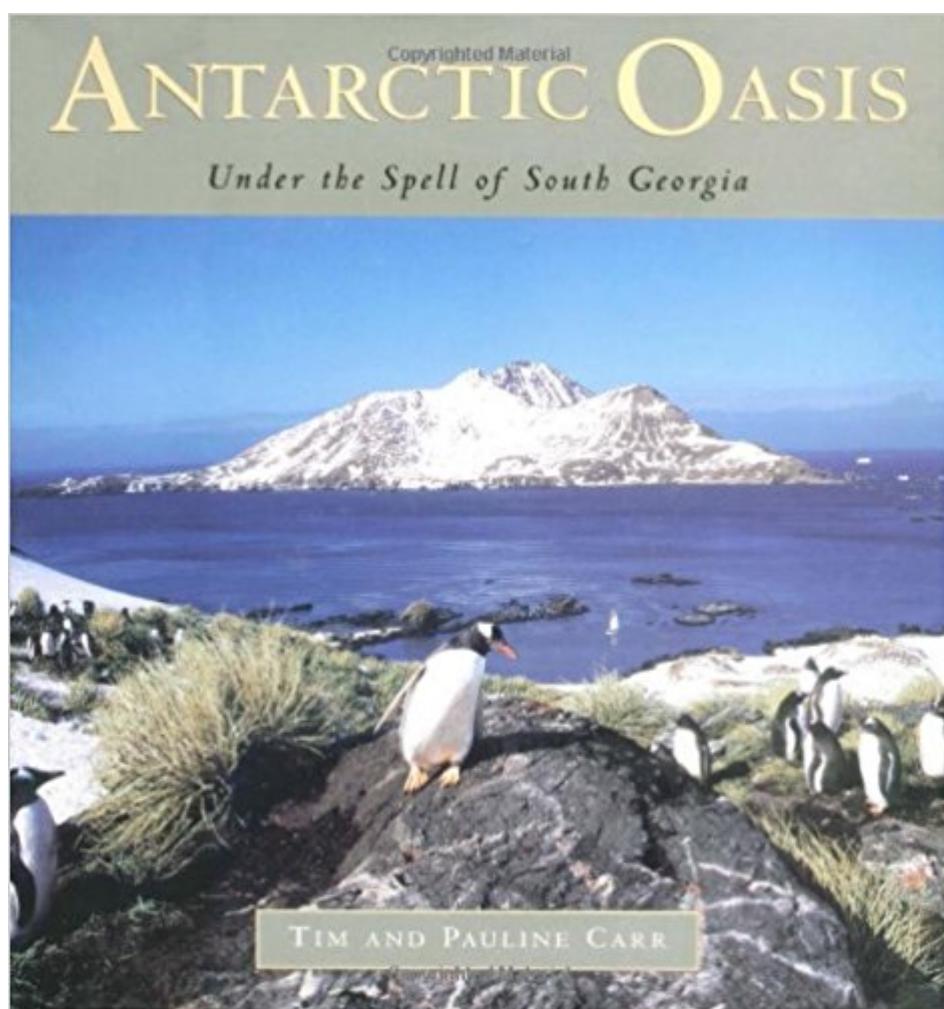


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Antarctic Oasis: Under The Spell Of South Georgia



Synopsis

An account of one couple's life on a remote island beyond the Polar Front, a tale to rival the exploits of the great nineteenth-century explorers. After twenty-five years of cruising the world's oceans, renowned blue-water sailors Pauline and Tim Carr found themselves being drawn to the lonely places of the higher latitudes to experience earth's last, scarcely touched regions. Antarctic Oasis records the culmination of those exploits. True adventurers, the Carrs have lived year-round on South Georgia for five yearsâ •its only civilian inhabitantsâ •experiencing a way of life that has all but vanished from our modern world. A center of the Norwegian whaling industry in the last century, today a remnant of the far-flung British Empire, South Georgia is a splendid if forbidding land of towering, glacier-clad mountains and a treacherous, storm-torn coast punctuated by sheltered bays. During its brief polar summer, the island's verdant shoreline offers Antarctic wildlife a place to feed, mate, and rear their young. The only humans on the scene, the Carrs have learned intimate details about the lives of whales, penguins, seals, albatrosses, skuas, and many others. In all seasons the Carrs explore South Georgia's uncompromising coast aboard their yacht Curlew. Their deep fascination with the island, its wildlife, and its history will stir the spirit of adventure and discovery in us all.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The first thing you notice about this handsome book is a surfeit of color. In the mind's eye, the Antarctic is a study in sterile white, but in the Carrs' spectacular photographs, the Antarctic island of South Georgia is brilliant with green and gold lichen and grasses, the bright orange markings of

penguins, the tawny beauty of caribou, and spectacular skies. One hundred miles long and glacier-clad, South Georgia is the South Pole's oasis, home to 2.2 million fur seals, hundreds of thousands of penguins, the world's largest flock of wandering albatrosses, countless petrels, and two human beings, the Carrs, a couple famous for their sailing prowess and love of far-off lands. Their gorgeous and unexpected photographs, lively history of the island, and personable account of their lives onboard their 100-year-old yacht reignite our sense of wonder in nature and remind us that it is possible to live in the wilderness and do no harm. Donna Seaman

A magnificent book....[T]he pictures are the best I've seen in a cruising narrative. -- *Soundings*, December 1998
Stunning photographs, accounts of the Carrs' experiences, and a survey of Antarctic natural history void the impression of a stark, lifeless place. Instead, the Carrs, the only two permanent inhabitants of the island of South Georgia for the past five years, reveal a land abounding with albatrosses, seals, and plush greenery during the summer months. -- *Science News*, 7 November 1998

This is a magical book. It has beautiful photos and a really interesting narrative from this sailing couple who live such an unusual life in a lovely location. It will make you fall in love with nature. Worth every penny.

Sailing with the Carrs is to savor every word. I'd find myself backtracking, wanting to re-read it continually as I discovered Antarctica with them. I was fascinated to read about the Carrs' abilities and tenacity. As an old sailor myself, I understand their sailing language, and I really appreciate the fact that they had no mod-coms -- just basic, true sailing skills. Their close relationship is an absolute must when living aboard such a small boat for so long in such challenging circumstances. The fact that they kept the rigging and all its gear simple, basic and strong, with nothing electronic -- similar to almost all the 100-year-old style equipment -- means they had nothing modern that would be fragile to break or to go wrong. The last generation of fine sailors, such as the Hiscocks and the Smeetons, would have approved entirely of their sailing skills and basic, good seamanship. I really appreciate the writing: it's delightfully clear, neither pedantic nor flowery -- but shows their confidence in their abilities while also revealing their awareness of their fragility in such a potentially overwhelming environment. The photographer is stellar! From a sailor's perspective, this book is beautiful both in its photographs and its writing -- a thrill to read! I've been savouring it slowly, like a delicious gourmet meal. If the Shackleton crew could come back and take this journey

with the Carrs, they'd be thrilled. Meanwhile, any reader will be, too.

this is a place i have longed to visit after seeing it in the living eden video series and being acquainted with the epic shackleton expedition. it is fittingly the last resting place of sir ernest shackleton. i have recently visited cape horn and was entranced by the primeval nature of this part of the world. south georgia, wild and remote, harsh but fragile, of extraordinary beauty and innocent wildlife. this part of the tempestuous southern ocean was exploited in the past by whaling and sealing and may be now threatened by krill harvesting that could affect the food supply of its abundant wildlife. even if one were lucky enough to cruise to south georgia, one would only see a fraction of what the carr's have captured in this extraordinary book. they are not only world class sailors and adventurers, sailing the southern ocean in a small, motorless sailboat and living for years, year-round on south georgia, they are first-rate photographers and writers. most of us will never go there, but this book is the next best thing, even if you do.

I had the pleasure of visiting South Georgia January 1998, meet the authors, Tim and Pauline Carr, and see their home/transport/magic carpet, the tiny "Curlew" in Grytviken. This certainly added dimensionality to the book, but by itself it is arresting and filled with stunning photographs of haunting beauty showing the island and its unique fauna- only someone who actually lived there and loved it could create this gorgeous book. If you enjoy the Antarctic or sub-Antarctic islands, this is the book for you.

prompt delivery to NZ and book was exactly as described. happy with the purchase

An amazing book written by an amazing couple who we had the opportunity to meet in person.

Having recently travelled to South Georgia the book was a nice companion to my visit. I truly envy the folks who wrote the book and the amount of time they had to experience this most magnificent of places.

quick shipping, excellent condition, awesome content. Fabulous photography. Good text. The authors love their work & it shows in the quality of the book.

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