



Dear guest,

We understand that you might have concerns about travelling in current COVID-19 times, and we aim to address those in this letter. We are convinced that if we all observe the right policies and measures, travelling to the remoteness of the polar regions in one of the safest travel destinations. If we all maintain a couple of basic guidelines, the risks for infections and diseases will be much lower than in most public areas or transport in the world.

Working assumption

The Corona developments in Argentina are very positive; inflection rates are at 11% of its peak. Despite rising numbers, fatalities have remained low.

Argentina initially declared, even if the borders stay closed, that they will allow Antarctica cruise passengers from October 20th to enter the country within a “bubble protocol”, meaning that from the moment of entry in Argentina, all guests will need to be transferred to the ship in one secured group, with charter flights, “bubble” hotels and private transport.

However, Argentina has opened fully on November 1st and a bubble protocol is no longer necessary, with the small exception that all guests need to arrive at and leave from the port of Ushuaia in one group. Of course, in today’s world nothing is 100% certain; if infections would rapidly increase again, the “bubble protocol” option might come back on the table.

Vaccine Requirement!

*The Argentinian government will require all guests, staff, and crew to be fully vaccinated with Argentinian approved vaccine min. **14 days** prior to arriving in Argentina. The approved vaccines are: Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Sinopharm, CanSino, Sputnik, Johnson & Johnson. Booster shots are not counted towards the minimum 14 days.*



Information, advice, and policies change

Our first recommendation is to always check the latest updates, advice, or travel policy from Albatros Expeditions, your own government, and the country of embarkation, as learnings and scientific insight, and travel advice changes regularly.

Local laws and rules always supersede our protocols. The current expected entry requirements for Argentina;

- Complete the form <https://ddji.migraciones.gob.ar/app/home.php> 48 hours before arriving in the country
- Proof of travel insurance with medical coverage of hospitalisation and isolation. As Argentinians defined: "All persons shall have COVID-19 and death insurance, including isolation, transfer, hospitalisation and, where appropriate, repatriation. It should also cover the isolation and transfer of a suspected close contact case. In addition, it should provide for the possibility of coverage for travel suspension".
- Proof of vaccination certificate (uploaded to the DDJJ form).
- Negative PCR test within 72 hours prior to **arrival in the country**.

IMPORTANT!

For guests who spend 72 hours or more in Argentina prior to embarkation, it is important to note that they also need to take a PCR Test in Argentina, so they can show a negative PCR test at embarkation, which is maximum 72 hours.

What Albatros Expeditions does to keep you safe

You can expect the following key actions from Albatros Expeditions to keep you safe:

- Full compliance with all health and safety requirements of the operating area/ports, our ship flag state, our ship classification society and the IAATO membership association.
- Physical adaptation of vessels to reduce hazards that could lead to spread of disease.
- Pre -and during- voyage ship disinfections.
- Enhanced cleaning procedures for cabins and all public areas.
- Health screening and monitoring for all guests, staff, and crew.
- We offer plenty of sanitizing units and hand washing facilities onboard.
- Social distancing where possible.

What you should do pre-travel

To travel safely and healthy, we recommend you the following:

- Always register your travel plans with your respective consulate, please see <https://www.embassypages.com> for address details.



- Ensure you have appropriate travel insurance, including travel interruptions, denied boarding and repatriation. Please discuss any travel insurance concerns with your insurance provider.
- Check your travel history and travel plans, to establish if all countries you plan to visit or will travel through before joining vessel will allow you to travel or return to your home country.
- Please check health requirements of destination and transit countries, as well as those of transport services (airlines).
- Please study the WHO recommendations. 'Protecting yourself and others from the spread of COVID-19': <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
- One of the best things you can do to keep you and others safe, both at home and on our ship, is proper hand washing. Hands can be sanitized but note that sanitation of hands should not be a replacement to washing hands unless soap and water is not available. Please refer to hand washing guidelines by the WHO; https://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/
- In the two weeks prior to travel, we strongly recommend you to closely monitor your health, do a symptom self-check and practice good especially hygiene (physical distancing, hand washing, limited social interactions).
- Please consult with your physician if they are concerned about symptoms.
- Please buy an appropriate personal travel kit before leaving home for your travels to our ship. This include face cover, hand sanitizer spray and wipes, thermometer, gloves.
- Ensure you receive your last vaccine latest 14 days prior to travel. Check also that the country of embarkation may have specific vaccines only that are approved for entry.
- Take a COVID-19 PCR test prior to travel and if arriving in Argentina early, a PCR test which is max 72 hours prior to embarkation.
- Fill out necessary entry forms for the country of embarkation (such as the DDJJ form for Argentina) max 48 hours before arriving in the country of embarkation.

What you should during travel to the ship

During your travels to our ship, we recommend you the following:

- Refrain from handshaking and hugging.
- Carry hand sanitizer spray and wipes, wash hands regularly.
- Observe physical distancing during travel whenever possible.
- Consider face covering when in prolonged or close contact with others (flights and public transport).
- Sanitize outside luggage between handlers.
- Sanitize identity documents / tickets between handlers or if exposed to public scanners and surfaces.
- Minimize use of public transport while in transit.
- If you do not feel well, please be vigilant, open, and honest about symptoms.



Arrival at the port of Ushuaia in groups

At this moment all guests need to arrive at the port of Ushuaia as one group. We will provide transportation from the airport, with one pick-up points in the city of Ushuaia, to arrive all together as required by Argentinian protocols.

*The meeting point will be **TOLKEYEN OFFICE, PREFECTURA NAVAL AVENUE, TURISTIC PORT.** If convenient, Guests can drop off their luggage during the day at the luggage store located **409 SAN MARTIN ST.** We will take care of the luggage to be transferred to the ship from here, so guests don't have to worry and can explore the town until it is pickup time. The luggage can be dropped off starting 9am until latest 3pm.*

We will provide hospitality desks with assistance at the meeting point and at the port. The provisionally schedule of the bus is.

- *13:15 Departure from Meeting Point directly to Port*
- *13:45 Departure from Meeting Point directly to Port*
- *14:15 Departure from Meeting Point to the Port*
- *14:45 Departure from Meeting Point to the Port*
- *15:15 Departure from Meeting Point directly to Port*
- *15:45 Departure from meeting Point directly to Port*

Important *guests need to wear face masks in the bus. Upon disembarkation we will deliver a similar service - more information to be given onboard.*

Note that from the Meeting Point, each bus will go to a local testing facility designated by local authorities for antigen testing prior to embarkation.

What you can expect at embarkation

- All guests will be asked to show their vaccine certificates and need to wear face-masks.
- You will be screened for COVID-like symptoms before boarding; your temperature will be taken, and you will be asked to disclose any symptoms. Any temperature above >38°C is considered to be indicative of an infection. Please note that you could be denied boarding by the Doctor/Captain if you present COVID-like symptoms or if you refuse screening.
- Wash and sanitize hands, luggage, and footwear at bottom of gangway before boarding the vessel.
- As soon as we have a negative result on the antigen-test, guests will be able to check in, go to their staterooms and/or walk around the ship.
- You must join the mandatory passenger safety briefing which includes our 'Clean Ships and Healthy People Strategy', outlining the new



procedures intended to prevent the spread of infections. You will be assigned to fixed social groups for meals, gatherings, and activities.

Testing. We will test all guests before boarding with antigen test, just to be 100% sure we will leave with a healthy ship. In addition, we test all guests, staff and crew again on Day 5 of the cruise. On longer voyages, a second antigen test is conducted for all on Day 12.

If a guest tests positive or inconclusive on an antigen test, we will provide a PCR test just to be sure we don't have a "false positive"

Some Falklands and South Georgia voyages might also need an antigen test before visiting. More information will be given onboard.

We will need to test again all passengers upon disembarkation. This could be an antigen or PCR test in cooperation with a local laboratory.

The costs of tests on board are \$40 for an antigen test and \$75 for a PCR test. The cost for the external antigen test done by an official local laboratory for embarkation and debarkation is \$50, and \$120 for a PCR test. The costs for a rapid 1h PCR is \$250. This includes an official certificate which can be used for traveling and flying. For US guests returning home, we would like to refer you to appendix I.

The cost of the tests will be charged to your onboard account.

NOTE THAT OWN TESTS ARE NOT PERMITTED!

What happens if a guest tests positive?

We will always first check with a PCR test if there is a case of a "false positive". So, the below is if the PCR test is also positive.

Before boarding the ship: the guest and any travel partners are required to isolate themselves in an approved quarantine hotel for 10 days. Note in line with Argentinian requirements, guests need to have travel insurance that covers isolation. In line with our Corona-guarantee, the guest will be offered an opportunity to travel with Albatros Expeditions at a later time without any additional charges.

On-board the ship: the guest is required to isolate themselves in an isolation cabin, until the Doctor clears the guest that it is safe to return. If the guest misses more than 50% of the voyage, we will offer an opportunity to travel with Albatros Expeditions again later without any additional charge. Close contacts will be tested daily for up to five days. Travel partners may also be required to isolate.

Before disembarking the ship: the guest is required to isolate themselves in an approved quarantine hotel for up to 10 days as per local regulations. Note in line with Argentinian requirements, guests need to have travel insurance that covers isolation.

Testing for return flights

For guests that need an official laboratory certificate to return home, we have organized the following process for all testing before disembarkation;



- *During the voyage a debarkation form will be given to each guest to fill out, where they choose between PCR or antigen test, choose their transfer time, provide their contact details, and indicate their flight times out.*
- *Laboratory employees will board the vessel in Ushuaia the evening prior to debarkation to take samples to bring to their laboratory for testing.*
- *he next morning guests will receive their test results and certificates by e-mail.*
- *Disembarkation will start from 07:00 and end latest 09:00.*

The above service will also be available in the weekend! For US guests returning home, we would like to refer you to appendix I

What you should do on the ship to keep you safe:

- In public spaces wear a face mask.
- If you have any cold, flu or COVID-19 like symptoms, you need to inform the ship's medical staff immediately to get tested for COVID-19.
- If you have fever or certain symptoms, you may not be allowed to participate in any activities, including landings, excursions, and lectures.
- Upon Doctor's or Captain's orders you could be isolated in a specific isolation cabin. You will be taken care off, but you will not be allowed to leave the cabin, until symptoms have disappeared and/or the Doctor (or Captain) states it is safe to do so, *following Argentinian regulations.*
- Please wash your hands as frequently as possible, as a minimum before and after every meal, activity, excursion, and after using the toilet of course. Hands can be sanitized but note that sanitation of hands should not be a replacement to washing hands unless soap and water is not available.
- Please use credit/debit card to settle your final bill, no cash payments please.
- On social media, please refrain from making jokes, suggestions or creating rumors about Coronavirus / COVID-19 on board of a particular (or your) ship. During current times this is like making a bomb-joke at airport security – just do not do it!

At Albatros Expeditions, we are committed to your health and safety, and to deliver you the best polar experiences available. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us or ask anyone of your crew onboard!

Regards,

Hans Lagerweij

CEO Albatros Expeditions

Appendix I COVID-19 Testing Required for U.S. Entry

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html#general>

All air passengers 2 years or older with a flight departing to the US from a foreign country at or after **12:01am EST (5:01am GMT) on December 6, 2021**, are required to show a negative COVID-19 viral test result taken no more than one calendar day before travel, or documentation of having recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days, before they board their flight.

- Air passengers will also be required to confirm in the form of an attestation that the information they present is true.
- Travellers will need to get a COVID-19 viral test (regardless of vaccination status or citizenship) no more than 1 day before the first flight travel by air into the United States. You must show your negative result to the airline before you board your flight.
- The test must be administered no more than one calendar day before the date of the international flight to the United States (or before boarding the first flight in a series of connections booked on the same itinerary to the United States).
- So, if a traveller is departing for the United States at 10 PM on January 19, they would have to present a negative test result for a test that was taken any time after 12:01 AM on January 18.
- Those who are recently recovered from COVID-19, may instead travel with documentation of recovery from COVID-19 (i.e., positive COVID-19 viral test result on a sample taken no more than 90 days before the flight's departure from a foreign country **and** a letter from a licensed healthcare provider or a public health official stating that you were cleared to travel).

Accepted Testing

- Both nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs), such as a PCR test, and antigen tests qualify.
 - Examples of available NAATs for SARS-CoV-2 include but are not restricted to reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), reverse transcription loop-mediated isothermal amplification (RT-LAMP), transcription-mediated amplification (TMA), nicking enzyme amplification reaction (NEAR), and helicase-dependent amplification (HDA). The test used must be authorized for use by the relevant national authority for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 in the country where the test is administered.
- A self-test can be used if it meets the requirements of the order including real-time proctoring by a telehealth service affiliated with the manufacturer of the test and that generates a test result that can be reviewed by the airline before boarding.

Practicalities

Note that because of the required timeline it will be challenging to do the testing on board. Guests can either test in Ushuaia, or at the airport in Buenos Aires. Addresses in Ushuaia are below. Pricing in Argentinian Peso.



NOMBRE	LAB LABORATORIOS	BAHIA SALUD	CLINICA SAN JORGE	CENTRO MEDICO USHUAIA
DIRECCION	GDOR PAZ 1523	AMEGHINO 540	ONACHAGA 184	DE LA ESTANCIA 1925
TEL FIJO	02901 42-2387	02901 43-1075	02901 42-2635	02901 44-5130
TEL WHATSAPP	02901-15496530	02901-15412903		02901-15615887
HORARIO	L-V 8-18 H / S 9-13 H	L-V 8-13 Y 15-20 H		L-V 10 a 12 a
PRECIO	\$ 12.000	\$ 14.500	\$ 7.800	\$ 10.000 Y \$ 12.000
REQUISITOS	Solicitar turno a los tel. Ver más en adjunto	Solicitar turno al WhatsApp, enviar foto de dni, fecha de viaje, tel y correo electrónico.	Orden médica que diga "HISOPADO COVID" y con "DIAGNOSTICO: POR VIAJE". Se puede pagar hasta en 3 cuotas s/interés	Solicitar turno al WhatsApp

For **Buenos Aires** – Please use the test center at EZE or AEP airports

- Laboratory at the airports of Buenos Aires.
- Stambouliau: <https://www.stambouliau.com.ar/pacientes/covid-19-centros-de-testeo-en-ezeiza-y-aeroparque/>
- Location:
 - Ezeiza: outside terminal A.
 - Aeroparque: outside the airport, before the entrance.