

On our return drive to the pier we traveled along La Rambla, the city's bustling waterfront promenade. From this point we could see the fort on the highest hill in Montevideo. This route also offered a view of the Graff Spee Monument, made from the anchor of a Nazi battleship scuttled off the coast during WWII.



### **PUERTO MADRYN, ARGENTINA**

We opted not to go to the penguin colony, as it was a 120 mile drive each way and a 1 mile walk, much of it in penguin poop. We just sat at an outdoor café and watched people. On the way back to the ship, we found a wine store and chatted with a fellow passenger there. He recommended a certain Argentinean wine, and we bought a bottle to take back to the ship. When we got to our cabin, we were surprised to discover I had bought a bottle of the identical wine in Buenos Aires. This was also the day to recharge all our electronics, so this is what the desk looked like!



### **STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS**

We had to take a tender to the port, and were very fortunate that the weather was calm. The trip into the pier can be rather bumpy if the wind is blowing.

We had read numerous recommendations for tours arranged with Patrick Watts in Stanley, and booked our tour through him. Also, the tour was half the price of the ship's tour going to the same place.

The tour took us to Volunteer Point at the other end of the island, and the last part was an unbelievable ride across open country. The rather lengthy ride to the Point was a "good 'n bumpy" fun ride. I was in the back seat in the middle, which sounds bad, but the men on both sides of me were wearing puffy down jackets. It was like being between two Pillsbury doughboys which help smooth out the bumpy ride.





On the way to the penguin colony, we got all four seasons-rain, hail, wind and sun! We were amazed at the vast number of penguins there were in the different colonies, and the large area they covered. There were penguins of all ages & sizes: youngsters with all of their brown fuzz (they looked like overgrown Kiwi fruit), some looking a little raggedy, partly feathered out and part still covered with fuzz that looked like it was about to fall off. The pictures below are of King Penguins





A ranger told us that they were expecting a good hatching within the next couple of weeks. I was busy taking countless pictures, and Kathy enjoyed just watching & listening to these delightful little creatures. But, she also got some great pictures. The picture on the left is of a baby in a burrow, and the one on the right is of a Gentoo penguin, the other species at Volunteer Point. It truly was a wonderful day that we will remember, and a tour we greatly recommend to all.



## USHUAIA, ARGENTINA

We sailed into Ushuaia through the Beagle channel. This waterway was named after the HMS Beagle, the ship that carried the English naturalist, Charles Darwin, on a five-year voyage around the tip of Southern America.

Darwin's voyage established him as an eminent naturalist and his journal of the voyage made him a famous and popular author. It was his 1859 book, *On the Origin of Species*, however, that rocked the world with his theory of evolution and natural selection.

We landed in Ushuaia on a Sunday at the end of the world. Unfortunately, most shops and restaurants were closed. I wanted to buy some cough medicine, and remembered that on the pharmacies windows there was a list of the store that would be open on Sunday. It was a little place about 10 blocks down the main street, but they did have what we needed.

I then headed to a restaurant named Mustachio, but they were also closed. I ended up doing a little souvenir shopping before heading back to the ship.

We had booked a cruise of the Beagle channel through the ship, and were supposed to meet on the pier. There was no Princess guide there to direct us, and we ended up having to hike the length of the