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Ultra-Luxury Scenic Eclipse Celebrates First Helicopter Landing on Antarctica's Snow Hill Island where Guests View the Iconic Emperor Penguins

Hollywood, FL, December 2023 – Following a successful start to the 2023/2024 Antarctica season, *Scenic Eclipse*'s expert crew, led by Captain Radomir Novosel and the specialist Polar Discovery Team, have created a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience for guests on its recent 13-day Antarctica in Depth ultra-luxury voyage. Guests joined an exclusive helicopter excursion to land on the sea ice near the Weddell Sea's Snow Hill Island. The landing offered the rare opportunity to view a colony of more than 4,000 breeding pairs of the tallest and heaviest of all living penguin species - the Emperor penguin.

“This incredibly unique experience, available only with ships that have helicopters, offers a truly remarkable moment for our guests,” states James Griffiths, Scenic Group General Manager, Ocean Operations.

With two on board helicopters, *Scenic Eclipse*, and her sister, *Scenic Eclipse II*, are uniquely positioned to offer this exclusive Discovery excursion. The custom-built Airbus H130 aircraft are among the quietest helicopters in the world, ensuring minimal disturbance to wildlife and the environment.

Led by the expert Polar Discovery Team, guests landed ½ mile from the colony before hiking closer to view the Emperor penguins. *Scenic Eclipse*'s Ornithologist Dr. Maricel Grilli, who has been working with Scenic in Antarctica since 2020, provided deep insights into the behavior and ecology of Antarctica's most iconic wildlife. The dedicated crew ensured all IAATO and biosecurity protocols were followed during this unique excursion.

Featured itinerary

November and early December are the ideal periods to see Emperor Penguin colonies on Snow Hill Island, and often those sailing departures fill first. The featured sailing for 2024 that offers this rare opportunity is the 22-day [Antarctica, South Georgia & The Falkland Islands](#), departing November 27, 2024, on an itinerary that is round trip from Buenos Aires. Current fares during the Black Friday/Cyber Monday sales event (ending Dec 8), start at \$22,898 per person, double. After Dec. 8, the starting fare is \$26,398. These fares are air-inclusive. Helicopter and submarine excursions are additional and booked on board.

Of course, this bucket-list voyage has ample experiences beyond the Emperor penguins. Besides sailing among dramatic landscapes and small remote islands, a large and learned Discovery team leads guests on excursions in the South Georgia Islands, Falkland Islands and Antarctica, imparting their knowledge and experiences. South Georgia Islands offer an abundance of wildlife and a history of 19th- and 20th-century explorations. The historic and colorful town of Stanley on the Falkland Islands, features cottages, museums, and military monuments and a true feeling of British heritage with red phone boxes and English pubs. And Antarctica brings guests a plethora of possibilities - multiple landings to visit with a variety of penguin species as they travel to and fro on their 'penguin highways,' venturing on Zodiacs to seek out the different whale species, or just sitting on your balcony viewing large populations elephant seals lazily basking on frozen ice calves. Adding to the landings and near daily multi-topic lectures, are opportunities to kayak and paddleboard past icebergs, do a polar plunge, or sign on to a submarine or helicopter excursion.

Catering to a maximum of 200 guests, the ultra-luxury Discovery Yachts feature an impressive array of indoor and outdoor spaces for an intimate voyage. Spacious suites ranging from 345² ft to more than 2,600² ft feature elegant furnishings, state-of-the-art amenities and personalized butler service. The expansive 5,920² ft Senses Spa includes a range of holistic therapy sessions, yoga, and Pilates classes. From exquisite cuisine to relaxed dining, Scenic Eclipse yachts cater to every taste, preference, and mood with up to 10 truly all-inclusive dining experiences, nine bars and lounges.

All Scenic Eclipse voyages are truly all-inclusive, meaning guests can leave their wallet in a safe place and relax, knowing everything is covered - internal flights, transfers, fine dining experiences, premium branded beverages and immersive Discovery excursions, use of spa facilities, gratuities, etc. are all included.

Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours has grown over its 37-year history to include award-winning, truly all-inclusive river and ocean cruises and handcrafted land journeys that take guests to many of the world's most fascinating destinations. In 2019, Scenic introduced *Scenic Eclipse*, The World's First Discovery Yacht™, followed by *Scenic Eclipse II*, in April 2023. Scenic is part of The Scenic Group, which includes Emerald Cruises, Mayflower Cruises & Tours, and Evergreen Tours.

Scenic can be found on Twitter at @ScenicLuxury, on Facebook as ScenicCruises and on Instagram as Scenic.luxurycruisestours.

Additional information on these and other cruises, brochures and reservations can be obtained via travel advisors; or www.scenicusa.com, phone (844) 788-7985, email: info@scenicusa.com. Brochures can also be downloaded directly from the websites.

Editor's Note: Hi-res photos are available at [Snow Hill Island November 2023](#). Video is available [HERE](#)
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