



# STATEMENT FROM BUZZ ALDRIN ENTERPRISES

Buzz Aldrin is resting in hospital in Christchurch, New Zealand. He still has some congestion in his lungs so has been advised not to take the long flight home to the States and to rest in New Zealand while it clears up.

Having been cleared by doctors previously, Buzz took the trip to Antarctica to add to his exploration achievements after having spacewalked in orbit during the Gemini 12 mission in 1966, having walked on the Moon during the Apollo 11 mission in 1969, traveled down to see the Titanic in 1996 and to the North Pole in 1998. The trip last week to the South Pole is the capstone of his personal exploration achievements.

But his primary interest in coming to Antarctica was to experience and study conditions akin to Mars that are more similar there than any other place on earth.

"I'm extremely grateful to the National Space Foundation (NSF) for their swift response and help in evacuating me from the Admunsen-Scott Science Station to McMurdo Station and on to New Zealand. I had been having a great time with the group at White Desert's camp before we ventured further south. I really enjoyed the time I spent talking with the Science Station's staff too," said Aldrin from his hospital room.

"I started to feel a bit short of breath so the staff decided to check my vitals. After some examination they noticed congestion in my lungs and that my oxygen levels were low which indicated symptoms of altitude sickness. This prompted them to get me out on the next flight to McMurdo and once I was at sea level I began to feel much better. I didn't get as much time to spend with the scientists as I would have liked to discuss the research they're doing in relation to Mars. My visit was cut short and I had to leave after a couple of hours. However, I did get my passport stamped so I've got the proof. I really enjoyed my short time in Antarctica and seeing what life could be like on Mars."

"Finally, thank you to everyone from around the world for their well wishes and messages of support. I'm being very well looked after in Christchurch and I'm looking forward to getting home soon to spend Christmas with my family and to continue my quest for Cycling Pathways and a permanent human settlement on Mars. You ain't seen nothing yet!", concluded Aldrin.



## LAST UPDATED - STATEMENT FROM WHITE DESERT ABOUT SOUTH POLE MEDICAL EVACUATION

The evacuation flight for Mr Buzz Aldrin has successfully landed at Christchurch, New Zealand and Mr Aldrin has been transferred to hospital for examination. He currently has fluid in his lungs but is responding well to antibiotics and being kept overnight for observation. His condition is stable and his manager, who is currently with him, described him being in good spirits.

White Desert would like to offer our sincere thanks to the team at the American National Science Foundation for accommodating Buzz and his team member on one of their scheduled flights from South Pole to New Zealand via McMurdo. We wish Buzz a speedy recovery.

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### About White Desert

White Desert is a luxury tourism operator that specializes in taking clients to the Antarctic. Experiences include South Pole and to the Emperor Penguins. White Desert has been operating in Antarctica for 10 years, is a member of IAATO and is permitted by the British Government.

### About IAATO

IAATO is a member organization founded in 1991 to advocate and promote the practice of safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic. IAATO has over 100 members. IAATO Members work together to develop, adopt and implement operational standards that mitigate potential environmental impacts. Numerous guidelines have been adopted over the last 25 years that have proven to be successful methods in avoiding such impacts. These include but are not limited to: site specific guidelines, site selection criteria, passenger to staff ratios, limiting numbers of passengers ashore, boot washing guidelines and the prevention of the transmission of alien organisms, wilderness etiquette, garbage policy, ship scheduling and vessel communication procedures, emergency medical evacuation procedures, emergency contingency plans, reporting procedures, marine wildlife watching guidelines, station visitation policies and more.