

EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA

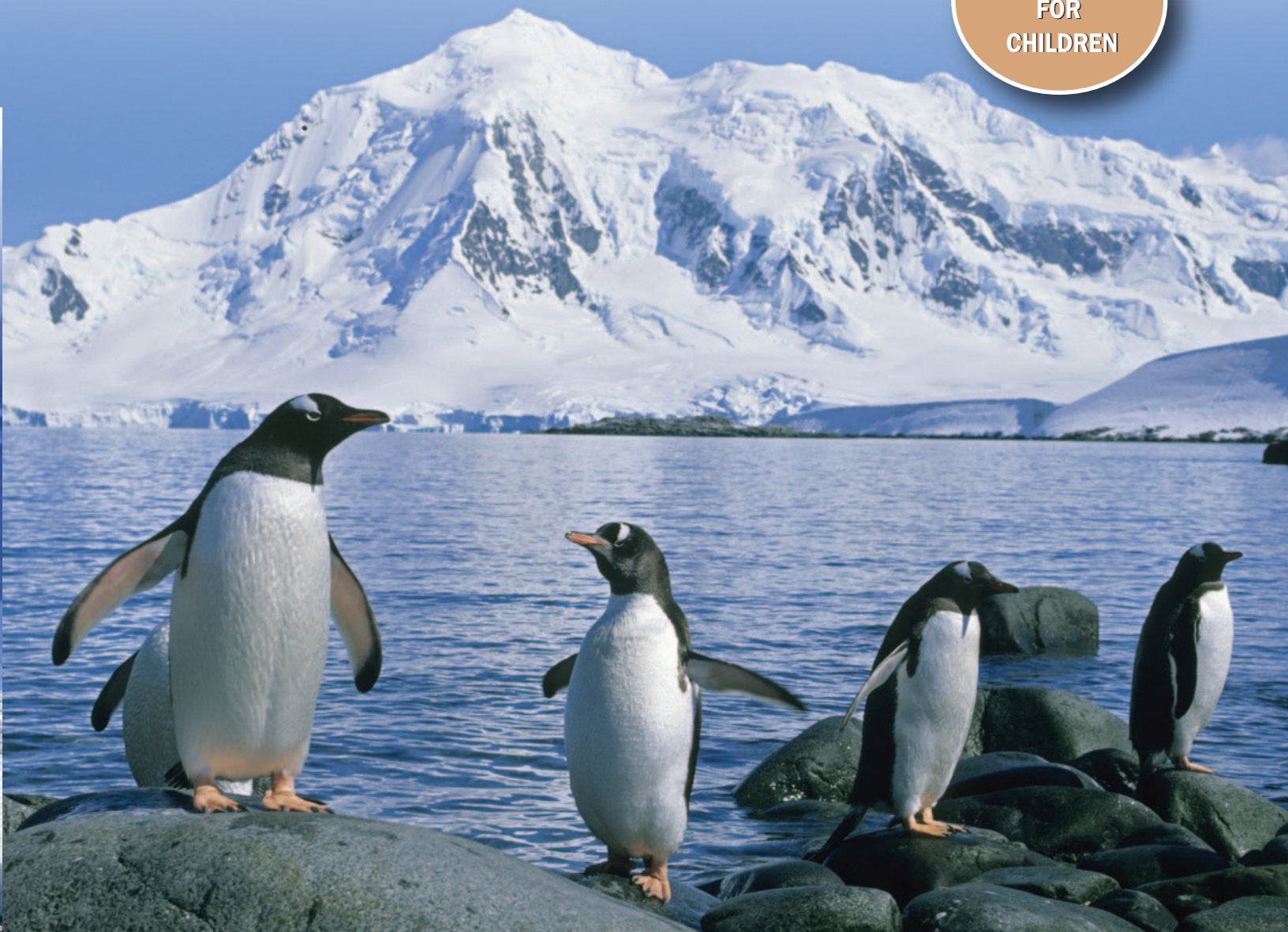
Aboard the New 152-guest Expedition Cruise Ship Vega

With Rachel Stanley

Associate Professor in Environmental Science

December 27, 2022 - January 8, 2023

**SPECIAL RATES
FOR
CHILDREN**



Dear Wellesley Alumna,

Visiting Antarctica is almost like stepping back in time, to an era when the world was new. There are no human sounds, only the wild cries of birds, seals, and whales echoing across a vast expanse of land and sea.

During the long days of Antarctica's austral summer, as you cruise through the Bransfield Strait to explore the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Shetland Islands, you will have endless opportunities to observe seals, whales and seabirds in their natural habitat, to witness hillsides and shorelines teeming with penguins, and to cruise through the blue Antarctic waters admiring the dramatic play of light on icebergs, glaciers, and towering mountains.

During this voyage, you will be joined by Rachel Stanley, Frost Associate Professor in Environmental Science at Wellesley, who has done extensive research on the role of the world's oceans in climate change. Professor Stanley will introduce travelers to the results of her research on marine greenhouse gases and share lessons in climate history based on research on Antarctic ice cores.

Your vessel for this journey will be a state-of-the-art expedition ship, Swan Hellenic's *Vega*, designed specifically for polar exploration. The ship's limited guest capacity, advanced technical and mechanical systems, and experienced officers and crew, make it the vessel of choice for exploring Antarctica in safety and comfort.

We hope you will join Professor Stanley and fellow alumnae on this once-in-a-lifetime travel adventure.

Warm regards,



Kathryn Mackintosh '03
Executive Director
Wellesley College Alumnae Association

Wellesley College Faculty Leader



Rachel Stanley is an associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and the Frost Associate Professor in Environmental Science at Wellesley College. She received a bachelor's degree in chemistry (MIT) and earned a PhD in chemical oceanography (MIT and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution).

At Wellesley, Professor Stanley teaches a variety of chemistry courses and pursues research aimed at understanding the role of the ocean in climate change, with a special focus on using gases as chemical clues to untangle how greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide enter the ocean and what happens next to these gases. Students are involved in all aspects of her research, collecting samples during cruises on the Atlantic Ocean, quantifying rates of photosynthesis and respiration, measuring gases in wind-wave tanks that simulate hurricane conditions, and developing mass spectrometers on campus in Wellesley's new Science Center. Beyond Wellesley, Professor Stanley chairs the Ocean Atmosphere Interaction Committee and is the U. S. representative to the Surface Ocean Lower Atmosphere Study, an international program aimed at increasing understanding of processes occurring at the boundary between the ocean and the atmosphere.





ITINERARY

Tuesday, December 27, 2022

DEPART HOME

Depart home for Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Wednesday, December 28

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

Arrive in Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina. Transfer to the *Alvear Icon Hotel*. In the evening, meet fellow travelers, your Wellesley faculty leader, and your trip director at an evening cocktail reception.

Thursday, December 29

BUENOS AIRES/USHUAIA/SHIP EMBARKATION

Transfer to the airport for the group flight to Ushuaia, claimed to be the world's southernmost city, located in Argentina's Tierra del Fuego, between the famed Beagle Channel and the mountains. On arrival, transfer to the pier to embark the *Vega*, which will begin cruising early this evening. As the ship cruises the Beagle Channel, enjoy a spectacular vista of glaciers and misted mountains.

Meals: B, D

Friday, December 30

AT SEA

Attend lectures and enjoy the ship's facilities as the *Vega* cruises through the Drake Passage to Antarctica. Look for Albatross, Cape Petrels, and whales that may accompany the ship on its passage.

Meals: B, L, D

Saturday, December 31 to Thursday, January 5

EXPLORING ANTARCTICA

Explore the pristine wilderness of the Antarctic Peninsula and its surrounding islands. The Peninsula is a narrow finger of land that separates the ice-choked waters of the Weddell and Bellingshausen Seas. As *Vega* cruises through scenic waterways, witness a breathtaking panorama of icebergs, blue glaciers, and jagged snow-capped mountains. Aboard the ship's Zodiacs, cruise among ice floes and explore penguin rookeries. Although the itinerary varies according to local ice and wind conditions, we plan to land at such places as Paradise Harbor, where humpback and minke whales are often sighted offshore; Petermann Island, the habitat of Gentoo and Adelie penguins; and Deception Island, known for its volcanically-heated hot springs. Navigating through the magnificent Lemaire, Errera, Neumayer, and other protected channels is also planned.

Meals: B, L, D daily

Friday, January 6 & Saturday, January 7

AT SEA

Watch for whales and seabirds - and enjoy onboard lectures and the ship's amenities - as *Vega* cruises back to Ushuaia.

Meals: B, L, D daily

Sunday, January 8

USHUAIA, Argentina/SHIP DISEMBARKATION/BUENOS AIRES/HOME

Disembark in Ushuaia. Transfer to the airport for the group flight to Buenos Aires to connect with flights homeward.

Meals: B



FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THALASSA JOURNEYS TOLL-FREE 866-633-3611



EXPLORE WITH A TEAM OF EXPEDITION LEADERS & NATURALISTS

In addition to traveling with Wellesley College faculty leader Professor Rachel Stanley, our activities in Antarctica are planned and conducted by a team of resident expedition leaders and naturalists who are among the most experienced in the field, with several years of leading small-ship cruise expeditions to this incredible region of the world. Members of the team comprise a truly astonishing assortment of expertise and intellect. Onboard, ashore, and in our Zodiac boats, through talks and presentations that will complement Dr. Stanley's lectures, they will create a comprehensive understanding of the flora and fauna, sea life, geology, glaciology, effects of climate change, history of exploration, and other topics that relate to Antarctica. The experience is not just one of awe-inspiring sightseeing, but a complete learning adventure as well.

THE AUSTRAL SUMMER

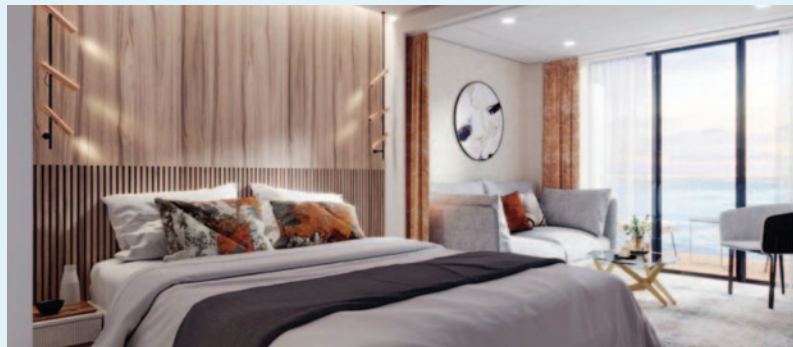
Our voyage to Antarctica will take place during the Austral Summer. The season is short, but the days are long, stretching to midnight and beyond. And they are surprisingly warm, too, with highs in the 30s and 40s F – just the right temperature for exploring on foot and by Zodiac boats. Dolphins might see our ship out from Ushuaia. Petrels, albatrosses, and skuas follow our wake to the Antarctic Convergence. On the Antarctic Peninsula, Gentoo, Chinstrap, and Adelie penguins nest by the thousands, waddling, slipping, diving, and crying in mass cacophony. Sheathbills, Kelp Gulls, and shags fight for space on the cliffs. Elephant Seals wallow and growl on the shore. Leopard Seals cruise between ice floes. Humpback and minke whales breach and skim the surface. They are not shy. They do not hide. Whales will often come right up to our Zodiac boats. We also land right onto the pebble beaches and igneous shores to observe the incredible wildlife.

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THE NEW EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP VEGA



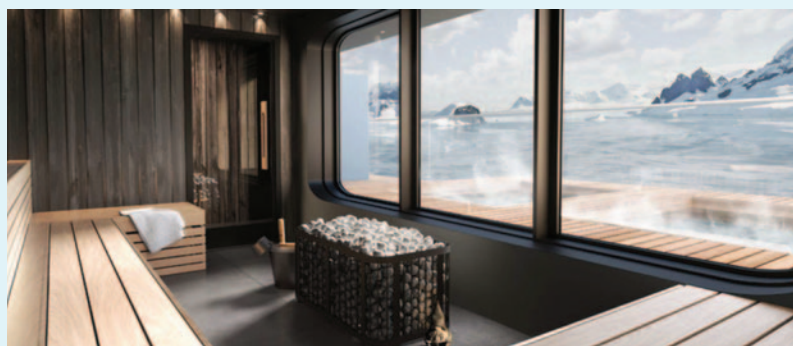
Oceanview Stateroom



Balcony Suite



Observation Lounge



Sauna



Club



Café/Bar with swimming pool

Built in Finland and launched in July 2022, Swan Hellenic's *Vega* is a new-generation expedition cruise ship. Although at 10,250 tons the ship is large enough to accommodate more than 250 passengers, *Vega* will accommodate a maximum of 152 guests in 76 spacious staterooms and balcony suites. The low guest density results in one of the most generous indoor and outdoor space-to-guest ratios among cruise ships.

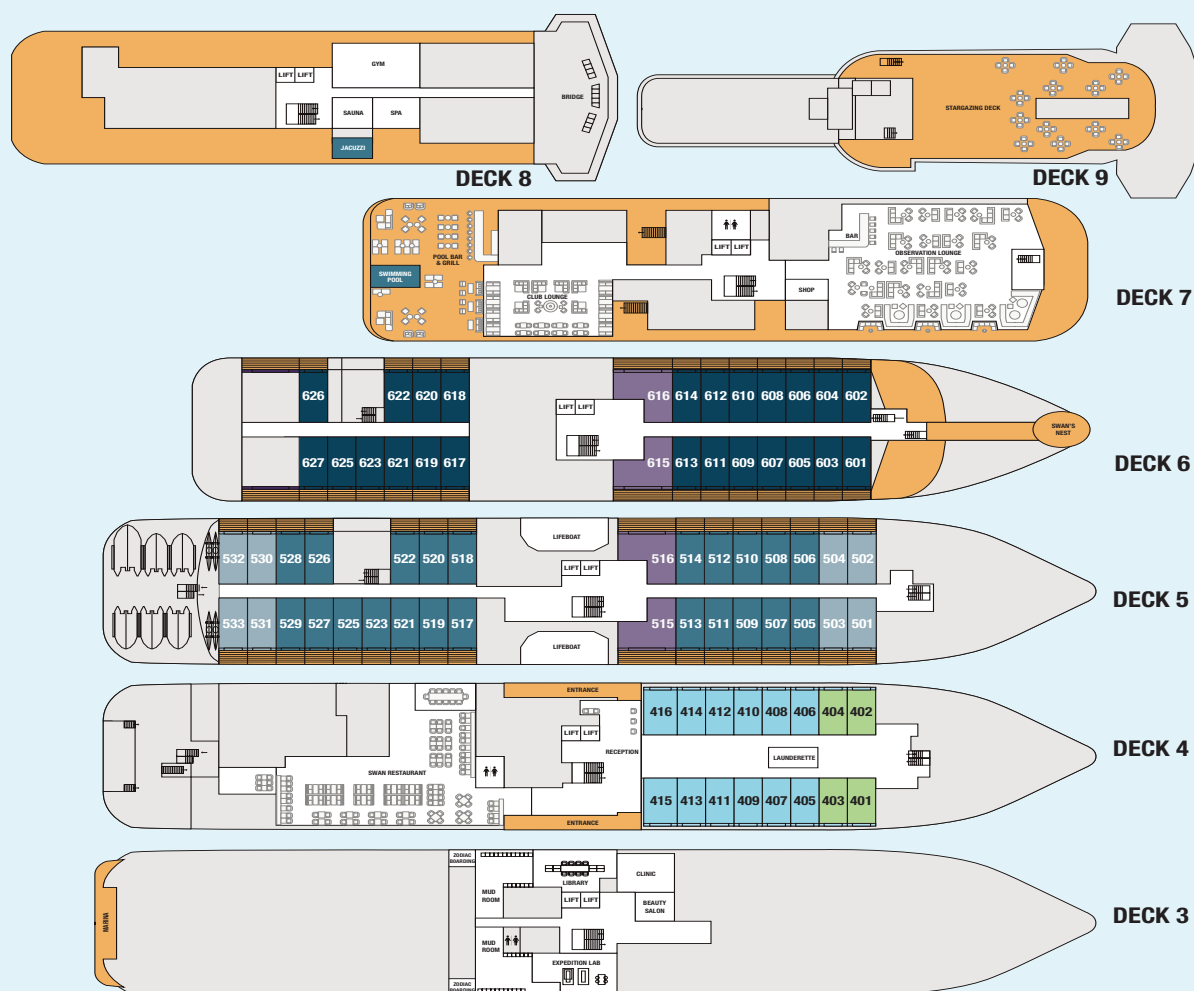
Vega has been designed to meet the stringent requirements of the new Polar Code for ships navigating in Polar regions. Its high PC5 Category A ice-strengthened hull, and other technical and mechanical features, allow the ship to cruise the world's remote regions in safety and utmost comfort.

Technologically advanced hybrid engines and a system of powerful batteries make it possible for the ship to cruise in ecologically sensitive areas, leaving minimal footprint, while a computer-controlled Dynamic Positioning System allows the ship to maintain position without anchoring. Operated by a complement of 120 experienced European officers and international crew members, *Vega* will carry a fleet of Zodiacs, versatile landing boats, kayaks, and a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that will reveal marine life in the deep. Powerful stabilizers provide a smooth ride.

All staterooms and suites face outside and are equipped with private facilities, climate control, TV, basic Wi-Fi and USB connections as well as other

amenities. Of the ship's 76 staterooms, 60 have balconies. Public areas include a spacious observation lounge that is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for lectures and presentations; a club lounge; a restaurant that accommodates all guests at one seating; an outdoor café/bar that surrounds the heated swimming pool; a wellness area with gym, spa, and sauna that includes an adjoining outdoor jacuzzi; library; beauty salon; a "mud room" with lockers for storing expedition gear; and an infirmary that is attended by a full-time doctor. The ship also features expansive open-deck areas. Two elevators connect all decks. Attentive service is provided on a 24-hour basis.

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RATES

All accommodations aboard Vega are spacious staterooms and balcony suites. They are elegantly decorated, face outside, affording sea views, and include a queen-size bed that can be arranged as two twin beds, a spacious bathroom, mini-refrigerator, safe, ample closet space, climate control, telephone, TV, Wi-Fi, and USB connections, as well as other amenities.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
E	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401 - 404.	\$ 13,790
D	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval portholes. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405 - 416.	\$ 14,390
C	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501 - 504, 530 - 533.	\$ 15,890
B	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505 - 514, 517 - 529.	\$ 16,590
A	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601 - 614, 617 - 627.	\$ 17,590
AA	Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom & living room. 440 sq. ft. Decks 5 & 6. Suites 515, 516, 615 & 616.	\$ 20,990

SPECIAL REDUCED RATES FOR CHILDREN

Antarctica is the perfect destination for Wellesley parents and grandparents to introduce children to the wonders of expedition travel and to the importance of responsible stewardship of the planet. To make this experience more accessible, we are pleased to offer the following reduced rates for children, ages 8 - 17.

1 child sharing cabin with 2 adults:

- Category E \$ 2,990
- Category B \$ 3,790
- Category A \$ 4,790

3 children sharing a cabin (price per child):

- Category E \$ 10,190
- Category B \$ 12,290

FOR SOLO TRAVELERS

A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy in categories E through B at no additional charge. Additional single cabins are available at a supplement of 50% of the per person double occupancy rate, instead of the normal 70% supplement.

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

The rates are all-inclusive. There are no hidden costs and no additional charges such as shore excursions and embarkation and port charges. Other than the international airfare and expenses of a personal nature, all else is included. Specifically, the rates include the following:

- One night in Buenos Aires at the *Alvear Icon Hotel* (or similar).
- Welcome cocktail reception at the hotel.
- Cruise aboard the *Vega*, as described in the itinerary.
- Round trip group flight between Buenos Aires and Ushuaia.
- Airport/hotel/pier transfers and handling of luggage.
- Lectures and discussions by Wellesley Professor Rachel Stanley.
- Lectures by members of onboard team of experts.
- Complete program of shore landings and activities ashore.
- All meals aboard the ship, with a selection of wines, beer and soft drinks during lunch and dinner.
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard the ship hosted by the captain.
- Open bar with select alcoholic beverages.
- Coffee, including espresso and cappuccino, tea and soft drinks throughout the day and night.
- 24-hour room service.
- Gratuities to the ship's crew, guides, porters and drivers.
- Basic Wi-Fi aboard the ship.
- The services of an experienced trip director.
- All local taxes and service charges, including port and embarkation taxes.
- Expedition parka (yours to keep).
- Use of rubber boots, hiking poles, and waterproof packs for shore landings.
- Complete pre-departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the itinerary or the above inclusions.

**FOR RESERVATIONS
AND INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT
TOLL-FREE
866-633-3611**

REGISTRATION

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for \$_____ (\$ 1,500 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on ***Expedition to Antarctica***, December 27 -January 8, 2023 with Wellesley College Alumnae Association. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

Please make check payable to and mail with this registration form to:

Thalassa Journeys 8815 Conroy-Windermere Rd., Suite 406, Orlando, FL 32835

Phone Toll-Free: (866) 633-3611

☐ AmEx ☐ Discover ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

No. _____

Exp. _____ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code _____

PLEASE SELECT CABIN CATEGORY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

1st choice ☐ _____ 2nd choice ☐ _____ 3rd choice ☐ _____

☐ Double Occupancy ☐ Single Occupancy

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT) CLASS YEAR

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT) CLASS YEAR

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (DAY) _____

(EVENING) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

E-MAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the "General Information" section and agree to its terms.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check or charged to a credit card.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Thalassa Journeys.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Participants must be able to embark/disembark motorcoaches and boats alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs or other mobile devices. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance and participants requiring minimal assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for them. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other travelers or impede the tour. In that event, Thalassa Journeys and Wellesley assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

RESPONSIBILITY: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the traveler and Thalassa Journeys. The liability of Wellesley College Alumnae Association and Wellesley College (collectively "Wellesley"), as sponsor, and Thalassa Journeys, as tour operator, is strictly limited. Thalassa Journeys and their agents act solely as agents for the traveler with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the traveler's safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the traveler or in affecting these tours. Neither Wellesley or Thalassa Journeys (collectively "We") are responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the traveler, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the traveler's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the traveler beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, transportation methods, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the traveler's risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in Florida, pursuant to applicable Florida law.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would prevent them or other participants from meeting the PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY requirements above and accepts the terms contained in this GENERAL INFORMATION for this program or for any program to which he/she may transfer.

RATES: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change.

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**Explore the Wonders of Antarctica with Wellesley Professor Rachel Stanley
Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship Vega, Dec. 27, 2022 – Jan. 8, 2023**



**JOIN WELLESLEY ALUMNAE
ON AN EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA
DECEMBER 27, 2022 – JANUARY 8, 2023**

