The Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

Expedition to Antarctica

Aboard the Five-Star Le Boreal
January 4 to 17, 2018
Dear Alumnae and Friends:

“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...” Watch as normal human scales and reference points disappear amidst the grandeur of nature in its most pristine form, from extended sunrises that paint the icescape in soft shades of pink to the lingering golden light of the austral summer, where humpback whales, leopard seals and Adélie penguins mingle among sparkling turquoise glaciers and glimmering icebergs. Discover Antarctica, and see how its spectacular illuminations reveal the mystique and contrasts of the most unique place on Earth to those fortunate enough to visit on this extraordinary 14-day program.

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” during a nine-night cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, state-of-the-art, Five-Star, ice-class LE BORÉAL. One of the finest vessels plying Antarctic waters, it showcases private balconies in 95 percent of its 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, and is simply the optimal cruising experience that sells out quickly year after year. Make your reservation soon, while Early Booking Savings and space are still available!

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Perez
Interim Executive Director
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 rookeries, disturb nesting sites or disrupt research. All visitors will be asked to take—and leave—nothing ashore.

U.S.
Thursday, January 4
Depart the U.S.

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Friday, January 5
Arrive in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires and check into the Five-Star INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL, ideally located in the historic San Telmo neighborhood and within walking distance of the landmark Palace of the Argentine National Congress. This evening, attend the Welcome Reception.

Buenos Aires
Saturday, January 6
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.

Buenos Aires/Ushuaia
Sunday, January 7
This morning, fly to Ushuaia, the world’s southernmost city, capital of Tierra del Fuego and the gateway to Antarctica. Embark LE BORÉAL this afternoon and cruise through historic 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, January 8, to Tuesday, January 9
Cross the legendary Drake Passage and, upon reaching the Antarctic Convergence, watch for breaching fin and humpback whales and seabirds feeding on plankton and krill that

Visit the city’s historic Recoleta Cemetery, famous for its ornate vaults and sculptures and as the final resting place of the legendary Eva Perón, the former First Lady of Argentina.

Cover photo: Naturalist-led Zodiac expeditions bring you up close to Adélie penguins and crabeater seals, hearty 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.

Photo this page: Majestic nature endures in “The White Continent,” where an international treaty limits the number of visitors to sustain the pristine ecosystem.
are 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. During the evening, enjoy the lingering twilight of the Antarctic summer.

Please note that the ship’s cruising pattern and positionings are dependent on weather, ice and sea conditions and are subject to change.

Cruising Antarctica
Wednesday, January 10, to Sunday, January 14
Cruise below the 60th parallel south 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 volcanic rock 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.

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 20th-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.
Named by 19th-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.

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.

Relax and reflect on board as the ship turns north and attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception.

**Cruising Drake Passage/ Ushuaia, Argentina**

Monday, January 15

Cross the Drake Passage and 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, January 16

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, January 17

Arrive in the U.S.

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**Iguazu Falls**

Post-Program Option
January 16 to 20

The UNESCO World Heritage site of Iguazu 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 Five-Star INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL 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.
Ice-Class Small Ship, State-of-the-Art Design
The exclusively chartered Le Boréal launched the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies
Each 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 have two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. Enjoy accommodation amenities including individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

Chic and Casual Dining
International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious La Licorne dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual La Boussole Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. Continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Wine is served with lunch and dinner.

Spacious Public Areas/
World-Class Service and Facilities
In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting, and they can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge; nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge; and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, two elevators and an infirmary staffed with a doctor and a nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

Respect for the Environment
The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” designation due to its advanced eco-friendly features, a rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has two tenders and 10 Zodiacs.
Included Features

In Buenos Aires, Argentina
◆ Two nights in the Five-Star INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL 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 LE BORÉAL
◆ 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 Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise.
◆ All meals—early continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.
◆ Wine is served with lunch and dinner.
◆ 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 landscapes.
◆ Souvenir polar-grade red parka.

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.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
◆ 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 purchased individually at an additional cost.
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.

Exploration of 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.
Singles are available in category 6 at $22395* and in category 4 at $25395* on or before May 30, 2017. Owner's Thomas P. Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088 or (312) 609-1140. For further information, please call the offices of Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by October 1, 2017.

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Iguazu Falls Post-Program Option. Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category: 1st Choice _____  2nd Choice _____

Jungle-View Rooms:

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<td>Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony, Deck 3, Le Champon, forward</td>
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<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony, Deck 6, Le France, (limited availability)</td>
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<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balconies, two bathrooms: tub/shower and shower, large sitting area with sofa, Deck 5, Le Normandie, midship</td>
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<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors onto two private balconies, one and a half bathrooms, separate tub and shower, sitting room with sofa, and four chairs and writing desk, Deck 6, Le France, (limited availability)</td>
<td>$16595</td>
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*Taxes are an additional $865 per person and are subject to change.

Send to: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company 209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500 Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446 For further information, please call the offices of Thomas P. Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088 or (312) 609-1140.

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Program reserving requires a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Iguazu Falls Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, you agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure. Let's go to and from Buenos Aires, Uruguay (internal program air) is $895 per person additional and subject to change.

EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA RESERVATION FORM

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Signature as it appears on credit card

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category: 1st Choice _____  2nd Choice _____

Economy Class

Upgrade Economy

Business Class

First Class

We want you to book my/our air from

(If in departure city) to and from Buenos Aires, Argentina, at additional cost to be advised. 

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable. 

We will make my/our own air arrangements.

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by October 1, 2017.
RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring association, and its officers, employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively, “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity or of any other third party. 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.

Without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to persons or property in connection with the operation of any airplane, vessel, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any person or entity or of any other third party.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip routes, as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port call(s), hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation, using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to other, weather conditions or other force majeure, mechanical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under such circumstances. If Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if, so its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid. The participant waives, to the extent permitted by law, any right to sue for double damages, consequential damages or to rescind the contract, or to assert any other claim in contract or tort, against Gohagan or any person, firm or entity.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are unable to travel on your cruise, you may substitute another cruise with Gohagan for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at own risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a trip participant, or to remove from a group, any person whose physical condition, behavior or attitude is found, in the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line, to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the trip by others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip routes, as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port call(s), hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation, using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to other, weather conditions or other force majeure, mechanical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under such circumstances. If Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if, so its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid. The participant waives, to the extent permitted by law, any right to sue for double damages, consequential damages or to rescind the contract, or to assert any other claim in contract or tort, against Gohagan or any person, firm or entity.

Due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, if Gohagan cancels a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; in such circumstances, Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port call(s), hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation, using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to other, weather conditions or other force majeure, mechanical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under such circumstances.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without notice. Baggage charges may be subject to change. Baggage charges are to be paid by the participant to it. Gohagan, however, is not required under any circumstance to continue the trip if it is unable to meet the baggage regulations of any airline or cruise line. Baggage is entirely at the own risk of the participant. The right is reserved to refuse, or remove from a trip, any person whose baggage is considered by Gohagan to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the trip by others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip routes, as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port call(s), hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation, using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to other, weather conditions or other force majeure, mechanical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under such circumstances.

All programs require physical independence and the ability to travel alone or with minimal assistance. Gohagan is not responsible for any special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair, lift or medical escort), or to meet any special dietary or medical needs. Gohagan will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the physical accessibility of a trip. Travellers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Your own personal physical assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling your own luggage.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received by Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by May 30, 2017. 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 tariff rate. Cancellation penalties may apply.