



# Ernest Shackleton

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Shackleton was an Anglo-Irish Antarctic explorer, best known for leading the 'Endurance' expedition of 1914-16.

In 1901, he went on his first Antarctic expedition, aged just 25.



Shackleton's second expedition was in 1907. Despite terrible weather conditions and a treacherous journey, Shackleton and his team managed to come within 180km of the South Pole before turning back on 9th January, 1909.

In 1914, Shackleton made his third trip to the Antarctic with the ship 'Endurance'. Early in 1915, 'Endurance' became trapped in the ice, and ten months later sank. Shackleton's crew had already abandoned the ship to live on the floating ice. In April 1916, they set off in three small boats, eventually reaching Elephant Island. Taking five crew members, Shackleton went to find help. In a small boat, the six men spent 16 days crossing 1,300 km of ocean to reach South Georgia and then trekked across the island to a whaling station. The remaining men from the 'Endurance' were rescued in August 1916. Not one member of the expedition died.

## Endurance Timeline

03 Aug 1914	World War I breaks out
08 Aug 1914	<i>Endurance</i> leaves Britain
05 Dec 1914	Leave South Georgia Island
18 Jan 1915	Enter pack ice, immovable
24 Feb 1915	Ship routine ceased
25 Oct 1915	Ship cracks under pressure of ice, takes on water, abandoned by crew
21 Nov 1915	Ship sinks
Mar 1916	Attempts to move camp failed
09 Apr 1916	Set off on foot
18 Apr 1916	Arrived at Elephant Island
24 Apr 1916	Five leave on lifeboat to seek help
09 May 1916	Arrive South Georgia
30 Aug 1916	Crew rescued on fourth attempt



Shackleton and his crew marching on Christmas day, 1915.



Shackleton camped on his treacherous expedition in 1909.

## Robert Falcon Scott

Robert Falcon Scott (1868–1912) was a British explorer who led two expeditions to the Antarctic. His second expedition turned into a race to the South Pole that Scott's team lost, losing their lives in the attempt.



## Roald Amundsen

Roald Amundsen (1872–1928) was a Norwegian explorer. He was the first to discover the Northwest Passage in the Arctic that joined the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. In 1911, he led a successful expedition to be the first to reach the South Pole, beating Scott's team.

