Traveling Exhibitions

Relive one of the most stirring tales of Antarctic exploration: the contest to be the first to reach the South Pole.

In 1911-1912, two South Pole-bound explorers—the Englishman Robert F. Scott and the Norwegian Roald Amundsen—led teams through harrowing conditions against a ticking clock. Who would reach the pole first? And would either make it home again? This exhibition brings history to life and explains how these dangerous journeys paved the way for modern day polar research.

CURATED BY: Ross MacPhee, Curator, Department of Mammalogy, Division of Vertebrate Zoology

“The exhibit takes you on their adventure; it’s an interactive, multimedia experience.”
— The Washington Post
Incredible re-created scenes include each team’s base camp, and an emperor penguin diorama.

Visitors take a character card, then follow clues about their character’s experience along the journey.

Interacts include stereoviewers, a map activity, and an Antarctic explorer personality quiz.

Period artifacts and replica objects such as goggles, a camera, a barometer, and arctic clothing bring the experience to life.

Models, media exhibits, and interactives introduce how researchers live and work in Antarctica today.

Exhibition Themes:

First Glimpses
Enter through an immersive simulation of the icy, windswept landscape of Antarctica. Meet the two expedition teams, then explore an interactive map and historical globe, paintings, and ship’s log.

The Race Begins
Learn about each team’s approach to the journey, and examine artifacts that bring the excitement of the expedition to life.

Two Teams, One Goal
Life-size recreations of the base camps erected by each team reveal how they lived through the winter on the ice.

To The Pole & Back
A re-created tent and flag left by the Norwegians illustrate their victory. Discover the outcome of the British team, and how the world reacted.

Antarctica Today
Find out what it’s like to explore the continent today, and see a modern explorer’s habitat and garments. Explore weather systems and ocean currents at a multi-user interactive.

“Big summer blockbuster.”
— New York Observer.

FIND OUT MORE:
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CREDITS:
Race to the End of the Earth is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org) in collaboration with Musée des Confluences, Lyon, France, and Royal BC Museum, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

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SPECIFICATIONS:

VENUE GALLERY SIZE: 6,000 – 7,000 ft²
VENUE CEILING HEIGHT: 12 ft recommended
CONSERVATION + SECURITY: Low
STANDARD RENTAL LENGTH: 14 – 16 weeks