



**OCEANWIDE**  
EXPEDITIONS

# North Spitsbergen Polar Bear Special

8 – 15 June 2017  
on board

***M.V. Plancius***



MV *Plancius* was named after the Dutch astronomer, cartographer, geologist and vicar Petrus Plancius (1552-1622). *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.



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Captain Alexey Nazarov

and his international crew of 45

### Including:

Hotel Manager:	<b>Sebastian Duma</b>	[Romania]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Sava Savov</b>	[Bulgaria]
Head Chef:	<b>Gabor Kiss</b>	[Hungary]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Yuriychuk</b>	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Lauke Bisschops</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	<b>Michael Ginzburg</b>	[Germany/Russia]
Asst Expedition Leader:	<b>Katja Riedel</b>	[New Zealand/Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Lynn Woodworth</b>	[Canada/Australia]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Aleksandr Romanovski</b>	[Russia/Svalbard]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Sebastian Arrebola</b>	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Frigga Kruse</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Karen Mulders</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Hans Verdaat</b>	[Netherlands]

Welcome you on board!

# Day 1 – Thursday 8 June 2017

## Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen

GPS Position: 78°14.2' N / 015°35.6' E

Wind: W, Sea state: calm, Weather: sunny, Temperature: 8°C

We gathered from all points on the globe on a beautiful sunny summer day in Longyearbyen, capital (and only real population centre) of Svalbard. The rugged hills around were striped with snow, but the sun heated the rock, and the day was warm. Once off our flights, we were dropped in town and explored the small settlement or went bird watching. From four o'clock, we began boarding the ship, which was our first adventure - we were transferred to the *Plancius* using the black rubber Zodiac boats that would become so familiar. Once on board, we settled in to our cabins, and later found our way to the Observation Lounge. Once we had all gathered, Chief Officer Janus presented the mandatory safety briefing to show us how to use the big orange lifejackets and how to muster in case of emergency. The briefing was immediately followed by a safety drill, to ensure we knew how to muster in the Lounge, then we were shown how we would go to the lifeboats if ordered to by the Captain.



Following the drill, we were again invited to the Lounge. Our Hotel Manager Sebastian helped us settle in with more information about how the ship works, and Captain Alexey spoke a few words of welcome and proposed a toast to our voyage. We lifted the anchor and sailed from Longyearbyen, through Isfjord and towards open water along the West coast of Spitsbergen just before seven in the evening. Michael, our Expedition Leader, introduced the Expedition Team, and after a few helpful hints from our ship Doctor, we went to the dining room for our first meal on board. There, we sat at tables of six and more, making new friends and wondering what would come in the days ahead.

After dinner, we were called, deck by deck, to the Boot Room, where we selected a pair of rubber boots to use for our landings while on board the *Plancius*. Finally, tired from the travel, we retired to our cabins to rest and get ready for our first full day of our adventure.

## Day 2 - Friday 9 June 2017

### Brepollen, Samarinvågen and Gåshamna, Hornsund

GPS position 08.00 am: 77°00.9'N 016°25.4'E

Wind: NE 3, Sea state: fast ice, Weather: overcast, Temperature: 4°C

After a nice, calm night cruising southwards, we had not counted on being woken up before the scheduled wake-up call, but we were, and with a great message: the bridge had spotted a Polar Bear near the beautiful glacier front in Brepollen Bay. The Captain was so kind to reduce speed enough for everybody to get dressed and appear on deck before very slowly crawling in on the bear with *Plancius*. The bear was really relaxed, enjoying a fresh kill, lying down from time to time and standing up to move a few steps and lay down again to enjoy his kill. At one point it showed us that also for bears the saying goes “when you’ve got to go, you’ve got to go!” to great joy of the Glaucous gulls and Ivory gull hovering around the bear...



After a while we decided to leave the bear to his breakfast and enjoy our own. After breakfast we had just been invited in the lounge for some safety briefings on Zodiacs, visiting Arctic territories and Polar Bears by Expedition Leader Michael and Assistant

Expedition Leader Katja, when once again we were called outside: another bear had been spotted and this time it turned out to be three bears: a mother with cubs! Apparently they had been out and about for some time as the youngsters seemed tired of their play and rested a bit, huddled up next to each other, while mom kept an eye out. With Mendeleevbreen (breen = glacier) in the background and several Ringed seals as well as Guillemots and Little Auks on the ice and almost still water around the ship the scenery of the fjord this morning was just stunning!

By 10.00 am our morning plans had shifted from plan A to B and C, but once again we were called out of briefings for a pod of Beluga whales that had appeared in cracks with open water among the ice that still covered the sides of Samarin Bay. Several white ghosts showed their backs to us, but we also saw a few darker coloured calves.

After lunch our intended morning plan of landing in Gåshamna was executed. We all landed on the stony and snowy raised beach for a short, medium and long hike in Polar Bear



country. We saw Arctic skua, Eider ducks, Brant geese and Purple sandpipers and enjoyed the singing of a Snow bunting and the squeals of the small Kittiwake colony up on the rocks – their presence was given away by the green patches of moss on the barren slopes beneath them, too.

By 18.00 we were all back on the ship and enjoyed some free time to rest before we gathered for our first Recap in the Lounge. Hans told us a bit about the Beluga whales that we saw today and Katja talked about collared female Polar Bears.

After dinner we could see many Little auks and Harp seals swimming around us. And then, when most of us had already started our nightly routine, another announcement made us put on all our clothes again: we were sailing over the edge of the continental shelf where the deep-ocean currents get pushed upwards and the upwelling of nutrients creates a very, very good swim-by restaurant for whales. In one busy hour, we saw a Blue whale, tens of Fin whales, Minke whales, Humpback whales (really close by the ship, we could sometimes hear their jaws slam shut as they surfaced from their dinner) and White-beaked dolphins. It was a complete feeding frenzy!



*Martin van der Schalk*

It was past midnight when the Captain finally steered us away from this amazing event, to ensure we would get further North in time for our planned landing for tomorrow. What a great first full day on the *Plancius*!

## Day 3 – Saturday 10 June 2017

### Poolepynten, Prins Karls Forland

GPS position 08.00 am: 78°22.7'N 012°06.3'E

Wind: calm, Sea state: calm, Weather: mist, Temperature: +7°C

The day met us with wonderful quiet, windless and cloudy weather, very unusual for the wind-swept Arctic territories. Breakfast was followed by the introduction to the upcoming landing, given to the guests by our expedition leader Michael. We were all looking forward to meet walrus at a scenic Arctic sandy beach in Poolepynten, on Prins Karls Forland. When all the necessary information was given, the time has come to get ready for the landing.



AECO rules are strict, and we all must follow them in order not to do any harm to fragile Arctic nature. The rules prescribe no more than 50 guests at once to visit our tusky, heavy Northern friends. We had to split in two groups.

Poolepynten is a very interesting place not only because of a chance to meet walrus, but it also because of the wood! Yes, it is possible to find wood in the Arctic. The coastline is full of big ancient wooden logs, brought here by oceanic currents from Siberia. Amazing and unbelievable, that wood is able to drift such long distances! A long



time ago, this drift wood was used as construction material by Russian Pomors for them to build their huts and cabins. Our all-knowing enthusiastic guide Frigga provided everyone with detailed information about it.



To reach the walrus we needed to walk a few hundred meters along the coast. When approaching, everybody had to keep silence and follow the instructions of the guides, given by them not with words, but with gestures. And here they are! Enormously big, heavy lazy “toothwalkers”, sleeping with tusks pointing in the ground, in the sky and in each other. A couple of them were actually bathing right next to the coastline. After 10 minutes of watching these wonderful (and stinky) creatures we had to slowly walk back to the landing spot.



As soon as everybody was back on the ship, *Plancius* lifted the anchor and headed North. At the same time lunch was served.

When the lunch was over, the scientific and educational part of the program began. Katja and Hans, our outstanding scientists, one after another gave us two lectures. Katja was speaking about Polar bears. From her lecture we knew how they are born, how they grow up, how they hunt, where they migrate, when they mate and give birth. Besides, Katja revealed to us a secret, how Polar bears do not get cold, by explaining the structure of their fur, skin and the layer of fat under it.

Hans spoke about whales. It was a requested lecture after the crazy whale safari the previous evening. Hans gave us a detailed explanation of what we saw the previous evening: what colour are the flippers of Humpback whale, how big is a Blue whale, how to distinguish it from a Fin whale. Also we learned why Sperm whales pretend to be drifting wood logs, which species of dolphins we have in the Arctic, and many other interesting things and facts. We were not surprised that the evening Recap was interrupted by a Sperm whale swimming by.

After the dinner *Plancius* passed by a scientific vessel whose mission was to search and tag whales. Looks like our “Polar Bear Special” has also become a “Whale Special”.



## Day 4 – Sunday 11 June 2017

### Raudfjorden, Northern Spitsbergen

GPS position 08.00 am: 79°51.8'N 011°56.4'E

Wind: W 6 kn, Sea state: slight, Weather: fog patches, Temperature: +2°C

This morning we entered Raudfjorden on Northwest Spitsbergen. It is a fjord about 20 kilometres long and 5 kilometres wide with a number side bays with calving glaciers. About three quarters of the fjord was still covered with fast ice (the sea ice that is still attached to land). At first, there was a fog that had joined us very early in the morning, but as soon as we entered the fjord it cleared up, the sun shined, and a fantastic landscape opened to our eyes. There were another two ships in the bay looking for Polar bears like us. We scouted the fast ice and checked the slopes of the mountains thoroughly to find the king of the Arctic. Later on it was time for us to approach the Arctic sea ice and *Plancius* headed Northeast. We sailed alongside the pack ice and we passed the 80° N, an impressive achievement!



In mid-morning we heard the announcement we had all been waiting for from Michael: “we have spotted a Polar bear!”. We dressed up warmly and came out on deck while the ship slowly approached the bear in the ice. It was a single bear that at first when it saw us it started coming to us, but then, it decided that we were not that interesting and stopped to rest on the ice. *Plancius* kept approaching slowly until we were at a close distance and everyone could enjoy the view and take many pictures. The

bear was relaxing on the ice. For much of the morning, we stayed next to the bear, and by lunch time we slowly made our way out of the ice.

After lunch the search continued, and we continued to sail alongside the ice edge. The fog, that came and went, gave a dramatic atmosphere and we felt like the old explorers.

In the afternoon Sebastian gave a talk about Roald Amundsen, a great talk which was a full review of all Amundsen's expeditions throughout his life, his early years, the Belgica Expedition, the Northwest Passage, the South Pole Expedition and the rest of his adventures. Just before Recap, the bar offered a Happy Hour to celebrate our first day in the ice and the fantastic sighting of the Polar bear. After dinner we continued the look out, sailing by the edge of the sea ice, and suddenly there was an announcement that a Bowhead whale had been spotted!

Bowhead whales have been almost hunted to extinction, and they haven't been seen in this area for many years, now it seems that few individual are starting to come back to Svalbard. We came out on deck and we could see the "footprints" on the whale swimming under water and heading to the ice. We could not see the whale, but it was fascinating to witness the presence of these rarely seen giant mammals. It was time for a good rest and to recover our energy for a new exciting day tomorrow.

## Day 5 – Sunday 12 June 2017

### Smeerenburg and Magdalenefjord

**GPS position 08.00 am: at anchor in Smeerenburgfjord**

**Wind: W 2 knots, Sea state: smooth, Weather: fog, Temperature: +3°C**

Last night *Plancius* left the sea ice and had a smooth transition back to Spitsbergen for a visit to Amsterdamøya (øya = island). The ship woke up with a view of Smeerenburg on the South side of the island. After breakfast the landing started with the birdwatchers being the first group to arrive on the beach. This group went for a birdwatching walk with Hans to the West side of Smeerenburg, where they observed several species of waders. The other passengers visited the remains of the former Dutch whaling station



Smeerenburg, where Frigga gave an explanation about the archaeology on the site. Afterwards all groups made their way back to the landing site. Upon arrival at the landing site, four Walrus had appeared near the island, looking at what we were doing on shore from a distance.



All returned back to *Plancius* to enjoy lunch onboard while the ship lifted anchor and made her way to Magdalenefjord. The ship arrived in the fjord early afternoon, and the calm weather conditions allowed a Zodiac cruise along some of the glaciers in the fjord. During the Zodiac cruise large groups of Eiders and King eiders were seen up

close. At the end of the fjord, we reached the glacier, and while staying at a safe distance to it, all could enjoy an impressive view. On the way back to *Plancius* a stop was made under at Little auk colony. Thousands of Little auks were flying in and out the colony and the calls of these birds could be heard all over the fjord. After almost two hours on a Zodiac one gets a bit cold... and the hotel staff was standing at the gangway with gluhwine and hot chocolate for when we got back onboard.



But the day hadn't ended yet! Barbeque time!! On Deck 3 outside, the grill party was set-up. Passengers and crew enjoyed a diverse barbeque and some drinks. The party continued on the dance floor into the evening against the scenic backdrop of the Magdalenefjord. Toward the end of the evening a Minke whale decided to visit *Plancius* making it a perfect

ending of a long day in the Arctic with many new impressions.



## Day 6 – Tuesday 13 June 2017

### Ice edge in the North

GPS position 08.00 am: 79°50.7' N / 012°49.1' E

wind: calm Seastate: smooth Weather: fog patches Temperature: +5°C

Today we are back cruising the edges of the pack ice to find some wildlife. The weather gods are very cooperative this morning: no wind, overcast (which is really nice if you consider the amount of reflected light that might otherwise have interfered with our binocular search) and not too cold. It didn't take long for the first Walrus to be seen on a floe. In total about seven Walrus were seen, each king of their



own floe, followed by a Minke whale in the water to the portside of the ship. Around eleven o'clock we got sight of several Bearded seals, also soloing on floes. Except for one: she had



company of a pair of little auks that were tucked away underneath her, in a little hole in the ice, just between the waterline and the thin snowy layer on top of the floe (and the female Bearded Seal, which was then renamed Birded Seal). As the search for a Polar bear continued in the morning, we passed the beautiful sailing vessel *Rembrandt van Rijn*, that seemed to appear out of a fog patch as if by magic.

After lunch our search continued, but apart from beautiful white floes, blueish pressure-ridges and many Little auks and an occasional seal, we were unsuccessful in locating a bear on the rim of the pack ice. A good time for Hans to treat us on a nice talk about Arctic Birds.



Katja Riedel Snowmad Photography



## Day 7 –Wednesday 14 June 2017 St Jonsfjord & Tordenskjoldbukta

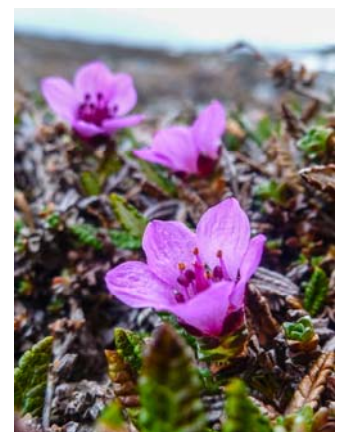
GPS position 08.00 am: 78°28.1'N 012°14.8'E

wind: NNW 4 Seastate: slight Weather: mist Temperature: +4°C



This morning, Michael woke us gently with word the weather was a bit flat, but that was a good thing! Used to the rhythm of ship life, we all took our time, having a coffee while looking out of the Lounge windows, going outside to feel the day, and having a good breakfast

before our landing. Michael outlined the plan for the morning, with Gjertsenodden in St Jonsfjord where we would land. Another vessel, the sailing ship *Noordelicht*, was there, another Oceanwide ship, this one with only 18 passengers. We landed on a flat sandy beach with vast tracts of moraine left behind by a retreating glacier forming a





rolling, complex and hilly terrain behind the beach. Katja set off with the long walkers, aiming for the furthest ridge, then the medium group set off, and lastly the self-described 'bird harassers' and slow walkers ambled off to do their thing. There were a few reindeer on the slopes, and the views were fabulous. Most of us had a look at the very small trapper's hut, with an outhouse with a view perched on a point looking out over the fjord. An

unusual find for the voyage was Svalbard rock ptarmigan spotted high in the hills, but the sounds of the many Snow buntings singing all around were enjoyed by people on all the walks.

Back on board, and after the usual big lunch, the ship got very quiet while most of us had a little rest in our cabins. Meanwhile, the ship's officers sailed the *Plancius* South, to Tordenskjoldbukta, a landing in the tundra, with impressive mountains behind and tall sandy-coloured rock formations along the shore. As soon as we landed on the beach, we went up a small incline, and waiting over the ridge were several reindeer, looking at us as we got ready for our walks. We set off in our groups to explore again, following short raised lines of rock, crossing small streams and sinking in a bit on floating moss platforms. There were plenty of different birds, with Eiders flying by and Purple sandpipers along the shoreline. Reindeer followed us on our walks, watching us with as much interest as we watched them with. Unfortunately, we had to go back to the ship after too short a time ashore, as we have to head to Longyearbyen again.

Once back on board, we had very little time before we were back up in the Lounge for our last Recap and Briefing. After a toast from the Captain, there were thanks to all of the people who made the trip so enjoyable, followed by all the information we need for our landing in Longyearbyen. Our last dinner on *Plancius* was full of talk and laughter, and we moved from the Dining room to the Lounge, enjoying our last night on board, but still remembering to pack our bags for their early departure from the ship

## Day 8 – Thursday 15 June 2017

### Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen

GPS 0800 Position: 78°14.2' N / 015°35.6' E

We woke far too early, at dock in Longyearbyen, sad to know we will be leaving the ship. Our last breakfast seemed far too early, but was very much appreciated, as we don't know where our next meals will be coming from!! We were at the dock at Bykoya, and it was time to leave the ship for the last time. On the dock, we found our luggage and sorted ourselves into the right busses. We farewelled our new friends and set off on our travels and flights home, sad to be leaving, but also looking forward to our next adventures.



***Total distance travelled:***

***1009.0 nautical miles***

***1868 kilometres***

***Furthest North 80°15.87'N/010°37.25E***

***On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions,  
the Captain, Crew and Staff  
on board MV Plancius:***

***It has been a pleasure travelling with  
you, and we hope to see you again!***

**[www.oceanwide-expeditions.com](http://www.oceanwide-expeditions.com)**





- 1- Polar Bears
- 2- Gåshamna
- 3- Poolepynten
- 4- Raudfjord
- 5- Polar Bear
- 6- Smeerenburg
- 7- Magdelenefjord
- 8- Gjertsenodden
- 9- Tordenskjoldbukta
- 10- Longyearbyen



Norwegian Meteorological Institute

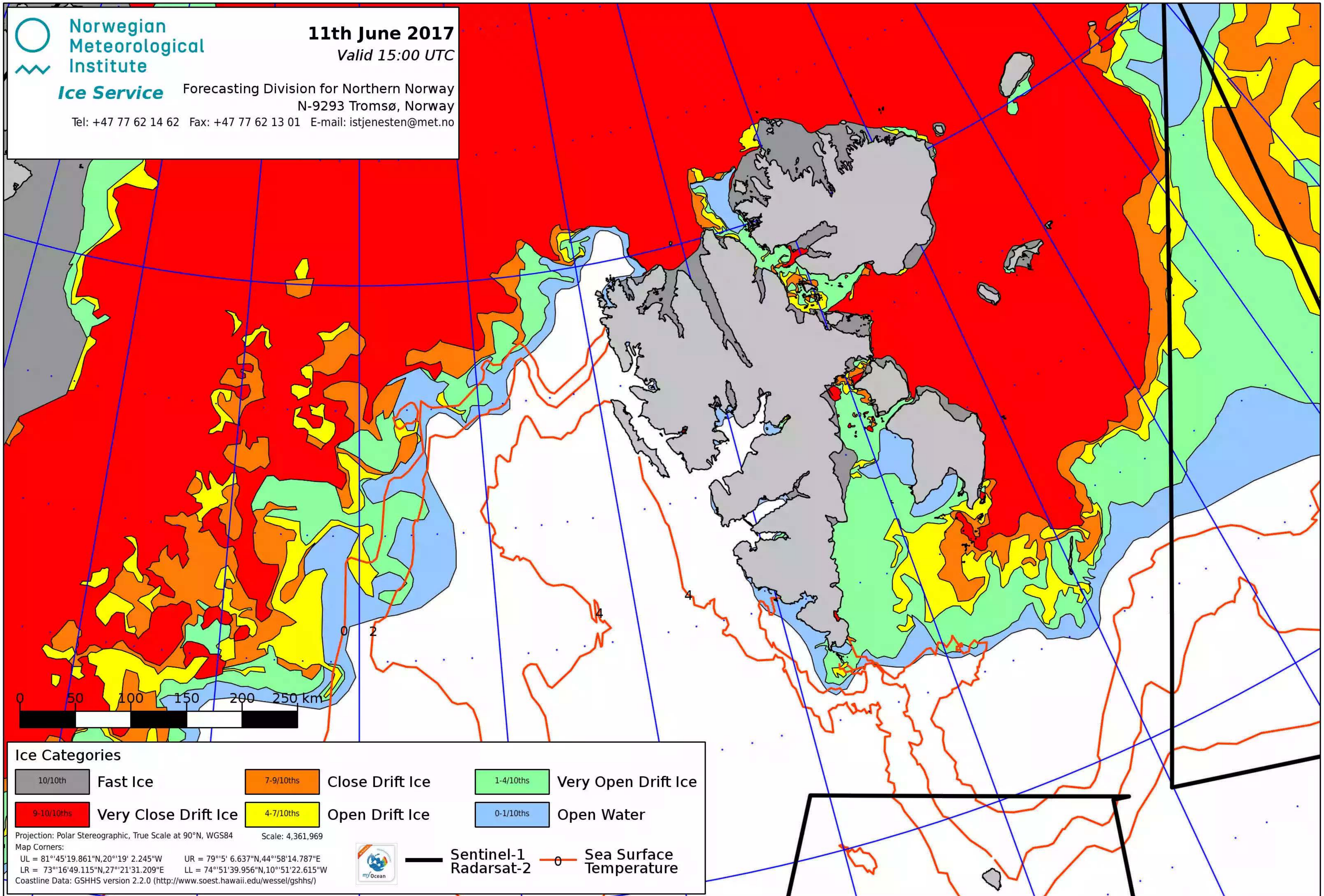
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**11th June 2017**

Valid 15:00 UTC



**Ice Categories**

10/10ths	<b>Fast Ice</b>	7-9/10ths	<b>Close Drift Ice</b>	1-4/10ths	<b>Very Open Drift Ice</b>
9-10/10ths	<b>Very Close Drift Ice</b>	4-7/10ths	<b>Open Drift Ice</b>	0-1/10ths	<b>Open Water</b>

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84 Scale: 4,361,969  
 Map Corners:  
 UL = 81°45'19.861"N, 20°19' 2.245"W UR = 79°5' 6.637"N, 44°58'14.787"E  
 LR = 73°16'49.115"N, 27°21'31.209"E LL = 74°51'39.956"N, 10°51'22.615"W  
 Coastline Data: GSHHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessel/gshhs/>)



Sentinel-1  
 Radarsat-2  
 Sea Surface Temperature

# Birds & Mammals of Svalbard

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English Name	German	French	Dutch
Great Northern Diver	Eistaucher	Plongeon Imbrin	Ijsduiker
Red-throated diver	Sterntaucher	Plongeon catmarin	Roodkeelduiker
Northern Fulmar	Eissturmvogel	Petrel fulmar	Noordse stormvogel
Leach's Storm Petrel	Wellenläufer	Océanite culblanc	Vaal Stormvogeltje
Northern Gannet	Basstölpel	Fou de Bassan	Jan-van-gent
Whopper Swan	Singschwan	Cygne chanteur	Wilde zwaan
Bean Goose	Saatgans	Oie des moissons	Taigarietgans
Pink-footed Goose	Kurzschnabelgans	Oie à bec court	Kleine rietgans
Barnacle Goose	Weisswangengans	Bernache nonnette	Brandgans
White-fronted Goose	Blässgans	Oie Rieuse	Kolgans
Greylag Goose	Graugans	Oie cendrée	Grauwe gans
Pale-bellied Brent Goose	Hellbäuchige Ringelgans	Bernache à ventre pâle	Witbuikrotgans
Brent Goose	Ringelgans	Bernache cravant	Rotgans
Snow Goose	Schneegans	L'Oie des neiges	Sneeuwgans
Eurasian Wigeon	Pfeifente	Canard siffleur	Smient
Eurasian Teal	Krickente	Sarcelle d'hiver	Wintertaling
Mallard	Stockente	Canard colvert	Wilde eend
Northern Pintail	Spießente	Canard pilet	Pijlstaart
Tufted Duck	Reiherente	Fuligule morillon	Kuifeend
Common Eider	Eiderente	Eider commun	Eider

King Eider	Prachteiderente	Eider à tête grise	Konings eider
Steller's Eider	Scheckente	Eider de Steller	Stellers eider
Long-tailed Duck	Eisente	Harelda boréal	Ijseend
Black Scooter	Trauerente	Macreuse noire	Zwarte zee-eend
Common Goldeneye	Schellente	Garrot à oeil d'or	Brilduiker
Rock Ptarmigan	Alpenschneehuhn	Lagopède des Alpes	Spitsbergen Sneeuwhoen
Eurasian Oystercatcher	Austernfischer	Huïtrier Pie	Scholekster
Ringed Plover	Sandregenpfeifer	Grand Gravelot	Bontbekplevier
European Golden Plover	Goldregenpfeifer	Pluvier doré	Goudplevier
Sanderling	Sanderling	Bécasseau sanderling	Drieteenstrandloper
Pectoral Sandpiper	Graubruststrandläufer	Bécasseau tacheté	Gestreepte strandloper
Purple Sandpiper	Meerstrandläufer	Bécasseau violet	Paarse strandloper
Red Knot	Knutt	Bécasseau maubèche	Kanoet
Dunlin	Alpenstrandläufer	Bécasseau variable	Bonte strandloper
Whimbrel	Regenbrachvogel	Courlis corlieu	Regenwulp
Common Redshank	Rotschenkel	Chevalier gambette	Tureluur
Ruddy Turnstone	Steinwälzer	Tournepierre à collier	Steenloper
Grey Phalarope	Thorshühnchen	Phalarope à bec large	Rosse franjepoot
Red-necked Phalarope	Odinshühnchen	Phalarope à Bec mince	Grauwe franjepoot
Pomarine Skua	Spatelraubmöwe	Labbe pomarin	Middelste jager
Arctic Skua	Schmarotzerraub-möwe	Labbe parasite	Kleine jager
Long-tailed Skua	Falkenraubmöwe	Labbe à longue queue	Kleinste jager
Great Skua	Skua	Grande Labbe	Grote jager

Sabine's Gull	Schwalbenmöwe	Mouette de Sabine	Vorkstaartmeeuw
Black-headed Gull	Lachmöwe	Mouette rieuse	Kokmeeuw
Common/Mew Gull	Sturmmöwe	Goéland cendré	Stormmeeuw
Glaucous Gull	Eismöwe	Goéland bourgmestre	Grote Burgemeester
Iceland gull	Polarmöwe	Goéland arctique	Kleine Burgemeester
Herring Gull	Silbermöwe	Goéland argenté	Zilvermeeuw
Lesser black-backed Gull	Heringsmöwe	Goéland brun	Kleine mantelmeeuw
Great black-backed Gull	Mantelmöwe	Goéland marin	Grote mantelmeeuw
Kittiwake	Dreizehenmöwe	Mouette tridactyle	Drieteenmeeuw
Ross' Gull	Rosenmöwe	Mouette de Ross	Rossmeeuw
Ivory Gull	Elfenbeinmöwe	Mouette ivoire	Ivoormeeuw
Arctic Tern	Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne arctique	Noordse stern
Common Guillemot	Trottellumme	Guillemot de Treol	Zeekoet
Brunnich's Guillemot	Dickschnabellumme	Guillemot de Brunnich	Dikbekzeekoet
Black Guillemot ssp mandtii	Gryllteiste	Guillemot à miroir blanc	Zwarte zeekoet ssp mandtii
Little Auk	Krabbentaucher	Mergule nain	Kleine alk
Puffin	Papageitaucher	Macareux moine	Papegaaiduiker
Barn Swallow	Rauchschwalbe	Hirondelle rustique	Boerenzwaluw
White Wagtail	Bachstelze	Bergeronnette grise	Witte Kwikstaart
Meadow Pipit	Wiesenpieper	Pipit farlouse	Graspieper
Wheatear	Steinschmätzer	Traquet	Tapuit
Blackbird	Amsel	Merle noir	Merel
Snow Bunting	Schneeammer	Bruant des neiges	Sneeuwgorst

Redpoll	Birkenzeisig	Sizerin flammé	Barmsijs
Lapland longspur	Spornammer	Plectrophane lapon	Ijsgors
Fieldfare	Wacholderdrossel	Grive litorne	Kramsvogel
Redwing	Rotdrossel	Grive mauvis	Koperwiek
Brambling	Bergfink	Pinson du Nord	Keep
Gyrfalcon	Gerfalke	Faucon Gerfaut	Giervalk

## MAMMALS

English	German	French	Dutch
Walrus	Walross	Morse	Walrus
Bearded seal	Bartrobbe	Phoque barbu	Baardrob
Ringed seal	Ringelrobbe	Phoque marbré	Ringelrob
Harp seal	Sattelrobbe	Phoque du Groenland	Zadelrob
Hooded seal	Klappmütze	Phoque à capuchon	Klapmuts
Common /Harbour seal	Seehund	Phoque commun	Gewone zeehond
Minke Whale	Zwergwal	Petit rorqual	Dwergvinvis
Sei Whale	Seiwal	Rorqual boréal	Noordse vinvis
Blue Whale	Blauwal	Baleine bleue	Blauwe vinvis
Fin Whale	Finnwal	Rorqual commun	Gewone vinvis
Humpback Whale	Buckelwal	Baleine á bosse	Bultrug
Bowhead whale	Grönlandwal	Baleine du Groenland	Groenlandse walvis
Sperm Whale	Pottwal	Cachelot	Potvis

Narwhal	Narwal	Narval	Narwal
Northern Bottlenose Whale	Entenwal (Dögling)	Hyperoden arctique	Butskop
Orca (Killer Whale)	Schwertwal (Orca)	Orque	Zwaardwalvis (Orka)
White-beaked Dolphin	Weisschnauzendelphin	Lagenorhynque	Witsnuitdolfijn
Beluga	Weisswal	Marsouin ou Dauphin blanc	Beloega
Polar Bear	Eisbär	Ours blanc	Ijsbeer
Arctic Fox	Polarfuchs	Renard arctique	Poolvos
Spitsbergen Reindeer	Svalbard Renntier	Renne du Spitzberg	Spitsbergen Rendier
Sibling vole	Südfeldmaus	Campagnol des champs	Oostelijke veldmuis
Short tailed Vole	Erdmaus	Campagnol agreste	Aardmuis

**Day**

<b>Latin</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>Gavia immer</i>								
<i>Gavia stellata</i>			X	X	X		X	
<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i>				X				
<i>Morus bassanus</i>								
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>								
<i>Anser fabalis</i>								
<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>		X	X			X	X	
<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	X	X						
<i>Anser albifrons</i>								
<i>Anser anser</i>								
<i>Branta hrota</i>								
<i>Branta bernicla</i>	X						X	
<i>Chen caerulescens</i>								
<i>Anas penelope</i>								
<i>Anas crecca</i>								
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>								
<i>Anas acuta</i>								
<i>Aythya fuligula</i>								
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X



<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>					X	X		
<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>								
<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>		X						
<i>Melanitta nigra</i>								
<i>Bucephala clangula</i>								
<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>							X	
<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>								
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					X		X	
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>								
<i>Calidris alba</i>			X		X			
<i>Calidris melanotos</i>								
<i>Calidris maritima</i>	X	X	X		X		X	
<i>Calidris canutus</i>					X			
<i>Calidris alpina</i>		X			X			
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>								
<i>Tringa totanus</i>								
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>					X		X	
<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>							X	
<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>								
<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>		X	X					
<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>		X	X					
<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	X		X	X	X	X	X	

<i>Xema sabini</i>				X	X			
<i>Larus ridibundus</i>								
<i>Larus canus</i>								
<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Larus glaucoides</i>								
<i>Larus argentatus</i>								
<i>Larus fuscus</i>								
<i>Larus marinus</i>								
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>								
<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>		X						
<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Uria aalge</i>		X						
<i>Uria lomvia</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Cephus grylle mandtii</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Alle alle</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	X	X	X	X		X	X	
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>								
<i>Motacilla alba</i>								
<i>Anthus pratensis</i>								
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>								
<i>Turdus merula</i>								
<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>		X			X		X	

<i>Carduelis flammea</i>								
<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>								
<i>Turdus pilaris</i>								
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>								
<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>								
<i>Falco rusticolus</i>								

**Day**

<b>Latin</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>		X	X		X	X		
<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>						X		
<i>Phoca hispida</i>		X						
<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	X	X	X	X		X		
<i>Cystophora cristata</i>			X					
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>					X	X		
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>		X	X		X	X		
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>								
<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>		X	X					
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>		X	X					
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>		X						
<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>				X				
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>			X					

<i>Monodon monoceros</i>								
<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>								
<i>Orcinus orca</i>								
<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>		X	X					
<i>Dephinapterus leucas</i>		X						
<i>Ursus maritimus</i>		X		X		X		
<i>Alopex lagopus</i>		X						
<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>	X	X	X				X	
<i>Microtus rossiaemeridionalis</i>								
<i>Microtus agrestis</i>								

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## Michael Ginzburg – Expedition Leader

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**English:** Since his first scientific project at the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (Germany) at age 17, Michael focused his work on polar algae and sea ice. Field work became his passion and even turned into an addiction when he stepped on Svalbard aged 20. Michael instantly fell in love with sea ice, and ever since, he has worked on the evolution and ecology of diatoms of the Arctic and Antarctic. Michael has studied both marine and

polar biology as well as participated in over a dozen scientific expeditions with durations of up to four months.

Having travelled all seven continents, it was only a matter of time before Michael began sharing his passion for nature in photography and publications. Today, Michael is leading expeditions and working as a photojournalist throughout the world. In 2016, Michael accepted a teaching position for photojournalism as well as the position of the editor in chief for The Explorer's Magazine.

**Deutsch:** Mit gerade mal 17 Jahren bekam Michael die Chance an einem Forschungsprojekt des Alfred Wegener Instituts für Polar- und Meeresforschung (Bremerhaven) mitzuwirken und seitdem hat er seine Arbeit auf Eisalgen und das Meereis konzentriert. Feldarbeit bekam seine grosse Leidenschaft, nachdem er mit 20 jungen Jahren zum ersten Mal Fuß auf Spitzbergen (Svalbard) setzte. Michaels grosse Liebe für das Meereis trieb ihn dazu, Evolution und Ökologie der arktischen und antarktischen Meereisdiatomeen zu studieren und dies tut er nun schon mehr als 12 Jahre. Zwischenzeitlich nahm er an dutzenden wissenschaftlichen Expeditionen teil mit z.T. vier Monaten Länge.

Alle sieben Kontinente bereist, war es nur eine Frage der Zeit, bis Michael seine Leidenschaft für die Natur in Fotografie und Dokumentation teilte. Heute leitet Michael verschiedene Expeditionen und arbeitet als Fotojournalist rund um die Welt. In 2016 akzeptierte er eine Dozentenstelle für Fotojournalismus sowie eine Position als Chefredakteur für das Explorer's Magazine.

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## Dr. Katja Riedel – Assistant Expedition Leader

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**English:** Katja grew up in Germany, where she studied and completed a PhD in atmospheric chemistry. For her research, she overwintered at the German Antarctic Neumayer Station in 1997, where she was responsible for the Atmospheric Observatory. Since then, she has been on several scientific expeditions to Antarctica, e.g. measuring ozone at Scott Base and drilling ice cores at Law Dome. In Svalbard, she participated in a 220-km skiing expedition in the North-west of the island of Spitsbergen. In Greenland, she worked as a volunteer in the vicinity of Kanger-

lussuaq, where she helped to quantify carbon dioxide emissions from plants and soils.

In 2001, the great outdoors drew her to New Zealand, which she now calls home. Here, she has worked as a scientist for the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research in Wellington. Her main research interests were greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and in ice cores. In 2013, she quit her science job to work as freelance guide, science journalist, and photographer. She has worked as a guide and lecturer on passenger ships in both the Arctic and Antarctic since 2011. 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. She is also a keen photographer, juggler, and chef. She speaks German and English.

**Deutsch:** Katja wuchs im Bergischen Land auf und promovierte am Alfred Wegener Institut für Polar- und Meeresforschung in Bremerhaven. Für ihre Doktorarbeit in Atmosphären-chemie überwinterete sie 15 Monate lang in der Neumayer Station in der Antarktis. Seit 2001 lebt Katja im wunderschönen Neuseeland, wo sie erst am Nationalen Institut für Wasser- und Atmosphärenforschung in Wellington arbeitete. Dort beschäftigte sie sich hauptsächlich mit Treibhausgasen in der Luft und in Eiskernen. Seit 2013 arbeitet Katja als Reiseführerin und Fotografin.

In Spitzbergen unternahm sie 2001 eine 220 km lange Ski-Expedition im Nordwesten der Insel. In Grönland arbeitete sie in der Nähe von Kangerlussuaq und untersuchte dort den Kohlendioxidumsatz von Pflanzen in der Tundra. Sie hat auch eine starke Affinität zur Antarktis und hat an fünf wissenschaftlichen Expeditionen teilgenommen und den Kontinent an Bord einer Segeljacht bereist. Neben dem Reisen sind Fotografie, Lesen, Wandern Seekayak und Radwandern ihre großen Leidenschaften.

Katja spricht Deutsch und Englisch.

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## Dr. Lynn Woodworth – Expedition Guide

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**English:** Lynn comes from the mountains and lakes of western Canada, where she found her love for wilderness and cold water. She started travelling at 17 and eventually settled in Australia, where she completed two biology degrees, including a PhD in Conservation Genetics, which examined minimum viable population size in wildlife.

Resuming travel after academia, she abandoned her motorcycle in Argentina to sail to the Antarctic Peninsula. Hooked! She has been working in the Polar Regions ever since. Up north, she has taken ships to arctic Canada, Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard, Russia, and the North Pole. Down south, she is well-familiar with the Falklands, South Georgia, and the Antarctic Peninsula but will swap for the remote Ross Sea any time.

Lynn stopped counting polar trips at somewhere over 135 voyages and 17 different vessels. She has held most ship-based roles including lecturer, guide, zodiac driver, Assistant Expedition Leader, and

Expedition Leader, and she has also worked on shore as Operations Manager.

She has co-authored two books on Antarctica: "Antarctica The Complete Story", published on three continents, and "The Blue Continent" in 17 languages and counting. Lynn has recently moved to Tasmania, where she is as close to Antarctica as she can get and still be in Australia.

**Deutsch:** Lynn stammt aus den Bergen und Seen des westlichen Kanadas, wo sie die Wildnis und das kalte Wasser lieben gelernt hat. Mit 17 bereits auf weltweiter Achse, entschied sie sich für Standort Australien, wo sie gleich zweimal ein Biologiestudium absolvierte und eine Doktorarbeit in Umweltschutzgenetik mit Thema minimale stabile Tierbestände schrieb.

Danach ließ sie die Akademie wieder hinter sich, wie übrigens auch ihr Motorrad in Argentinien, um zum ersten Mal in die Antarktis zu fahren. Gebannt! Seitdem arbeitet sie in den Polarregionen. Im Norden begleitet sie Schiffe ins arktische Kanada, nach Island, Grönland, Spitzbergen (Svalbard), Russland und zum Nordpol. Im Süden sind ihr die Falklandinseln, Südgeorgien und die antarktische Halbinsel sehr bekannt, aber sie würde jeden Moment einmal wieder für das entlegene Rossmeer tauschen.

Lynn zählt ihre Polarreisen längst nicht mehr: 135 Trips, 17 verschiedene Schiffe, oder so in etwa?! Sie hatte bereits die Rollen von Lektor, Guide, Zodiacfahrer, Assi. Expeditionsleiter und Expeditionsleiter inne. An Land sammelte sie Erfahrung als Operationsmanager.

Sie ist Co-Autorin von zwei Büchern: "Antarktis, die komplette Geschichte" veröffentlicht auf drei Kontinenten und "Der blaue Kontinent" bis jetzt in 17 Sprachen. Lynn ist kürzlich nach Tasmanien gezogen: während noch mit beiden Füßen in Australien, kann man der Antarktis nicht dichter sein!

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## Dr. Alexander Romanovski – Expedition Guide

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**English:** Alexander (Sascha) originates from Saint-Petersburg, the northern capital of Russia. Born in 1981, he graduated from boarding school before entering Saint-Petersburg State University, where he studied physical and regional geography, ecology, and international tourism. His PhD research at Herzen State Pedagogical University focused on geoecology.

In 2011, Alexander decided to pause his scientific career and do something completely different. He homed in on tourism and kicked in the door to the world: as trekking guide in the Fann mountains (Tajikistan); as guesthouse staff at the Novolazarevskaya scientific station (Queen Maud Land, Antarctica). Since 2012, he lives for most of the year in Svalbard, guiding in the ghost town of Pyramiden. In 2016, Alexander turned over a yet another page in his colourful career, now as a naturalist guide on cruise ships around Svalbard and Antarctica.

Each year, Alexander dedicates three to four months to his main passion – globetrotting. No public transport, no hotels, only hitch-hiking and staying with locals or

sleeping in a tent. This way, he has already set foot in almost all Soviet republics, the Middle East, Asia, and South America. Luckily, Earth is not flat, and there is no end! Our world is big, friendly, and certainly interesting to explore!

**Deutsch:** Alexander (Sascha) kommt aus Sankt Petersburg, der nördlichen Hauptstadt Russlands. Jahrgang 1981 besuchte er das Internat vor seinem Grundstudium in physischer und regionaler Geografie, Ökologie und internationalem Tourismus an der staatlichen Universität von Sankt Petersburg. Seine Doktorarbeit an der Staatlichen Pädagogischen Universität Herzen handelte von Geoökologie.

2011 entschied Alexander sich zu einer akademischen Pause und einem gewagten Umschwung. Er setzte auf den Tourismus und trat damit die Tür zur Welt ein: als Trekking-Guide im Fanngebirge (Tajikistan); als Mitarbeiter im Gasthaus der Novolazarevskaya Station (Königin Maud Land, Antarktika). Seit 2012 lebt er hauptsächlich in Spitzbergen (Svalbard) und führt Besucher durch die Geisterstadt Pyramiden. 2016 schlug Alexander wieder eine neue Seite in seinem bunten Lebenslauf auf, diesmal als naturkundlicher Führer an Bord von Expeditionskreuzfahrten rund um Svalbard und Antarktika.

Jedes Jahr widmet Alexander drei bis vier Monate seiner eigentlichen Leidenschaft: dem Globetrotting. Kein öffentlicher Verkehr, kein Hotel, nur mit Daumen und Zelt bewaffnet und ab und zu örtliche Gastfreundschaft genießend. So befinden sich seine Fußspuren bereits in fast allen sovietischen Republiken, dem Mittleren Osten, Asien und Südamerika. Glücklicherweise ist die Erde nicht flach und es kommt kein Ende! Unsere Welt ist groß, freundlich und sicherlich entdeckungswürdig!



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## Sebastian Arrebola – Expedition Guide

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**English:** Sebastian is from Buenos Aires, Argentina. He holds a tourism degree and has completed a one-year mountain guide training course, climbing in regions like Mendoza, Bariloche, and Tierra del Fuego. In 2000, he moved to Ushuaia and became a tour guide. From 2002, he lived in England for almost two years to follow various courses of the Royal Yachting Association.

Sebastian took his specialism in polar tourism and natural history on a first trip to Antarctica on board a 36-ft sail boat, where he developed ice-navigation skills and came to appreciate the polar environment. He has since led several expedition cruises down the very

south. Since 2008, he also ventures north into the Canadian Arctic, through the Northwest Passage, and to Svalbard.

Sebastian has been an invited speaker on Antarctic topics at international meetings and public events. He has published in magazines like The Great Southern Route, Superyacht Times, and Boat International and co-authored “ANTARCTICA, DISCOVERING THE LAST CONTINENT”. He speaks Spanish and English.

**Deutsch:** Sebastian kommt aus Buenos Aires, Argentinien, und hat Tourismus studiert. Während eines einjährigen Bergführerkursus kletterte er in den Regionen Mendoza, Bariloche und im Feuerland. 2000 zog er nach Ushuaia und arbeitete als Tourguide. Ab 2002 wohnte er zwei Jahre lang in England, um dort an verschiedenen Kursen der Royal Yachting Association teilzunehmen.

Sebastians Spezialismus in Polartourismus und -naturgeschichte begleitete ihn auf seiner ersten Antarktisreise. An Bord eines 12-m Segelschiffs schulte er seine Eisnavigation und lernte die polare Umwelt schätzen. Seitdem hat er etliche Expeditionskreuzfahrten in den tiefsten Süden geführt. Seit 2008 treibt es ihn auch in den Hohen Norden, d.h. in die kanadische Arktis, durch die Northwest-Passage und nach Spitzbergen (Svalbard).

Sebastian hat vor internationalen Gesellschaften und in Öffentlichkeitsarbeit über antarktische Themen gesprochen. Er hat in verschiedenen Zeitschriften veröffentlicht und ist Co-Autor von “Antarktis, Entdeckung des letzten Kontinenten”. Er spricht Spanisch und Englisch.

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## Dr. Frigga Kruse – Expedition Guide

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**English:** Frigga is a German archaeologist and geologist. When she traveled to the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula in 1999, there was nothing to suggest that the Polar Regions would become her place of work. In 2008, she first visited Svalbard to carry out archaeological fieldwork as part of her PhD research on the British mining history of the archipelago – she has since become a regular. Her current research focuses on 420 years of natural-resource exploitation (whaling, sealing, fur-hunting, and mining) in and around Svalbard and Jan Mayen and the lasting impact on Arctic marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Since 2015, she has been sharing her broad polar knowledge and a knack for

story-telling as a guide and lecturer on Oceanwide’s expedition cruises. You can approach her in German, English, and Dutch, and she is also teaching herself Norwegian.

**Deutsch:** *Frigga ist eine deutsche Archäologin und Geologin. Als sie 1999 die Südshetlandinseln und die antarktische Halbinsel bereiste, gab es keine Anzeichen dafür, dass die Polarregionen einmal ihr Arbeitsplatz sein würden. 2008 besuchte sie zum ersten Mal Spitzbergen (Svalbard), um dort archäologische Feldstudien für ihre Doktorarbeit auszuführen. Es ging damals um britische Bergbaugeschichte in der Inselgruppe. Inzwischen stehen 420 Jahre Rohstoffausbeutung in Svalbard and Jan Mayen im Fokus ihrer Forschung: Wal- und Robbenfang, Pelzjagd, Bergbau – alle hatten einschneidenden Einfluss auf das arktische Ökosystem, wie wir es heute erleben. Seit 2015 teilt sie ihr breites polares Wissen und ihr Händchen fürs Geschichtenerzählen auf Oceanwides Expeditionskreuzfahrten. Sie können sie in Deutsch, Englisch und Niederländisch ansprechen. Ausserdem lernt sie gerade Norwegisch.*

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## Karen Mulders – Expedition Guide

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**English:** At home in the Netherlands, I switched from academia to an administrative job and substitute teaching in primary schools. This now allows me to fit in more travelling and guiding around the globe. Children and grown-ups alike are so eager to learn, especially if stories, pictures, and local know-how are involved. I love it!

I hold a Bachelor's degree in Pedagogy and Linguistics as well as a Master's degree in Slavistics, majoring in Russian and Ant/Arctic Studies. As a PhD student, I investigated the medieval and early modern settlement history of the

Barents Sea coast, which nowadays is home to Saami, Nenets, Russians, and Norwegians.

I participated in a biohydrological expedition to the Pechora delta in 2001 and in one leg of the circumnavigation by the SV *Vagabond* in 2003. Since then, I zig-zagged between Russia, Mongolia, China, Peru, South Africa, Senegal, Iceland... eventually deciding to return to my first love: the Polar Regions. I have discovered Antarctica for myself and participated in the Dutch SEES expedition to Edgeøya (Svalbard) in 2015. In 2016, I finally jumped on board my first Oceanwide expedition cruise.

**Deutsch:** *Zuhause in Holland habe ich aus der Akademie in eine administrative Laufbahn gewechselt und unterrichte ebenfalls in Grundschulen. Dies erlaubt mir jetzt, mehr zu reisen und mich als Guide in der ganzen Welt zu verdingen. Kinder sowie Erwachsene sind so wissbegierig, gestärkt durch Geschichten, Bilder und lokales Know-how. Ich liebe es!*

*Nach meinem Grundstudium in Pädagogik und Linguistik habe ich ein Masterstudium in Slawistik abgeschlossen, Hauptfächer Russisch und Ant/Arktische Studien. Als Doktorandin erforschte ich die mittelalterliche und frühmoderne Siedlungsgeschichte der Barentsseeküste, die sich heute Saami, Nenets, Russen und Norweger teilen.*

*2001 habe ich an einer biohydrologischen Expedition ins Pechoradelta sowie 2003 an einer Teilstrecke der Zirkumnavigation der SV Vagabond teilgenommen. Seitdem geht es im Zickzack durch Russland, die Mongolei, China, Peru, Südafrika, Senegal, Island... letztendlich mit der Entscheidung, mich wieder meiner ersten Liebe zuzuwenden: den Polarregionen. Ein Teil Antarktikas ist bereits bereist und 2015 sah mich auf der niederländischen SEES Expedition nach Edgeøya (Spitzbergen). 2016 schaffte ich endlich den Sprung an Bord Oceanwides Expeditionskreuzfahrten.*

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## Hans Verdaat – Expedition Guide

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**English:** Hans is from the Netherlands. His fascination for nature and travel was apparent from a young age, and he is an active birder across Europe. Already in 1999, he began working as a (birding) guide.

He later studied Coastal Zone Management and as part of that, he lived in Norway for half a year. In 2006, he moved to the island of Texel in the Dutch Wadden Sea, where he is still working for a marine research institute as a field researcher. Since 2004, he has participated in seabird and marine mammal surveys in European waters, the Caribbean, West-Africa, Antarctica, and Spitsbergen (Svalbard).

In recent years, he has been able to combine his full-time job with his passion for guiding. During expedition cruises, he acts as guide, lecturer, and zodiac driver.

Hans is a keen nature photographer in his spare time. He also carries out an administrative function for [www.waarneming.nl](http://www.waarneming.nl) and [www.observation.org](http://www.observation.org), verifying observations of seabirds and marine mammals. Hans speaks Dutch, English, and German.

**Deutsch:** Hans kommt aus den Niederlanden. Seine Faszination für Natur und Reisen war bereits in jungen Jahren sehr ausgeprägt. Er ist als Ornithologe in ganz Europa unterwegs und begann schon 1999 mit der Begleitung von Vogelreisen.

Später hat er Küstenschutz und -management studiert, wofür er auch in halbes Jahr lang in Norwegen lebte. 2006 ist er auf die Insel Texel im niederländischen Wattenmeer gezogen. Dort arbeitet er immer noch für ein Institut für Meeresforschung. Seit 2004 hat er an mehreren Seevogel- und Seesäugerzählungen teilgenommen, die ihn bis jetzt durch europäische Gewässer, in die Karibik, nach Westafrika, in die Antarktis und nach Spitzbergen (Svalbard) führten.

In rezenten Jahren ist es ihm gelungen, seinen Vollzeitjob in der Forschung mit seiner Leidenschaft für Guiding zu kombinieren. Auf Expeditionskreuzfahrten fungiert er als Guide, Lektor und Zodiacfahrer.

Fast schon selbstverständlich ist Hans ein enthusiastischer Naturfotograf in seiner Frei(?)zeit. Nebenbei hat er eine administrative Tätigkeit für [www.waarneming.nl](http://www.waarneming.nl) und [www.observation.org](http://www.observation.org) inne und verifiziert Sichtungen von Seevögeln und -säugern, die gemeldet werden. Hans spricht Niederländisch, Englisch und Deutsch.

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## Lauke Bisschops MD – Ship's Physician

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**English:** Hello, my name is Lauke Bisschops. I'm from the Netherlands, and I will be your doctor on this trip. I have a background in emergency medicine – I worked in the emergency department for six years – and now I am an elderly care physician in training. Besides that I also am part of an organisation called Outdoor Medicine, which organises courses for people who want to work as an expedition doc.

I took half a year off from my normal job to take part in a few expeditions as a doctor myself, and I just came back from such a placement in the Philippines. Hence the tan. I have been to many places, but it is my first time in the Arctic. So just like you, I am really looking forward to this trip to learn all about the High North!

**Deutsch:** *Hallo, ich heiße Lauke Bisschops. Ich komme aus den Niederlanden und ich werde Ihr Arzt an Bord der Plancius sein. Ich habe einen Hintergrund in Notfallmedizin und habe sechs Jahre lang in der Notaufnahme gearbeitet. Jetzt schule ich um auf Gerontologie, Medizin für ältere und alte Menschen. Nebenbei bin ich auch noch Mitglied der Organisation "Outdoor Medicine", die Kurse für Leute organisiert, die gerne als Expeditionsarzt arbeiten wollen. Ich habe kürzlich eine Auszeit von einem halben Jahr genommen, um selbst als Expeditionsarzt auf Reisen zu gehen. Ich bin gerade von einem Job in den Philippinen zurück. Deswegen auch die Sonnenbräune. Ich bin zwar schon an vielen Orten gewesen, aber dies ist meine erste Fahrt in die Arktis. Wie Sie freue ich mich wirklich darauf, den Hohen Norden kennen und lieben zu lernen!*



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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**

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)



**OCEANWIDE**  
EXPEDITIONS

# Captain Alexey Nazarov

and his international crew

of 45

Including:

Hotel Manager:	<b>Sebastian Duma</b>	[Romania]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Sava Savov</b>	[Bulgaria]
Head Chef:	<b>Gabor Kiss</b>	[Hungary]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Yuriychuk</b>	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Lauke Bisschops</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	<b>Michael Ginzburg</b>	[Germany/Russia]
Asst Expedition Leader:	<b>Katja Riedel</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Lynn Woodworth</b>	[Canada]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Aleksandr Romanovskiy</b>	[Russia]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Sebastian Arrebola</b>	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Frigga Kruse</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Karen Mulders</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Hans Verdaat</b>	[Netherlands]

Welcome you on board!





# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## North Spitsbergen

# Polar Bear Special

## Embarkation in Longyearbyen

### Thursday 8 June 2017

- 1600 **Welcome on board!** Your luggage will be delivered to your cabin as soon as possible. Check to make sure you are not missing anything. Feel free to explore around the ship.
- ~1700 **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Drill** in the Lounge (Deck 5). ALL PASSENGERS are required to attend this very important safety briefing.
- This will be followed by an **Introduction to the ship** by our Hotel Manager Sebastian Duma and Expedition Leader Michael Ginzburg in the Lounge (Deck 5).
- ~1800 Plancius departs northbound. The foredeck and aft deck are closed while the crew are handling the mooring lines.
- 1900 **Captain's Cocktails!** Captain Alexey Nazarov and Expedition Leader Michael Ginzburg invite you to join them for a **Welcome Drink** in the Lounge, where you will meet your Captain and the Expedition Team.
- 1930 Dinner is served in the Dining Room located on Deck 3 behind reception. Bon appétit.

This afternoon we will sail into open waters and the ship may roll. Please ensure you secure all of your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) in your cabin to prevent any accidents. Use the handrails when you move around the ship. Keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship.



# North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

## Hornsund

### Friday 9 June 2017

- 0700 Wake-up call.  
Today we will be exploring Hornsund, Spitsbergen's most southerly and arguably one of the most beautiful fjords. The area is stunning – high mountain peaks, glaciers, and the potential for a great variety of wildlife. Early in the morning we will **ship cruise** along the glacial front of the **Brepollen**. Enjoy the colours and shapes of the ice.
- 0730 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room
- 0845 Please join Michael in the Lounge for a **mandatory AECO** and Polar Bear and briefing. This will be followed by a briefing on how we use our Zodiac boats. A German simultaneous translation will be given by Katja.
- 1030 We hope to land on the western side of **Gåshamna ('Goose-bay')**, a wide bay that has been witness to many phases of Spitsbergen's history. Whalebones, a blubber oven and some whaler's graves are the remains of a 17th century English whaling station.
- 1300 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 In the afternoon we intend to Zodiac cruise in beautiful **Burgerbukta**, a smaller side arm of Hornsund, with great glacial scenery. Please dress warmly (we will stay in the boats)!
- 1900 Come and join Michael and the Expedition team in the Lounge for a **Daily Recap** where we look back onto today and discuss our plans for tomorrow.
- 1930 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



# North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

## Poolepynten & Tordenskjoldbukta

### Saturday 10 June 2017

- 0730 Wake-up call.
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room
- 0845 Please join Michael in the Lounge for a pre-landing briefing before we go ashore in **Poolepynten**. This location is a known haul-out site (resting ground) for walrus when they are not busy feeding at sea. AECO Rules determine that only 50 people can be with the walruses at one time. We will split in 3 even groups, while 2 groups are going for a walk one will visit the walruses, then we swap. Please remember to be quite while with the walruses and listen to the instructions of the guides.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1400 Please come to the lounge for a pre-landing briefing with Michael. In the afternoon we intend to land in **Tordenskjoldbukta**. Here we can take strolls of varying distances (short, medium, long) across the tundra, in search of reindeer.
- 1830 Come and join Michael and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap** and hear about our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



# North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special Expedition day in Raudfjord Sunday 11 June 2017

0730 Wake-up call.

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

This morning we want to explore the scenic **Raudfjord** in search of polar bears. Please join us in the search and remember to be quite when we are close to wildlife.

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

**Expedition afternoon:** We plan to continue exploring the Raudfjord. Depending on conditions we might offer a lecture. Please listen for announcements.

1830 Come and join the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap** and hear about our plans for tomorrow.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the dining room. Bon appétit!



## **North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special Smeerenburg & Magdalenefjord Monday 12 June 2017**

0730 Wake-up call.

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

0900 Please come to the lounge for a pre-landing briefing. Afterwards we would like to take you ashore at **Smeerenburg**, a Dutch whaling settlement from the 17th century where we will be able to see the remains of old blubber ovens. Sometimes walrus are hauled out on the beach. Please remember to be quite when we approach the walrus.

Later we plan to sail through the scenic **Sørgattet**, a narrow passage between Spitsbergen and Danskøya.

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

In the afternoon we plan to cruise into **Magdalenefjord**, which is a particularly scenic fjord with steep sided mountains which reach up to 900 metres on the northern side of the fjord. On the south side a number of glaciers can be seen flowing down from the high mountains to the sea. We will be on the lookout for wildlife as we enter the fjord.

1830 Come and join the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap** and hear about our plans for tomorrow.

1900 A special Arctic **Dinner** will be served tonight. Please dress warmly!



# North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

## Sea Ice Edge

### Tuesday 13 June 2017

0730 Wake-up call.

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

This morning we will cruise along the **sea-ice edge in the Northeast of Svalbard** in search of Polar bears. Enjoy the journey through the ice from the outside decks and help with the search, there more eyes the better.

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

In the afternoon we plan to continue our search for bears. Depending on conditions we might offer a lecture, so please listen for announcements and check the white board at reception.

1830 Please come the Lounge for our **Daily Recap** and hear about our plans for tomorrow.

1900 Your **Dinner** is served in the dining room. Enjoy!



## **North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special St. Jonsfjord & Tordenskjoldbukta Wednesday 14 June 2017**

- 0730 Wake-up call.
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room
- 0900 Please come to the Lounge for a pre-landing briefing with Michael. We plan to go ashore at **Gjertsenodden in the beautiful St. Jonsfjord**. Here we hope to offer an energetic hike to a viewpoint on top of a moraine overlooking the Gaffelbreen glacier and a leisurely walk along the coastline and onto the tundra.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- ~1330 After lunch it is time for the **settlement of your shipboard accounts**: Sebastian and Sava will call you by deck number. Please be patient.
- ~1530 This afternoon we intend to land in **Tordenskjoldbukta**, named after the naval officer Petter Tordenskjold. Here we can take a stroll across typical Spitzbergen tundra in search of reindeer.
- 1830 **Captains Cocktails**. Please join Michael and the Expedition team in the Lounge as we toast a successful voyage with Captain Alexey.
- 1900 A **farewell dinner** will be served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



# North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special Disembarkation in Longyearbyen Thursday 15 June 2017

Please place your **large check-in luggage outside your cabin** on your way to breakfast for collection. Please **return your keys to Reception** when you go to breakfast!

0700      **Wake up call.** The bridge will be closed this morning.

0730      The **breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room

~0900      

- Buses will be on the pier ready to ferry you to the center of town. **Please identify your luggage on the pier!** We can help you load it onto the luggage truck. (You will meet the luggage truck again at the airport where you can take your luggage from the truck to the check-in counter.)
- If you are staying in town overnight please take your luggage with you on the bus, **don't** put it on the truck!

1300      Buses will transport you from the town center to the Airport to meet your plane. They will pick you up from where you were dropped off.

On behalf of Captain Nazarov, his officers and crew, Michael and the Expedition team and Sebastian, Sava and the hotel department, we would like to thank you for travelling with us onboard Plancius and we wish you a pleasant and safe onward journey.