Safety & Sustainability

Ocean Diamond: Quark’s Carbon Neutral ship
Quark’s Sustainability Commitment

As the leader in Polar adventures, Quark Expeditions is committed to trailblazing sustainable practices and supporting charitable organizations related to the remote and vulnerable environments in which we operate.

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<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Commitment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLLEAGUES</td>
<td>We will raise awareness, inspire ownership, and encourage participation company wide in sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>CUSTOMERS</td>
<td>Our customers will regard Quark Expeditions as the leader in sustainable practices in the Polar regions</td>
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<tr>
<td>CARBON</td>
<td>We will set the standard for tour operators in the Polar regions through transparent reporting of practices and promotion of carbon reduction strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td>DESTINATIONS</td>
<td>Our partners and stakeholders will regard Quark Expeditions as the leader in sustainable Polar regions expedition travel</td>
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Reducing Carbon Emissions

Since the company’s inception, Quark Expeditions® has been committed to environmentally responsible tourism. Quark now offers the only CarbonNeutral® voyages in polar travel history.

Quark continues to lead by example by setting the industry standards for carbon offsetting its Ocean Diamond voyages in Antarctica at no added cost to travellers. In collaboration with The CarbonNeutral® Company in the UK, Quark shows it is possible to visit incredible places and preserve them for future generations. The CarbonNeutral® Company is a world-leading provider of carbon reduction solutions and has helped businesses reduce their carbon footprint for 15 years.

In order to neutralize the effects of Quark’s Ocean Diamond voyages on the environment, Quark Expeditions® will offset an estimated 5,682 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO2e) per season with select hydro, wind power and reforestation CarbonNeutral® projects around the world including Buenos Aires LFG: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by capturing and combusting methane gas from a landfill site in Buenos Aires, Argentina and converting it into electricity to improve the quality of life for those in the surrounding neighborhoods.

As of October 2013, Quark is offsetting all of its staff flights to and from the Polar regions and Quark is working closely with The CarbonNeutral® Company to allow travelers the option to offset their international flights as well. Quark also hopes to launch carbon neutral voyages to the Arctic in 2015.

In conjunction with DAP, Quark also offsets the flights for passengers and staff on our Fly-Cruise programs. These offsets help the conservation of 38,000 hectares of native forest in the Magallanes Region of Chile.

Finally, Quark Expeditions® is now pleased to offer our passengers a pay-as-you-fly carbon offsetting program for international and domestic flights. By choosing this option, passengers will be helping the environment by offsetting the equivalent of 5 tons of CO2.

What does it mean to offset 5,682 tonnes of carbon dioxide?

More CO2e than an entire SPACE SHUTTLE flight

More CO2e than an entire SPACE SHUTTLE flight

In a typical year: 1,114 CARS from the road for one year

Cancelling 5,380 FLIGHTS from New York to Tokyo

More CO2e than an entire SPACE SHUTTLE flight
Health & Safety:

Staff Training
- Quark’s expedition team maintains the highest industry safety accreditations including STCW, IAATO and AECO
- All of Quark’s expedition team members are certified in CPR and life-saving skills
- Hotel operations staff are trained in Norovirus and outbreak control, water quality and legionella, food and safety management, pest control, as well as diet, allergies and other health restrictions
- There are always two doctors on-board each ship, one of whom is directly hired by Quark for their international, wilderness and expedition medical experience to deal exclusively with passenger health issues

Safety Standards
- Quark is the only expedition cruise company awarded British Standard BS 8848, externally recognizing and accrediting Quark’s health and safety program on an annual basis.
- Quark has a documented Safety Management System which sets out Quark’s policy, procedures and standards for all Quark vessels and all Expedition Operations
- Quark has established and maintains a comprehensive incident management plan
- Quark has created standard operating procedures for all expedition activities (zodiac operations, adventure options, wildlife interaction, landing sites, etc.)
- Quark has an unrivalled staff to passenger ratio of 1 to 9.5

Equipment
- All of Quark’s vessels are inspected annually by independent third party marine consultants to ensure continued compliance with Quark’s standards
- Quark only operates vessels that exceed our requirement for a safe return capability
- All of Quark’s ships are ice-rated and always have at least one experienced ice navigator onboard
- All vessels have a minimum of two independent and remotely operated searchlights
- Quark only has enclosed or partially enclosed lifeboats and our lifeboat and life-raft capacity always exceeds SOLAS requirements such that there is always at least 25% additional capacity than the number of people onboard
- Quark provides immersion suits to all passengers and staff on-board
Environmental Consciousness

- Quark conforms to all international waste disposal regulations and policies
- We serve only sustainable seafood
- We use eco-friendly and biodegradable laundry chemicals and cabin amenities
- Every passenger receives a reusable water bottle
- Quark uses only recycled, acid-free paper onboard and limits paper use
- Quark’s ships burn low-emission marine gas oil (MGO)
- Quark distributes IAATO and AECO safety guidelines to all passengers
Giving Back to the Polar Communities

Quark has been a proud ambassador of the Polar Regions since 1991. Together with our passengers and staff, Quark’s onboard auctions have raised an average of $150,000 each season for charities dedicated to sustainability and conservation in the places we visit. During the 2013.14 season, Quark will continue to support the following charities:

- Penguin Lifelines
- Underwater Bait Setter (formerly Save the Albatross)
- Polar Bears International
- Clean Up Svalbard
For more information about Quark Expeditions'® sustainability practices please contact Courtenay.Oswin@QuarkExpeditions.com or visit us online at QuarkExpeditions.com