Expedition to Antarctica
Aboard the Five-Star LE SOLÉAL
January 11 to 24, 2018
Dear Fellow Columbian,

Join the Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) from January 11 – 24, 2018, as we explore Antarctica, Earth’s last frontier. “Everything wears an aspect of unreality,” Ernest Shackleton wrote. “Icebergs hang upside-down in the sky, the land appears as layers of silvery or golden cloud, cloud banks look like land, and icebergs masquerade as islands.” Few travelers have followed the adventurous explorers Shackleton, Amundsen, and Scott to the Antarctic. Visit this rarely seen wilderness as we cruise aboard the state-of-the-art, five-star, ice-class Le Soleal.

Begin with an exploration of cosmopolitan Buenos Aires before continuing south to Ushuaia, and embarking on Le Soleal for your voyage to the southern continent. To enhance your Antarctic experience, our Five-Star expedition ship is staffed with an expert team of naturalists who will guide you on excursions ashore. Under their direction, you will board sturdy Zodiac craft for landings on rocky shores and beaches to observe the antics of Antarctica’s bountiful wildlife. Humpback whales, leopard seals, and Adélie penguins mingle amid glimmering turquoise glaciers and sparkling icebergs. Discover the secrets of the White Continent, from the long sunrises that paint the icescape in soft shades of pink and gold, to the lingering light of the austral summer. Antarctica’s spectacular illuminations reveal the contrasts and marvels of the most unique place on Earth to those fortunate enough to visit.

The CAA is a global network connecting Columbians of all schools to one another and to the intellectual and social fabric of Columbia University, even after graduation. It links over 330,000 alumni through more than 100 regional clubs and shared interest groups, online resources, and over 200 thought-provoking programs around the world. The CAA Travel Study Program is one of the benefits offered to Columbia alumni and is an opportunity to continue one’s Columbia education through new intellectual, cultural, and geographical horizons.

Travel with alumni, friends, and participants from cosponsoring associations for this once-in-a-lifetime adventure, featuring the finest accommodations, most meals, all excursions, and an optimal cruising experience. Space is limited on this departure, so I urge you to place your reservation soon, while Early Booking Savings and preferred accommodations are available.

Sincerely,

Donna H. MacPhee ’89CC, P ’17CC
Vice President for Alumni Relations
President, Columbia Alumni Association

LUXURY
Our programs are classified in three categories: Value, Superior and Luxury
Wildlife Conservation

The unique international Antarctic Treaty protects Antarctica’s wildlife and its natural habitats and provides a guide for visitors to this great continent, where no country has sovereignty.

To protect the fragile Antarctic environment, all travelers will go ashore in small groups, so as not to over visit rookeries, disturb nesting sites or disrupt research. All visitors will be asked to take—and leave—nothing ashore.

U.S.
Thursday, January 11
Depart the U.S.

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Friday, January 12
Arrive in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires and check into the Five-Star INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL, ideally located in the historic San Telmo neighborhood and within walking distance of the landmark Palace of the Argentine National Congress. This evening, attend the Welcome Reception.

Buenos Aires
Saturday, January 13
Birthplace of the tango, Buenos Aires is a city of diverse and dynamic barrios (neighborhoods). See the colorful La Boca district, Monserrat’s grand public buildings, historic Plaza de Mayo, Palermo’s lavish parks, Puerto Madero’s lively riverfront community and the charming old quarter of San Telmo.

Buenos Aires/Ushuaia
Sunday, January 14
This morning, fly to Ushuaia, the world’s southernmost city, capital of Tierra del Fuego and the gateway to Antarctica. Embark LE SOLEAL this afternoon and cruise through historic Beagle Channel, named for the ship that carried Charles Darwin on his South American voyages.

Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception this evening.

Cruising Drake Passage
Monday, January 15, to Tuesday, January 16
Cross the legendary Drake Passage and, upon reaching the Antarctic Convergence, watch for breaching fin and humpback whales and seabirds feeding on plankton and krill that

The southern giant petrel spends most of its life at sea but is known to return to the same nest annually.

Visit the city’s historic Recoleta Cemetery, famous for its ornate vaults and sculptures and as the final resting place of the legendary Eva Perón, the former First Lady of Argentina.

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are brought to the surface by cold Antarctic currents merging with warmer waters of the South Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. The expedition team of naturalist guides will present insightful lectures to prepare you for your first landing in Antarctica. During the evening, enjoy the lingering twilight of the Antarctic summer.

Please note that the ship’s cruising pattern and positionings are dependent on weather, ice and sea conditions and are subject to change.

Cruising Antarctica
Wednesday, January 17, to Sunday, January 21
Cruise below the 60th parallel south to the outer shores and islands of the Antarctic Peninsula, Earth’s last frontier. Here, explore some of the world’s most pristine wilderness, where towering mountains of ice and volcanic rock create precipitous coastlines and islands, and ever-changing patterns of ice stretch as far as the eye can see. In this seemingly harsh environment, a vast array of marine wildlife flourishes, including millions of penguins, countless seabirds and thousands of seals and whales. From spectacular volcanic topography and majestic glaciers to fascinating wildlife and historic outposts, this itinerary reveals the highlights of Earth’s most inaccessible continent for the complete Antarctic experience.

Cruise through breathtaking, glacier-lined Neumayer Channel to rugged Goudier Island. Visit Port Lockroy, originally constructed in 1944 by an eight-man team as an intelligence post for British espionage during World War II and converted into a whaling station and scientific base in the 1950s. It is nestled among glistening mountain peaks as high as 6000 feet, and the surrounding grounds are populated by blue-eyed shags and gentoo penguins. Gain insight into the daily activities of past researchers at the living museum known as “Base A” and mail a postcard stamped with an Antarctica postmark from the official British Post Office.

Just beyond Port Lockroy, the rocky shores of Jougla Point on Wiencke Island offer a rare opportunity to view the skeletal remains of an adult blue whale and to see populous colonies of gentoo penguins and kelp gulls. Call at Petermann Island, the southernmost point of your journey, and watch its thriving rookeries of Adélie and gentoo penguins and blue-eyed shags.

Flanked by sheer cliffs of towering glaciers between the Antarctic Peninsula and Booth Island, cruise through the Lemaire Channel, offering views of seven majestic miles of mountains and wildlife combined with fascinating patterns of ice floes. Listen for the low rumbling of Rudolf Glacier as it calves chunks of ice into Neko Harbor, named for an early 20th-century whaling boat. The harbor is surrounded by soaring glaciers and snow-covered mountains and is one of the most dramatic and spectacular sights in Antarctica. Here, make your first “continental landing” in Antarctica.

In Paradise Bay, awesome cliffs of ice descend from the surrounding mountains into the floating iceberg-laden waters along the western coast of the Antarctic Peninsula.

In contrast to sociable Adélie penguins, who congregate in large colonies, the leopard seal cherishes his solitude and independence.
A visit to Antarctica offers an unparalleled opportunity to get an up-close view of chinstrap penguins in their natural habitat.

Named by 19th-century whalers who sought shelter in its coves, Paradise Bay is an ideal sanctuary for marine wildlife including humpback whales, crabeater seals and Cape petrels. Deception Island is actually the rim of a massive dormant volcano crater that encircles a caldera known as Port Foster, where the ship enters through dramatic Neptune’s Bellows, a sublime harbor ringed by snowcapped peaks and sheer cliffs. In Pendulum Cove, see the steaming, geothermally heated waters of the Antarctic.

Observe the amazing colony of tens of thousands of chinstrap penguins at Baily Head. Then walk along the black sand beaches of Telefon Bay to nearby craters, which offer fascinating insight into the volcanic activity that created the island and played a pivotal role in the natural history of the region.

One of the smallest but most beautiful of the South Shetland Islands, Half Moon Island is a crescent-shaped isle known for its craggy volcanic rock formations and tranquil lagoons. It is also the site of Cámara Station, a base monitored by Argentine biologists studying regional wildlife. Here, observe the antics of the island’s colony of chinstrap penguins.

Relax and reflect on board as the ship turns north and attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception.

Cruising Drake Passage/ Ushuaia, Argentina Monday, January 22
Cross the Drake Passage and enjoy lively, informative discussions with the ship’s naturalists.

Watch for endangered albatross and the many different species of petrels as you cruise across the Antarctic Convergence.

Ushuaia/Buenos Aires Tuesday, January 23
Disembark and fly to Buenos Aires. Continue on the Iguazú Falls Post-Program Option with an overnight stay in Buenos Aires or depart for the U.S.

U.S. Wednesday, January 24
Arrive in the U.S.

Left: Look for breaching humpback whales, who migrate to Antarctic waters to feed during the austral summer.

Iguazú Falls
Post-Program Option
January 23 to 27
The UNESCO World Heritage site of Iguazú Falls is one of the world’s most incredible natural wonders, where more than 275 spectacular waterfalls span nearly two dramatic miles of the Argentina-Brazil frontier. Walk the trails along the edges of these thundering falls and watch as they cascade from as high as 270 feet down verdant cliffs in one of South America’s last remaining virgin rainforests. Visit the lush Parque das Aves jungle reserve, a nature lover’s paradise, home to more than 350 species of birds, 66 varieties of mammals and a mind-boggling array of reptiles, fish, butterflies and flora. This exclusive three-night Post-Program Option features one night of accommodations in the Five-Star INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL and two nights in the Five-Star SHERATON IGUAZÚ RESORT & SPA. Buenos Aires round-trip airfare is included. Post-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
**FIVE-STAR MS LE SOLÉAL**

**Ice-Class Small Ship, State-of-the-Art Design**
The exclusively chartered LE SOLÉAL represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

**Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies**
Each deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages; most have two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. Enjoy accommodation amenities including individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

**Chic and Casual Dining**
International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious L'Eclipse dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual Pytheas Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. Continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Wine is served with lunch and dinner.

**Spacious Public Areas/World-Class Service and Facilities**
In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting, and they can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge; nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge; and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, two elevators and an infirmary staffed with a doctor and a nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

**Respect for the Environment**
The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” designation due to its advanced eco-friendly features, a rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has two tenders and 10 Zodiacs.
Included Features

In Buenos Aires, Argentina
◆ Two nights in the Five-Star INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL and breakfast each morning.
◆ Welcome Reception.
◆ City tour featuring the popular neighborhoods of Palermo, Monserrat, La Boca, Puerto Madero and San Telmo and a visit to the historic Recoleta Cemetery.

On board the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, ice-class LE SOLÉAL
◆ Nine nights round trip Ushuaia, Argentina, cruising to Antarctica’s Port Lockroy, Wiencke Island, Petermann Island, Lemaire Channel, Neko Harbor, Paradise Bay, Deception Island and Half Moon Island, weather, ice and sea conditions permitting.
◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise.
◆ All meals—early continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.
◆ Wine is served with lunch and dinner.
◆ Exploration by Zodiac landing craft, accompanied by an expert naturalist guide from the expedition team.
◆ Shore excursions to explore Antarctica’s diverse wildlife habitats, including major penguin rookeries.
◆ Onboard expedition team of naturalists who provide a series of lectures about local wildlife and landscapes.
◆ Souvenir polar-grade red parka.

Enhanced Travel Services
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides and expedition team.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
◆ Hospitality desk in the hotel and aboard ship.
◆ The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.
◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

Note: Internal program air (round trip Buenos Aires/Ushuaia) is required and is purchased individually at an additional cost.
Your Expedition Team
Seasoned naturalists, who have studied and traveled extensively in Antarctica and the most remote regions of the world, accompany you on board as your Antarctic Expedition Team. Their areas of expertise span marine biology, ornithology, ecology, geology, glaciology, conservation and environmental education, history and photography. The team’s collaborative efforts, experience, particular interest in the world’s ecosystems and enthusiasm for sharing their knowledge make them exceptionally well-suited to lead your Expedition to Antarctica.

Exploration of Antarctica
The intrepid deeds of Europeans Roald Amundsen, Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton, Americans Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd and Lincoln Ellsworth and Canadian Sir Charles Seymour Wright, legendary explorers of Antarctica, have long been recounted in gripping personal tales and history books. Admiral Byrd, scion of a distinguished Virginia family, led the U.S. Antarctic expedition (1928-30) and made the first overflight of the South Pole (1929). Byrd later led three additional expeditions to Antarctica and named a large portion of the continent Marie Byrd Land after his wife.

Another American prominent in the exploration of the South Polar region was Lincoln Ellsworth. This Chicago native made the first flight across Antarctica (1935). In the course of his journey, he discovered the mountain range with the continent’s highest peaks, later named Ellsworth Mountains in his honor.
LAND/Cruise Tariff excluding taxes*

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Pros: $14295, $15295

3. I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:

I/We want you to book my/our air from

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA RESERVATION FORM

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) School/Degree/Year

Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please) City State Zip Code

Telephone: (Home) (Mobile) (Business)

Email Address Columbia UNI

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 028-01/11-2018

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Iguazu Falls Post-Program Option.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to 2018 Expedition to Antarctica.

If I/We want to book my/our air from

Send to: Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program P.O. Box 930 Riverside, CT 06878 or fax: (203) 724-0844

For more information:
Phone: (866) 325-8664 (toll free) email: travelstudy@columbia.edu www.Alumni.Columbia.edu/Travel

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by October 8, 2017.

By forwarding the deposit for this travel program, I/We acknowledge that I/We have read and accept the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement in this brochure.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:

1st Choice ___ 2nd Choice ___

Double occupancy (two twin beds).

Double occupancy (one queen bed).

Single accommodations.

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Iguazu Falls Post-Program Option Jungle-View Rooms:

Double at $2295 per person.

Single at $2995 per person.

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Falls-View Rooms:

Double at $2395 per person.

Single at $3195 per person.

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.
RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Cancellations for all or part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until receipt of writing in the offices of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee for the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure; $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Additional information on insurance options will be sent upon receipt of your reservation.

RATES:

Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

REGISTRATION:

CBST#: 201366-40, WST#: 601 767 666, OST#: TA 0905.

BRIDAL ARBITRATION:

Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either according to the then existing rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury.

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 create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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Thomas P. Gohagan & Company

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