

Race to the End of the Earth
May 17-October 14, 2013

Expedition Timeline: Highlights of Amundsen and Scott's expeditions to the South Pole

DATE	AMUNDSEN	SCOTT
1910		
June 1		<i>Terra Nova</i> sets sail from London, England.
June 7	<i>Fram</i> sets sail from Christiania (now Oslo), Norway, on the first leg of a supposed journey to the Arctic. Amundsen knows their actual destination—but most of the crew does not.	
September 9	Amundsen informs crew of change in plan, and <i>Fram</i> sets sail from Madeira, a Portuguese island west of Africa.	
October 12		<i>Terra Nova</i> docks in Melbourne. Scott receives telegram from Amundsen informing him of <i>Fram's</i> decision to proceed to Antarctica.
November 29		<i>Terra Nova</i> sets sail from Port Chalmers, New Zealand.
1911		
January 2		<i>Terra Nova</i> comes within sight of Mount Erebus, an active volcano on Ross Island, Antarctica.
January 4		<i>Terra Nova</i> anchors to sea ice; Scott arrives in Antarctica.
January 3	<i>Fram</i> reaches Ross Sea pack ice.	
January 11	<i>Fram</i> sights the Great Ice Barrier (now called the Ross Ice Shelf).	
January 14	Amundsen arrives in Antarctica.	
		Scott and his men finish building their winter quarters, a hut at Cape Evans, on the western side of Ross Isle.
February 3		<i>Terra Nova</i> departs for eastern end of the ice barrier to drop off six-man team to explore King Edward VII Land and the eastern Barrier. After the men of the "Eastern Party" discover <i>Fram</i> there, they decide to make a northern journey instead.

1911 cont'd		
February 10	Amundsen and three men set off on depot-laying mission with three dog-pulled sleds. Travelling is smooth, and soon they are travelling 2-3 times faster than Scott and men.	
January 25		Scott and small crew leave for depot-laying journey. They drop the main depot early, calling it "One Ton Depot," because Scott feared ponies were "running out" and could not carry supplies much farther.
April 22	Sun sets for winter at Amundsen's <i>Fram</i> .	
April 23		Sun sets for winter at Scott's hut.
August 23	Sun returns. Temperature slowly warms up.	
June		During the middle of Antarctica's bitter cold winter, three of Scott's crew leave on five-week expedition to observe emperor penguins during breeding season. They become the first humans to do so.
September 8	Amundsen and his men try and leave for pole but are forced to turn back due to extreme cold.	
October 19	Amundsen and his men leave for the pole with 52 dogs.	
October 24	Fast sledging with dogs in top condition enable Amundsen to get a 241 km head start over Scott, who is still one week away from leaving his camp.	
November 1		Scott and his men leave for the pole. They soon learn their two motor sledges have already broken down.
November 7		Blizzard strikes. Scott's party is stuck in tents: it is too dangerous to lead the ponies.
December 7	Amundsen's team passes Shackelton's farthest point south. They are now further south than any human being has ever been.	
December 14	Amundsen and his men reach the South Pole.	
December 17	Amundsen's crew heads back to their camp, leaving a flag and tent	

	for Scott to find.	
1912		
January 17		Scott and his men reach the pole.
January 26	Amundsen's team arrives at base camp 10 days ahead of schedule.	
January 30	<i>Fram</i> sails off from Antarctica with all nine men and 39 dogs.	
February 7		Scott's team reaches depot atop Beardmore Glacier, finding supplies unexpectedly short. Men collect geological samples.
February 20		Petty Officer Edgar Evans dies. His is the first death of the expedition.
February 27		Team doctor Edward Wilson, apparently exhausted, stops writing in his journal.
March 7	<i>Fram</i> arrives in Tasmania off the Australian coast. Amundsen cables King of Norway: "Victory!"	
March 10		Thermometer breaks. Lieutenant "Birdie" Bowers ends temperature record-keeping.
March 15/16		Captain Lawrence Oates leaves the tent during a blizzard. He is never seen again.
March 27		Surgeon E.L. Atkinson leads search party for Scott's crew. Turn back due to weather.
March 21-29		Blizzard traps surviving team members—Scott, Wilson, and Bowers—20.4 km from "One Ton Depot," with no food or fuel.
March 29		Scott writes the last entry in his diary.
April 1		<i>Terra Nova</i> arrives in NZ with no news except that Scott's party hadn't returned in time to meet <i>Terra Nova</i> before she sailed.
Late October		Surgeon E.L. Atkinson leads search party to find Scott's last camp.
November 12		Search party finds Scott, Wilson, and Bowers frozen in their sleeping bags.
1913		
January 18		<i>Terra Nova</i> returns to Camp Evans to pick up men
February 10		<i>Terra Nova</i> arrives in NZ. Atkinson sends telegram announcing the tragic news.
February 14th		Memorial service held for Scott and his men at St. Paul's in London. Standing room only.