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January 8-31, 2010
24 Days

New Lower Price

South America & Antarctica Cruise

This travel package planned and escorted by Clara Hill

Experience Antarctica in the comfort of a large ship. Take in spectacular scenery – the Chilean Fjords, Amalia Glacier, Cape Horn and pristine Antarctica. No clocks or calendars rule this world... snow covered and silent! Welcome to the White Continent, permanent human population: zero. But all is not frozen in Antarctica. In fact, the waters and rocky beaches teem with life. Expect to see hundreds of penguins waddling to the sea or sunbathing on icebergs; pods of killer whales hunting for dinner; populations of Weddell and Antarctica fur seals hauling out on the pack ice to breed; and flocks of skuas, albatross and other seabirds diving into the cold, rich waters of the southern oceans for squid and krill. Join NorthLand Travel and Clara Hill as you have the trip of a lifetime. When Clara is asked what trip she has enjoyed the most, she will tell you without hesitation, "Antarctica." She and her husband have made this trip and want to share their experience with you. It is so hard to express the experience in words...you just gotta do it to understand it! Come discover what she is talking about.



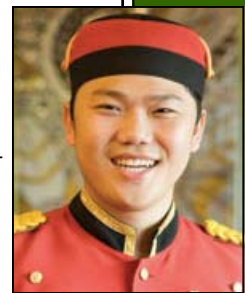
January 8 as we don't know what Iowa weather will deal us (and for your early morning convenience), NorthLand Travel picks up through our guaranteed departure cities (see below) on our way to Omaha. We'll stay the night and be ready for the big day tomorrow!

January 9 we transfer to Omaha's Eppley Airfield. Let us navigate the airports, immigration and customs, taking the worry out of your vacation! Our overnight flight will take us to **Rio De Janeiro, Brazil**.

January 10 we arrive in Rio, clear immigrations and transfer to the port. We board **Holland America's elegant ms Veendam**, our home for the next 20 days, which is much larger and more stable than "expedition" ships. We'll also enjoy **award-winning dining** (with no prices on the menu!), **unsurpassed service** by Indonesian and Filipino staff, large spa and exercise facilities, spacious, **well-appointed staterooms**, top-notch **entertainment nightly** (no ticket necessary) as well as well-educated shore excursion staff to explain and assist.



Built in 1996, this 720-foot, 9-deck luxury ship is adorned with a wealth of art. It's a well-stabilized, floating resort featuring a spa, barber & beauty shops, casino, pools, a culinary arts center, shops, Explorations Café, where library, coffee house and Internet are combined to make a very inviting public area; self-service laundries, a variety of lounges, a two-level show lounge, a Lido Restaurant where you can always find a snack and the most important room, the two-story dining room. Each evening you'll be presented with one of the most extensive menus at sea, without any prices! The service and food are outstanding! Your stateroom, larger than industry standard features pillow-top mattresses, luxury sheets, robes and other amenities. It will be kept neat as a pin by your Indonesian cabin steward. They'll appear out of nowhere, tidy up your room and vanish without disturbing you. The Filipino bar and office staff will remember your name and captivate you with their smiles. Holland America Line takes pride in providing gracious service.



Spend your days aboard ship as you wish. A plethora of activities will be available on board, most at no extra cost. An extensive array of optional shore experiences will be available at each



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South American port. You're always welcome to return to the ship for lunch when in port. If you don't want to leave your floating resort, you're welcome to stay aboard! It's your vacation.

Enjoy breakfast in the dining room, peruse the breakfast buffet in the Lido Restaurant or have breakfast delivered to your room. We will be at sea all day and have plenty of time to explore this five-star ship, which is designed to offer great comfort and lots of amenities. Starting today you will have an opportunity to learn all about the exploration of Antarctica we have begun. On days at sea, you'll have the opportunity to attend lectures about Antarctica as well as other places we will see during our cruise. Table service is provided for lunch, or help yourself to the buffet in the Lido. Dinner and entertainment are planned for you this evening.

The Veendam stays docked overnight at Rio de Janeiro tonight.

January 11 discover **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil** – a vibrant, Brazilian paradise. This stunning setting and a joyous lust for life make Rio one of the world's most exciting cities to visit. A variety of optional experiences are available such as: horseback riding or touring by private car; ride the cable car to Sugar Loaf Mountain for a view of the statue of Christ; Rio by land and by air and many more. We will celebrate our late afternoon departure for a wonderful cruise with a fun-filled Sail-Aweigh Party.



January 12 and 13 should be relaxing days at sea. Catch up your journal, nap when you like, check out some of the fun activities on board, pamper yourself in the spa, start a new exercise program and/or plot your strategy for our next port.

January 14 we arrive in **Buenos Aires, Argentina**, "Paris of South America." The birthplace of the tango, this sophisticated city has an intoxicating mix of European glamour and Latin energy. Many optional experiences are available like: Taste of Argentine wines – learn about grape production and winemaking (with samples!), a trip to incredible Iguazu Falls or to beautiful Bariloche nestled in the Andes; Tango shows, city tours and more!



January 15 our ship arrives in **Montevideo, Uruguay**. Colonial customs such as high tea, siestas and long lunches are still in fashion! Optional shore experiences include: a gaucho's life – spend part of a day in the life of a gaucho, Punta del Este – visit the famous seaside resort; ride a steam train or tour in a private car.

January 16 we are at sea. Enjoy some of the many opportunities for fun and relaxation.

January 17 we arrive at **Puerto Madryn, Argentina**, gateway to world-famous wildlife sanctuary, Peninsula Valdés. It's also the gateway to Punta Tombo where the world's largest colony of Magellanic penguins is found along with abundant elephant seals and sea lions. If history or shopping are more your style, take in the city of Puerto Madryn. Back on board this evening, another great dinner and stage production await.



January 18 we are at sea. Enjoy!

January 19 the Veendam arrives at **Port Stanley, Falkland Islands** – "Scotland under the Southern Cross." Moorlands, pubs, red phone booths and sheep ranches are plentiful as are the penguins – Gentoo, Magellanic, Rock Hopper and King. You'll find shore options like: Long Island Farm – a huge (peat-powered) sheep farm, making their own butter and bread; penguin encounters; Falkland battlefields – where Argentina and Britain fought in 1982; Stanley by vintage double-decker bus and more.



January 20 is a day at sea as we set our course for Antarctica! Recharge, refresh and relax!

January 21 we're really here...the **islands off the Antarctic Peninsula!** We cruise near Elephant Island, Paulet Island and Hope Bay, home to Argentine scientists, Adelie penguins and where Shackleton's expedition struggled to survive.



January 22 we're in the **South Shetland Islands.** Half Moon Island is really a volcano, active enough to heat the water and beach to bath temps! We should have a great chance to see whales, elephant seals and Chinstrap penguins. We'll also sail along Livingston Island, Deception Island and Greenwich Island.

January 23 the Veendam cruises in the **Wilhelm Archipelago.** We'll cruise amid Anvers Island, where Palmer Research Station, a U.S. installation is located; Cuverville and Petermann Islands, Neumayer and Lemaire Channels.



January 24 we cruise **Cape Horn** and the **Drake Passage**, where Atlantic meets Pacific. Magellan's fleet first circled Cape Horn, the massive, treacherous rock at continent's end. Come cruise 'round the horn, which for sailors is a true rite of passage. We then head north toward Ushuaia.



January 25 we arrive in **Ushuaia, Argentina.** Southernmost town in the world, Ushuaia is dominated by peaks on three sides and on the fourth, the bountiful Beagle Channel, home to sea lion rookeries and Antarctic fur seals. Optional shore experiences include: Beagle Channel wildlife – catamaran with domed windows, a penguin experience – view from water and/or by land, Tierra del Fuego National Park by coach and train – spectacular scenery and others. Ushuaia is a pretty place and very walkable, should you want to explore on your own. This afternoon we make our way into the Cockburn and Beagle Channels. Charted by Charles Darwin on his exploratory cruise in 1832, these are two of the most vital channels in the Tierra del Fuego Archipelago. Marvel at the rich marine life of the 150 mile-long **Beagle Channel.** The **Cockburn Channel** offers breathtaking views of the Romanche, Alemania, Francia and Italia Glaciers.

January 26 we arrive in **Punta Arenas, Chile** – a remote town pioneered by Yugoslav settlers and sheep ranchers. Punta Arenas sits on rolling hills overlooking the Strait of Magellan. Options are available such as: a visit to a penguin reserve, kayaking, Torres del Paine National Park or several others. Later today, our scenic cruising includes the **Strait of Magellan.** This 350-mile long channel linking Atlantic and Pacific was once the main shipping route from the east to west coasts until the Panama Canal was built in 1914. Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan was first to sail through the Strait of Magellan in 1520 on his quest to circumnavigate the globe. Excellent dining, lots of activities and another great evening of entertainment are planned.

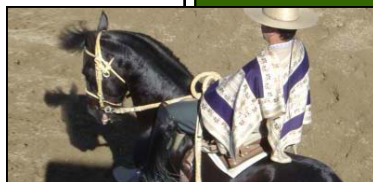


January 27 our scenic cruising takes us to the west side of Chile's **Sarmiento Canal**, which is flanked by Madre de Dios Island, with towering limestone peaks. Icy-blue Amalia Glacier is home to penguins and seabirds.



January 28 and 29 should be relaxing days at sea. Catch up on your journal, nap when you like, check out some of the fun activities on board, pamper yourself in the spa and/or learn about our next port.

January 30 we arrive in **Valparaiso, Chile.** We'll leave the Veendam (and unfortunately, our stewards) and embark on one last **scenic tour.** We'll drive through hilly Valparaiso on our way to the resort area known as **Vina del Mar.** The floral clock and the impressive 1930s casino will make great photo stops. Explore a bit of Easter Island as we tour the **Fonck Museum.** Then we'll tour the countryside of the Casablanca Valley as we travel to **Puro Caballo**, a typical Chilean horse stable. Enjoy the **national drink** and an **empanada** before a **demonstration of horse skill** by a huaso (Chilean cowboy). Later we'll enjoy **lunch**, which will feature typical Chilean fare. After our tour, we continue to Santiago to check in for our return flight.



Your 24-day South America & Antarctica package includes: Luxury motor coach transportation between our guaranteed departure cities and Omaha's Eppley Airfield, pre-overnight in Omaha area, round-trip air transportation, transfers between airports, hotel and piers; 20 days aboard the ms Veendam (shipboard meals, nightly entertainment and many activities included) and the local tour from Valparaiso to Santiago.

\$5,599 per person, double occupancy in an inside stateroom (category K)

\$5,979 per person, double occupancy in an oceanview stateroom (category E)

Call for pricing on lanai (new category) and verandah staterooms (very limited availability!)

Reservations: We know it sounds like a long way off, but please note that we have a limited inventory of staterooms, which will be further reduced August 1. Please make your reservation early!

Deposit: \$600 per person, due with reservation

Balance due: October 5

Early booking discount: \$50 per person discount applied toward final balance if deposit is received by May 22

Peace of Mind Protection: not available but group affordable travel insurance/cancellation protection is available.

Without protection, regardless of the reason for cancellation, the following penalties apply:

Cancellations prior to October 8 are subject to a \$50 per person administrative fee

Cancellations from October 8-November 3 are subject to a \$900 penalty per person

Cancellations from November 4- 24 are subject to a 50% penalty

Cancellations from November 25-December 15 are subject to a 75% penalty

Cancellations on or after December 16 are subject to 100% penalty

Guaranteed departure cities: Newton, Des Moines, Ames, Fort Dodge, Webster City, Williams, Clear Lake, Owatonna, Tama, Waterloo, Waverly, Charles City, Coralville, Cedar Rapids, Independence, West Union and Decorah

A valid passport is required. NorthLand Travel will assist you in obtaining the required visa for Brazil.

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