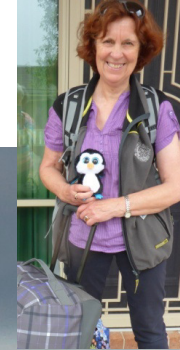


ANTARCTICA – IT IS ALL ABOUT THE WEATHER!



Part 1: My Antarctic Experience

Part 2: Sub Antarctic Islands of NZ & Oz

Part 3: Sea Voyage of the Southern Ocean



SUMMARY:

4 weeks on the southern ocean; travelling 8,200 kms; 10 days within the Antarctic region; reaching the furthest point of 66° 55' latitude
Over 1500 photos and 450 videos

Macquarie Island – Macca/Oz



Another Sandy Bay



King Penguins



Having a chat

**Maybe something more
than a chat!**

Molting chicks



Molting chicks

A Couple



Together

A Colony – 5,000 birds



Elephant Seals – young males



Beauty sleep

They are a quarter of their mature size



What a life



Royal Penguins



The Royal Highway

Time for a swim



Home – with 30,000 others



Communication – it is everything

What's all the noise and flapping about?

Finding your mate, seducing them, showing your love and commitment, raising your young, avoiding a fight, and defending your territory – amongst up to 40 000 other royals! Communication is the key to survival here. Here's how it's done.

Avoiding a fight

"Excuse me, coming through!"
A 'slender walk', when going through others' territories. Stretches neck high to avoid being pecked. If pecked, doesn't retaliate.

"Leave me alone, I'm not going to fight!"
Submissive attitude. Incubating females stay focused and don't retaliate when assaulted by neighbours or passers-by.

Uncertainty

"I'm scared but I don't know what to do!"
Intense flipper flicking if penguin can't decide whether to fight or flee.

Defending territory

"I made it!"
A stare around after a 'slender walk' when arriving at a clear space or nest site to declare ownership. Stops abruptly, swings head up, raises beak a little, looks over shoulder, stiffly jerks head side-to-side.

"This is my space!"
Head swinging. Used by males on arrival at their territory, arrival of neighbor, female passing by, or threats or displays by other birds or animals. Sometimes with raucous pulsating cries.

"You're too close!"
Sitting birds may bicker with neighbours by striking out with open beaks. Beaks can become interlocked in a tug-of-war.

"Who do you think you are?"
Intimidation. Close approach by individuals (other than mate) strongly resisted. Staccato cry or hiss. Head bobbing. Flipper raising. May strike with bill.

Seduction, love and commitment

"How about it sweetie?!"
Mating is usually initiated by the male. Male reaches toward female's nape, rapidly beats her on the back with flippers, female lays down, male steps onto her and grips her with his feet, nibbling her neck and cheeks, while patting her flanks with his flippers.

"Whoa, that was intense"
Head shaking after excitement (e.g. mating, emerging from rough sea, fighting).

"Why is she taking so long?"
Hunched shoulders, head shaking vigorously and chatting – usually males waiting for females to return to nest. Also when egg laying is about to begin.

"I'm so excited to see you!"
After a long absence, as returning partner nears the nest, he/she hurries forth with neck and flippers outstretched, while braying loudly. Partner responds similarly. They then stand together, push up against each other, throw heads back and trumpet loudly. Often infectious within colonies.

"You're my partner"
Both birds quiver while standing on the nest and when returning to eggs/chicks after changeover. Often followed by bowing.

"We're in this together"
Birds bow and utter a series of deep throbbing cries, body shaking with each throb. Pairs often reach over nest with bills together.

"I love you"
Preening between mated pairs, parents and feathering chicks, and chicks in crèche.

See if you can spot the behaviours



Campbell Island - NZ



New Zealand Sea Lions



I prefer them in the water!

Southern Royal Albatross



How big are they?



At home



Home with visitors and more



Our last zodiac cruise



Part one, two, three, four, five

A story

Campbell Island success stories



Campbell Island Teal



Campbell Island Snipe