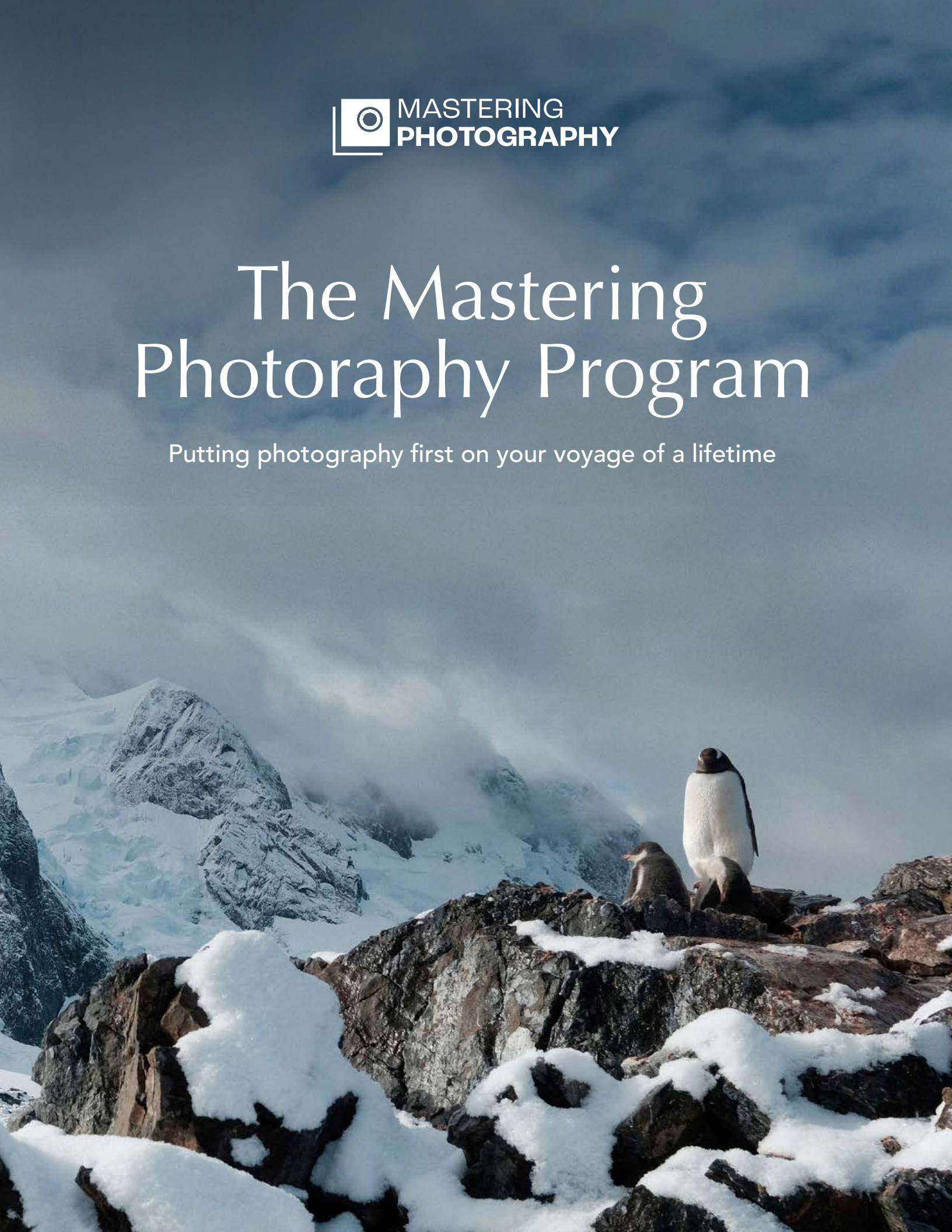
MASTERING
PHOTOGRAPHY

The Mastering Photoraphy Program

Putting photography first on your voyage of a lifetime





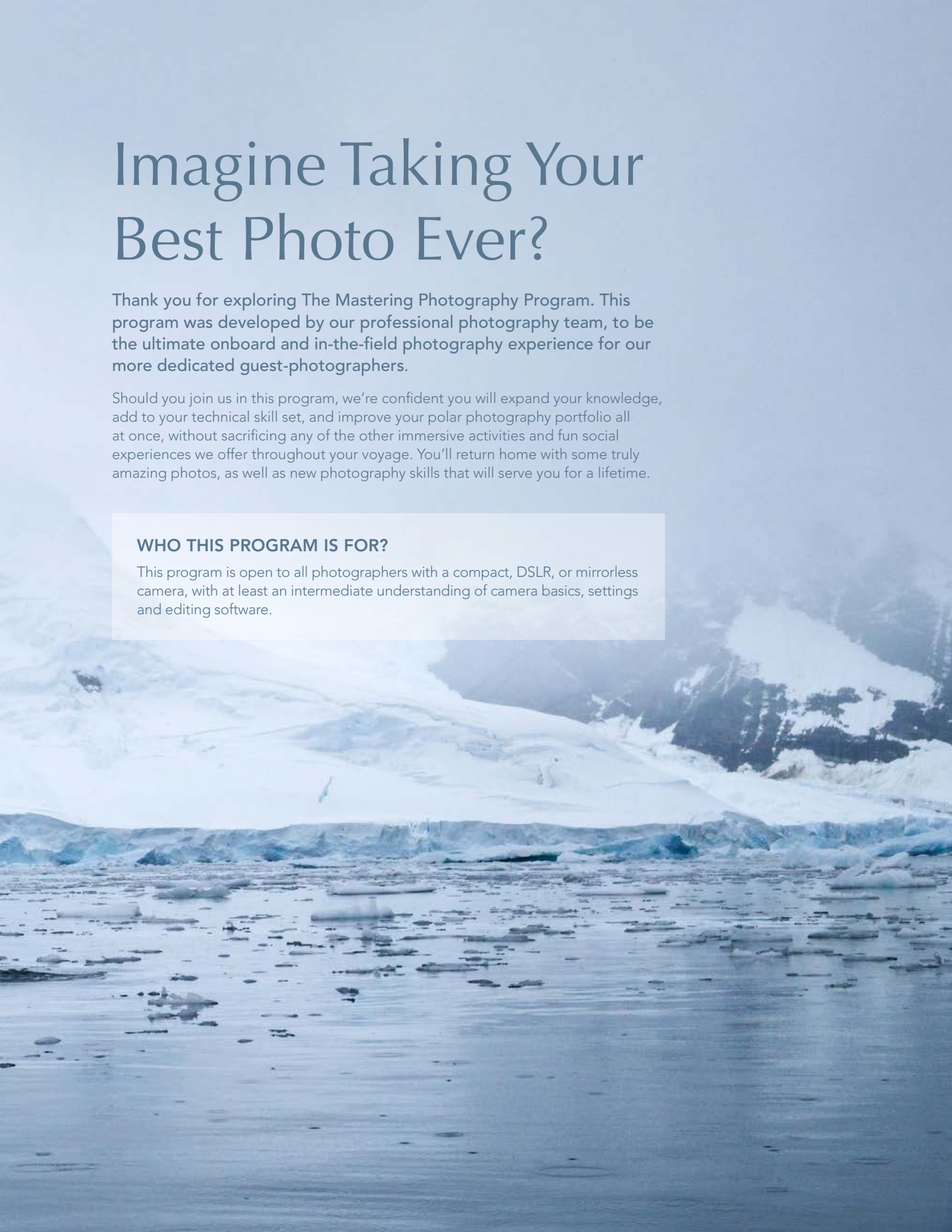
Imagine Taking Your Best Photo Ever?

Thank you for exploring The Mastering Photography Program. This program was developed by our professional photography team, to be the ultimate onboard and in-the-field photography experience for our more dedicated guest-photographers.

Should you join us in this program, we're confident you will expand your knowledge, add to your technical skill set, and improve your polar photography portfolio all at once, without sacrificing any of the other immersive activities and fun social experiences we offer throughout your voyage. You'll return home with some truly amazing photos, as well as new photography skills that will serve you for a lifetime.

WHO THIS PROGRAM IS FOR?

This program is open to all photographers with a compact, DSLR, or mirrorless camera, with at least an intermediate understanding of camera basics, settings and editing software.



Some of the Mastering Photography Program Advantages

- **Experienced professional instructors**, who are not only great photographers, but also skilled in maximizing your potential
- **Small group dedicated Zodiacs** limited to 8 guest photographers, ensuring you extra freedom of movement on every outing
- **First-off-the-ship priority** means you'll have additional time in the field, and more time alone with your wildlife and landscape subject matter
- **Personalized instruction** ensures that you get the very best advice, tailored to your skillsets and goals
- **Technical workshops and ongoing reviews** mean not only better photos throughout your voyage, but an expanded photography skillset that will last a lifetime
- **A final group review and critique session**, led by your instructor, will ensure that you return home with stunning, frameable art, and all the more excited to continue your photography journey.



WHAT WE'LL EXPLORE IN THIS PROGRAM

Details may vary a bit with instructor and your group dynamic, but here are some of the areas we look to focus on.

- **Framing and Composition:** When to use rules, when to ignore them; leading lines, use of negative space, frames within a frame, selective focus, leading the eye.
- **Light and Shadow:** Natural vs artificial light, backlighting, side lighting, bounced light, creative use of shadows and reflections.
- **Lenses, Perspectives and Angles:** Which lenses when, wide angle vs zoom, macro photography, small details, depth of field, long exposures, creative angles, panoramas.
- **Shooting Tips:** Creative use of shutter speeds: creating a series, expressing emotion, scale and context, choosing a subject, birds in flight, considering the background.
- **Working in Natural Environments:** Shooting in the polar regions, adjusting to changing light, turning weather issues into opportunities, protecting your gear, getting the very best out of wildlife, avoiding cliches, respect for the environment.
- **Shooting Video:** Quick and easy tips on shooting, editing, sound, etc. to create moving, impactful content.
- **Editing and Post Processing:** Lightroom and Photoshop skills, color management, color versus black and white, white balance, editing skills and secrets, correcting mistakes, sequencing, file management, cataloguing.

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WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO BRING:

- Camera and lenses
- Memory cards *(we recommend at least 3-4 32 GB cards).*
- Batteries and charger *(3-4 batteries is ideal)*
- Laptop and editing software
- A back-up hard drive
- Power cords
- Dry bag *(a must, though you can buy one on board)*
- A waterproof case for your phone camera
- Unlimited enthusiasm for taking amazing pictures

HELPFUL TO ALSO HAVE, BUT NOT REQUIRED:

- Polarizing filter
- Multiple lenses
- Extra batteries and memory cards
- Lanyard for phone camera
- Back-up camera and multiple lenses

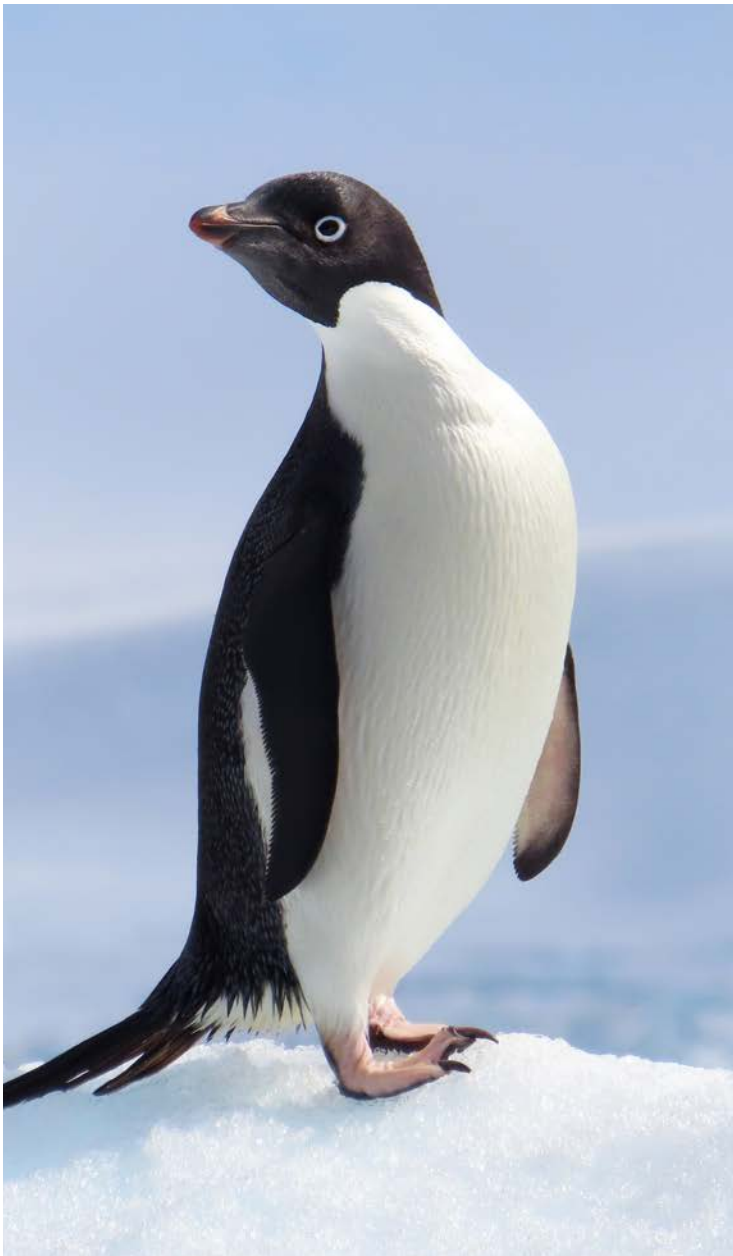
WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW:

- A good understanding of your camera
- A basic understanding of aperture, f-stops, ISO, etc.
- A working knowledge of Lightroom or other editing software

About Our Mastering Photography Program Instructors

It's one thing to be a skilled photographer, as all our photography instructors are. But passing your skill, knowledge, and passion onto others is a talent unto itself.

All our photography instructors possess both these attributes: All are highly awarded professional photographers in their own right; And all have run successful programs, workshops or dedicated photo outings throughout their careers. In other words, they are all highly skilled not just at being a great photographer, but at making you a better photographer. Which is what this program is all about.



Meet Our Professional Instructors



Pía Harboure

Pía Harboure is an independent photographer from Argentina whose work focuses on environmental and human rights issues. She has worked around the world as a professional photographer since graduating from film and photo school in Buenos Aires. Her outdoorsy spirit inspired her to work in many regions, from the Dominican Republic and Chile to Andorra and Sri Lanka. Pia has collaborated on campaigns and field assignments with organizations including UNICEF Argentina and T.E.A. Project. Her work has received international recognition through grants, mentorships, awards, and exhibitions. These include the Eddie Adams Workshop, Photographers Without Borders, Lucie Foundation, and Life Framer. She has exhibited her work internationally in Spain, Germany, New York, and Argentina.

As a ship photographer and program guide, she enjoys teaching photography as much as engaging in the creative process itself. She aims to bring viewers closer to worlds that often remain unseen. Traveling with Polar Latitudes Expeditions, she aims to craft experiences that inspire reflection, respect, and meaningful awareness of our planet.

See Pia's work at: www.Piaharboure.com







Sophie DesChamps

Sophie is a photographer, artist, author, and expedition guide whose work explores the meeting place between wild landscapes and the lives moving through them. Based in Chelsea, Québec, she works as the Photography Specialist for the Parks Canada Agency, documenting National Parks, Historic Sites, and Marine Conservation Areas across Canada while mentoring staff in visual storytelling and brand expression.

An expedition guide since 1997, Sophie has led dogsledding, canoeing, kayaking, and photography journeys throughout Canada, the Arctic, and Antarctic, including expeditions in East Greenland and at the Floe Edge north of Baffin Island. She lived in Africa for two years as a photographer for an organization while chasing her children among deltas, cobras, and chameleons. She is the author of South Within, a reflective book inspired by Antarctica.

Known for her thoughtful eye and grounded presence, Sophie loves helping guests connect more deeply with the subtle tones and profound impact of an Antarctic journey.

See Sophie's work at: www.sophiedeschamps.co



Steve Rose

Steve has always had a love for the outdoors and his passion for photography helps him share his greatest adventures, be it photographing grizzly, black or spirit bears, tigers, puma, orangutans, or kayaking with killer whales.

Steve has had his photos featured in magazines, books, newspapers, and calendars. And he has won many prestigious awards throughout his career – one of which sparked his enduring love of the Polar regions. When he won the Royal Ontario Museum Photographer of The Year competition, the prize was a first class trip to Greenland and the Arctic, where he had his first encounter with professional expedition guides. He told his wife " I want to do that! " Ten years later, he's still doing it.

Steve really loves being part of the Polar Latitudes Expeditions Photography team, where he gets to share his vast cache of photography secrets with our guests, from capturing truly powerful images, to processing them to a higher professional standard.

See Steve's work at: stevenrosephotography.com





Simon Ager

Simon has been a professional photographer since 2010 and an instructor for over 8 years. A published National Geographic photographer and runner up in Canadian Geographic's Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition, his work in marine conservation and wildlife tourism has been published in multiple books and magazines, including National Geographic, Canadian Geographic, The New York Times, Oceanographic and LePoint, to name just a few.

His previous career in film and television was as a TV graphic/Visual FX artist creating opening titles for shows like David Attenborough's 'Wildlife on One', and award-winning FX shows like Stargate SG1 and Tropic Thunder.

Guiding since 2018 on the coast of British Columbia, Alaska, the polar regions and sub-Arctic wilds of Churchill, Manitoba, Simon considers the beauty and abundance of wildlife in these regions beyond measure to photograph.

As a photo guide Simon loves offering insider professional tips to PLX guests, so they may elevate their own photography experience and results.

See Simon's work at:
simonagerphotography.com



Andrew Peacock

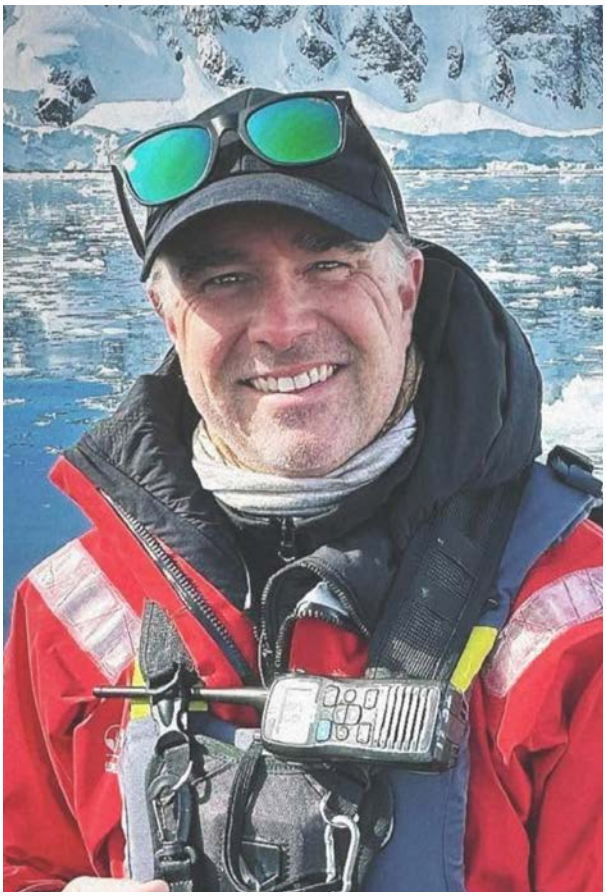
Andrew has been exploring the world through a camera lens since the days of slide film. His aim with photography is to interpret the beauty and wonder of the natural world in an artistic and creative way by looking for unique light, compositions, and moments through the viewfinder. As a result, Andrew's images have been recognized multiple times in the Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year Awards.

A career as an expedition and wilderness medicine doctor took Andrew from the mountains of Nepal to the icy wildness of Antarctica and many places in between. Along the way he documented the natural world around him as a long time contributor to the Getty Images library.

For the past 10 years Andrew has worked as a photo instructor on expedition ship journeys to the polar regions, where he enjoys helping guests make unique photographic memories of their experience in these extraordinary wildernesses.

See Andrew's work at:
footloosephotography.com





Jason Ransom

Jason became a photography guide after falling in love with Churchill, Manitoba while on assignment in 2016. Before that, he served as chief photographer to the Prime Minister of Canada, a photographer for Canada's Olympic Team, and spent years as a photojournalist covering domestic and international events in numerous countries.

While his professional focus was people and news, his true passion has always been wildlife, landscapes, and the outdoors. This lifelong interest led him to transition toward guiding and nature-based storytelling. Today, Jason splits his time between Churchill, Antarctica, and his home in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

He enjoys sharing unique experiences with curious guests, emerging photographers, and wildlife enthusiasts, helping them connect more deeply with nature and remote environments. His work blends photography, exploration, and education, driven by a desire to inspire others through the natural world. He remains committed to conservation and sharing his photos and stories from the polar regions.

See Jason's work at: jasonransom.com



Tammy MacKenzie

Tammy MacKenzie is a Canadian photographer, writer, adventurer, educator, and environmentalist currently based in Vancouver Island.

Whether it's been wading waist-deep into glacier fed lakes, sailing amongst the polar ice caps, trekking the Arctic Tundra, Andes, Alps, or Himalayas, walking 900 kilometers across Spain, bumping 4000 kilometers across the potholes of the India in a glorified lawn-mower, or crossing 16,000 kilometers and multiple countries in a trash heap of a car to raise money for the Amazon rainforest, Tammy has spent her life filled with an innate sense of wonder and curiosity for the world. These experiences have ultimately led to her becoming a storyteller through words and images in an effort to show the astounding beauty of the most wild and remote corners of this world, while hoping to inspire others to care about this pale blue dot we all call home.

Tammy is an alumni of Ontario College of Art and Design, where she holds a BFA in Photography, along with a Masters of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the University of King's College. She also works as a wildlife, landscape, and Astro Photography Guide in the Polar and Sub-Arctic Regions and is currently working on her first memoir called Where the Skies are Wild.

See Tammy's work at: tammymackenzie.com



PHOTO GUEST GALLERY



Photo by Paula

Photo by Nick Spong





Photo by Nathan Goldberg

Photo by Khale Wallitner







Photo by Khale Wallitner

Photo by Chip







Photo by Delaney

Photo by Marta





Photo by Rebecca Hamerton

Photo by Tanya




POLAR LATITUDES
EXPEDITIONS.
We hope you'll join us soon, on our never-ending quest to improve our photography skills and capture outstanding images of the world's most beautiful environments. We view every expedition as the trip of a lifetime.
So, let's produce photographs that truly reflect that!
We Are All Explorers®
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