

Snares Islands, Southland, New Zealand

A predator-free time capsule 200 km south of New Zealand, the Snares teem with millions of seabirds and endemic penguins — all viewable from a Zodiac, since no one is allowed to step ashore.

 Zodiac / scenic cruise (no landings permitted)

 Typical call: 3–6 hrs

 NZD (no shore facilities)

 English

 Expedition / wildlife cruise

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: No pier — expedition ships use Zodiac cruises; larger ships scenic sail-by only

Best For: Wildlife photography, endemic penguins, albatross, seabirds

Walk to Center: 0 m — landings are strictly prohibited on all islands

Don't Miss: Snares Crested Penguin 'slide' at Spooner Cove; sooty shearwater black-cloud at dusk

 Getting around:  **Rideshare**  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Zodiac Wildlife Cruise** — Board inflatable Zodiacs for a close-up tour of Ho Ho Bay and Spooner Cove, watching Snares Crested Penguins negotiate...
 - Sooty Shearwater Dusk Spectacle** — If the ship is positioned at dusk, witness millions of sooty shearwaters (tītī) returning to their burrows in a...
- Pelagic Seabird Watching** — The waters surrounding the Snares attract Southern Royal Albatross, Salvin's Albatross, giant petrels, and cape petrels.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	56°	52°	18d
Jun	52°	49°	18d
Aug	50°	47°	20d
Sep	51°	47°	17d
Oct	51°	47°	19d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 7:32AM–6:14PM · Jun 8:42AM–5:05PM · Aug 7:58AM–5:59PM · Sep 6:58AM–6:40PM · Oct 6:56AM–8:23PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring a telephoto lens. Since you stay on the water, a 100–400mm zoom lets you fill the frame with penguins and seals from the Zodiac.
- Dress for Antarctic conditions. Temperatures hover 5–11 °C year-round; wind chill in an open Zodiac feels far colder. Waterproof trousers, a windproof jacket, gloves, and a beanie...
- Protect your gear from spray. Salt spray is heavy in Zodiacs. Use a waterproof bag or rain cover for cameras and keep phones in a sealed case.