



# **Falkland Islands – South Georgia – South Orkney Islands – Antarctic Peninsula**

**15th of February – 6th of March 2017**

On board the

***M/V PLANCIUS***



MV *PLANCIUS* was named after the Dutch astronomer, cartographer, geologist and vicar Petrus PLANCIUS (1552-1622). The ship, *PLANCIUS*, was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named *Hr. Ms. Tydeman*. The ship sailed for the Royal Dutch Navy until June 2004 when she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions and completely refit in 2007, being converted into a 114-passenger expedition vessel. *PLANCIUS* is 89 m (267 feet) long, 14.5 m (43 feet) wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, with an Ice Strength rating of 1D, top speed of 12+ knots and three diesel engines generating 1230 hp each.

# Captain Evgeny Levakov

and his international crew of 45

Including:

Chief Officer:	<b>Artur Iakovlev</b>	[Russia]
2nd Officer:	<b>Gavin Cunningham</b>	[Britian]
3rd Officer:	<b>Louis Oroceo</b>	[Phillipines]
Chief Engineer:	<b>Sebastian Alexandru</b>	[Romanian]
Hotel Manager:	<b>Zsuzsanna Varga</b>	[Hungarian]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Heidi Dohn</b>	[Denmark]
Head Chef:	<b>Gabor Kiss</b>	[Hungary]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Yurlychuk</b>	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Moniek Mestrom</b>	[Netherlands]

and

Expedition Leader:	<b>David Berg</b>	[Sweden]
Asst. Expedition Leader:	<b>Katja Riedel</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Tobias Brehm</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Rosalie Steffen</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Kasper Jaeger</b>	[Denmark]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Cecilia Vanman</b>	[Denmark]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Ignacio Marino</b>	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Lydie Lescarmontier</b>	[France]

## Welcome you on board!

# Day 1 – Wednesday, 15 February 2017

## Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

**12.00 GPS Position:** 54°48'S / 068°17'W

**Weather:** Cloudy. **Temperature:** 9°C

Ushuaia marks the end of the road in Argentina's Tierra del Fuego. During the summer this rapidly growing town bustles with adventurous travellers. Ushuaia also boasts a sizeable crab fishing and small electronics industry. Ushuaia, (lit. "bay that penetrates to the west" in the indigenous Yaghan tongue) clearly benefits from its magnificent, yet remote setting. The rugged spine of the South American Andes ends here, but for many of us it signified the beginning of an incredible journey.



(Safety of Life At Sea) training. Suddenly the journey began, PLANCIUS cast off from the pier and started to sail down the Beagle Channel, cameras clicked, and smiles spread. Finally we were underway. However, the ship's alarm soon brought us back to reality, it was time for the lifeboat

At 1600 we embarked the MV PLANCIUS, which would be our home for the next 19 days. After we checked into our cabins expedition leader David welcomed us on board. Then Chief Officer Artur led us through the details of the required SOLAS (Safety of Life At Sea) training. Suddenly the journey began, PLANCIUS cast off from the pier and started to sail down the Beagle Channel, cameras clicked, and smiles spread. Finally we were underway. However, the ship's alarm soon brought us back to reality, it was time for the lifeboat drill. We donned our big orange life jackets, assembled in the lounge and inspected one after the other the lifeboats. Let's hope we will never have to use them, they looked awfully uncomfortable.



Later we enjoyed a welcome drink in the bar and met Captain Evgeny Levakov, doctor Moniek and the rest of the expedition team. Dinner was a delicious affair, prepared by our two chefs Gabor and Ivan. The rest of our first evening on board was occupied with more exploration of the ship, adjusting to the movements, wildlife watching from the ship decks and settling into our cabins.

# **Day 2 – Thursday, 16 February 2017**

## **At Sea towards the Falkland Islands**

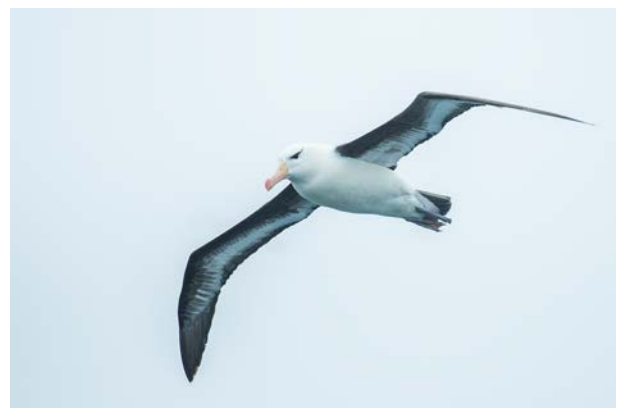
**12:00 GPS Position:** 53°29' S / 063°30' W

**Weather:** Cloudy. **Temperature:** 8°C



Today was a beautiful day at sea. We met our fellow passengers and got to know each other between tea and coffee breaks and while watching birds on the outside decks. We saw cape petrels as well as different kinds of albatrosses which majestically used the wind to glide up and down between the waves.

The morning commenced with a Zodiac briefing, followed by collecting our boots for the adventures yet to come. Afterwards, Tobias gave an interesting lecture regarding the geological history of the Falkland Islands, followed by Katja's inspiring photography lecture. Meanwhile, some Peale dolphins swam by to visit PLANCIUS. The weather was sunny and calm until lunchtime. Later in the day the wind picked up and the fog came in. The day was rounded off with an evening in the lounge among nice music and new found friends. Everybody was filled with excitement, thinking about the Falkland Island!





# Day 3 – Friday, 17 February 2017

## Carcass Island and Saunders Island

**1200 GPS Position:** 51°18' S / 060°33' W

**Weather:** Cloudy. **Temperature:** 12° C



The day dawned dramatically as 50 knot squalls whipped up the wave crests and PLANCIUS plunged and rolled in the swell as we approached the Falkland coast. Passengers lurched about the deck and dining room at breakfast. Would we land in these conditions was the question on all minds.

The vessel entered the narrow confines of the 'Woolly Gut' at 7am and immediately conditions improved in the more sheltered waters in the lee of Carcass Island. Zodiacs were launched and despite a little bit of atmospheric nautical splashing, everyone was ferried ashore. Conditions gradually got worse with a thunder storm over us and intense rain.

Inspired by tales of the sumptuous spread awaiting in the farmhouse, passengers were eager to land on the island. You could almost smell the baking! The whole group was ferried in zodiacs past beds of enormous floating fronds of giant kelp to the concrete jetty for the short walk up a track to the house.



A number of passengers opted for a walk leading to the far side of a meandering path back to the shore-line to the settlement. What hospitality once everyone reached the house...cakes were consumed en-masse, coffee and tea pots worked overtime as everyone relaxed in this Falkland paradise.

After lunch and a short cruise, we reached Saunders Island. One 4x4 vehicle driven by the welcoming party was parked on the edge of the gently sloping tombola beach. Zodiacs were deployed and everyone landed, excited at the freedom to explore such a beautiful place. Guides distributed themselves to supervise the various areas. King penguin colony with recently hatched chicks, albatross nesting site, Rock-hopper nesting site, mixed species nesting site etc. The scenery and wildlife were superb. Cameras clicked incessantly. What a joy to be so close to so many interesting species. This was the Oceanwide Expeditions experience par excellence.



## Day 4 – Saturday, 18 February 2017

### Stanley, Falklands

**1200 GPS Position:** 51°41' S / 061°51' W

**Weather:** Partly cloudy. **Temperature:** 10 °C



"Good morning my dear expedition members!" And so the day started with David's gentle wake up call. The night was a tough one for the lot of us, as we sailed towards the Falklands Islands on a rocking and rolling ship. We were following behind a storm and today the weather was not at all as good as we could have hoped for. Regardless, at 9am the first zodiac managed to get onshore but a few minutes later the wind started picking up, making further zodiac transfers impossible. The passengers onshore were called back to the pier. The ship's horn sounded loudly over the roof tops of

Stanley – a signal to the guests in town to return to the pier and to PLANCIUS in order to avoid getting stuck onshore! After a thorough search all passengers made it back safe and sound.

David then gathered the passengers for a briefing and offered everyone to wait for a few hours in order to see if the weather was getting better and whether another attempt would be possible. We then spent the afternoon hoping for the wind to decrease, but unfortunately, we recorded an average wind speed of 35 knots with 50 knots gusting! Such wind speeds are far beyond safe zodiac transfers. So close yet so far from Stanley..... At 3pm the wind was still screaming and we decided to leave the area and set course for South Georgia.

In the end of the afternoon, Nacho our Argentinian expedition guide offered a juggling show in the lounge: "How to keep once balance while the ship is moving". This could be very useful on our way to South Georgia! At 6:30pm, David was back to do a daily briefing, and Lydie was helped by Nacho during her recap on bird wingspans in the Southern Ocean.



# Day 5 – Sunday, 19 February 2017

## At Sea en route to South Georgia

**1200 GPS Position:** 51°49'S / 051°42'W

**Weather:** Cloudy. **Temperature:** 8°C

David's voice called us back from the dream world at around 7:30 in the morning and we went to the restaurant for our breakfast to gain strength for the day ahead.

The passage between the Falkland Islands and South Georgia was a little bit wavy, but despite of this the weather was enjoyable enough to spend some time outside on the upper deck behind the bridge to watch the waves pass and the occasional seabird soar near the ship.



cleaned jackets, pants, gloves, hats and backpacks.

After breakfast, we joined David in the lounge, where he introduced us to the IAATO guidelines we would have to follow in South Georgia and Antarctica. In other words, we learned how to behave around wildlife, and how to cope with the challenging environment. Equipped with a lot of new information, we soon proceeded to the next necessary step towards visiting South Georgia and Antarctica: the vacuum-cleaning of our outer garments in order to prevent the introduction of non-native species. So the big vacuuming party in the bar started, and we carefully checked and

As a treat after all that work, we enjoyed another delicious lunch prepared by our chef Gabor and his team. After lunch, we had a bit of time to enjoy the sailing on the outside decks before Rosalie called us for her lecture about the legendary Shackleton, who lived for exploration of the Polar Regions. She guided us through his life and the path, which took him into the world of Polar Exploration. She also explained his odyssey throughout the Weddell Sea and South Georgia.

After a bit of a break to digest the story of Shackleton, Cecilia called us for her lecture about the large marine mammals that we can find throughout the waters of South Georgia and Antarctica, giving an introduction in how to distinguish them and explaining a few details about some individual species.

After this long and exiting day, there was only one more thing awaiting us – the daily briefing. David explained the plans for the upcoming day, followed by some more in depth explanations about waves by Rosalie and the upcoming Antarctic Convergence by Tobias. With all this new information and new memories in our head, it was time to enjoy another delicious dinner in the restaurant.





# Day 6 – Monday, 20 February 2017

**At Sea en route to South Georgia**

**1200 GPS Position:** 52°16' S / 044°09' W

**Weather:** Cloudy. **Temperature:** 5°C



Yet another day of rolling along, ploughing through the swells towards the south east and towards South Georgia! Out on deck we spent the day taking in the fresh air and looking for marine mammals and birdlife, which was getting more and more abundant the closer we got to South Georgia.

After breakfast we had the possibility to listen to Tobias and his fascinating talk about the “Geology of South Georgia”. Loaded up with geology information about this piece of rock in the middle of the Southern Oceans we

then proceeded to a hearty lunch. In the afternoon there was more preparation for our visit to the heavily protected South Georgia, this time with a mandatory 45 minute movie made by the Government of South Georgia and The South Sandwich Islands. The movie outlined every aspect of correct behaviour on the islands and was a great way to fire up our expectations as well, as the film was filled with magnificent shots from all around South Georgia.

Later in the afternoon our guest Jennifer, who came on board in Stanley, gave a talk about some of the restoration projects that she worked on. As Environmental Officer with the South Georgia government, she had in-depth knowledge about the island and the biodiversity that is found here. Her talk was about introduced species, reindeer, rats and plants, which were all introduced by humans to the island. Some intentionally, but most unintentionally. In the evening David and the Expedition team gave us the daily briefing, telling us about the plans for tomorrow, our first day in South Georgia. Then dinner was served and most of us headed early to bed, to be ready for Salisbury Plain tomorrow morning!



# Day 7 – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

## Salisbury Plain

**1200 GPS Position:** 53°50' S / 037°41' W

**Weather:** Overcast. **Temperature:** 4°C

As PLANCIUS reached the Northside of South Georgia we could finally feel the long-awaited shelter of the island as we started a scenic cruise along the coastline. Prior to this it had been almost two and a half days of continuous rocking and rolling of the ship and being pushed around in a confused sea with white-crested waves. Four to five-meters high they were whipped up by 30 to 40 knot winds and while such seas can add a sense of true adventure to a journey, after a time it becomes a real challenge to get a good night's sleep, a tiring sport to stay upright in the hallways of the ship and to catch cutlery flying across the dinner table.



So, it was to everyone's great relief that the expedition team found the conditions at Salisbury Plain, our very first landing in South Georgia, to be favorable enough to land all guests. This particular stretch of beach and the areas behind it were filled with fur seal pups, their mothers and incredible numbers of the beautiful King penguins in one of the world's largest colonies. Scientists believe that up to 400,000 penguins may reside here, the non-breeding ones spread along the water's edge and the breeding parents

and their young taking up a gigantic area spreading to the glacier far in the south. At the edge of the colony we could take full frame photographs filled with nothing but the stunningly colored penguins – literally a sea of black, white and orange plumaged beauty. To see nature's grand design in this manner is a truly emotional experience and something one never forgets.





# Day 8 – Wednesday, 22 February 2017

## Stromness-Grytviken

**1200 GPS Position:** 54°09' S / 036°42' W

**Weather:** Clear. **Temperature:** 5°C



We had a very calm night at anchor in Fortuna Bay. However, at 6:15 when the early morning light illuminated the mountains of Fortuna Bay David made his first wake-up call. This was for the hikers. On offer today was the Shackleton walk, the last 5.5 km of Shackleton's gruelling 36 hour traverse of South Georgia which he did in 1916 with his two companions to reach the whaling station at Stromness in order to save his men on Elephant Island. The staunch hikers were dropped off in Fortuna Bay at 6:45 am after a short snack of pastries and coffee/tea in the bar.

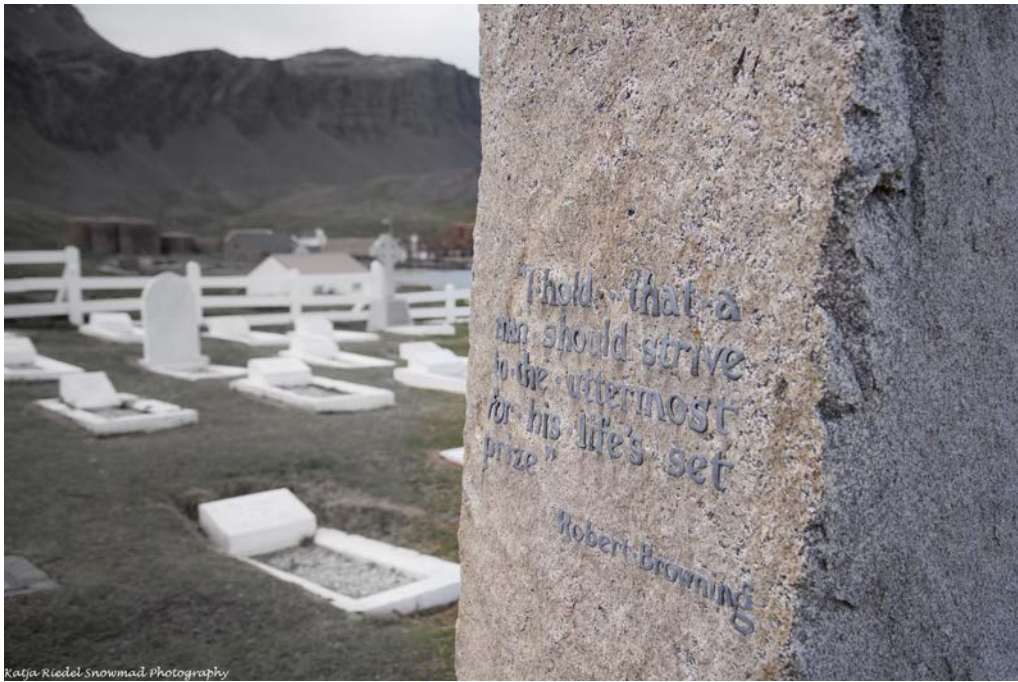
In amazingly calm conditions we climbed up from the beach between large lumps of tussock grass, occasionally being snarled at by a grumpy fur seal. Once we cleared the lower vegetated areas the view opened up and we could see the bay with a miniature PLANCIUS. Some fluffy grey giant petrels were sitting on their nests. Looking across to the Allardyce Range we were in awe of the achievement of Shackleton and his men for crossing these mountains with hardly any gear. Soon we were walking on loose scree slopes towards the 300m high pass. At Crean Lake we stopped for a short snack. From the pass we had a good view into Stromness Harbour with its rusty

remains from the old whaling days, houses, boilers, boat sheds and ship wreck. In the far distance we could see a tiny PLANCIUS which had sailed around the peninsula. Small figures were making their way along the river flats, these were our fellow travellers who were enjoying good times at Stromness. The actual whaling station at Stromness is closed off, for safety reasons, but there is plenty to see at the beach, fur seals, king penguins and one and a half kilometre inland the Shackleton waterfall which Shackleton had to abseil down. After a steep descend over scree slopes



the hikers joined the walkers at the waterfall. From here, we made our way back along the river flats towards the beach and the ship.





Over lunch PLANCIUS relocated to Grytviken. As we sailed into the bay we saw the rusty buildings of the whaling station. Once the anchor had dropped South Georgia Officials came on board to stamp the passports. Meanwhile in the lounge Sarah from the South Georgia Heritage Trust in Grytviken gave a presentation about the successful rat eradication on the island. Then it was time to go ashore. In 1922

Shackleton died in Grytviken and according to the wishes of his wife he was buried here. We headed to the cemetery to see his grave and to pay our respects. Rosalie made a toast to "the Boss" and we spilled some whisky on his grave, but only a small amount, the rest went down thirsty throats. On the way we dodged several Elephant seals which made the path to the cemetery their home. Some passengers took part in a guided trip through the whaling station while others roamed at their own will, visiting the church and post office which housed an interesting exhibition of Frank Hurley's photos from Shackleton's expedition and his time in South Georgia. In the gallery a replica of the James Caird (the wooden boat that Shackleton and his men sailed from Elephant Island to South Georgia) was on display. However, the biggest attraction was the museum with regular guided tours and the small shop. Meanwhile the weather changed to light drizzle. But nevertheless we enjoyed the BBQ on the back deck that the crew had prepared for us. It was very tasty with steaks, chicken and sausages and a selection of sweet desserts. It was a bit surreal, however, to party on the ship with the South Georgia Mountains surrounding us. As it got darker there was dancing and laughter and a few more drinks were raised to the 'Boss'. What a fantastic way to end this day!





# Day 9 – Thursday, 23 February 2017

## Godthul and Moltke's Harbour

**1200 GPS Position:** 54°17' S / 036°17' W

**Weather:** Snow. **Temperature:** 3°C



We woke up to real South Georgia weather. It was foggy, cold and snowy. Nevertheless, we were committed to go outside and to enjoy another day in the wild. The morning started with a landing and zodiac cruise in Godthul. Upon arrival to the beach we were greeted by several fur seals and penguins. In addition we saw a few younger elephant seals, which were resting on the beach from long, tiring fishing days out at sea. The surrounding tussock grass was covered in snow, turning the whole scenery into a magical winter wonderland. The zodiac cruise through the swell along the bounds of the bay was mesmerizing. We encountered lone beaches, covered in wildlife. Among more penguins, fur and elephant seals we also encountered the endemic South Georgia pipit and many other birds such as Giant petrels and the Wilson storm petrel. However, we were also happy to be back on the warm, lovely PLANCIUS again, that welcomed us with hot coffee and tea.



Due to increasing wind conditions, together with big swell, the planned landing on St Andrews Bay was cancelled. Thereby, we continued to Moltke Harbour where we carried out the second landing of the day. It was beautiful to hike alongside the riverbed to the two waterfalls in the area. The



surrounding vegetation was beautiful and comprised of some of classic South Georgian plants and flowers. Closer to shore we met a resting group of elephant seals. There was a lovely river that flowed into the ocean, forming a kind of Penguin Spa. Lots of Gentoo penguins were bathing in the river. Besides, some of our guests were inspected extremely close by some baby Elephant seals. This day will be remembered by guests and staff alike. What another beautiful day in South Georgia!



# Day 10 – Friday, 24 February 2017

## Drygalski Fjord and Larsen Harbour

**1200 GPS Position:** 54°49' S / 035°59' W

**Weather:** Partly cloudy. **Temperature:** 2°C



Today we waited for an early wakeup call around five in the morning from our expedition leader David. To the luck of the lazy ones it did not happen because of the swell that did not allow us to land on the beach during the early morning. However, the Captain was happy to do a stunning ship cruise in Drygalski Fjord to see the spectacular hanging glaciers from mountains high above. At midday again a lovely lunch was served in the dining room.

After lunch the weather made a turn for the better and so we managed to drop zodiacs in the water to offer a nice zodiac cruise in Larsen Harbour. This rarely visited place is entered in the south side of Drygalski Fjord and is a narrow steep-sided inlet, 4 km long, where ice and rock dominate the alpine landscape, spectacular peaks rise directly out of the sea to over 1.000 m altitude, and magnificent glaciers are still at work carving deep valleys, sharp-pointed glacial horns and arêtes. There is a mix of rocks of igneous and volcanic origin in this region, some of which are the oldest on the island. There are no rats here, so South Georgia pipits and Burrowing petrels are present wherever there is suitable tussock habitat. Also Weddel seals, Fur seals and Elephant seal hauled out all along the shore.



One more time we returned to PLANCIUS but this time to find a nice hot chocolate with rum waiting for us from our hotel department - nothing better than a hot drink after a cold zodiac cruise!



# Day 11 – Saturday, 25 February 2017

**At Sea towards the South Orkneys**

**1200 GPS Position:** 57°38'S / 040°09'W

**Weather:** Overcast. **Temperature:** 3°C



We were awoken by a gentle rolling today as we made our way to the South Orkney Islands. These calm seas were better than expected, especially after our choppy trip to South Georgia. This morning, it seemed like Neptune had taken pity with us. The ship was hardly moving and everyone woke up with refreshed and smiley faces!

After breakfast, we started our lectures about the Antarctica. Katja took the microphone first and gave an introduction to this gigantic continent called Antarctica. We got a good overview over the Southern Ocean, the

Ice Sheet, and its ecology.

After lunch with full tummies and a bit of nap time, it was time for Lydie's fascinating lecture on Antarctic sea ice, the formation of it and the future of the polar sea ice extent. This informative lecture was followed by another one by geologist Tobias who talked about the geology of the Antarctic Peninsula. At the end of the afternoon, Fin whales appeared close to the ship and checked us out! What a show!



Finally we met in the lounge for our daily briefing: David gave us information about tomorrow's program at Orcadas Station, Tobias spoke about the solar eclipse that is supposed to happen tomorrow morning, and Rosalie delivered a recap about the magnetic poles. Then it was dinner time and the end of another day in paradise!



# Day 12 – Sunday, 26 February 2017

## Orcadas Station, South Orkney Islands

**1200 GPS Position:** 60°44'S / 044°43'W

**Weather:** Drizzle. **Temperature:** 3°C



After a sleep-in the previous day, it was time for an earlier wake-up call today as we arrived at the South Orkney Islands. The morning started with dense clouds, wind and some precipitation as we dropped the anchor near Orcadas Station, the Argentinian base, situated on a narrow isthmus in a small bay at Laurie Island.

While the first five zodiacs went directly to shore to visit the station, the second half of the group went on a small Zodiac cruise around the bay. During this cruise, we spotted many Chinstrap penguins along the rocky shore, but also crawling up some of the icy slopes. The walls of ice were glowing blue and provided a spectacular view. On some of the

beaches, we were able to find Fur Seals and some more Elephant Seal weaners. Many of these Fur Seals were males that would have been breeding on the beaches of South Georgia during November and December. After the breeding season was over they made the journey south to feed on the abundance of Krill in the seas around Antarctica.



Once ashore we took a tour guided by staff from the station and translated from Spanish by Rosalie and Nacho. The first stop on the tour were the remains of the historical hut built by a Scottish Expedition in 1902 led by William Spiers Bruce. Six men would have lived in this hut during the expedition and conditions must have been harsh. From here we walked to the flagpole and signpost at

the centre of the base, which showed that the base had opened in 1904 and is now the longest continuously manned base in Antarctica.



Next stop was the cemetery near to the other side of the isthmus where graves of Argentineans, a Scott, a Swede and a German could be seen. The first building we went in was the original Argentinean base



which is now a little museum with rooms reconstructed to remind us of what life might have been like there in the past. There were also some 'interesting' specimens of penguins which had been preserved in a distinctly ghoulish fashion! It was certainly a memorable step back in time! Our final stop was the main base, a warm cosy building where we were offered coffee and cake and had the chance to buy some souvenirs. The staff on the base was very friendly and hospitable and we all thoroughly enjoyed our visit to their home.





famous Norwegian Amundsen expedition that was the first one to reach the South Pole in a dramatic race with the British Expedition under the leadership of Scott, who perished on his return from the pole after being beaten by Amundsen.

As soon as we had returned to PLANCIUS for lunch, we started our navigation towards Antarctica. The horizon was strewn with dozens of icebergs, many of them having a characteristic tabular shape. The wind picked up and we soon felt that we came back out into the open ocean. The outside decks were closed due to the stormy conditions and so watched a movie about Shackleton and his life. After the movie, Kasper invited us to his lecture about the



In our daily briefing, David told us about the plans for the following sea day, followed by Katja explaining the red colour of the snow algae that we saw during our zodiac cruise at Orcadas. After that, Nacho introduced us to some fun facts about Antarctica giving us an overview of its size and harsh environmental

conditions. Tobias finished off by introducing us to the Ocean Cleanup Project established by a 17 year old Dutchman called Boyan Slat in 2013, targeting the large garbage patches in our oceans. The project is going well and will soon enter in its busiest phase this and the following year with actual cleaning systems being deployed.





# Day 13 – Monday, 27 February 2017

## At sea towards Antarctica

**1200 GPS Position:** 61°11'S / 051°06'W

**Weather:** Overcast. **Temperature:** 1°C

This voyage contains many sea days, we know that by now, so to wake up to another sea day is nothing new. The sea is calm, only a slight rolling of the vessel and the visibility is generally good all day. David wakes us up 07:45 with his signature-wake-up-call “Good morning my dear expedition members!” After breakfast, the first lecture on the program is about ice, so whom better to host this than our own on-board Ph.D. in Glaciology? So with the title “Antarctic Glacier Ice” Lydie captivated her audience with knowledge about this fascinating subject.

In the early afternoon, David himself entered the stage, with his talk about the historical Swedish Antarctica expedition with its famous leader: Otto Nordenskjöld. This tale is up there together with the Endurance and Shackleton, when it comes to pure willpower to survive and to return to civilisation. Everyone who attended this talk, could feel David’s passion for the subject and his wish to give an honest picture of the hardship that the men would have encountered in Antarctica 100 years ago.



With the story about Nordenskjöld fresh in our mind, we enjoyed the four o'clock cake treats. After the daily briefing, our hotel manager declared a happy-hour in the bar. This afternoon we held an auction on board, where every cent raised will go to the South Georgia Heritage Fund. The entertaining and professional auctioneer was Kasper. The auction turned out to be a fun way to raise money for a very good cause, Kasper tried to keep up with the raising bids and sold quite a few unique items along the way. Among the most sought after objects is a blueprint version of the famous Hurley photo of the Shackleton's lifeboat, the James Caird leaving Elephant Island and a Penguin

babushka with 5 different species of hand painted penguins (this went to our second officer, Gavin!) and of course the grand finale: The voyage flag! The flag was traveling the whole way with us, sitting out there in the bow of the vessel. It will be signed by all staff and officers before the “lucky” new owner takes possession in Ushuaia. The auction raised a total of 850 GBP – something that the South Georgia Heritage Fund will both appreciate greatly and put to good use.

# Day 14 – Tuesday, 28 February 2017

## Brown Bluff, Antarctica

**1200 GPS Position:** 63°31'S / 056°57'W

**Weather:** Partly cloudy. **Temperature:** -3°C



Just as PLANCIUS was about to set anchor near our first landing on the Antarctic continent observant eyes on deck spotted some large dark fins cutting through the waves quite near us. Our Captain cleverly positioned the ship so that we could take a closer look and what an exciting surprise it was to find a pod of Killer whales here! Among the adult females and males in the group we also saw two calves sending blows to the sky right next to their mothers. On closer inspection of the photographs of these majestic creatures we could identify them as Killer whales Large Type B – a whale who has specialized in eating seals and one of five types of Killer whales found in

Antarctic waters.

Soon after this exciting encounter, we landed on the beach below the impressive Brown Bluff cliffs actually setting foot for the first time on the Antarctic continent. The minus seven degrees Celsius and occasional the blizzard like winds coloured our cheeks red as we visited the Gentoo penguins (among them a single Adélie penguin), Fur seals and a Weddell seal which was oblivious to our presence due to a very lazy snooze.



With little time before a strong storm would reach the area, PLANCIUS heaved anchor as soon as we returned, in order to make for more sheltered waters further south. To entertain us along the way, the expedition team put on part two of the movie about Ernest Shackleton's remarkable expedition and rescue of his men from Elephant Island. The hardships that these men experienced and the bravery and camaraderie that got them through is an enduring story that deserves to be told many times over. It certainly reminded us of what comfort we travel in during our own Southern Ocean adventure.





# Day 15 – Wednesday, 1 March 2017

## Cuerville Island and Brown Base

**1200 GPS Position:** 64°40'S / 062°37'W

**Weather:** Clear. **Temperature:** 3°C

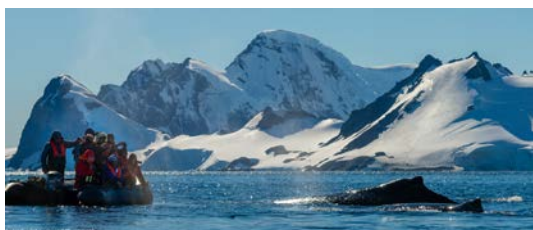


Next time when you are stuck in a traffic jam, or when a work colleague annoys you, or when you had a fight with your spouse, remember this day! It was a perfect day. There won't be too many like this in your life, so treasure it, keep it in your memory forever. It started with a beautiful sunrise in the Gerlache Strait. The

sky was coloured with pastel pinks and blues. Then the top of the peaks started to glow in shades of orange before liquid gold was poured out over all the mountains. Whales, sleeping at the surface, exhaled with large blows that looked white in the low light of the early morning sun.



The dark lump of Cuerville Island came soon into view. After the anchor was dropped Zodiacs sliced the flat surface of the sea and delivered their load to the black cobbled beach. Here Gentoo Penguins and their nearly grown up chicks entertained us with their antics. There were food chases when parents came back from the sea with a glistening belly full of krill and fish, there was a lot of preening and one lone Chinstrap Penguin wandered around the Gentoo colony and picked a few fights. Fur seals played in the water or snarled at us on the beach. The sky was filled with Antarctic Skuas and Kelp Gulls with their eerie cries. Glaciated mountains and fantastically shaped icebergs provided a spectacular backdrop for the show. The sun was shining and in the absence of any wind, it was pleasantly warm.

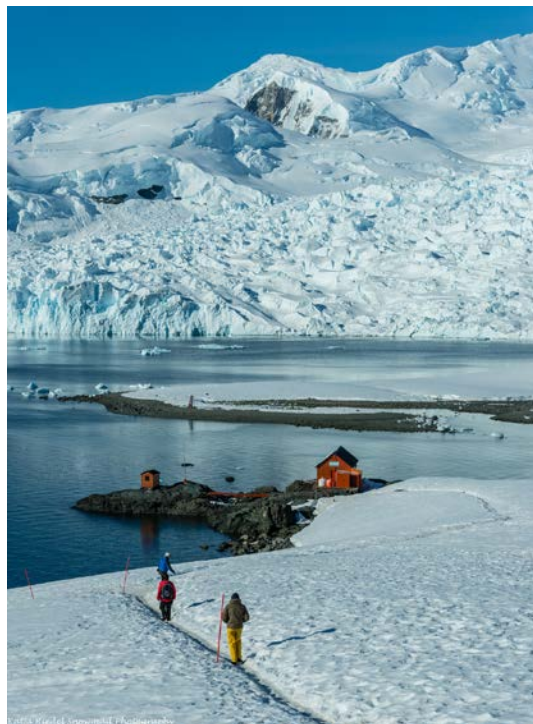


After some time ashore it was time to get into the boats for a Zodiac cruise. Past serrated blue icebergs we zoomed to the middle of the Errera Channel where we met three inquisitive Humpback Whales. The Latin name for Humpback Whale is *Megaptera novaeangliae*, the large winged one, and we could truly see their large white pectoral fins shimmering in the blue water below us. The whales came so close that we could make out their eyes, their tubercles (bulbous hair follicles at the jaws) and the Barnacles on their skin. Some of us got even splattered by whale snot, an experience not many Antarctic visitors get. It is it hard not to get emotional when encountering these graceful creatures in the wild. Our reactions ranged from speechless, gasping for air to silly grins spreading from one ear to the other. Only reluctantly did we come back to the PLANCIUS.

During lunch the ship relocated to Paradise Bay. Needless to say; we encountered many more Humpback Whales. Our destination for the afternoon was Base Brown in Skontorp Cove. While half of us went ashore the other half went on a Zodiac cruise past the Skontorp Glacier, where we saw big chunks of ice breaking off. Blue-eyed Shags (also called King Cormorants) nested in the cliffs above Base Brown. On the ice floes in

the bay we spotted dozing Crabeater Seals and on snowy patches on land Weddel Seals were hauled out. The icebergs we encountered on our cruise were also mind-bogglingly beautiful, like pieces of art.

The Argentine Base Brown burned down in 1984, but has been used again in the last few years. However, when we arrived, it was deserted, boarded up for winter and handed over to the Gentoo Penguins which nested around the buildings. Fat chicks were panting in the hot sun. The walk to a view point was certainly worthwhile, a tranquil panorama of icebergs in Skontorp Cove enfolded in front of us while we basked in the sun. After dinner another highlight waited for us, a scenic cruise. As PLANCIUS sailed into the sunset an iceberg like a castle came into view. Through a big arch golden sunlight was reflected. Captain Evgeny Levakov, a photographer himself, manoeuvred the ship so that with some luck the sun would set right behind the arch, but it was not to be, another part of the iceberg obscured the arch. So we just watched as the orange sky turned to pastel pink and blue.





# Day 16 –Thursday, 2 March 2017

## Portal Point/Enterprise Island/Foyn Harbour

**12:00 GPS Position:** 64°29'S / 061°45'W

**Weather:** Partly cloudy. **Temperature:** 6°C



We woke up to a clear blue sky and lots of icebergs of all different shapes and sizes. The morning commenced with a split landing at Portal Point. Some playful fur seals greeted us upon arrival. We hiked up to the top of the hill in order to enjoy the stunning view over the bay. The bay was filled with several icebergs which were shining in the morning sun. We felt like we were really out and about in the wild! The panoramic view from the top of the hill also allowed for a great view on the surrounding glaciers.

In addition we cruised with the zodiacs through the bay to gain a better glance on the magical icebergs. Some of us spotted a

resting leopard seal on an ice flow. The colours of the scenery were mesmerizing. We felt really small in our zodiacs compared to the big chunks of ice, making us feel humble in the midst of this gigantic landscape full of beauty to appreciate.

In the afternoon we carried out a long zodiac cruise around Enterprise Bay in search of humpback whales. The sea appeared like silk and the sun caused delightful reflections on the surface of the ocean. It was very peaceful and incredible beautiful. We met several whales, some were resting while others were bubble net feeding in close vicinity to our zodiacs. One humpback whale inspected PLANCIUS from all different angles.

Afterwards, we visited Enterprise Island including the Norwegian shipwreck Gouvernøren, which caught fire in 1903 and was deliberately beached close to shore in order for the crew to get rescued. We also observed several fur seals resting on the rocks and playing in the water. Blue eyed shags were also spotted, along with some Wilson Storm Petrel's.

While leaving the bay on our way to the next destination, we were surrounded by whale blows and large groups of fur seals playfully swimming along in the waters. The day was finished off by a stunning sunset. Another successful day in Antarctica!



# Day 17 –Friday, 3 March 2017

## Half Moon Island and Whalers Bay, Deception Island

**1200 GPS Position:** 62°42'S / 059°53'W

**Weather:** Overcast. **Temperature:** 3°C



Today was a lovely, sunny day on the South Shetland Islands. We woke up at Half Moon Island, where we landed shortly after breakfast. Besides all the natural beauty of this place, the wildlife on the shoreline caught our attention. We walked along the rocky beach where we encountered a large Chinstrap penguin colony, several Fur seals, and some Gentoo penguin. We also had the impressive encounter with a Leopard seal in action, hunting a few chinstraps penguins and playing with the dead body showing us an absolutely amazing technique to take off the skin to access the meat inside -

what a show!!!

During the afternoon we landed at Whalers Bay on Deception Island. After Katja and David briefed us on the dos and don'ts we could fully appreciate our visit to this volcanic caldera. We strolled along the black beaches with steam rising from the water's edge at low tide giving this place a mysterious atmosphere. Some of us hiked around the fur seals to enjoy the beach or looked through Neptune's Window to a distant bit of Antarctica, while others walked between the ruins of the old whaling station, studying the history trail left behind by humans and their activity.



The landing ended with a Polar plunge. Some of us swimming in the not-so-warm waters, while others preferred to look and take pictures of the brave ones that dared to jump into the water. Back on the ship, we enjoyed a hot chocolate with rum, courtesy of our lovely hotel department followed by another lovely meal.

And then it was off into the Drake Passage. The Drake Passage, named after Sir Francis Drake who, blown off course in a storm in the 16th century after coming through the Straits of Magellan, concluded that a connection between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans must exist. The

first passage through the strait was made by Dutch Captain Willem Schouten on board the Eendracht in the early 17th century, naming Cape Horn during this voyage for his hometown of Hoorn.



For us in the 21st century, the passage remains one of the most notorious stretches of oceans anywhere in the world, with the lack of any significant land mass around the Southern Ocean at this latitude meaning that storms have an infinite fetch to gather strength. Fortunately for us, we had dodged the large storm system passing through the Drake the last couple of days and the prospects for our crossing looked very good.



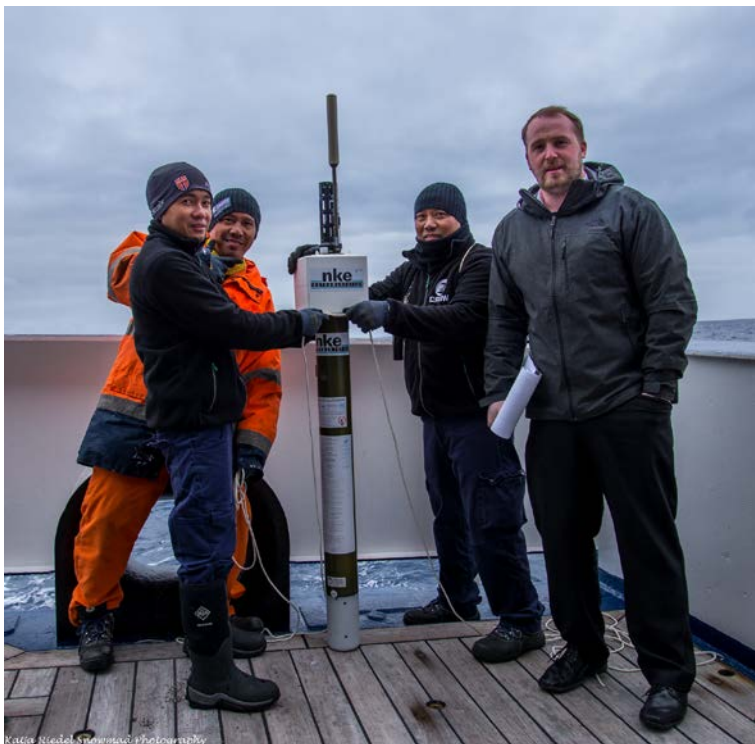


# Day 18 – Saturday, 4 March 2017

## Drake Passage

**1200 GPS Position:** 60°05'S / 064°07'W

**Weather:** Overcast. **Temperature:** 3°C



Good news this morning - no wakeup call and everyone could finally enjoy a relaxing morning! Breakfast was served at 08:00 and later that morning, Katja gave a presentation about the different penguins that we met during the voyage. Seven penguin species were encountered: King penguins of course, the star of the trip, but also Gentoo, Chinstrap, Adelie, Magellanic, Rockhopper and Macaroni penguins!

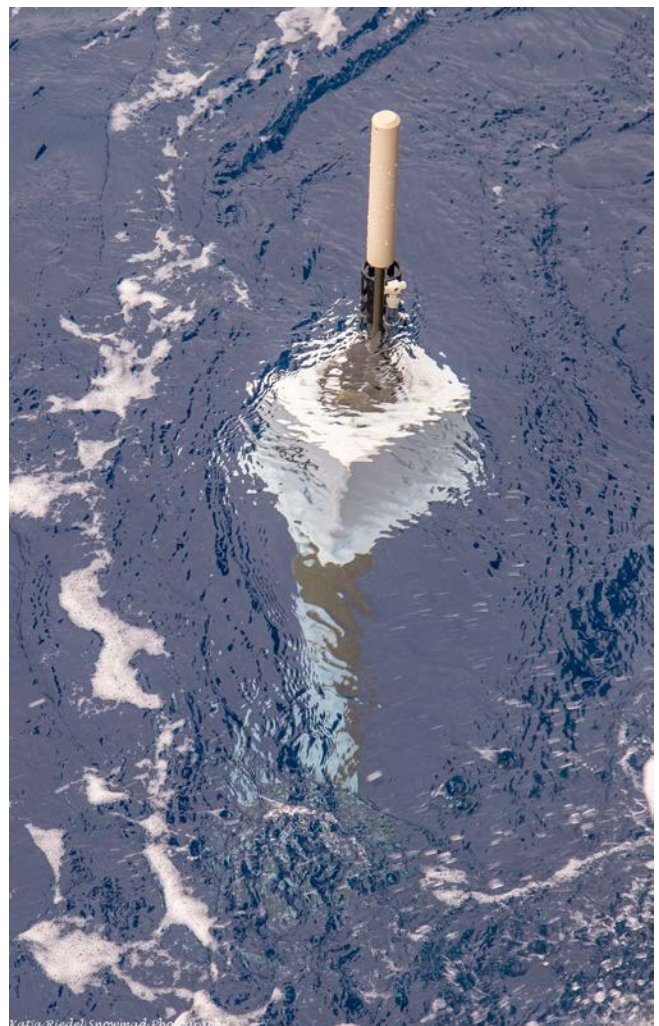
An unusually calm Drake allowed us to enjoy another quiet lunch. In the early afternoon second officer Gavin launched under our observant eyes an Argo float, an oceanographic instrument to measure remotely water temperatures and salinity. Ultimately this research will help to better understand global ocean currents. The good mood of the afternoon spread through the ship, and as the day went on, we shared

pictures and contacts before getting too busy packing our bags.

In the afternoon, Tobias invited us to his lecture about Optical Phenomenon in the Polar Regions. We learned that mirages are not only part of the warm deserts!

After visiting the Seventh continent, why not continue with Kasper's presentation, "Modern Expeditions in Polar Regions" about the seven summit expeditions, and the new explorers of the 21st century.

And because every good day ended on this voyage with a nice a daily briefing, the expedition team met everyone in the lounge to talk about the day and tomorrow's program. During the briefing, Nacho showed his filming skills by presenting a little underwater video he made: shags; penguins, fur seals and of course whales found their place in his movie! And as a tradition, David finished the meeting with another one of his polar anecdotes. Today it was about what brings bad luck on ships: whistling, bananas, flat footed sailors and - women. We are happy to say that was not the case on board of PLANCIUS!



# Day 19 – Sunday, 5 March 2017

## Drake Passage and Cape Horn

**12.00 GPS Position:** 56°37'S / 066°47'W

**Weather:** Overcast. **Temperature:** 3°C



A gentle rocking accompanied us through the night and continued through the morning as we reflected on the experiences we had had, sifted through our hundreds of pictures or started to gather our belongings. Land was insight. With the permission of the Chilean authorities, PLANCIUS was allowed to approach Cape Horn as close as 3 nautical miles. At 11:22 PLANCIUS was in position with sight on this mythical cape. Through binoculars we could see the monument at the Cape. While adding some more photographs to our memory cards, the sea became even calmer and all expedition members were able to enjoy the sight of the southernmost point of the Americas on the outer decks.

After lunch, Zsuzsanna and Heidi called us by deck to come to reception and to settle our ship's accounts. Afterwards the Expedition Team was waiting for us in the boot room to hand back our rubber boots. After having a bit of rest and time to start packing, David invited us to the lounge, where

he described his dramatic expedition from 2016, when he crossed the Greenland Icecap.

At around 18:00, we all gathered again in the bar, where David and Zsuzsanna explained the process of disembarkation the following day. This was followed by Lydie announcing the winners of the photo contest. We then welcomed Captain Evgeny Levakov for his farewell speech and clinked glasses to our successful voyage before it was time for Oceanwide Photographer Dietmar to present his photo slideshow of the trip. He put together photos into a fascinating compilation. All the moments and memories kept coming back.



One more dinner on board was ready for us. While PLANCIUS made her way towards the coast and into the Beagle Channel, we celebrated our last evening and prepared ourselves for a return into our busy lives.



# Day 20 – Monday, 6 March 2017

## Disembarkation, Ushuaia

**12.00 GPS Position:** 54°48'S / 068°17'W

**Weather:** Calm. **Temperature:** 3°C

Today was disembarkation day in Ushuaia. Coming alongside, *PLANCIUS* was boarded by Argentine officials who cleared our vessel and allowed us to disembark. On the pier we bade farewell to many of the friends we made over the past weeks, and had one last look at the *PLANCIUS*, the ship that took us safely on such an incredible voyage from Ushuaia, to the Falklands, South Georgia and then to Antarctica and back again. We did so much, and it was lovely to enjoy the wildlife and scenery of this very special part of our world. It was a privilege to visit. This trip will endure a lifetime – in our memories, our imaginations, and in our dreams.



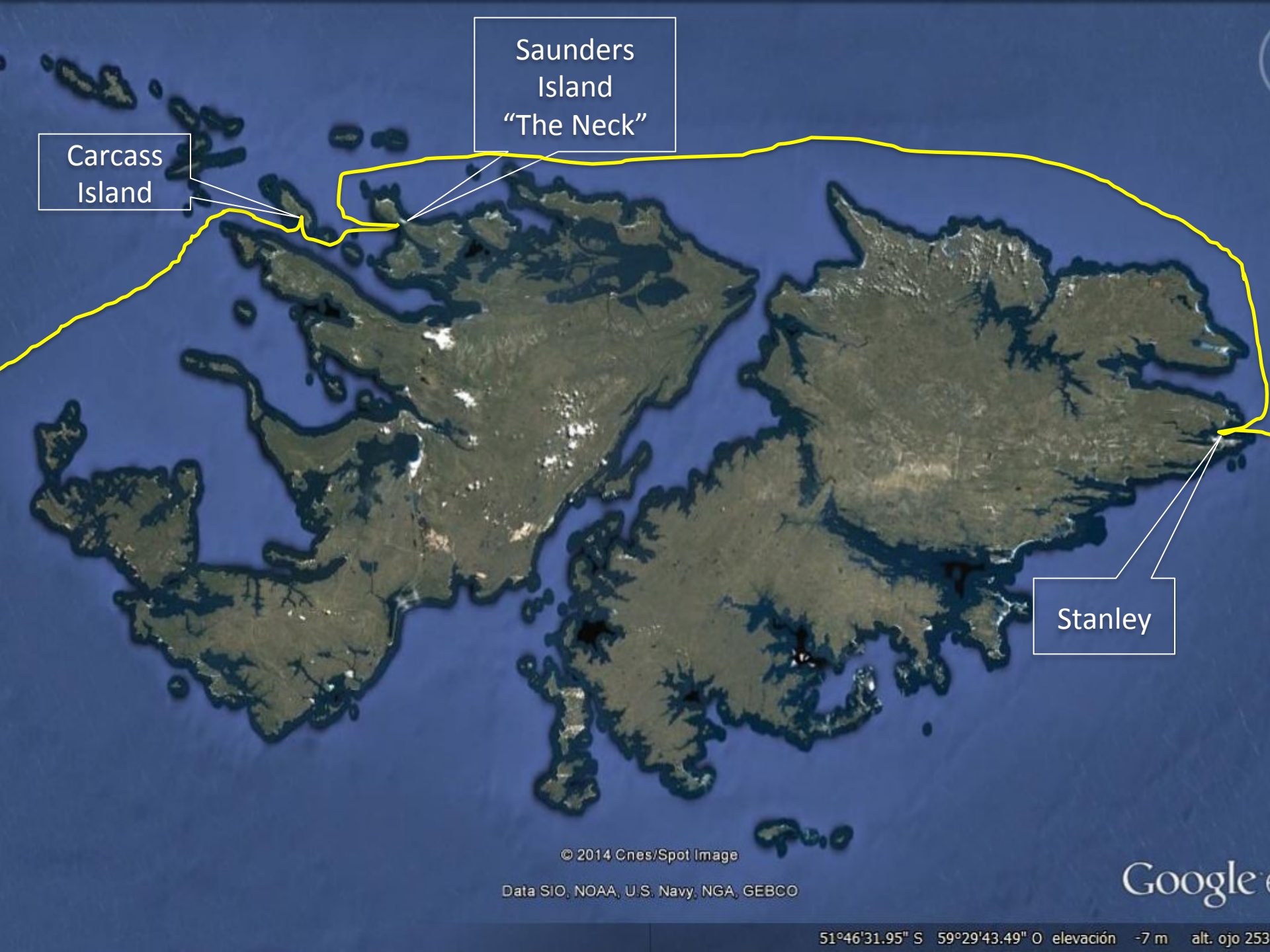
*Thank you all for such a wonderful voyage, for your company, good humour and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!*

**Total distance sailed on our voyage:**

**Nautical miles: 3584 nm**

**Kilometres: 6637.68 km**

**On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Evgeny Levakov, Expedition Leader David Berg and all the crew and staff: it has been a pleasure traveling with you.**



Saunders  
Island  
"The Neck"

Carcass  
Island

Stanley

© 2014 Cnes/Spot Image

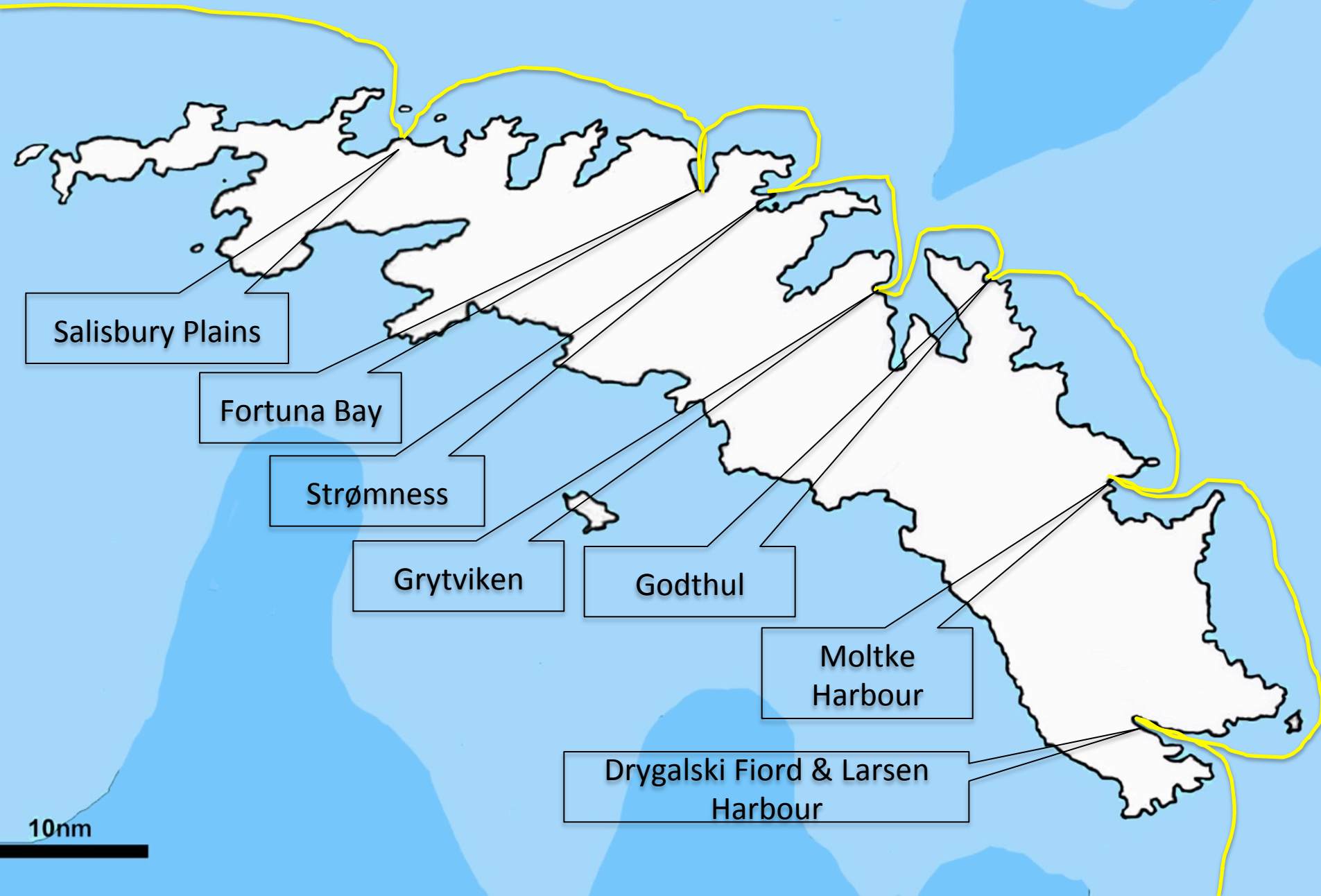
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

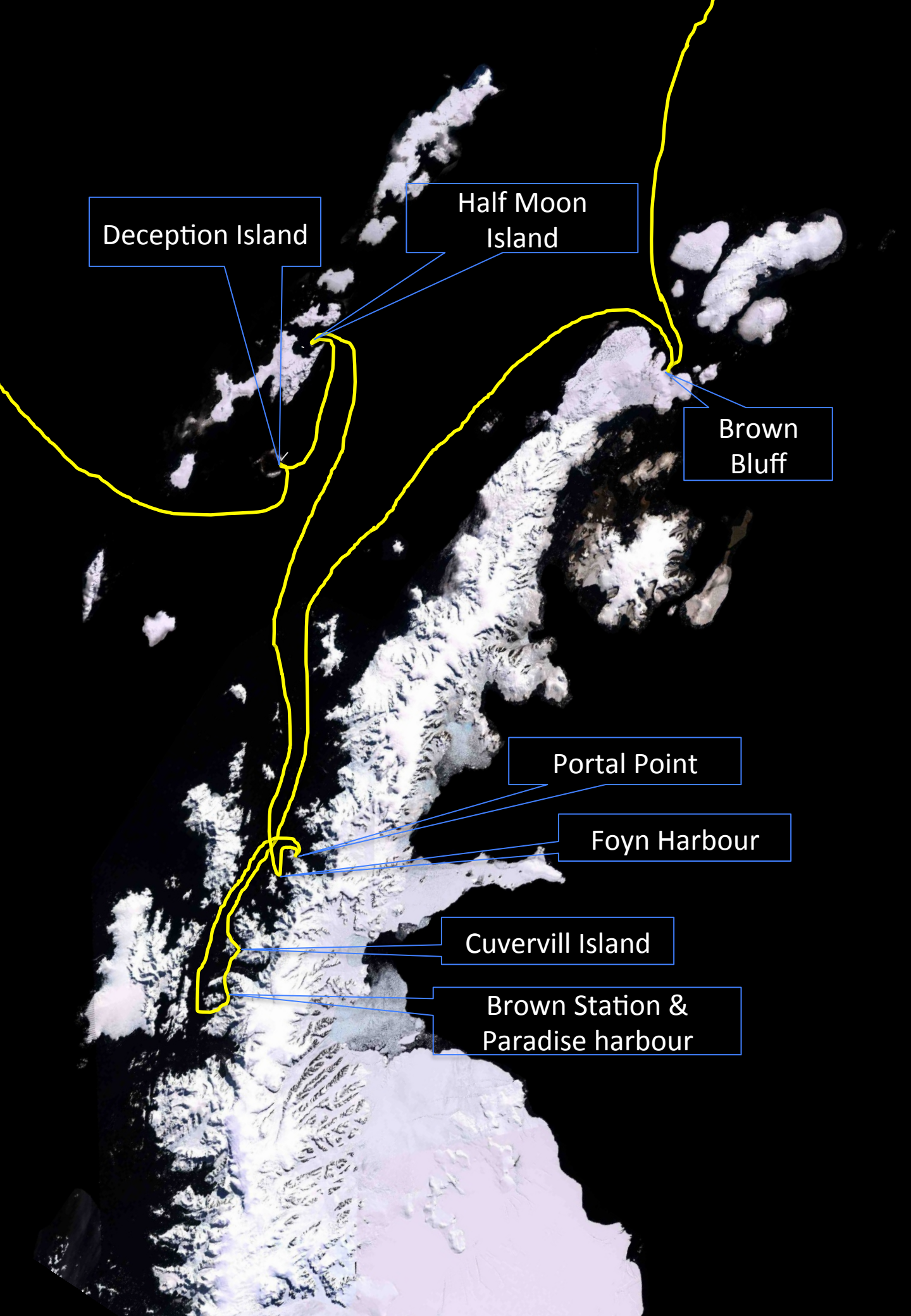
Google

51°46'31.95" S 59°29'43.49" O elevación -7 m alt. ojo 253



# South Georgia





Deception Island

Half Moon  
Island

Brown  
Bluff

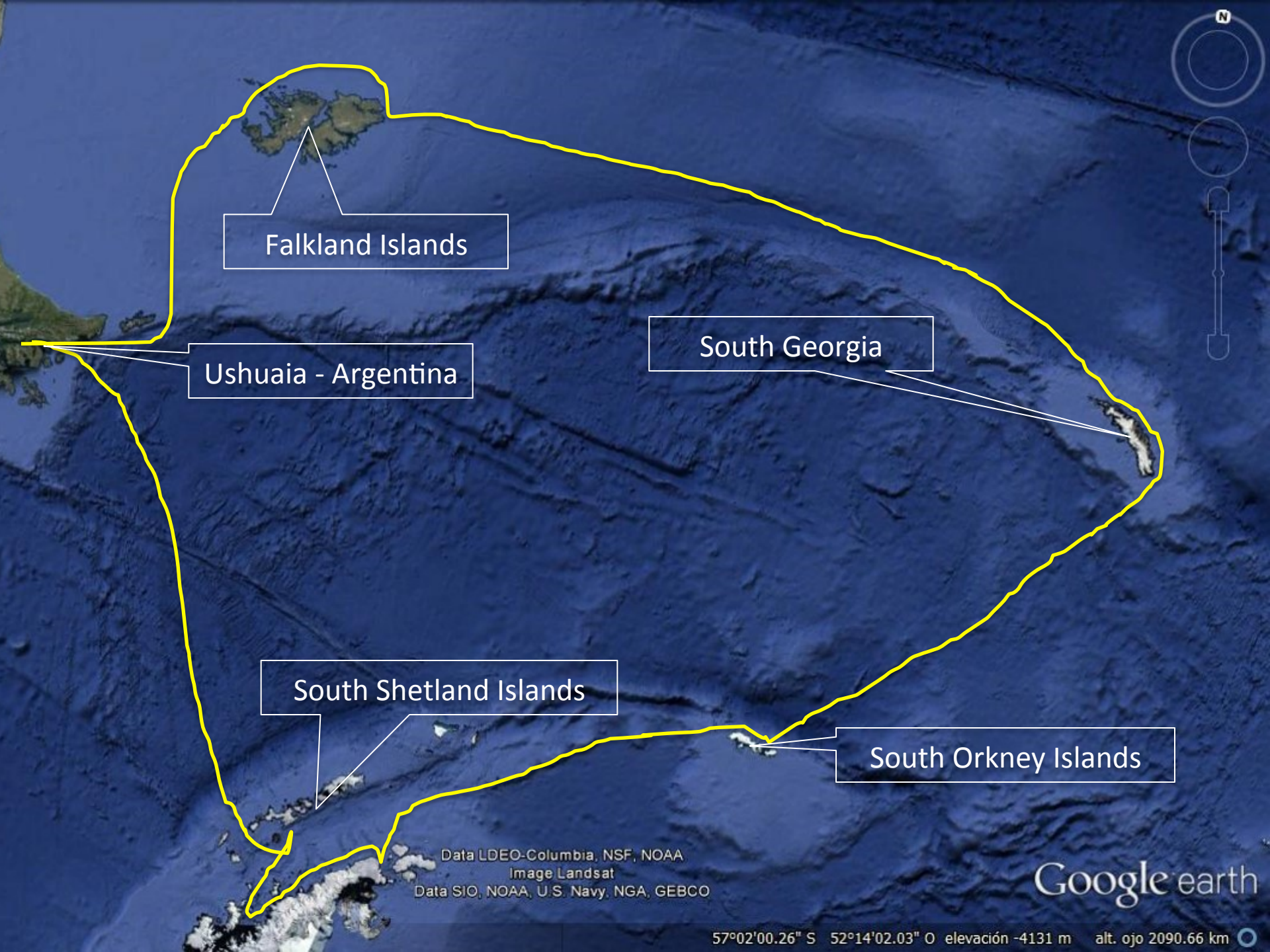
Portal Point

Foyen Harbour

Cuvervill Island

Brown Station &  
Paradise harbour





Falkland Islands

Ushuaia - Argentina

South Georgia

South Shetland Islands

South Orkney Islands

Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA  
Image Landsat  
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Google earth

57°02'00.26" S 52°14'02.03" O elevación -4131 m alt. ojo 2090.66 km



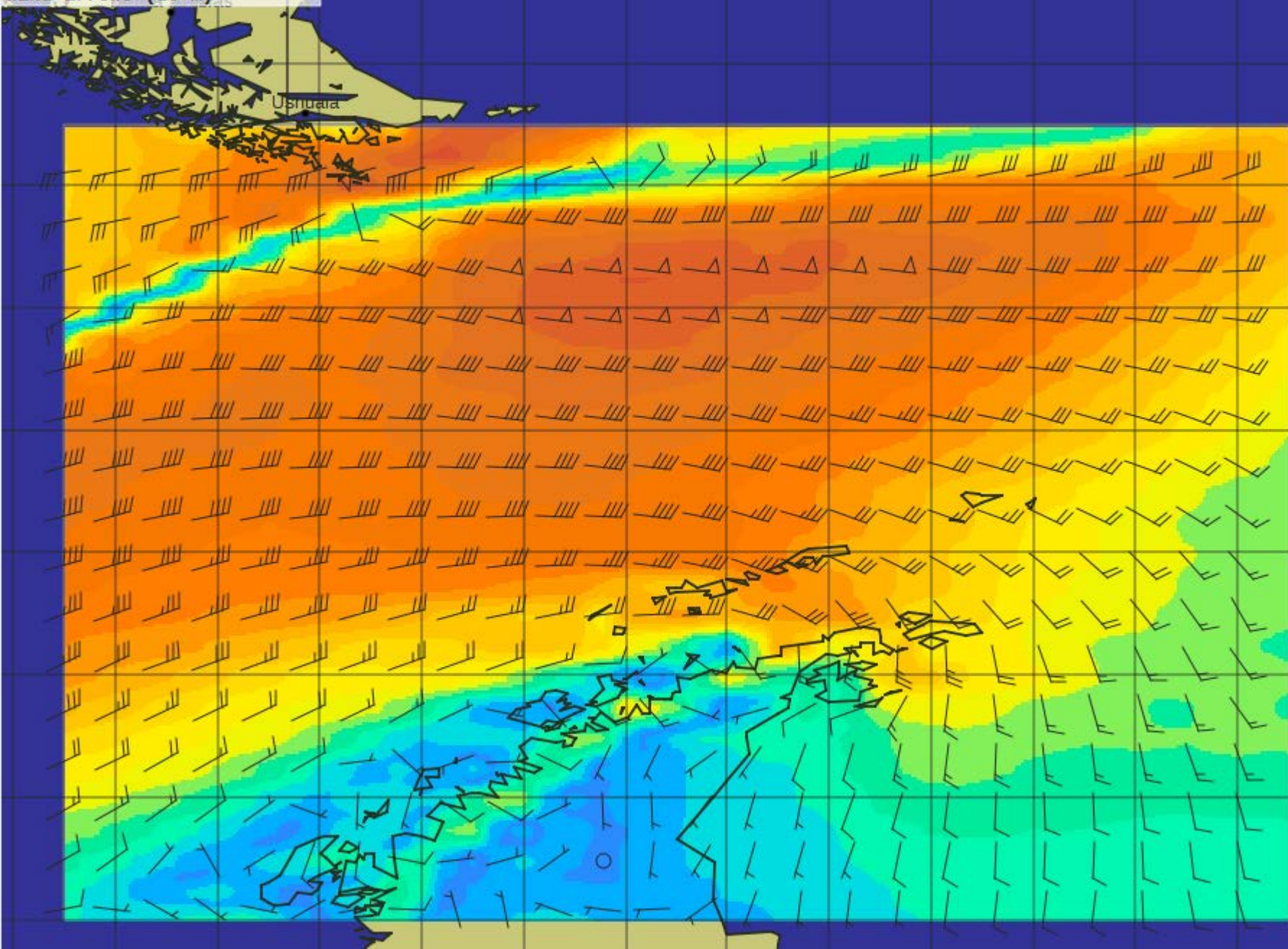
Wed 2017-03-01 09:00 UTC

Data: NOAA-GFS

Wind (10 m)

Temperature (2 m)

Wind arrows (10 m)





Species List: Common Birds and Marine Mammals from Beagle Channel, Falkland Islands, South Georgia & Antarctica																					
English	Latin	Deutsch	French	15-feb	16-feb	17-feb	18-feb	19-feb	20-feb	21-feb	22-feb	23-feb	24-feb	25-feb	26-feb	27-feb	28-feb	1-mrt	2-mrt	3-mrt	4-mrt
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>	Königspinguin	Manchot Royal			X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>	Kaiserpinguin	Manchot Empereur																		
Adelie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>	Adeliepinguin	Manchot Adélie														X				
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua</i>	Eselspinguin	Manchot Papou			X	X			X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>	Kehlstreifpinguin	Manchot à jugulaire										X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>	Goldschopfpinguin	Gorfou doré						X		X	X	X								
Rockhopper Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysocome</i>	Felsenpinguin	Gorfou sauteur			X															
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	Magellanpinguin	Manchot de Magellan			X	X														X
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wanderalbatross	Albatros hurleur		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	Nördlicher Königsalbatros	Albatros royal du nord		X																
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>	Südlicher Königsalbatross	Albatros royal du sud		X		X	X					X								
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	Schwarzbrauenalbatross	Albatros à sourcils noirs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>	Graukopfalbatross	Albatros à tête grise							X				X	X	X				X	
Light Mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebetria palpebrata</i>	Rußalbatross	Albatros fuligineux						X		X	X	X	X		X					
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Nördlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel de Hall					X				X	X	X	X	X					
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Südlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel géant	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
Antarctic Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialoides</i>	Silbersturmvogel	Fulmar argenté												X	X	X			X	
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>	Kapsturmvogel	Damier du Cap		X						X		X		X	X	X			X	
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>	Weißflügelsturmvogel	Pétrel Antarctique																		
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>	Schneesturmvogel	Pétrel des neiges										X				X		X		





[illegible]





Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Finnwal	Rorqual commun						X				X	X		X	X			X	
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>	Zwergwal	Petit Rorqual antarctique	X										X			X	X	X	X	
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Seiwal	Rorqual boreal			X	X														
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	Grindwal	Globicéphale noir																		
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Schwertwal	Orque						X							X	X				
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>	Stundenglasdelfin	Lagénorhynque sablier					X						X	X						
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	Schwarzdelfin	Dauphin obscur																		
Peale’s Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>	Peale-Delfin	Lagénorhynque à menton noir	X	X	X	X														
Commerson’s Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>	Commerson-Delfin	Cephalorhynque de Commerson	X		X															
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>	Südlicher Entenwal	Hyperoodon austral					X													
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>	Krabbenfresserrobbe	Phoque crabier														X	X			
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>	Weddellrobbe	Phoque de Weddell										X				X	X	X		
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>	Südlicher See-Elefant	Eléphant de mer austral								X	X	X		X						
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>	Antarktischer Seebär	Otarie à fourrure des Kerguelen						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	Mähnenrobbe	Otarie à criniere d amerique	X	X																
South American Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus australis</i>	Südamerikanischer Seebär	Otarie d amerique du sud		X																
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>	Seeleopard	Léopard de mer									X	X		X				X	X	

Trips log of numbers per day of whales and dolphins during the 15th Feb - 6 March

Whales and dolphin species	February									
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1 Peale's Dolphin	2	6	4							
2 Commerson's Dolphin		10								
3 Hourglass Dolphin					5					
4 Antarctic Minke Whale	2									
5 Sei Whale		8	7							
6 Fin Whale						5				5
7 Humpback Whale						1		2		2
8 Gray's beaked Whale										
9 Southern Bottlenose Whale					2					
10 Long-finned Pilot Whale										
11 Orca						6				



(registred by Erwin Winter & Joep de Leeuw)

March										Total
25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6	
										12
										10
21							8			34
4			2	5	2	2				17
										15
5		9	10			2				36
	3	8	210	137	192	12				567
							2			2
							1			3
							55			55
		2	8							16

767



# PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2017

**Your chance to win a € 1000 gift voucher for your next polar adventure.**

EVERYONE KNOWS A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS, BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR PHOTOS MIGHT NOW ALSO BE WORTH A **€ 1000 GIFT VOUCHER**?

## Share your experience!

Did you catch a rare seabird on the fly? Do you have a panorama of the Northern Lights filling the sky? Did you get up close and personal with a penguin? Did you capture a look of awe or wonder on a fellow passenger's face?

If you've been a passenger on any one of our past voyages we want to see your pictures.

You're free to send in as many pictures as you wish. The best pictures are the ones that capture what it's like to take one of our special expeditions to the remote and beautiful ends of the Earth.



## PRIZES



**€ 1000**

**GIFT VOUCHER**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 500 gift voucher**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 250 gift voucher**

for Oceanwide Expeditions

UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO AT

**[WWW.OCEANWIDE-EXPEDITIONS.COM/GALLERY](http://WWW.OCEANWIDE-EXPEDITIONS.COM/GALLERY)**

The size of your photo should be between 2MB and 8MB. Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by January 15, 2018.

Read the terms and conditions of the contest on [www.oceanwide-expeditions.com/page/contest-terms](http://www.oceanwide-expeditions.com/page/contest-terms)





*Kayaking the Waters of Antarctica The weather changes so dramatically down here that you simply cannot say, "this looks like a great day" if it is one – rather you must live in the moment and perhaps a more appropriate phrase might be, "this looks like a great moment"! After enduring Force 8 winds on the Beaufort Wind Scale the Ortelius (our home during this Antarctica cruise) pulled into calm waters at Georges Point affording us our first close look at the breathtaking scenery (icebergs, glaciers and mountainous*

# TRAVEL WRITING COMPETITION 2017

**Your chance to win a € 1000 gift voucher for your next polar adventure.**

FANCY YOURSELF AS A TRAVEL WRITER? ENTER OUR ANNUAL TRAVEL WRITING COMPETITION AND YOU JUST MIGHT WIN YOURSELF A **€ 1000 GIFT VOUCHER** FOR YOUR NEXT POLAR ADVENTURE.

## Write about your experience!

What was it like to camp out under the Antarctic sky? Was it scary when you encountered a polar bear? Was this your first cruise and were you nervous about crossing open waters?

After all, how your expedition made you feel is what you're going to carry with you for the rest of your life. If you share your experience you just might win yourself a € 1000 gift voucher for your next polar adventure.

## Here's what you need to do:

1. Write a post (600 – 1200 words) in Dutch, English, or German about what excited you the most on your Oceanwide Expeditions cruise. The topic is entirely up to you.
2. Make sure you add tiles and subtitles to the story.
3. Create a hyperlink or two inside of your post that links back to the particular trip you took as found on our website. The link could connect to the ship's page, the trip itinerary, the particular destination's page, or perhaps a page related to one of the activities you enjoyed.
4. Add 3 to 5 pictures (they should be 2 MB minimum in size, in landscape format and attached separately when you decide to send your entry to us).
5. Post it online and send us the URL where your story is published. **OR** send your post to us at [marketing@oceanwide-expeditions.com](mailto:marketing@oceanwide-expeditions.com). Either way, make sure you include your full name and e-mail address.
6. **Spread the word!**



## PRIZES



**€ 1000**

**GIFT VOUCHER**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 500 gift voucher**  
for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 250 gift voucher**  
for Oceanwide Expeditions

## ENTRIES CLOSE DECEMBER 31

Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by January 15, 2018

Read the full terms and conditions on [oceanwide-expeditions.com/page/contest-terms](http://oceanwide-expeditions.com/page/contest-terms)

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## David Berg – Expedition Leader

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David is an accomplished Expedition Leader and a professional guide from Sweden. He has spent the last 5 years working as a full time Adventure guide and explorer, traveling between Arctic and Antarctic. David has a wide range of experience from leading Expeditions on different Ships to dogsledge driving and Kayakguiding in the cold regions of the World. He has led Expeditions in Svalbard, Greenland, Scotland, Iceland, Faroe Islands, South Georgia, Falkland islands and ofcourse Antarctica. Earlier in 2016 he completed an unsupported crossing of the Inlandice of Greenland backtracking Fridtjof Nansens footsteps. The 600- kilometer long journey on the ice took 27 days. He also spent several winters working for the Icehotel in Sweden driving snowmobiles in temperatures dropping down to minus 50 degrees.

He is an accomplished lecturer and loves to share his knowledge about the polar regions with evryone who is traveling with him. His educational background in earth science and glaciology and his big interest in polar history guarantees some interesting stories during the trip!

Many people thinks that he loves the cold but David just says that “I dont like it more than the next man. I just have a weak brain and a strong heart”!



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## Katja Riedel – Assistant Expedition Leader

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**Katja Riedel grew up in Germany where she studied and completed a Phd in Atmospheric Chemistry. For her research she overwintered 1997 at the German Antarctic Base Neumayer where she was responsible for the Atmospheric Observatory.**

Since then she has been on several scientific expeditions to Antarctica, for example measuring ozone at Scott Base, drilling ice cores at Law Dome and taking samples of 120,000 years old ice on Taylor Glacier in the Dry Valleys.

She completed a course in Antarctic studies and worked for more than 12 years as a research scientist in Wellington, New Zealand. Her research interests are greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and ice cores. Since 2011 she works as a guide and lecturer on expedition cruises in the Arctic and Antarctic.

The Polar Regions have always fascinated Katja. On private adventures she skied over 220 km through Svalbard, sailed in a small yacht to Antarctica, kayaked icy waters and worked as a science assistant in Western Greenland. Her fondest memories of Antarctica are building a 24 h sundial and sledging from Hut Point to the Erebus Ice Tongue.

Life is an adventure for Katja and whenever she can she travels, hikes, cycles, sea-kayaks and skis to the remote and beautiful places on earth.

When not traveling Katja lives in New Zealand and works as a freelance science communicator and photographer. She speaks fluently English and German.

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## Tobias Brehm - Expedition Guide

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**Tobias spends as much time as possible out in nature to observe and learn from and about Earth and Nature. He likes to share this passion with interested people and has facilities to explain these fascinating mechanisms and phenomena.**

With a B.Sc. in Geosciences and a M.Sc. in Economic Geology, Tobias' experience mainly originates from his work as an exploration geologist within the mining and metals industry. He has worked on remote projects across the world, including Iceland, Australia and helicopter-based fieldwork within the Yukon Territory and northern British Columbia; in areas that not many people have a chance to see and enjoy. This led him to join the team of Oceanwide where he can share his love and knowledge about Earth and Nature, especially of Polar Regions, with others. At home, he spends his time climbing mountains and exploring the mystical spheres of caves or abandoned mines and works for the German Mountain Rescue.



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## Rosalie Steffen – Expedition Guide

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**Rosalie, originally from Germany, studied in Wales and New Zealand.**

**She holds a MSc degree in applied marine geosciences along with a BSc in marine biology and oceanography.**

During her studies, Rosalie was particularly interested in climate change. Some of her walks on the wild side include an Atlantic crossing on a sailboat and hikes to active lava flows on Hawaii. She travelled to many different countries and enjoys water- and winter sports in her free time.

Her childhood and youth was filled with several diving and snorkeling trips to remote locations around the globe. As a result she became a certified PADI rescue diver. Rosalie loves being underwater and has swum with dolphins, humpback whales, manta rays and many types of sharks.

Besides good coffee, she loves nature, interesting stories and new people from different backgrounds with whom she can share her knowledge and passion for the Polar Regions.

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## Kasper Jæger – Expedition Guide

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**Kasper is a big city boy, born and raised in the inner part of Copenhagen city, but has always known that his place on earth, was further north.**

His longing for the wilderness and high mountains came early when at the age of 12 he went on his first week-long trekking trip in the Norwegian mountains, and at

age 15 he climbed his first 4000 m mountain. He comes from a Greenland-loving family and therefore Kasper went to the Arctic, never to look back.

Now, years later, Kasper has managed to make a living out of his biggest interest: the great outdoors! That has given him the opportunity to work and live in different places in the Arctic. He lives in Norway together with his Alaskan husky at present, and for first time in 10 years he lives south of the Arctic Circle. For the last 4 years, he has been part owner and main guide of the Norwegian based company “TurGleder”, who specialise in tailor-made expeditions in the Arctic, mainly in winter.

Kasper is an experienced full time polar guide, with a university education as an Arctic Nature Guide, and more than 100 field days and tent nights, in the high arctic winter landscapes every year. Kasper is a highly practical person, with a wide range of skills for safe travel in the Polar Regions. He is an enthusiastic photographer and loves the historical aspects of the far away places of this planet.



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## **Cecilia Vanman – Expedition Guide**

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**Cecilia Vanman is a Fellow of The Explorers Club, a member of Women Adventurers Club (DK) and an expedition guide, photojournalist and marine mammal biologist based in Copenhagen, Denmark.**

She graduated with Distinction from her MSc in Marine Mammal Science from University of Bangor (UK) in 2005. Today, Cecilia's work is focused on expedition guiding and leading, marine mammal science and journalism. She conveys stories on travel adventure, nature, sustainability, and has done 'behind the scenes' reportage work on natural history filmmaking in the High Arctic, the Danish Helicopter Rescue Service, record-breaking and the elite military unit Sirius Dog Sledge Patrol in NE Greenland.

Cecilia has worked in the Arctic since 2008, where she plans and leads expeditions for film crews as well as private yachts. She has crossed the Northwest Passage three times and amongst others, she has worked with Disney Nature, National Geographic Society and has participated in projects in the Indian Ocean, German and Danish waters, the Northern Atlantic, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean and the Norwegian/Greenlandic/Canadian Arctic. Other work projects have taken her to the Pacific, The Caribbean, South China Sea, Java Sea and the Gulf of Mexico.

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## Lydie Lescarmontier – Expedition Guide

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I'm passionate about the environment and the polar regions !

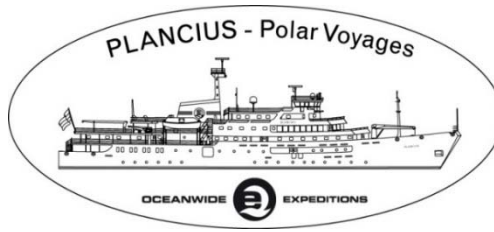
I started my studies focusing on the environment, and the impact of humans on its quality. And I actually figured out that the most impacted part of the earth are the polar regions. That's why I decided to work on the evolution of glaciers in Antarctica. I

followed a master degree in oceanography and climatology and started a Doctorate degree in glaciology. I worked with the french national research center on the interaction between the Antarctic ice-sheet and the ocean, using the example of the Mertz Glacier in Adelie Land (East Antarctica) I participated to four seasons in Antarctica with the french polar institute onboard the Astrolabe, a french ice breaker, to put in place a network of GPS stations on the glacier and follow its evolution.

After my doctorate, I spent 3 years in Australia to work at the Australian National University of the mass balance of East Antarctica. A part of my job in collaboration with the Australian Antarctic Division was to set up a network of autonomous GPS beacons in different part of the continent to get accurate estimates of the quantity of ice in that region.

My work in the Arctic is more recent as I started in 2014 working as a guide in Svalbard and Greenland. And because I think that the best way to protect polar regions is to talk about them, I'm also involved in an association promoting polar sciences and networking young french polar researchers.





# Captain Evgeny Levakov

and his international crew of 48

Including:

Chief Officer:	<b>Artur Iakovlev</b>	[Russia]
2nd Officer:	<b>Gavin Cunningham</b>	[Britian]
3rd Officer:	<b>Luis Oroceo</b>	[Philiphines]
Chief Engineer:	<b>Sebastian Alexandru</b>	[Romania]
Hotel Manager:	<b>Zsuzsanna Varga</b>	[Hungary]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Heidi Dohn</b>	[Denmark]
Head Chef:	<b>Gabor Kiss</b>	[Hungary]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Yuriychuk</b>	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Moniek Mestrom</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	<b>David Berg</b>	[Sweden]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	<b>Katja Riedel</b>	[Germany/New Zeeland]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Cecilia Vanman</b>	[Denmark]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Tobias Brehm</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Rosalie Steffen</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Lydie Lescarmontier</b>	[France]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Ignacio Marino</b>	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Kasper Jæger</b>	[Denmark]

## Welcome you on board!



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

At Sea towards the Falkland Islands

Thursday 15 February 2017

**Welcome on board!** Your luggage will be delivered to your cabin as soon as possible. *After we are all onboard*, please check and notify Reception if you are missing anything or have the wrong luggage.

While we are embarking please feel free to explore the ship. The lounge is located on Deck 5 forward.

~17.00 **Mandatory Safety Briefing in the Lounge.** ALL PASSENGERS are required to attend this very important safety briefing.

~18.00 Approximate sailing time. As we leave Ushuaia we recommend that you enjoy the views from the outside decks.

**Please Note: The Bridge and will be closed for departure while we navigate the Beagle Channel.**

**We will conduct the mandatory Lifeboat Drill once we have departed Ushuaia. Please listen for the Alarm.**

18.45 Soon after sailing we would like to invite you to the **Lounge** (Deck 5) for a **welcome briefing** by Expedition Leader David Berg and an introduction to the ship by Hotel Manager Zsuzsanna Varga.

Afterwards there will be Captain's Cocktails! Captain Evgeny Levakov invites you to join him for a welcome drink in the Lounge, where you will also meet the Expedition Team.

19.30 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room located on **Deck 3** behind **Reception**. Bon appétit!

**Please note that tonight we will be sailing into the open ocean so please secure your valuables and make sure your cupboard doors and drawers are tightly closed.**

**Remember: KEEP ONE HAND FOR THE SHIP AT ALL TIMES & BEWARE OF DOOR JAMS**

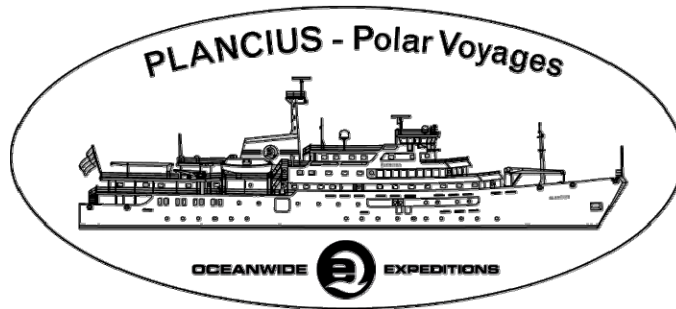
**Thank you.**



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## At Sea towards the Falkland Islands

Thursday 16 February 2017



0730 Wake Up call.

0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

1000 Please come to the **Lounge** and join **David** for a **mandatory Zodiac briefing**.

1100 Weather permitting we will be distributing your Rubber Boots. Please bring your thick socks. We will call you by Deck number so please listen out for announcements. The boot room is located on **Deck 3 forward**.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room

**As we continue sailing towards the Falklands please keep a lookout for birds and mammals.**

1430 Please come and join **Tobias** in the Lounge for a lecture about **the Geology of Falkland islands**

1630 If you would like to learn more about photography please join **Katja** in the **Lounge** as she explains all you will need to know to take that winning photo.

1830 Please join **David** and the Expedition team in the **Lounge** for the Daily Briefing where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.

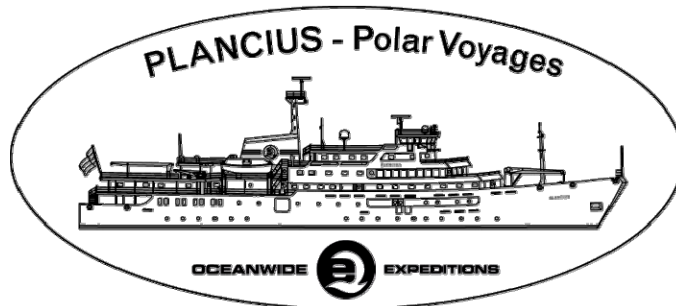
1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

**Please ensure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are secure in your cabin to prevent any accidents. Always keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship. Thank you!**

# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Falkland Islands

Friday 17 February 2017



*At approximately 0710 we will be navigating through the 'Woolly Gut', a very scenic and narrow stretch of water. Here we can see various penguin species as well as cormorants and local birds. Maybe we will be lucky enough to spot a dolphin or two. Please feel free to join us out on decks.*

0610 Sunrise

0700 Wake Up call.

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

***These Landings are very weather dependant so please stand by for announcements***

0900 This morning we would like to go ashore at **Carcass Island**. If the weather allows we would like to offer a hike for the energetic, before visiting the settlement for everybody else with a delicious morning tea. **Hikers will disembark first**. Please listen for announcements.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room

1430 This afternoon we hope to land at **Saunders Island**. Here we can find Gentoo, Rockhopper and King penguins, Imperial shags and nesting Black browed albatross as well as other interesting wildlife. Please listen for announcements.

1830 Please join **David** and the Expedition team in the **Lounge** for the Daily Briefing where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

Please ensure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are secure in your cabin to prevent any accidents. Always keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship. Thank you!



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

Stanley

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017

0559 Sunrise

0700 Wake Up call.

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

***Our Landing today is very weather dependant so please stand by for announcements!***

~0845 In the morning we plan to visit **Port Stanley**. Landing will be by zodiac onto a floating pontoon. There are special notices posted on the whiteboards with information about some of the shops and attractions that will be open. Please note that not all shops can accept credit/debit cards, so it is advisable to carry some cash. Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Falkland pounds and Euros are accepted in most places.

1300 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1600 Please join Rosalie in the Lounge as she talks about the **Southern Ocean**.

1830 Please join David and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Briefing**.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

**As we will be reaching open waters again, please ensure that you secured your belongings and have taken medical precautions against seasickness.**





# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## At Sea en-route to South Georgia

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**As we sail towards South Georgia please keep a look out for birds and large marine mammals.**

- 0745 Wake Up call.
- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 1000 Please meet in the Lounge for a **mandatory briefing for all visitors to Antarctica and South Georgia**. This will include IAATO guidelines and biosecurity measures.
- 1100 Vacuuming stations will be set up in the Lounge to remove invasive species from your clothing and equipment. You will need to sign a declaration regarding these important measures. Please listen for announcements; you will be called by deck [200, 300, etc.]
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.
- 1330 Vacuuming continues as required.
- 1430 Please come to the Lounge and listen to Rosalie telling you about the very famous explorer **Ernest Shackleton**
- 1600 As we make our way to South Georgia, please join Cecilia in the Lounge where she will help you to **Spot the difference: Whales, dolphins and seals in the Southern Hemisphere**.
- 1830 Daily Briefing - please join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

**Please ensure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are secure in your cabin to prevent any accidents. Always keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship. Thank you.**



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## At Sea en-route to South Georgia

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**As we continue to sail towards South Georgia please keep a look out for birds and large marine mammals.**

0745 Wake Up call.

0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

1030 Please come to the Lounge where Tobias will talk about the **Geology of South Georgia**.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

1430 We will show a **movie made by the South Georgia Government** which is **mandatory** and entertaining and will give you an introduction to this fascinating island.

1630 Come to the Lounge to hear a presentation by Jennifer Lee, the South Georgia Environmental Officer, about **Conservation Projects in South Georgia** focusing on invasive species and Blackbrowed albatrosses.

1830 **Daily Briefing** - please join the Expedition team in the Lounge.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

Please remember to close the curtains in your cabins to prevent bird strike. Thank you!

Please ensure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are secure in your cabin to prevent any accidents.  
Always keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship. Thank you.



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Salisbury Plain & Prion Island, South Georgia

Tuesday 21<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**This morning we will be able to see South Georgia. While we are sailing along the north coast enjoy the scenic views from the outside decks.**

0540 Sunrise

0745 Wake Up call.

0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

### **Scenic cruise along the North east coast of South Georgia**

1200 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

~1300 We hope to go ashore at **Salisbury Plain**, where we will encounter King Penguins, Fur seals and Elephant seals in front of stunning mountain scenery.

1730 We would like to take you ashore at **Prion Island** where we want to observe Wandering Albatrosses. Since visitor numbers are restricted we will have to divide into 3 groups. This will be done based on cabin numbers.

1945 **Daily Briefing** - please join the Expedition team in the Lounge.

2000 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

Please keep in mind that landings and timings will depend on our arrival time in South Georgia, weather and sea conditions!

Please remember to close the curtains in your cabins to prevent bird strike. Thank you!





# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Shackleton Walk, Stromness & Grytviken

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017

0537 Sunrise

0615 Wakeup call for hikers

0630 Pastries will be available in the bar for those going ashore. Please make sure you have collected some snacks from the bar, filled up your water bottle and have sufficient warm/emergency clothes and medication if needed.

0700 We will take people who signed up for the **Shackleton Walk** ashore at Fortuna Bay.

0715 General wakeup call

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.

~0930 Wildlife and weather allowing, for those still on-board we would like to take you ashore at **Stromness**, an abandoned whaling station. For those who are interested we would like to offer a walk up to 'Shackletons Waterfall', a walk of several kilometres. We will also be able to stroll the beach and nearby areas. Please listen for announcements.

1300 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

~1500 Arrival time in Grytviken. Please come to the lounge for an introduction to Grytviken and information about the **Rat eradication program**, conducted by staff from the SGHT museum while we are clearing customs.

~1530 We would like to take you ashore in **Grytviken**. At the cemetery we will visit the grave of 'The Boss' and offer him a toast. Following this a staff member from the museum will offer a guided tour through the whaling station, starting from the Pump House, alternatively you can take part in a guided tour through the museum or roam freely and visit: Church, museum, post office, and gallery. All other buildings are closed! Zodiacs back to the ship will leave from the two ship wrecks in front of the museum.

1930 Dinner with a difference: Please dress warmly and make your way onto the aft deck (Deck 3 behind the dining room).

Please remember to close the curtains in your cabins to prevent bird strike. Thank you!



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Godthul & St Andrews

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017

- 0534 Sunrise
- 0715 Wakeup call
- 0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
- ~0830 If conditions (and wildlife) allow, we would like to go ashore at Godthul, (meaning 'good cove' in Norwegian). For those who would enjoy a leg stretch, we will offer an energetic 5 km round trip hike to a view point above the bay. Shorter walks will also be on offer as well a zodiac cruise if the weather is favourable. Please listen for announcements.
- 1300 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.
- ~1500 Weather allowing we would like to take you ashore at St. Andrews Bay, home to South Georgia's largest king penguin rookery (an estimated 250,000 breeding pairs). We might encounter some elephant seals. Landings here are highly weather dependent as considerable surf can form on the beach. Please listen for announcements.
- 1900 Come and join David and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the Daily briefing.
- 1930 The Dinner is served in the dining room.

Please remember to close the curtains in your cabins to prevent bird strike. Thank you!



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

Gold Harbour and Cooper Bay

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017

0500 Wake-up call - **if we are going ashore**

Some pastries and fruit juice will be available in the bar

0534 Sunrise

0530 **Gold Harbour** has an incredible backdrop of hanging glaciers and vertical cliffs. Weather allowing we plan to go ashore and enjoy more wildlife – look out for Light-mantled sooty albatrosses flying overhead.

0800 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.

1000 If conditions allow we would like to zodiac cruise **Cooper Bay** in order to see the Chinstrap, King and Macaroni penguin colonies and explore the scenic coastline. Please dress warmly!!

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room

1630 Please come to the lounge and join **Cecilia** for a Lecture about **exiting projects at sea**

1830 Join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the Daily Briefing where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

**We will be heading into open waters during the afternoon, as always please secure your belongings, make sure all cupboards and doors are secure and always have one hand for the ship when moving around.**





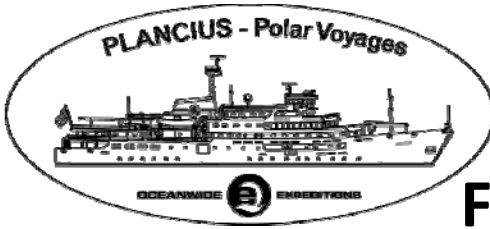
# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## At Sea en route to the Antarctic Peninsula

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017

- 0745 Wake-up call
- 0800 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
- 1030 As we are making our way towards the Antarctic Peninsula please come to the Lounge where **Katja** will give you an **Introduction to Antarctica**.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room
- 1500 Please come to the lounge and join **Lydie** for a lecture about **Sea-ice**
- 1630 **Tobias** our rock-star will talk about the **Geology of the Antarctic Peninsula** in the lounge.
- 1830 Join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Briefing**.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

**We will be in open waters please secure your belongings, make sure all cupboards and doors are secure and always have one hand for the ship when moving around.**



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Orcadas Station, South Orkney Islands

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017

0745 Wake-up call

0800 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.

~0930 Weather and ice allowing we would like to go ashore and visit **Orcadas Station** on the South Orkney Islands. Due to the Station Leaders request we will conduct a split landing.

All **ODD numbered cabins** (cabins on Port side) please be ready to disembark first to visit the station. **All EVEN numbered cabins** (cabins on Starboard side) will have the chance to **Zodiac cruise** first before going to the Station (Please dress warmly). The first group will be offered a Zodiac cruise at the end of their visit.

There will be some souvenirs available for purchase and you can send postcards as well. The base personnel will accept USD, Euro and Argentinian Pesos at the exchange rate of the day. There is also the chance to stamp your passport, this must be done at your own discretion. For that please fill out the form at Reception by breakfast time. Please listen out for announcements for timings.

1300 Lunch is served in the Dining Room

1500 We would like to screen the first of a two part movie about Ernest Shackleton with Kenneth Branagh as Shackleton.

1700 **Kasper** would like to give a presentation in the lounge with the title **Antarctica discovered**.

1830 Join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Briefing**.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

At sea en route to Antarctica

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017



Depending on the weather and the sea the schedule might be changed

- 0745 Wake-up call
- 0800 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
- 1030 Please come to the lounge to listen to a presentation by **Lydie** about **Antarctic Ice**.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room
- 1500 **Otto Nordenskjöld** is a Swedish polar hero. Come to the Lounge and listen to **David** to learn more about this little known Polar explorer and one of his more famous expeditions.
- 1630 Join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Briefing**. Please enjoy good company and a drink or two prior to our Auction
- 1700 To assist the South Georgia Heritage Trust in their efforts to make and keep South Georgia rat free we would like to run an **Auction**. Items will be displayed from 1630 in the Lounge.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

**As we expect continuous motion of the ship, please secure your belongings and take your medication. Always remember to have one hand for the ship!**



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

At sea en route to Antarctica

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017



Depending on the weather and the sea the schedule might be changed

- 0715 Wake-up call
- 0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
- TBA This morning if conditions allow we hope to go ashore on the Continent of Antarctica at **Brown Bluff**. Please listen for announcements.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room
- 1500 In the lounge **Katja** will talk about **The World of Penguins**.
- 1630 We would like to screen the second part of the **Ernest Shackleton movie** with Kenneth Branagh as Shackleton.
- 1830 Join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Briefing**.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

TBA = to be announced

# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Cuerville Island & Base Brown, Antarctica

### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017



Depending on the weather and the sea the schedule might be changed

- 0715 Wake-up call
- 0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
- ~0900 This morning we plan to go ashore at **Cuerville Island**. Here we can offer time with the Gentoo penguins and a walk along the shoreline.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room
- ~1430 After lunch we plan to go ashore at **Base Brown**, located in **Paradise Bay**. This will be another Continental Landing. We would like to offer a split landing/Zodiac cruise. All **EVEN numbered cabins** (cabins on Starboard side) please be ready to disembark first to go ashore. All **ODD numbered cabins** (cabins on Port side) will have the chance to **Zodiac cruise** first before going to the Station (Please dress warmly). The first group will be offered a Zodiac cruise at the end of their visit. Please listen for announcements.
- 1830 Join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Briefing**.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Enterprise Island/Foyn Harbour & Portal Point

Thursday, 2 March 2017

0611 Sunrise

0715 Wake-up call.

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.

~0900 After breakfast we plan to go for a zodiac cruise at **Enterprise Island** in Foyn Harbour. Here we can offer cruising time around an early whaling shipwreck and out into the bay to look for big blubbery things with mile-high blows. Please listen for announcements.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

1500 We plan to do a split landing/ zodiac cruise in a place called Portal Point. Here you can see a lot of scenic landscape, one or two penguins and maybe some big marine mammals.

1830 Come and join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for a quick Daily Briefing.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.





# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Halfmoon Island & Whalers Bay, Deception Island Friday, 3 March 2017

- 0613 Sunrise
- 0645 Wake-up call.
- 0700 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
- ~0815 This morning we hope to land at **Half Moon Island**, a well-known nesting site for Chinstrap Penguins.
- 1200 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.
- 1300 Straight after lunch we will sail through “**Neptune’s Belows**” which is the entrance to the volcanic crater of **Deception Island**. Be out on deck and enjoy the ships navigating in this narrow gap.  
Later we plan to go ashore at **Whalers Bay** where you find remains of the old whaling station. We will offer a leisurely walk along the beach and a more energetic and steep hike to “Neptune’s window”. At the end of the landing you will have the opportunity to **Polar Plunge**.
- This afternoon we will be sailing into the Drake Passage. Please make sure your belongings are secured safely in your room and all cupboards, drawers and doors are securely closed.**
- 1630 To learn about the old whaling times we will show the documentary “**Whale Chasers**” in the lounge.
- 1830 Come and join **David** and the Expedition team in the Lounge for a quick Daily Briefing.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

Saturday, 4 March 2017

0623 Sunrise

There will be **no wake-up call** this morning. Sleep in!

0800 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.

1030 This morning we will reschedule the lecture by Katja **“World of Penguins”**. Come to the lounge to hear more about the funny chickens.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy a snooze afterwards, you deserve it!

1500 Come to the lounge to hear Tobias talk about **“Optical phenomenon in the Polar Regions”**.

1630 Kasper would like to take you on some **“Modern Expeditions in Polar Regions”**. Come to the lounge to sign up for your trip to the South Pole.

1815 Come and join David and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Briefing**.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

**We will be sailing in the Drake Passage. Please be careful and hold on. Make sure your belongings are secured safely in your room and all cupboards, drawers and doors are securely closed. Take sea-sickness medication if necessary.**



# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

Sunday, 5 March 2017

There will be **no wake-up call** this morning.

0800 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.

~1000 Passing by **Cape Horn**. We will make an announcement.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

1400 **Please settle your accounts with Zsuzsanna and Heidi at Reception. We will call you by deck number, please wait till your deck is called to avoid queues. You can pay with Cash Euro, USD, Visa or MasterCard.**

~1530 Now it is time to return your rubber boots! We will call you by deck to deliver your boots to the boot room on deck three forward. Please listen out for announcements.

1630 Come to the lounge to hear a dramatic tale of David's expedition from 2016 when he was "**Crossing the Greenland Icecap**".

1815 Oceanwide Photographer **Dietmar Denger** has prepared a **slide show** for you. Come and relive the highlights of our trip. After that we would like to toast to our successful voyage. Please join Captain Evgeny Levakov and the Expedition team for the Captain's Cocktail.

1900 Your farewell-dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.





# Falkland Islands & South Georgia

## Arrival in Ushuaia

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017

The pilot will come on board in the early morning and we then have around 5 hours sailing to Ushuaia. We plan to arrive there at approximately 7 o'clock in the morning.

0700 Wake Up Call.

***Although we will be alongside, you are not permitted to disembark until we have been cleared by the port authorities.***  
***Please wait for announcements.***

0730 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

- As you leave for breakfast please place your **check-in luggage** outside your cabin door and we will deliver it to the pier.
- Please leave your **keys** at Reception when you go to breakfast.

~0830 Time to say goodbye! All passengers leave the ship

- Buses have been arranged to take you to the airport for those who requested a seat. Please make sure that you take all your luggage from the pier and put it on the bus.
- If you would like to leave your luggage at the luggage storage please put it in the truck and make sure you collect it before 1400 from the green roofed building at **Avenida Maipú 1210** (about 400 metres to the left from the pier past the service station).

If you are staying in Ushuaia you are free to leave the pier on foot by the customs control entrance. Taxis can be found on the street at the end of the pier, just cross the road at the traffic lights to the left of the exit building.

**On behalf of Captain Levakov, David, and all the staff and crew onboard *M.V. Plancius*, we wish you a safe and pleasant onward journey!**