



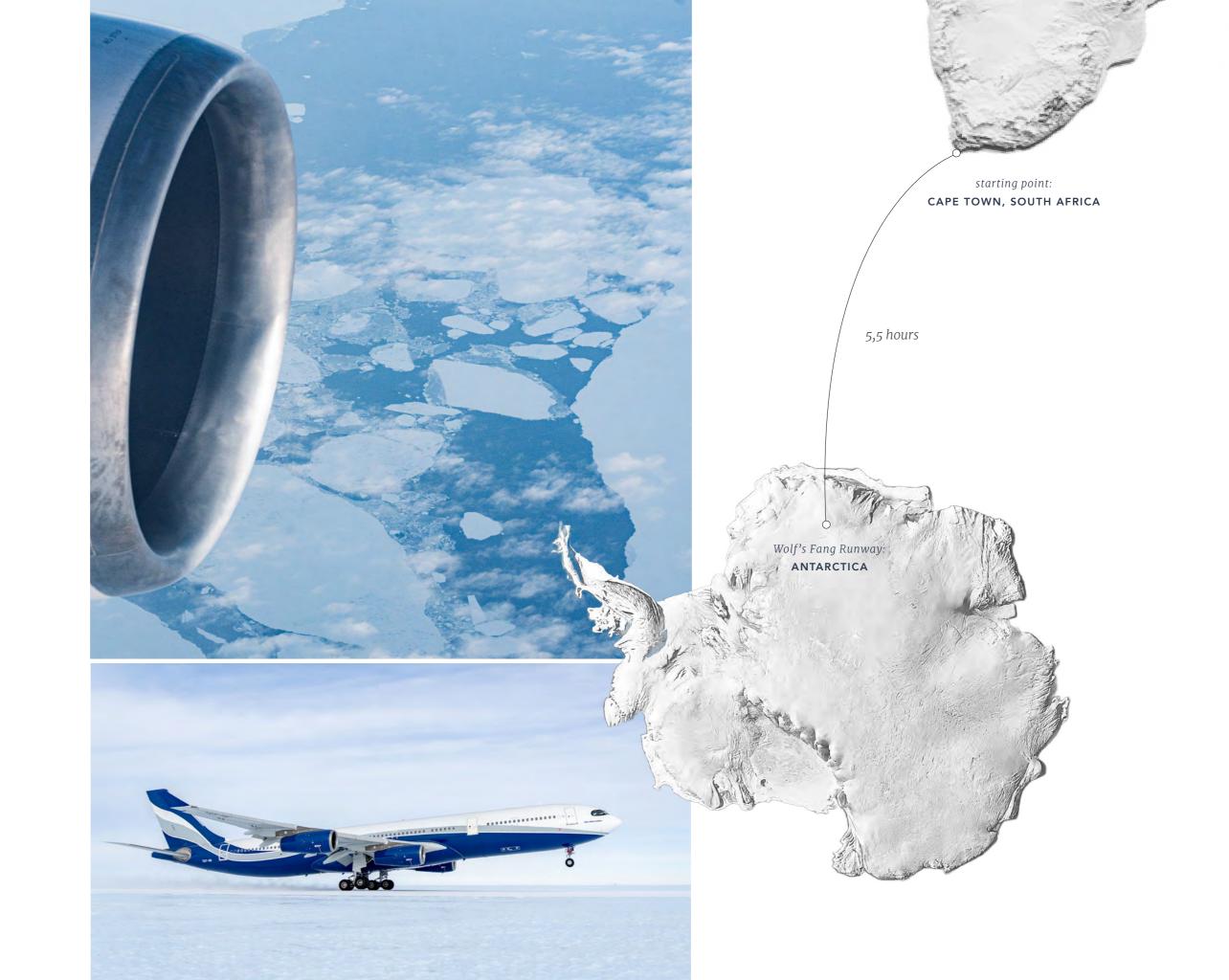


# TRAVEL TO THE LAST CONTINENT

White Desert operates for just 11 weeks a year — Antarctic summer — when the conditions are most hospitable.

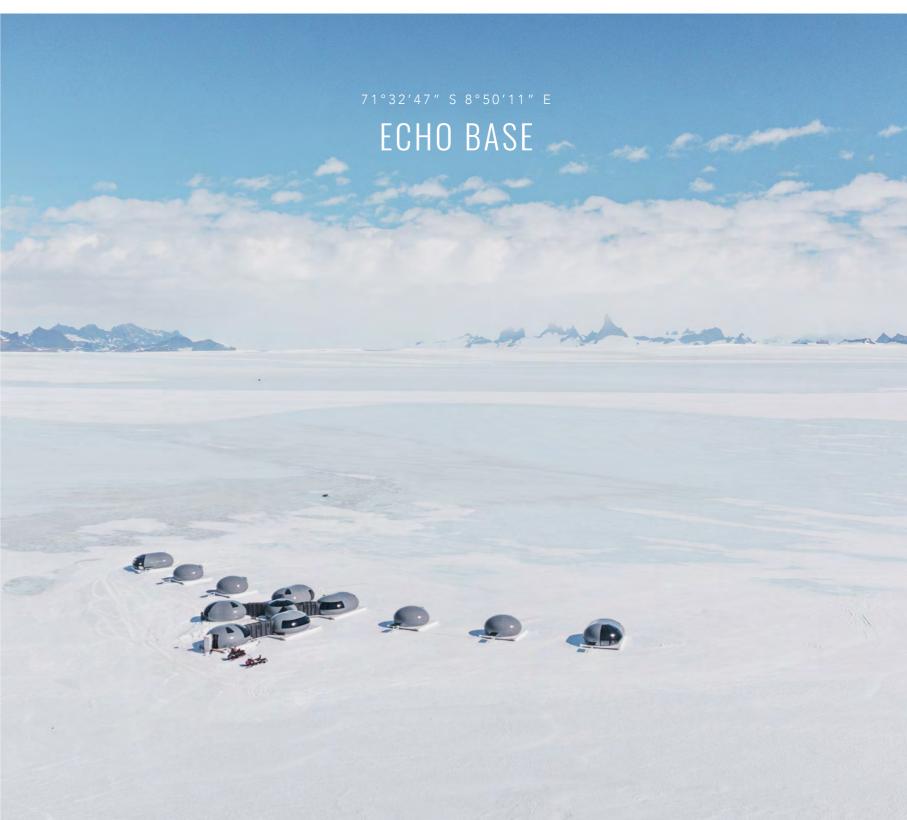
In a feat of engineering, your journey to the 7th continent is aboard a "heavy" — an Airbus A340 plane commissioned by White Desert. This plane allows us to transport guests, much-needed supplies and cargo.

During the flight, you'll soar above thousands of icebergs and over the ice shelf, landing in 24 hours of continuous sun, where time is just a concept.



# ACCOMMODATION







Our flagship camp, Whichaway is so named due to our Founder getting lost in the area and wasn't sure which-a-way to go!

While most of Antarctica is covered in ice, Whichaway is on a rare rocky outcrop encircled by an enormous cliff of iridescent blue ice. The six bedroom pods are warm and elegant, while the communal spaces provide the perfect base for meals, cocktail hours, and relaxation between activities.









#### WHICHAWAY PODS

- Designed specifically to withstand the harsh environment
  - ~ All individually heated
- Each pod has a wash area, toilet and private shower
- For guests travelling independently, the beds are partitioned for privacy



The rest of the camp comprises of the Compass Lounge: three centralised pods that make up the reception, lounge and dining room. An experienced team of chefs, hosts and guides takes care of every detail for guests, allowing them to focus on enjoying their adventure. While the exterior of the pods is made from cutting-edge materials, the interiors have a relaxed, old-world feel reminiscent of the golden age of Antarctic exploration.

# ECHO BASE

Inspired by astronauts. Used by explorers.



Echo feels like stepping off planet Earth and entering a galaxy far, far away...

Surrounded by some of the planet's most spectacular scenery, Echo's distinctive pods look more suited to a colony on Mars. Inspired by astronauts and used by explorers, each of the six heated sleeping pods feature floor-to-ceiling windows. There is no more dramatic landscape to wake up to, as each room overlooks the lunar-like vistas beyond.







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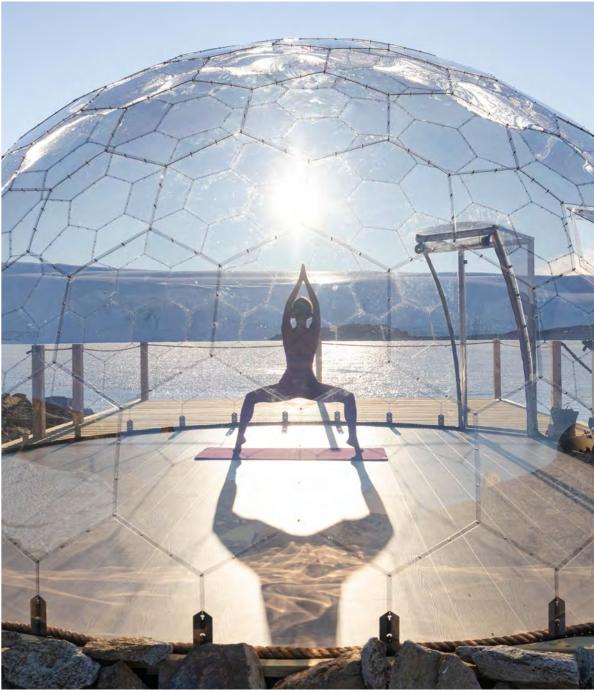
The rest of the camp comprises the shower pod and the Cosmos; the reception, lounge, library and dining rooms. These form the ideal space to enjoy meals, cocktails and the Anthony James art installation. Here, an experienced team of chefs, hosts and guides takes care of every detail for guests, allowing them to focus on enjoying their adventure.

# WELLNESS

We offer our guests several opportunities to relax and rejuvenate the mind, body and spirit. Each camp has a sauna and cold plunge for contrast therapy as well as a dome for yoga, meditation, or a light workout. In addition, a full-time Physical Therapist is stationed at each camp for daily massages and other treatments after a full day of adventure.









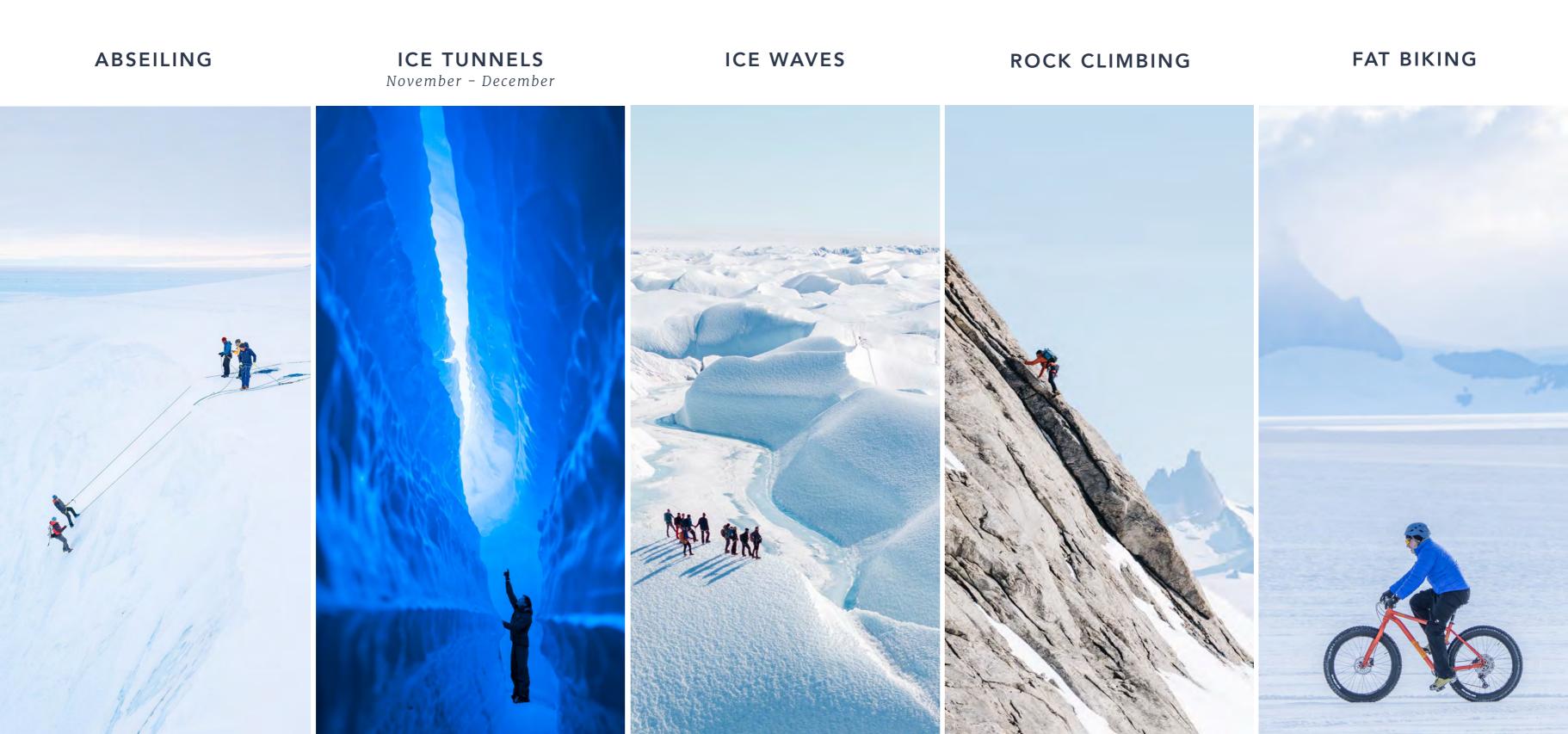
# FINE DINING

Despite the remoteness of the destination, guests will enjoy artfully crafted cuisine throughout their stay. Meals are prepared to the highest culinary standards and use the freshest ingredients from locally sourced South African vendors.

White Desert procures award-winning wines from Cape Town's celebrated winelands, the ideal complement to elegant three-course dinners. When necessary, the chef will craft the menu to meet each guest's dietary requirements.



# DAILY ACTIVITIES AROUND CAMP



BLUE RIVERS
Late January **GLACIER HIKES** ICE CAVES ICE CLIMBING NUNATAK HIKE

# TRAVEL WITHIN ANTARCTICA

The Basler BT-67 is a versatile and durable aircraft that can land on snow and ice. It has a wide cabin and extended range and is used for flying in the interior of Antarctica, most notably to the South Pole and Emperor Penguins.

We have two identical aircraft and the crew are highly experienced in polar operations. Our chief pilot has over 10 seasons of Antarctic experience and has spent many hours cruising the high polar plateau.

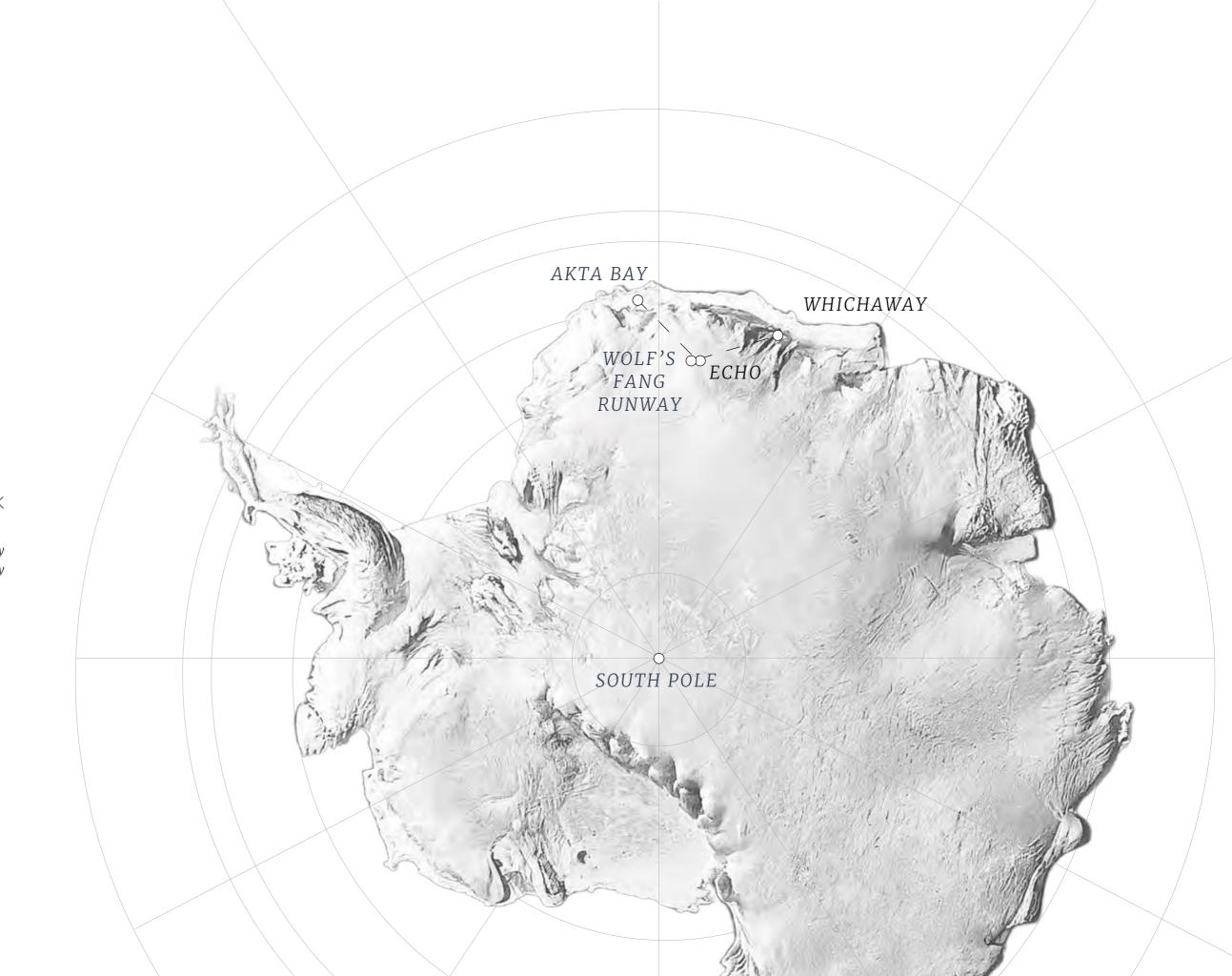






# FLIGHT TIMES

WFR
2.5 hours
O
Wolf's Fang Runway
Atka Bay
Emperor penguin colony



# THE EMPEROR PENGUINS

'Not only will you enjoy the soul-stirring scene of a 1,000-plus colony of bumbling, chirpy penguins on Akta Bay, but you'll also get to experience what only about 500 tourists achieve per year: a journey to the geographic nadir of Mother Earth.'

Condé Nast Traveller





### **COLONY VISIT**

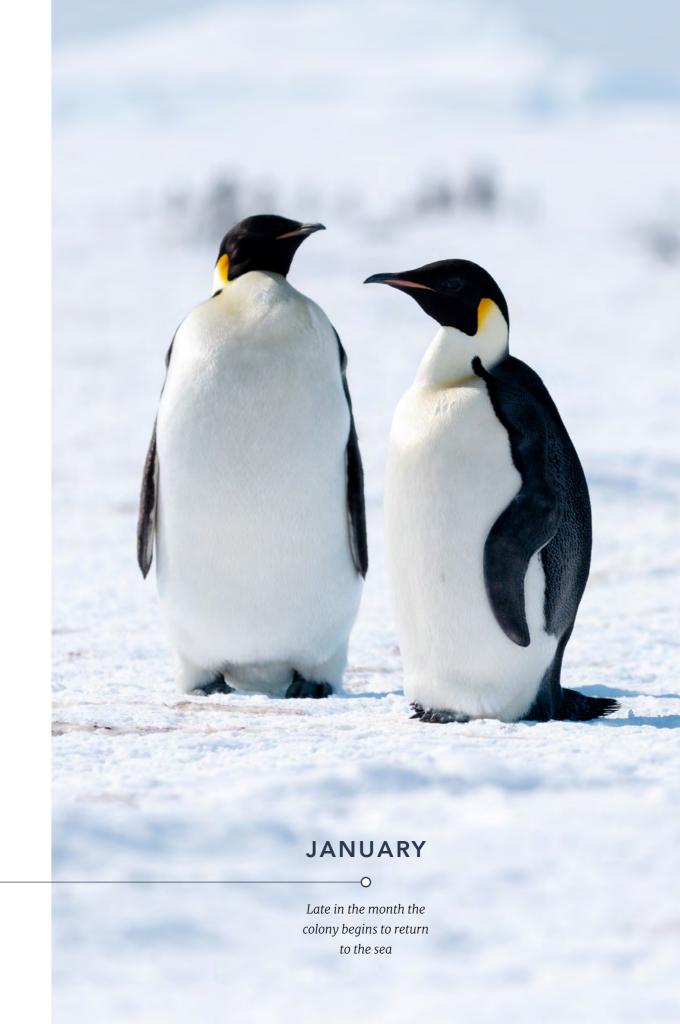
Your visit to the penguins begins with a 2.5-hour flight to Atka Bay. At the colony's height in November/December, you'll see over 12,000 adults and their newly hatched chicks—a spectacle full of noise and energy that is a must with wildlife enthusiasts and photographers. There are so few visitors to this inland colony that the chicks are unafraid of humans and often waddle close by. Mindful of our responsibility to the wildlife and of IAATO guidelines, we keep at least 5m (16.4ft) from the Penguins. Looking in every direction, all you'll see is a vast icy expanse contrasting the penguins' shimmering feathers.

### DECEMBER

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Thousands of fluffy chicks begin to step off their parents' feet

As they grow, the chicks begin to lose their down feathers



# YOUR SAFETY, OUR PRIORITY

For all its beauty, Antarctica can be a challenging environment, with low temperatures, strong winds and high altitudes. We know the best way to protect you is with specialist staff. We have over 100 team members on ice, and we are uncompromising about the experience and expertise of our people. You can trust them to keep you safe on every step of your journey.

All our mountain guides have completed the strenuous 5-year UIAGM qualification, while each camp has its own fully qualified and equipped wilderness doctor.. Our chief pilot has over 10 years of experience flying in Antarctica with over 18,000 hours of logged flight time.

Tracking, satellite communications and mutual Search & Rescue agreements are all part of White Desert's comprehensive safety policies.

Furthermore, by operating our own aircraft, we also have the speed and flexibility to arrange an evacuation back to Cape Town in the unlikely event that one should become necessary.







### PRE DEPARTURE

White Desert hosts a mandatory **safety briefing** in Cape Town. Our Guest Experience team will personally check your kit & polar clothing to prepare for your flight south.

This itinerary is entirely subject to weather conditions in Antarctica and is meant purely as a guide to what guests may expect day by day. The exact sequence of activities and the types of aircraft mentioned in this brochure may vary. Antarctica is a bucket list trip for a reason – Mother Nature reigns supreme here, that's what makes it a true adventure.

### EARLY EMPERORS SAMPLE ITINERARY

### DAY 1

Fly five and a half hours over icebergs and ocean, crossing into Antarctica's endless summer light. Land on ancient blue ice, then settle into Whichaway camp with a gentle hike around the serene oasis landscape.

### DAY 2

Choose your pace: from tranquil treks to ice climbing and abseiling. In the evening, learn about Emperor Penguins in an inspiring talk that sets the tone for tomorrow's once-in-a-lifetime encounter.

### DAY 3

Fly across the High Polar Plateau to Atka Bay. Surrounded by thousands of Emperor Penguins, witness a remarkable natural spectacle, an experience few on Earth will ever share..

### DAY 4

Explore surreal ice tunnels beneath camp and marvel at sculpted waves of frozen time. Then hike to a panoramic lookout for sweeping views of this magnificent, untouched wilderness.

### DAY 5

Embark on a challenging cliff-side hike with expert mountain guides. Take in breathtaking vistas of ancient ice formations shaped over millennia by the relentless power of the Southern Ocean.

### DAY 6

Board your return flight and bid farewell to the polar world. Back in Cape Town, unwind at your hotel and reflect on the beauty, silence, and grandeur of Antarctica.

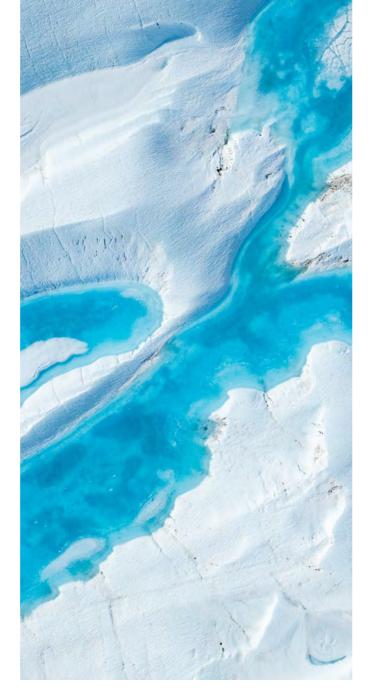
### SUSTAINABILITY

White Desert believes that responsible tourism is a genuine force for good. We support Sir David Attenborough's stance on the transformative power of first-hand travel knowledge: 'No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced'.

Mindful of the delicate Antarctic environment, our experiences are designed to leave no trace on the glacial landscape. Sustainable practices are implemented across every aspect of our operation. There are few places on earth that can provide such potential for personal growth and a change in perspective — simply through visiting. Our guests often leave Antarctica forever changed, returning home as ambassadors for our planet.

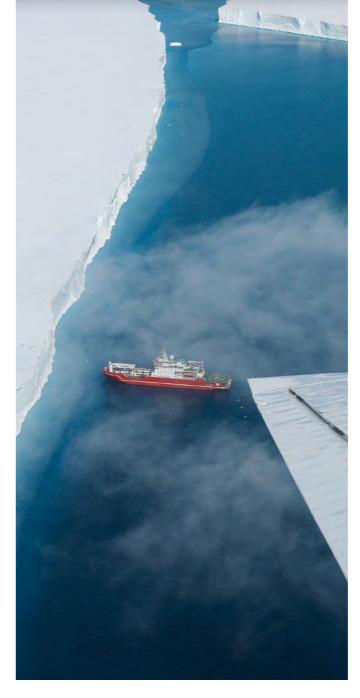






### **CARBON NEUTRAL**

White Desert was the first aviation operator in Antarctica to be entirely Carbon Neutral, a status the company has held since 2007. Your entire trip with us is fully offset.



#### **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

We minimise waste by repackaging all consumables before bringing them to Antarctica. At season's end, all solid waste is shipped back to South Africa for recycling or responsible disposal.



WHITE DESERT FOUNDATION

The new White Desert Foundation is committed to tackling climate change through supporting scientific research in Antarctica as well as investing in cuttingedge Blue Carbon initiatives in South Africa.

### 20 YEARS OF ANTARCTIC OPERATIONS

Established in 2005, White Desert now employs over 150 people from 18 different nationalities, including doctors, pilots, physiotherapists, chefs, mechanics, engineers and IFMGA high-mountain guides.

The on-ice infrastructure now includes two Basler BT-67s, one Twin Otter, 10 Snow Groomers, 3 Arctic Trucks, 22 Skidoos, and a 216-panel solar sled farm offering a seamless guest experience in one of the most remote environments on Earth.





Patrick completes his first World Record expedition in Antarctica: The youngest and fastest team to reach the South Pole.

### 2005

White Desert's first guests arrive in Antarctica flying in the back of an old Russian cargo plane, landing at the Russian Science Base.

### 2012

Whichaway Camp opens with the first iteration of the unique pod-style accommodation.



The camp now serves up to four groups of quests in a season.

# 2016

The British Foreign Office grants permission for White Desert to reopen the ice runway known today as Wolf's Fang. White Desert's first ski-equipped Basler BT-67 arrives at Wolfs Fang Runway.

#### 2021

The first to fly large commercial aircraft into Antarctica — an Airbus A340-300 — comes to Wolf's Fang Runway...



### 2024



White Desert launches its own foundation focussed on Blue Carbon projects.

#### 2004

During Patrick's second World Record trip, the idea for White Desert was born.



### 2007

White Desert obtains carbon neutral certification, offsetting all operational emissions — and continues the practice to this day.



#### 2015

The team discovers an abandoned Norwegian ice runway called Blue One, which has the ideal characteristics for a private runway...

#### 2017

White Desert completes 25 intercontinental flights using a Gulfstream 550; now offers exclusive flights to the Atka Bay penguin colony.



### 2022

Echo Base opens. White Desert becomes the first Antarctic operator to trial Sustainable Aviation Fuel on the continent.



### 2025

Whichaway will reopen with glass conservatories and private showers in each pod.

### AS FEATURED IN...

### TRAVEL & LEISURE:

Global Vision Awards 2025



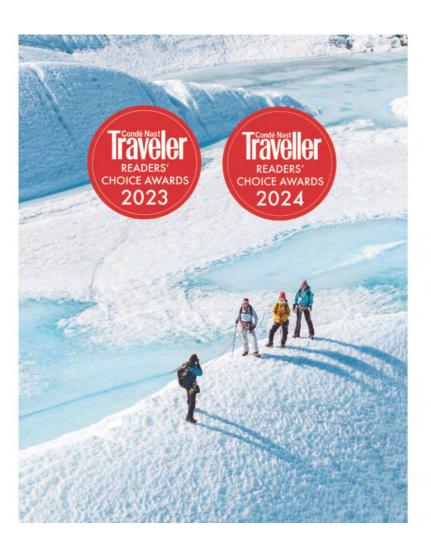
### TIME MAGAZINE:

World's Greatest Places 2024



### CONDÉ NAST TRAVELLER:

Readers Choice Awards 2023 & 2024







ENQUIRE NOW

'Our visit to Antarctica and the South Pole was a signature thrill of a lifetime. We were awed to stand at the bottom of the world and experience a beauty and remoteness that is more physical than any other place we have visited on the planet.

White Desert's world-class team provided very high standards of safety, quality, and delivery. Most importantly, we were impressed by the stewardship of the entire White Desert team to preserve this very unique place by helping build a growing ecosystem of science and sustainable tourism.'

— Scott & Kathryn E.