

Beagle Channel, Tierra del Fuego, Chile/Argentina

One of the world's great scenic passages, the Beagle Channel threads between the jagged peaks of the Darwin Range and glacier-carved islands at the bottom of the Americas — a front-row seat from your deck as the ship glides through Glacier Alley.

Scenic cruising (no shore call)

Typically 4-8 hrs transit

Spanish / Chilean territory

Wildlife from the deck

Expedition ships may zodiac

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Type: Scenic passage — ships transit, no standard port call

Named After: HMS Beagle, which surveyed the area 1826–1830 (Darwin aboard 1831–36)

Best For: Glaciers, Andean peaks, sea lions, cormorants, albatrosses

Don't Miss: Glacier Alley (western Chilean section) — multiple glaciers calving to sea level

Getting around: Taxi About US\$3-10 short city rides; more for hourly touring · Hop-on hop-off Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Glacier Alley Scenic Passage** — The Chilean western section of the channel passes Alemania, Francia, Holanda, Italia, and Romanche glaciers — remnants of the last ice age sliding...
 - Sea Lions & Cormorants at Isla de los Lobos** — Rocky outcrops in the eastern channel host large South American sea lion colonies and imperial cormorant rookeries.
 - Les Éclaireurs Lighthouse** — The red-and-white striped lighthouse often dubbed 'the Lighthouse at the End of the World' sits on a tiny
- island in the eastern channel.

 - Martillo Island Penguin Colony** — Home to the southernmost accessible penguin colony, with Magellanic and Gentoo penguins nesting from November through March.
 - HMS Beagle Heritage Sailing** — Darwin charted these waters in the 1830s aboard HMS Beagle — some operators offer guided narrative tours retracing his route, with commentary on...

BEST WALKS

- Bridges Island Expedition Landing** Short guided walk • Expedition ships only • ~1 hr — Expedition vessels occasionally land guests on Bridges Island for a guided walk through sub-Antarctic forest and shoreline, with views back to Ushuaia and the channel.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		47°	39°	20d
Jun		40°	33°	18d
Aug		40°	33°	20d
Sep		43°	35°	18d
Oct		46°	37°	21d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 8:22AM–6:37PM · Jun 9:55AM–5:07PM · Aug 8:51AM–6:19PM · Sep 7:36AM–7:16PM · Oct 6:20AM–8:13PM

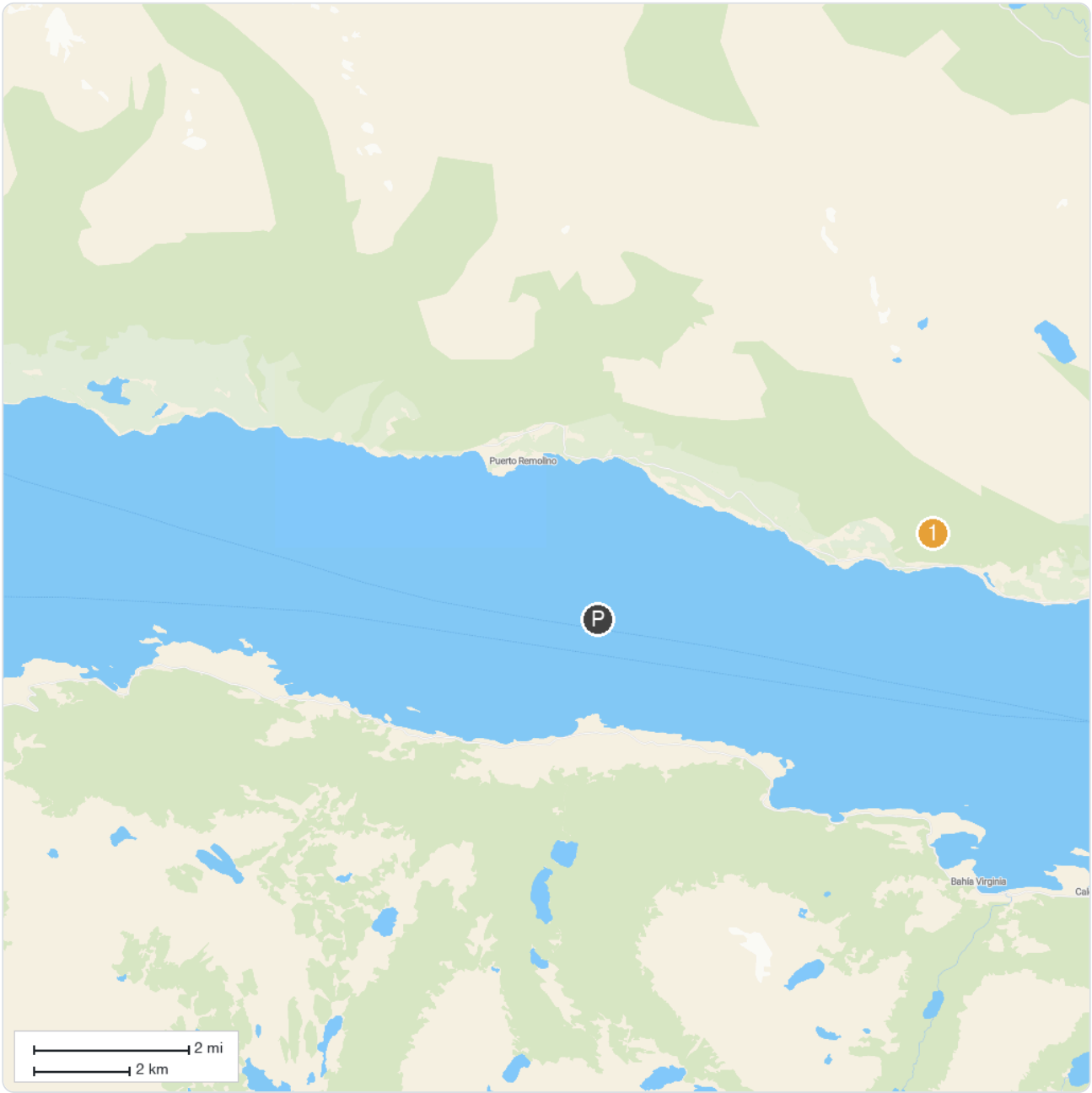
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Layer aggressively. Wind on deck in the channel can be bitter even in summer — temperatures drop sharply during glacier approaches. A windproof outer layer is essential.
- Both sides matter. In Glacier Alley the major glaciers alternate sides. Pick up your cruise director's deck guide at breakfast — they map exactly which side each glacier appears on.
- Be on deck early. Ships often enter the most dramatic sections of the channel at dawn or early morning. Missing it by sleeping in is the most common regret.
- Binoculars are essential. The channel is 3–8 miles wide. Sea lions, cormorants, and albatrosses are easier to spot with optics. Borrow a pair from the ship if you don't have your own.
- No currency needed. This is a scenic transit — there's nothing to buy on the channel itself. For Ushuaia-based boat tours, Argentine pesos or US dollars are both accepted.
- Seasickness is minimal inside the channel — the narrow strait is sheltered. It's the Drake Passage before or after that gets rough. Enjoy the flat water while it lasts.

Beagle Channel, Tierra del Fuego, Chile/Argentina — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 Cascada del Duende

A beautiful waterfall reached by a short, scenic walk.

P Cruise port / terminal