



Cruise Details

Name:	Mawson's Antarctica: Along the East Coast
Reference:	SCENIC111S131225-2
Operator:	Scenic Ocean Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Ultra Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Eclipse II
Regions:	Antarctica
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Departs On:	13 Dec 25
Departs From:	Queenstown
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Arrives On:	06 Jan 26
Arrives At:	Hobart, Tasmania
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Cruise Nights:	24
Total Vacation Days:	25

Itinerary

Day 1: Queenstown (New Zealand)

Fly from the UK to Queenstown. Queenstown is the kind of place that will leave you breathless – in more ways than one. There are the high altitudes of the Southern Alps, mirror-like Lake Wakatipu, dreamy vine-laced countryside and the atmospheric town itself, where wood fires crackle and wine glasses toast the end of another remarkable day. Enjoy your one-night stay in Queenstown.

Arrives On: 13 Dec 25

Day 2: Queenstown (New Zealand)

This morning you will be transferred via coach from Queenstown to Bluff, where your ultra-luxury Discovery Yacht awaits. Marvel at the awe-inspiring scenery of rugged mountains, serene lakes, and lush forests.

Step on board Scenic Eclipse II and be warmly greeted with a glass of Champagne. Settle into your luxurious suite, meet your butler and

fellow guests and toast to the journey ahead.

Arrives On: 14 Dec 25

Day 2: Bluff (New Zealand)

Arrives On: 14 Dec 25

Day 3: Bluff (New Zealand)

At the very southern tip of the South Island, Bluff is one of New Zealand's oldest European settlements. It began life as a whaling station in the 1830s and has retained its strong ties to the sea, with one of the world's few natural oyster beds sitting just offshore in the Foveaux Strait. Bluff is the gateway to Stewart Island and Antarctica beyond, offering travellers a taste of the rugged character of an oystering port.

Freechoice:

Invercargill Sights & Transport World: Visit Invercargill to admire antique vehicles at the Transport World Museum and enjoy the town's stunning gardens.

Southern Sojourn: Explore Southland's art and history from Bluff, starting with a scenic drive to Gore. Visit the Moonshine Museum and Eastern Southland Art Gallery, where you'll discover local and international artworks.

Bluff Scenic Drive & Walking Tour: Discover Stirling Point, the southernmost tip of the South Island, and explore Bluff Hill for panoramic views. Travel along the scenic coastline to Oyster Cove Marina, enjoy Ocean Beach's wild beauty, and explore seafaring history at the Bluff Maritime Museum.

Arrives On: 15 Dec 25

Day 7: Port information not found

Commonwealth Bay was Australia's gateway to Antarctica. Embark on an unforgettable adventure as you step into the shoes of the legendary Sir Douglas Mawson, retracing his historic 1911–14 Australasian Antarctic Expedition. Discover the remote, wild beauty of East Antarctica as you navigate the iconic Commonwealth Bay, explore Mawson's Main Base huts, and immerse yourself in the breathtaking landscapes that defined the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration. This is your chance to experience the extraordinary - just as the pioneers did over a century ago.

Discovery:

Weather and ice conditions permitting, you'll have the opportunity to step back in time and visit the historic Mawson's Huts, immersing yourself in the experience of the explorers from that remarkable expedition. All guests will receive a complimentary helicopter-shuttle flight to access the huts which will operate over the next three days for all guests to visit the huts.

As you venture further into the Antarctic region, join our Discovery Team in the theatre for lectures that provide deep insights about the fantastic world around you. Daily experiences may include cruising on Zodiacs, stepping ashore to view vast penguin rookeries or historic huts and kayaking around icebergs. Depending on

ice conditions, submersible dives and paddling may also be possible.

Arrives On: 19 Dec 25

Day 8: Port information not found

Mawson famously named Commonwealth Bay "Home of the Blizzard" due to the dramatic weather conditions he faced during his expedition. Today, these historic huts and other significant sites offer a vivid and immersive experience of this remarkable era in Antarctic history—bringing it to life far beyond what any journal or book could

capture.

Choose to book a treatment# at the tranquil Senses Spa. Perhaps an ESPA facial or an alternative therapy including Ayurvedic massage or Japanese shiatsu.

Afterwards, hold on to that feeling of calm for a while longer in the Zen-like space of the Salt Therapy Lounge.

Discovery:

Weather and ice conditions permitting, you'll have the opportunity to step back in time and visit the historic Mawson's Huts, immersing yourself in the experience of the explorers from that remarkable expedition.

Daily experiences may include cruising on Zodiacs, stepping ashore to view vast penguin rookeries or historic huts, and kayaking around icebergs. Wherever your voyage takes you, you will have countless "pinch me" moments.

Arrives On: 20 Dec 25

Day 9: Port information not found

This part of East Antarctica not only hosts Mawson's huts but also offers a rare ice-free sanctuary for Antarctic wildlife, including nesting Adélie penguins, snow petrels, and Wilson's storm petrels.

Discovery:

Weather and ice conditions permitting, you'll have the opportunity to step back in time and visit the historic Mawson's Huts, immersing yourself in the experience of the explorers from that remarkable expedition.

Daily experiences may include cruising on Zodiacs, stepping ashore to view vast penguin rookeries or historic huts, and kayaking around icebergs. Wherever your voyage takes you, you will have countless "pinch me" moments.

Arrives On: 21 Dec 25

Day 10: Port information not found

You might sail past a number of immense glaciers that carve through East Antarctica, making for incredible spectacles. It's hard to comprehend the scale of the Mertz Glacier, an enormous hunk of crystallised ice more than 30km wide that gleams like a turquoise jewel. Sunlight cascades over its waves like liquid silver; in the troughs between are shadows of azure.

The 9km-wide Suvorov Glacier is similarly impressive, an endless bank of white unfurling into the distance. There are no trees or shrubs; flora is just a sprinkling of

occasional lichen, moss and algae. This is what infinity looks like.

Discovery: Enjoy daily Discovery excursions. Cruise on the Zodiacs around ice formations, step onto islands to view vast penguin rookeries and seals. Kayak and stand-up paddleboard around icebergs and hear the ice cracking and whales feeding below. To see more of East Antarctica from above or below the horizon book a helicopter[^] or a submersible[^] experience.

Arrives On: 22 Dec 25

Day 13: Balleny Islands (New Zealand)

This 160-kilometre-long chain of volcanic islands, some of them still active, straddles the Antarctic Circle. Here, you'll have a front-row seat to one of the greatest convergences of wildlife in the world.

Humpbacks, fin and minke whales may put on a show while we are nearby, breaching, blowing, and slapping their tails. Crabeater, Weddell Ross Sea Seals and leopard seals loll about, sunbaking between swims. Join a Discovery Excursion or just take in the view from the Observation Deck or your private verandah.

Throughout the day, themed dining and entertainment experiences will keep the festive celebrations alive – it will be the whitest Christmas you've ever had.

Discovery: Daily experiences may include cruising on Zodiacs, stepping ashore to view vast penguin rookeries or historic huts, and kayaking around icebergs. Wherever your voyage takes you, you will have countless "pinch me" moments.

Arrives On: 25 Dec 25

Day 14: Balleny Islands (New Zealand)

The chain is named after British mariner Captain Balleny, who reported seeing smoke billowing from its 1,340-metre summit when exploring the area in 1839. Almost completely mantled by ice, Young Island is the northernmost island in the archipelago. At the other end of the chain, Sturge is the southernmost island.

Utilise your binoculars from your suite or head for the telescopes in the Observation Lounge and take in the astonishing bird life, including enormous breeding colonies of southern fulmers and snow petrels. Gain deep insights from your expert polar Discovery Team about the region and its rich birdlife.

Discovery: Enjoy daily Scenic Discovery excursions. Cruise on the Zodiacs around ice formations, step onto islands to view vast penguin rookeries and seals. Kayak and stand-up paddleboard around icebergs and hear the ice cracking and whales feeding below.

Arrives On: 26 Dec 25

Day 16: Port information not found

Sea and ice conditions will guide your days in the western Ross Sea, where you'll find the Possession Islands—an intriguing cluster of small, rugged islands and rocks spanning approximately 7 miles (11 km). These seldom-visited outcrops are home to tens of thousands of penguins. Enjoy panoramic views of the Admiralty Mountains across the water and explore the striking rock formations and coastal caves.

Discovery:
Enjoy daily Scenic Discovery excursions. Cruise on the Zodiacs around ice formations, step onto islands to view vast penguin rookeries and seals. Kayak and stand-up paddleboard around icebergs and hear the ice cracking and whales feeding below. To see more of East Antarctica from above or below the horizon book a helicopter[^] or a submersible[^] experience.

Arrives On: 28 Dec 25

Day 17: Port information not found

Spend another day in the Possession Islands for further exploration or stay on board and spend some time in the Observation Lounge on Deck 5. Be enchanted by the endless horizons of the ocean from the panoramic glass windows or look through the Swarovski telescopes searching for wildlife.

Discovery:
Partake in daily Scenic Discovery excursions. Cruise on the Zodiacs around ice formations, step onto islands to view vast penguin rookeries and seals. Kayak and stand-up paddleboard around icebergs and hear the ice cracking and whales feeding below.

Arrives On: 29 Dec 25

Day 18: Port information not found

Experience the awe-inspiring majesty of the world's largest floating ice mass—a natural fortress that often unleashes fierce weather, with gale-force winds driving snow across the landscape. Just 800 miles from the South Pole, these towering 30-metre-high ice cliffs once halted early explorers in their tracks. As we cruise along, you might be lucky enough to witness the dramatic sight of icebergs 'calving,' a breathtaking moment to cherish.

Arrives On: 30 Dec 25

Day 25: Hobart, Tasmania (Australia)

Your voyage ends in Hobart – knowing there's still nothing between you and Antarctica but swathes of icy ocean helps take away the sting of everyday life. After breakfast, it's time to bid farewell to your new friends and the dedicated Scenic Eclipse crew, who have made your voyage so remarkable. Fly home carrying once-in-a-lifetime memories with you, or choose to extend your journey to explore the captivating city of Hobart. Transfer to the airport for your flight to the UK. Please book your flight to depart out of Hobart after 12:00

PM.

Please note, the itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons and weather conditions. As such, Scenic cannot guarantee the cruise will operate unaltered from the itinerary stated above.

Arrives On: 06 Jan 26

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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