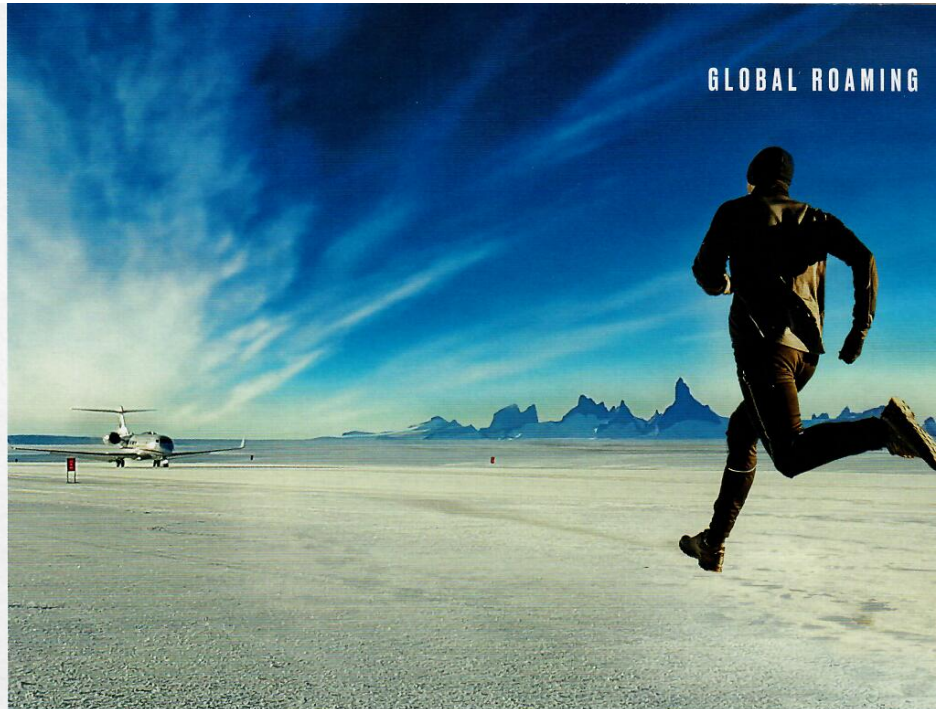


Ultratravel Magazine

Date: December 2018

Circulation 600,000





GLOBAL ROAMING

### ICE WORK New Antarctic perspectives

By John O'CEALLAIGH

There's never a good time to miss a flight, but Race The Jet passengers who don't make the Gulfstream private jet scheduled to fly from Antarctica to Cape Town this February will simply be left behind in one of the most severe environments on Earth. Billed as the ultimate marathon experience, the £18,000 package from **White Desert** sees 24 hardy runners land on the frozen continent's Wolf's Fang runway, where they will immediately race a course that twists through iridescent icefalls and passes under vertical towers of rock. The catch? The plane is only allowed to remain in situ for five hours – if you fall behind, you're left behind. Luckily, accommodation is available in a nearby camp and there's the chance to fly home the next day, albeit aboard a cargo plane.

Should that not appeal, there are other ways to explore the frozen continent. This month, tour operator **Pelorus** launches a new package aboard a renovated ice-class ship with capacity for two helicopters. Long summer days will allow for ample heli-skiing jaunts along the pristine islands spread across the Antarctic peninsula. As well as the spectacular runs, small groups will be able to revel in momentarily being the southernmost skiers on the planet.

Similarly impressive but potentially far less strenuous are cruises aboard **Aurora Expeditions'** 340ft expedition vessel, *Greg Mortimer*. Commencing service in October 2019, this robust vessel will cut a dash thanks to its distinctive beak-like bow but its itineraries are set to impress too. Its maiden sea voyage, the 11-day Spirit of Antarctica tour, will take in some of the Antarctic Peninsula's most famed sights, from its decommissioned research huts to its thriving penguin colonies.

[white-desert.com](http://white-desert.com); [pelorusx.com](http://pelorusx.com); [auroraexpeditions.com.au](http://auroraexpeditions.com.au)

### ALL AT SEA Conservation cruising

By Risa MERL

While sustainability and superyachts haven't always been natural bedfellows, the superyachting industry depends on the oceans' enduring health and its members share a love of the sea. Now a fleet of forward-thinking initiatives and itineraries are putting conservation centre-stage.

Luxurious explorer yacht **Plan B** (left) is launching a specialised ocean conservation itinerary in Panama for 2019. Guests will helicopter in to Coiba National Park marine reserve to join her, and can expect to visit sea-turtle hatching sites with a naturalist and to dive with marine experts.

Over in the Galápagos, **Inca** runs trips aboard 141ft superyacht *Integrity*. In 2019, the yacht's lead naturalist, Richard Polatty, will roll out a new on-board lecture series on the combined effects of geography, climate and population on endemic Galápagos species.

For eco-volunteering that yields immediate results, not-for-profit

