance policy covers you for your snorkelling activity. An additional policy or premium may be required to ensure you have adequate coverage. Please contact Aurora Expeditions if you need assistance with your insurance policy.

Age Limit

Snorkellers should be aged 14 years or over and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times.

What Will I See?

Snorkelling in the polar regions offers a unique wildlife viewing experience. In Antarctica, we have many opportunities to encounter penguins, seals and whales, as well as amazing ice formations above and below the water.

For more information please contact your travel agent, or Aurora Expeditions on:

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