



ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

on board
m/v Ortelius

23 January – 2 February 2018



M/V *Ortelius* was named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Theatre of the World) in 1570. MV *Ortelius* was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland, as a research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science and was named *Marina Svetaeva*. In 2011 she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. The vessel was re-flagged and renamed *Ortelius*. Now the ship is sailing as a 125-passenger vessel. *Ortelius* is 91 m long, 17,6 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5,80 m, with an Ice Strength rating of UL1/1A, top speed of 12 knots and one diesel engine generating 3200 kW.



Captain Mika Appel
and his international crew of 49
Including

First Officer:	Yury Marin	[Russia]
Second Officer:	Laimonas Choroscia	[Lithuania]
Third Officer:	Warren Villanueva	[Philippines]
Chief Engineer:	Aleksandr Bondarev	[Lithuania]
Hotel Manager:	Dejan Nikolic	[Serbia]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Sava Savov	[Bulgaria]
Head Chef:	Khabir Moraes	[India]
Ship's Physician:	Veronique Verhoeven	[Belgium]

and

Expedition Leader:	Cheryl Randall	[United Kingdom]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Kurtis Randall	[Canada]
Expedition Guide:	Martin Berg	[Sweden]
Expedition Guide:	Ben Giunchi	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Victoria Salem	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Daniel Rodary	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Sara Jenner	[United Kingdom]
Kayak Guide:	Louise Adie	[United States]
Dive Guide:	Henrik Enckell	[Sweden]
Dive Guide:	Michael Green	[United Kingdom]
Dive Guide:	Catherine Buckland	[United Kingdom]

Welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Tuesday 23 January 2018

Embarkation, Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS position at 1600: 54°49'S, 068°17'W

Air Temp: 10°C Sea Temp: 8°C Wind: SW 6 Sea state: 2

So finally, the much-awaited departure day was upon us! We woke up in Ushuaia to blue skies and sunshine (which – typically - changed to cloud and rain intermittently throughout the day), full of excitement and anticipation at the thought of boarding the *Ortelius* for our forthcoming adventure. For many of us today signified the culmination of a lifelong dream.

We spent the morning exploring this lovely Patagonian city, soaking up the local flavours and enjoying the sights. Ushuaia marks the end of the road in Argentine Tierra del Fuego, but also the beginning – the beginning of a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. During the summer this rapidly growing frontier town of 55,000 bustles with adventurous travellers. The duty-free port flourishes with tourism, but also thrives on a sizeable crab fishery and a burgeoning electronics industry. Ushuaia, which stands for “*bay that penetrates to the west*” in the indigenous Yaghan tongue, clearly benefits from its magnificent, yet remote setting.



It was a breezy afternoon with a light drizzle of rain as we made our way along the pier to the ship at around 4 pm, ready to board our new floating home for the next 11 days. We were greeted by members of our expedition staff who directed us to the reception, where we were checked in by Hotel Manager DJ and his assistant Sava, and then the friendly hotel team showed us to our cabins. There we found our luggage and in no time at all we had unpacked and started to explore our new surroundings.

At 5 pm we convened in the lecture room on Deck 3 to meet Expedition Leader Cheryl, who welcomed us on board the ship. Third Officer, Warren, then acquainted us with the safety features of the vessel and with the essential dos and don'ts on board. He was followed by Hotel Manager DJ, from whom we learned about ship routine during our voyage; he imparted useful information about mealtimes, Internet/Webmail access and treating the toilets nicely.

Soon afterwards it was time for the mandatory safety drill and we gathered in the Lounge/Bar, donned our big orange lifejackets and went through a roll-call to make sure everybody was there. We were then escorted outside to take a look at the lifeboats, but were left confident that we would have no reason to do this again in the next 11 days!





At 6.45 pm we met in the Lounge/Bar on Deck 6 in order to get to know the expedition staff. Expedition Leader, Cheryl, introduced Captain Mika – the person who would get us there and back again safely. He spoke a few words and explained that we were welcome on the Bridge during daylight hours, which is a great viewing platform for bird-watching and also the place to find out from officers on watch what life is like at sea. We raised a glass of bubbly (or orange juice) to the success of our voyage and then Cheryl told us a little about our future plans

before handing over to her team of guides for brief self-introductions.

Shortly afterwards we were invited to the Dining Room to enjoy the first of many delicious meals on board, prepared by Head Chef Khabir and his team. There was a real buzz in the Dining Room, as we got to know each other and talked about our hopes and aspirations for this voyage.

Our first evening was occupied with more exploration of the ship, adjusting to her movements and settling into our cabins before retiring for the night.

In the early hours of the morning we reached the entrance of the Beagle Channel and headed out into the open waters of the Drake Passage - our Antarctic adventure was now fully underway!!!!

Day 2 – Wednesday 24 January 2018

At Sea, Drake Passage towards Antarctica

GPS position at 0800: 56°08'S, 065°59'W

Air Temp: 10°C Sea Temp: 9°C Wind: NW 7 Sea state: 4

From about 3 am we became aware of a bit of movement on board *Ortelius*, as we emerged from the Beagle Channel and headed out into the Drake Passage. Still, most of us slept well, tired from our long journey to the bottom of South America.

Breakfast was served from 8 – 9 am and it was reasonably well attended, considering we were all developing our sea legs still. However, as conditions worsened slightly during the morning, Victoria decided to hold her 10.30 am lecture in the Lounge/Bar rather than the Lecture Room; the Bar is in the stern of the ship, so suffers less movement than the Lecture Room, which is right in the bow.

The history topic today was 'An Antarctic Peninsula History' and dealt with four expeditions to precisely the region of the Antarctic Peninsula we will ourselves be visiting; these voyages are little known compared with the famous exploits of Scott, Shackleton and Amundsen, which was something our on-board historian was determined to rectify! An hour later, Gerlache, Nordenskjöld, Charcot and Rymill were never-to-be-forgotten names by *Ortelius* passengers!



A selected Antarctic Peninsula history, 1897 - 1937



De Gerlache (Belgian)
Nordenskjöld (Swedish)
Charcot (French)
Rymill (British)



Next up was a mandatory meeting for all divers – who got together with their diving guides (Henrik, Michael and Catherine) in the Lecture Room to find out how their exciting operation was going to work in Antarctica. The rest of us can't wait to hear from them what's going on under the waves while we focus on the wildlife and scenery on the ice and above ground.



And then it was lunchtime. DJ had decided that the ship was rolling a little too much to serve a buffet lunch on our first day, so he and his galley team got us all into the Dining Room at the same time for a plated lunch. Much safer! Most people made it, though seasickness is affecting some. The best solution is either to go out on deck and admire the sea birds, whilst staring fixedly at the horizon; or to go to bed and stay horizontal...

A few of us took a siesta after lunch while we had the opportunity. After all, once we arrive at the White Continent we hope (weather permitting) to be very busy. We also had another important activity to fit in – receiving our rubber boots for Antarctic landings. We were called to the Lecture Room by deck and were able to try on a few different sizes until we knew we had the best fit possible; Kurtis and Martin were handing out zodiac life-jackets on the way out, which are much smaller and more comfortable than the huge emergency ones we practised trying on yesterday during our Lifeboat Drill.

This afternoon was a good time to visit the Bridge and get to know some of the officers and crew who work at the nerve-centre of the ship – great views of birds also, without getting cold out on deck, though when the wind dropped in the afternoon, there weren't so many about.

At 2.30 pm we reconvened in the Bar to hear Kurtis, our resident geologist and glaciologist, deliver a fascinating talk entitled 'Ice Ice Baby'. Unsurprisingly we heard about glaciers, icebergs and sea ice, which got us in the mood as we sailed ever southward towards Antarctica.



Shortly after this the kayakers met up with Louise for an important briefing prior to setting out for their first paddle, hopefully the day after tomorrow. At around this time we discovered that at 4 pm every day there are fresh cakes/cookies available in the Bar – maybe a discovery it would be better NOT to have made so early in the trip. Temptation is a terrible thing, but 'sweet of the day' goes so well with our afternoon coffee/tea.

The afternoon's entertainment continued at 5 pm with Martin's lecture on 'Sea Birds: Masters of the Sea and Sky'. This talk was timely, as it is

good to be able to put a name to the species we saw flying around the ship, especially this morning when there was quite a lot of wind.

And so we came to the last organised activity of our first day on *Ortelius* – Recap & Briefing at 6.30 pm. We like to meet just before dinner in order to summarise what we did and saw today, and to give Expedition Leader Cheryl a chance to preview tomorrow. This is also an opportunity for passengers to ask specialist staff questions in their field, and for said staff to impart important information connected with where we have been or are going. And Rolando was behind the bar, awaiting our drinks orders! By dinnertime we knew a lot more about Sir Francis Drake (of Drake Passage fame) and were getting excited about crossing the Antarctic Convergence in the night.

Dinner followed, with a choice of meat, fish or vegetarian dishes. People continued to enjoy being out on deck and socialising in the Bar/Lounge during the evening. Tomorrow will be another sea day, so we won't have to get up too early.

Day 3 – Thursday 25 January 2018

At Sea, Drake Passage towards Antarctica

GPS position at 0800: 59°59'S, 064°41'W

Air Temp: 7°C Sea Temp: 2°C Wind: WNW 7 Sea state: 8

The night passed peacefully, with the winds dropping considerably, so most felt well rested when the wake-up call came at 7.30 am. Outside, there was a cool breeze, the clouds were hanging low and a little fog was lingering, which was no surprise as we were approaching the Antarctic Convergence, which would signify the crossing into Antarctica waters - based on the biological boundary.

The day started with a mandatory IAATO briefing in the Lecture Room, where we found out how to interact with the wildlife without causing the animals distress. The excitement built as we all realised what we are going to see and do. This was followed by the mandatory biosecurity check-up; clothes and equipment were brought up to the Lounge to be carefully checked for seeds and other substances alien to Antarctica. Vacuum cleaners were deployed as passengers enthusiastically poked noisy nozzles into every pocket, seam and compartment of jackets, trousers, rucksacks and walking boots. Only brand-new equipment escaped this rigorous treatment.



Soon afterwards lunch was served and it was great to see a good turn-out in the Dining Room; it appeared people were finally finding their sea legs and adjusting to the ship's movements. However, there was no time for a mid-afternoon nap as we had to reconvene in the Lecture Room, this time for a



mandatory zodiac-safety briefing, where Kurtis explained how zodiac operations would work over the forthcoming days.

After that it was time for the campers' meeting, in which Ben told us all about sleeping out on the ice and answered any questions the group had. As expected there were a few surprised faces when he appeared with the bivy bags and the potty toilet!

With a cup of coffee in one hand and a delicious piece of homemade cake in the other, most people settled in the Lounge

to listen to Sara's presentation about 'Polar Photography', where she gave us some useful tips on how to improve our pictures. She explained how it is not just picture-taking, but more about picture-making - how we can arrange the horizon and where to put our picture's main component. She also introduced us to some of the technical terms and settings, such as f-stop, shutter speed and ISO, and which to use for what kind of picture. On Sara's recommendation, many people headed out on deck afterwards to play with their cameras and get acquainted with some of the techniques she had spoken about.



At 5 pm, Martin invited us to his Penguin presentation in the Lecture Room, which provided us with an overview of the breeding cycle, habitat and seasonal changes affecting several species of penguin. He looked at the challenges and pressures

involved in reuniting with a partner from previous years or finding a new one, setting up home with a good nest, finding food and avoiding predators. All of this has to be achieved in the short Austral summer and the penguins do it, not with ease, but with great determination and courage in a very difficult environment. His lecture only served to boost our excitement as to what we might see over the next few days.



Time to go out on deck and get some fresh air and sea views, before rounding up our second sea day with our daily

Recap & Briefing in the Lounge, in which Cheryl explained the plans for our first day of activities in Antarctica, creating a huge wave of anticipation amongst us all. This was followed by a short talk from Victoria about Captain Cook's Antarctic explorations and a brief look at seabird wing span from Martin.

After dinner many of us made our way up to the Bar for a nightcap and to watch the film that Daniel made, documenting his time at Dumont D'Urville (the French Antarctic Base in the Ross Sea). He added a spoken commentary to it and it was good to get a glimpse of what it was like spending a whole year on an Antarctic base. After this most of us retired for the night, in preparation for our first action-packed day on the mighty White Continent!

Day 4 – Friday 26 January 2018

Cuerverville Island & Paradise Harbour

GPS position at 0800: 64°17'S, 064°01'W

Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: 2°C Wind: NE 4 Sea state: 2

We awoke early as we reached the first signs of the Antarctic Peninsula - the Melchior Islands on the Port Side, and Anvers Island on the Starboard... Good light and amazing views for our first eye contact with the Far South.



A few hours on, after crossing the Gerlache Strait we approached Cuerverville Island. Conditions were good and everybody had a first close-up meeting with the stars of the place, Gentoo penguins!

Thousands of them nest on the island, and

we were able to see all the daily concerns of a penguin rookery - care of chicks, the change of shift on the nest, feeding, and the continuous shuttles up and down the slopes of penguin parents coming and going from the ocean.

In the afternoon we transited to Brown Station, an Argentine-managed research base in the aptly-





named Paradise Harbour. Zodiac cruises offered some close-up views of Crabeater seals in the water and Antarctic cormorants on the cliffs, and a nice calm atmosphere and smooth seas in Skontorp Cove, with snow falling slowly and silently on ice-floes and scattered iceberg debris. Those of us who climbed the snow hill behind the research station

had an astonishing view over Skontorp Cove and the enormous glacier behind.

Excitement was running high at Recap & Briefing that evening; not only were we eager to hear about tomorrow's Peninsula activities, but nearly 30 aspiring Campers were hoping to spend the night out on the ice. Conditions stayed good and they shouldered their sleeping gear and all headed out around 9 pm, in good spirits. There was much speculation back on board as to how they would feel in the morning...



Day 5 – Saturday 27 January 2018

Neko Harbour & Danco Island

GPS position at 0800: 64°51'S, 062°33'W

Air Temp: 5°C Sea Temp: 1°C Wind: SE 3 Sea state: 1



The fifth day of our Antarctic adventure got off to an early start at 4.45 am, when some of us woke up in our sleeping bags to a beautiful, calm morning on Leith Cove Island. As soon as everyone was back on *Ortelius* we set course to Neko Harbour, in order to spend some time with the local Gentoo penguins breeding there on the stony hillsides above the bay. On our way, we enjoyed views of the striking blue sea under snow-

covered mountain peaks and marvellous icebergs.

The weather remained good throughout the morning, with little or no wind and sunshine. In Neko Harbour we climbed a ridge behind the beach to look out over an amazing glacial landscape and to watch the Gentoo penguins as they went about their daily lives - feeding their fledglings, bringing stones to their nests and defending themselves from hungry South-polar skuas.



During the afternoon we relocated to Danco Island, which is about a two-hour journey north of Neko Harbour. On our way, we encountered a few distant Humpback whales together with Snow petrels, Southern fulmars and Wilson's storm petrels – all viewed from the outer decks or in comfort from the Bridge.

As we approached our afternoon's landing site the weather changed dramatically and snowfall, together with increasing wind, reduced visibility; still, for those of us who climbed to the top of Danco Island the reward was a 360-degree view of stunning Antarctic landscape, with a couple of Minke whales swimming in the background of the bay. At 6 pm the last zodiac left the beach, just as the wind increased again and fresh snow started to fall. We had enjoyed the best of the afternoon.



Unfortunately, due to rising wind and snow, the second round of camping was cancelled in the evening. Still, that meant we could enjoy a social time at the Bar instead after Recap & Briefing and dinner.

Day 6 – Sunday 28 January 2018

Pleneau Island & Petermann Island

GPS position at 0800: 65°07'S, 064°02'W FURTHEST SOUTH = 65° 11 'S

Air Temp: 5°C Sea Temp: 1°C Wind: N 3 Sea state: 2

This morning, we were woken from our restful sleep after yesterday's excitement a little bit early, since we were leaving the Southern Gerlache Strait and heading towards the Penola Strait. The route in between took us through the thousand-metre-deep, hundred-and-sixty-metre-wide, highly picturesque Lemaire Channel. It's only nine km long, but this was one leg of our



journey that was well worth getting up for. The passage is notorious for having large icebergs inside, so we tentatively pushed ahead weaving in between the ice, finding a path just wide enough for our ship to glide through; after half an hour or so, we came out the other end into a large bay, the northern end of the Penola Strait. A quick trip inside for breakfast.

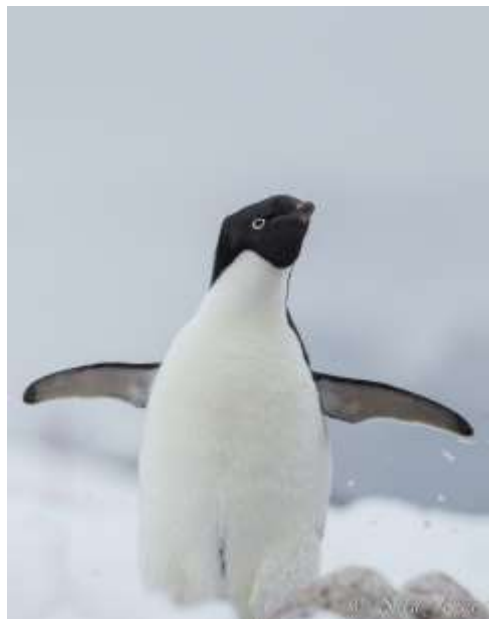


Outside, with our bellies full, the ship arrived to the shores of Pleneau island where we were met by some windy weather. The

drivers lowered the zodiacs and we all piled in for what promised to be a much wetter ride to shore than we were used to up to this point! Onshore Gentoo penguins formed a fabulous foreground to the magnificent backdrop of Booth Island rising up into the clouds. We spent half of the excursion onshore and for the other half, went back into the wavy bay and continued on, further away from the ship into Iceberg Alley. This bay was a complete mass of towering icebergs, each a sculpture shaped by the wind and



waves, blown into this protected harbour by storms and trapped in the shallows. Massive arches fractured by time seemed ready to crumble and fall down at any minute. The now familiar Crabeater seals were lounging on icebergs, digesting their latest feed of krill. A long drive back to the ship, cutting through the waves, brought us back to the warm and dry *Ortelius*!



Lunch was very welcome.

Outside again, we moved around the corner and farther down the Penola Strait to Petermann Island, the farthest southern point of our journey. A little less windy than the morning, we went ashore to find a Weddell seal sound asleep right at our landing site, where he would remain during our whole excursion. The main aim of visiting this island is to view the Adelie penguin, one of the true 'Antarctic' penguins. Along with the Adelies, Gentoos and Antarctic shags also call Petermann Island home. The Adelie colony here is being studied and so we couldn't approach too close; a little patience however was rewarded, and we saw many Adelies, meeting us along the trail in the middle of their commute from nest to sea. Afterwards, a walk up the hill and around the corner

gave us a much-appreciated leg stretch and fantastic views of a small ice-choked bay on the other side of the island. From the end of the island we gazed south, towards the Pole...a mere 1500 miles away!

Recap & Briefing was all about tomorrow's activities, contained some more information about Petermann Island, and solved the puzzle of why ice is often blue.

Dinner was a special treat – an Antarctic BBQ, albeit in the Dining Room. The weather forecast for this evening had been too uncertain to set up outdoor grills and tables. Still, we

feasted and toasted our voyage courtesy of Oceanwide Expeditions – unless we were going camping, that is...

A few brave souls (17 in all) then got dressed once more to head outdoors, re-boarding the zodiacs with sleeping bags in hand to go and spend a night off the ship and on the icy shores of Hovgaard Island. Sleep tight!

The rest of us watched 'Penguin Post Office' in the Lounge, to prepare us for a possible landing at Port Lockroy tomorrow. Then we got tucked into our comfortable beds on board, a very full day behind us, and anxious to see what tomorrow would bring.



Day 7 – Monday 29 January 2018

Port Lockroy, Neumayer Channel & Wilhelmina Bay

GPS position at 0800: 64°50'S, 063°34'W

Air Temp: 4°C Sea Temp: 0°C Wind: NE 6 Sea state: 1



As soon as all campers were back on the ship after a night on Hovgaard Island we set sail for Port Lockroy. Unfortunately, the wind picked up significantly on our way there.

At 9 am, wind gusts of more than 40 knots were swiping the sea around the island, which made it impossible for us even to launch our zodiacs into the water. After a few hours of

waiting for the wind to come down, and with the red building of Port Lockroy not more than a kilometre away, we gave up.

Instead, we continued our journey first through the beautiful, scenic Neumayer Channel, and then through the Gerlache Strait, aiming at Wilhelmina Bay to get some shelter from the gale-force wind.

Through smashing waves, we crossed the Gerlache Strait and despite poor visibility we managed to find a few Humpback whales. As we turned into Wilhelmina Bay the sea eventually calmed down and after an hour or so, we were cruising through flat calm water, with scenic glaciers and icebergs surrounding the bay. Humpback



whales were frequently spotted fluking around the ship and a few of us were lucky enough to see at least two Humpbacks breaching not far from *Ortelius*. Other wildlife encounters included Crabeater seals in the water, and a Leopard seal resting on the ice along with both Snow petrels and Wilson's storm petrels.

Recap & Briefing was held at 6.15 pm, attempting to fit it in between Humpback whale sightings (this area is known for them). Cheryl managed to brief us about tomorrow's projected landings, but Victoria was



just getting underway with her Deception Island history when 'Humpback whales ahead of the ship' was announced and the Bar emptied! It was well worth it of course. Wildlife always wins.

Dinner followed, and the Bar was lively until fairly late, with passengers and staff alike excited about tomorrow's landings in the South Shetland Islands.

Day 8 – Tuesday 30 January 2018

Deception Island & Half Moon Island, South Shetland Islands

GPS position at 0800: 62°59'S, 060°34'W

Air Temp: 2°C Sea Temp: 0°C Wind: NE 5 Sea state: 2

An early wake-up call was needed to ensure that we could make the most of our last day in Antarctica. We began with a very scenic and careful navigation into the volcano's crater that forms Deception Island, through Neptune's bellows. Divers made their way out first looking for a good diving spot, and the rest of the passengers got ready to go right after that. It wasn't a long zodiac drive to the beach, but it was possible to feel the wind blowing, reminding us that we were still in a really remote area.



Once ashore, everybody made their own way around the buildings, artefacts and detritus at Whalers' Bay



- buildings that tell a story of the past whaling, flying and scientific activities that took place here. Some of the constructions show that there are no barriers against the rough conditions of nature. As we were expecting, some Gentoo and Chinstrap penguins welcomed the

groups, with some Fur seals hauled out at the other end of the beach from the floating dock. The option to walk up to Neptune's window was very tempting, and as it turns out, not only for the views: there was a surprise plan about to happen with the help of staff members - a proposal of marriage! After 10 years of being together. We hear that the reply was 'yes'...

And the morning didn't end there. There was still time for the brave swimmers to take the polar plunge in these cold waters.

Back on *Ortelius*, a very nice, big breakfast was awaiting us, to warm us up and welcome us back from this windy island. During the rest of the morning we headed further up the South Shetland Island group to our final landing of the voyage – at Half Moon Island.

Right after lunch it was possible to see our landing site, but with weather making operations a bit more complicated than usual. The wind was fairly strong, and with a lot of swell this made gangway operations and landing



on the beach slightly challenging. However, many of us had a goal that afternoon, to make it all the way to the Chinstrap penguin colony nesting on that island and try to find “Kevin”, a single Macaroni penguin

who has been going for many years to that place by himself. Unfortunately, not everybody was able to see him, but some people were able to take really good pictures of him to show others. It was amazing and lucky that he hiked across the island from the other side to visit us.



Weather conditions remained constant throughout the landing, and the way back to the ship was as bumpy and wet as the drive ashore. The professionalism and good driving of the staff brought all the passengers, safe and happy, on-board once more. It was a bitter-sweet feeling since our Antarctic experience was coming to an end now as we headed out once again into the Drake Passage. Doctor Veronique held a surgery to advise on precautions against seasickness and we all met together for our evening Recap & Briefing well contented with all we've seen and done, but slightly apprehensive about the weather forecast for the crossing. Victoria and Louise summarized the history of Deception Island for us and after dinner, the bar was busy until late. No one has to get up early tomorrow morning after all.

Day 9 – Wednesday 31 January 2018

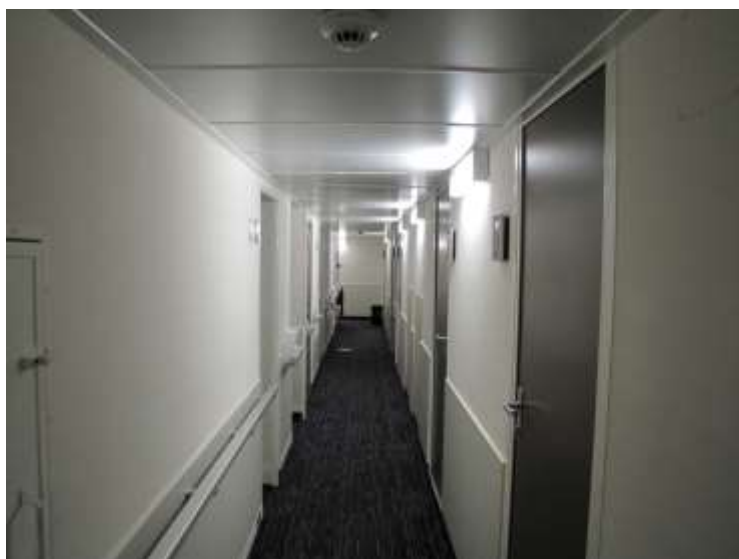
At Sea, Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

GPS position at 0800: 59°53'S, 062°08'W

Air Temp: 2°C Sea Temp: 1°C Wind: SW 6 Sea state: 4

We were grateful for Captain's poignant sounding of the ship whistle last evening as we left the last view of Antarctica behind. It made us pause and take stock of all that we'd experienced in the previous days. It seemed like a punctuation mark at the end of a long and glowing sentence.

A type of nostalgia has been felt around the ship today, as we roam the corridors of *Ortelius* – indeed, as we gaze at the huge



portrait of the man himself on the stairs near reception. We found ourselves reflecting on the amazing experiences we've had, the numerous species of birds and marine mammals and all the outstanding scenery we've seen. Perhaps most memorable on this trip was the hour and a half we spent cruising through the massive icebergs, grounded to a halt on the bottom of Pleneau Bay. It was like a giant sculpture garden of fantastic and unimaginable shapes.

The first day at sea is one of rest and relaxation as we unwound from the delirious whirling and twirling of the zodiac cruises and time on shore.

Set as a backdrop for this reflection time was a variety of lectures. First up in the morning, Ernest Shackleton's *Endurance* Expedition, told as only Victoria could do, with her humorous and insightful perspective.

Passionate Martin shared with us deeper knowledge of the pinnipeds of the Southern Ocean, along with a revealing talk about the plight and tenuous future of the tiniest of food sources - krill.

And then the sun came out, dazzling and beautifully lighting up the entire scenery. Now suddenly sullen grey turned into beautiful dark blue ocean, with brilliant contrasting white caps and blue sky overhead.

In the afternoon Kurtis talked about the complex, yet simply elegant,



geography of Antarctica...a massive continent brought about mostly by upheaval from volcanoes.

And Henrik and Michael shared with us their numerous diving experiences in these frigid waters. It was amazing to see how many species of unusual creatures inhabit this frozen world...from bright red 'devil' cod to huge isopods, to multi-limbed and gigantic starfish. An other-worldly experience, for sure.



We ended the day by coming back together once again in the Lounge for our final Recap. These Recaps have been nearly as informative as the lectures and are always delivered with enthusiasm, so dedicated are our guides! Sara told us all about how we can help with 'Penguin Watch', and Daniel reminded us about the deep, deep dives of which penguins are capable.

By then dinner was upon us and a convivial evening enjoyed by all. Tomorrow our thoughts will be

turning to packing, but tonight we are still sailing the Drake Passage, wondering if the weather is going to deteriorate during the night as suggested by Captain Mika...

Day 10 – Thursday 1 February 2018

At Sea, Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

GPS position at 0800: 55°49'S, 065°47'W

Air Temp: 9°C Sea Temp: 7°C Wind: W 8 Sea state: 6

And so our last day on *Ortelius* dawned bright and beautiful. A sunny morning met our gaze

when we went out on deck before breakfast to greet the day. The ship was rolling considerably more than yesterday, but certainly not as much as we had anticipated, which enabled us to enjoy the remainder of our time on board.

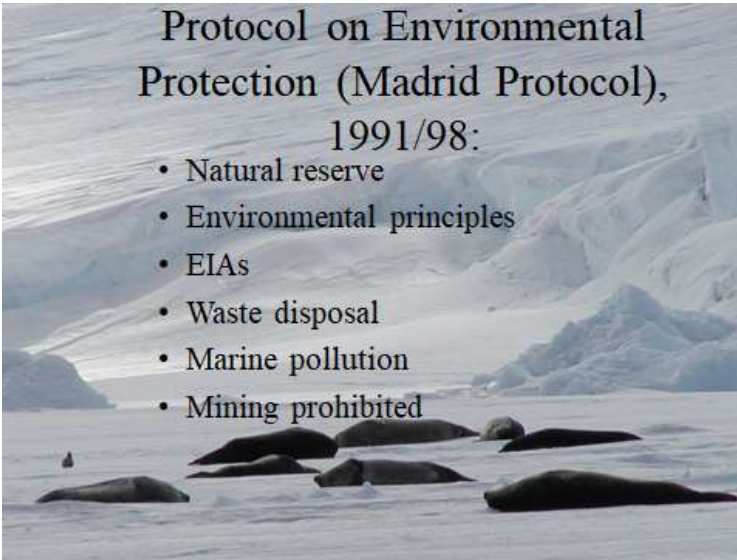
Today Victoria and Louise brought our lecture programme to a close. They addressed us in the Lounge/Bar rather than in the Lecture Room, since it is a more comfortable location for all

when the Drake is a little rougher than average...Victoria's theme was 'The Antarctic Treaty System'. Now we have all stepped on the continent of Antarctica, the most isolated and extreme location on the planet. We have stood among penguins and icebergs, awed at our privilege in visiting this last place on earth.



Protocol on Environmental Protection (Madrid Protocol), 1991/98:

- Natural reserve
- Environmental principles
- EIAs
- Waste disposal
- Marine pollution
- Mining prohibited



But who owns Antarctica? Everyone or no-one? And who controls and conserves it? Well, some of these questions at least were answered during her presentation and quite a few passengers felt enthused to find out more once they are back home with normal Internet access once again.

After a coffee break Louise was in the Lounge ready to share with us a tale of 'Early Whaling History'. Her great-grandfather was whaling down here in the early 1900s, even presiding at a Deception Island funeral. Her account brought life on board an early 20th century

whaling vessel vividly before our eyes.

By now it was nearly time for lunch, which was a delicious, yummy Bami Goreng – Asian style stir-fried egg noodles, with chicken, vegetables and soya. By this time *Ortelius* had reached the shelter of the Beagle Channel, where she awaited a pilot to take us into Ushuaia during the early hours of tomorrow morning.

In the early afternoon we gathered again in the Lounge. First up was a couple of short videos about Oceanwide trips in the north, beautifully made and shown by passenger Frederique, who has travelled on *Ortelius* before to Fair Isle and Svalbard. Now we all want to try out those trips too! Frederique's slideshows were followed by a fascinating movie called 'Rounding Cape Horn', in which cine-camera footage of one of the last square-rigged ships to round the Horn is commented – hilariously - by Captain Irving Johnson, who sailed on her as a young man.



Another – rather less welcome – adventure began at 3 pm as we were summoned deck by deck to settle our accounts in reception. DJ and Sava made it as pain-free as possible, but there were no doubt some surprises! At around the same time, we were called down to Deck 3 to return our rubber boots and life jackets – the voyage is truly nearing its end. Suitcases need to be packed, photos and

email addresses exchanged with new friends, as we head into our final evening.

As a mirror image to our Captain's Welcome Cocktails on Day One, we met together for the last time in the Bar on Deck 6 to toast the success of our voyage at Captain's Farewell Cocktails, and to listen to a few words from Captain Mika. He has enabled us to see some amazing sights and share this great adventure with him and his officers on *Ortelius'* Bridge. This was followed by a superb video/slideshow of our voyage compiled by Sara, with help from passengers and staff alike.



So the time for our last supper came around. The Dining Room was full of noise and conviviality as usual and we prepared to make the most of the last night in our floating hotel home. A drink or two at the Bar (Rolando accepts cash!) and to bed. Tonight we head to bed at the Pilot Station in the Beagle Channel. Tomorrow we will wake up at the pier in Ushuaia.

Day 11 – Friday 2 February 2018

Disembarkation, Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS position at 0800: 54°49'S, 068°17'W

All good things come to an end, as they say. Today was our last morning on the *Ortelius*. After a last night in our cabin, which had come to feel like home, it was time to move on to new adventures. We put our luggage in the corridors this morning as asked, so the crew could take it off the ship for us. After one last wakeup call from Cheryl and one last breakfast on board, it was time to say goodbye. Goodbye to our ship and its crew and staff, and to our new friends. Arrangements were made to stay in touch and farewells were said. We could look back on an excellent and successful trip, and all of us had many memories of wildlife and spectacular scenery during our days at sea, zodiac-cruising activities and shore landings.



At 8:30 am we handed in the keys to our cabins, picked up our luggage from the pier and made our way into Ushuaia or to the airport for our onward journeys. May we meet again somewhere, some day!



*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: 1658 Nautical Miles

**On behalf of
Oceanwide Expeditions,
Captain Mika Appel,
Expedition Leader Cheryl Randall,
Hotel Manager Dejan Nikolic
and all the crew and staff,
it has been a pleasure travelling with you.**

CAMPING NIGHT 1 (Day 4)

After our first day of activities at the white continent, the time for the camping arrived. With nice and calm weather ahead according to the forecast, Ben and Sara took the first group to a really nice little island at Leith Cove. The camping site was on top of the island, in a privileged place surrounded by mountains and glaciers.

Due to the low tides and the melting of the snow, the landing was a little bit more complicated than expected, but still good for getting the full experience.

While some people was working digging their holes in the snow, others were taking pictures and just waiting for any avalanches in the close area. By the time everybody went to sleep, the action started. In fact just a few were sleeping, but most of the campers were still awake inside de bivvies waiting to see something. Cracks, calvings, seals swimming, icebergs moving... Everything was taking part of the show by making different sounds while the hours were passing by during a very calm night with no wind, no rain and great temperature.

For first time in history, before the wake up call most of the campers were already packing and getting ready to go back to the ship! =) Probably because they wanted a hot coffee or chocolate so bad, or maybe a proper toilet... Who knows!

Catherine and Louise arrived by 5:15 to pick us up and leaving the island on the Zodiac, we took a look of the amazing place that hosted us for one night... WE MADE IT!!

CAMPING NIGHT 2 (Day 6)

As everybody could see along the first days of the trip, Antarctica is very unpredictable and wild, it never respects anybody so you have to take decisions respecting and adapting to its conditions. It was not easy for Ben to cancel the second night after a perfect experience with the previous group, but the safety of each person is the main concern of the team. With constant winds of 20 knots but experiencing gusts of 39 knots and ice moving fast by recap, the team decided to stay and attempt the following day. Still in the morning weather conditions were not perfect but enough for landing and visiting the places we were supposed to visit. Anyway, as mentioned before, Antarctica is unpredictable for good or for bad. Along the day, conditions got much better and Captain Mika leaded Ortelius to the possible spot for camping... Hovgaard Island.

Approaching to the destination we could see lots of ice drifting which made Ben and the Captain doubt about safety. Having a closer look we could spot a small slope protected from the wind but quite shallow.

Once everybody was onshore, people realized we were in a really beautiful place, protected from weather's inclemency and amazing views and even for a few minutes 3 Gentoo penguins came to say good night to all of us. After walking around, playing with snow and more, all the campers went to sleep not very late because the next morning's wake up call was at 3:45 due to the long navigation to relocate the ship for the next destination.

Early morning pick up, with a little delay due to the brush ice approaching the area and the zodiacs had to deal with that and make their way though it to get to the campers, but after 30 minutes of work, all the passengers were enjoying a hot coffee back on the ship.



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Ortelius 28 Antarctic Peninsula.

Dive Team Leader Henrik Enckell. Dive Guides Catherine Buckland and Michael Green.

Dive Team. Yvon Gallet, Sandrine Metral-Boffod, Franck Fougere, Alban L Michon, Paul D Sheperd, Sean Markle, Mark B Hatter, Claude Vigel, Lucia Lorenza Rusca, Christophe Brottier.

26th January 2018.



Dive 1 Cuverville Island.

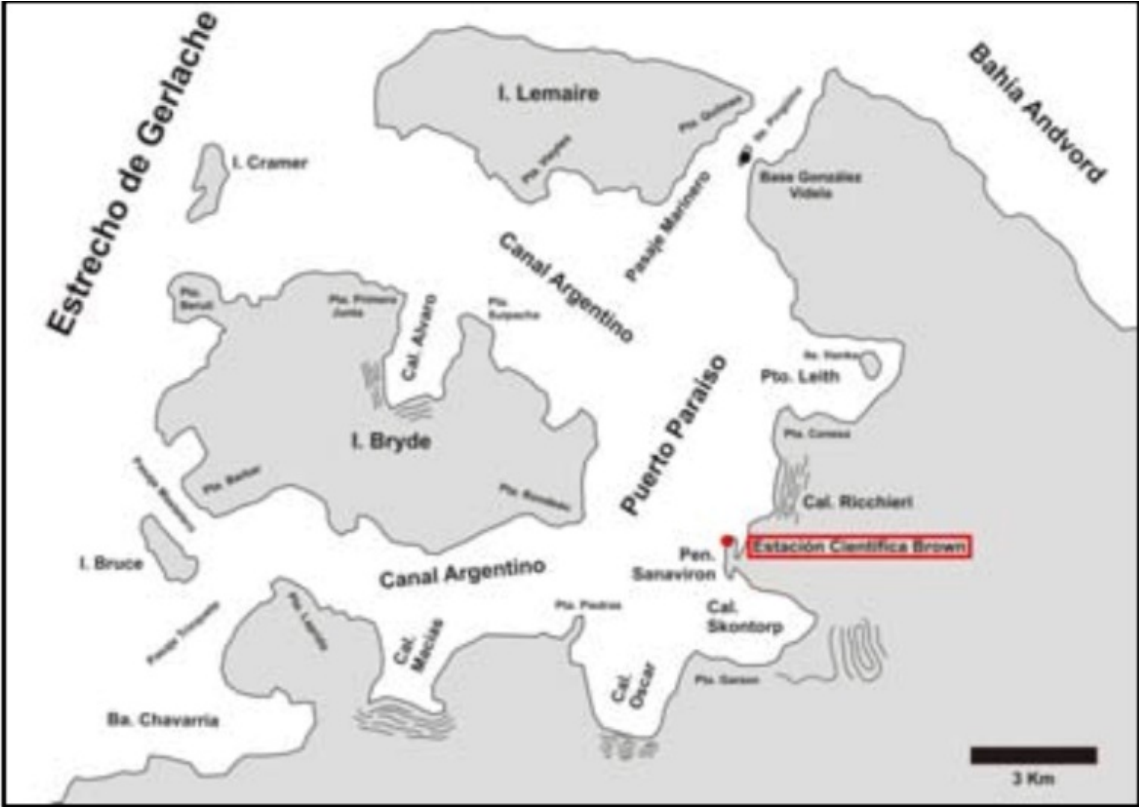
64°41'00" S, 62°38'00" W

After kitting up in the hangar we did our first dive of the trip in a bay on Cuverville Island. This was our check dive, a dive for us to check our kit and to make sure we are correctly weighted. The Bay was shallow so provided a safe site in regard to a shallow bottom beneath us. There were many Gentoo penguins above water however only one showed up beneath the surface. We

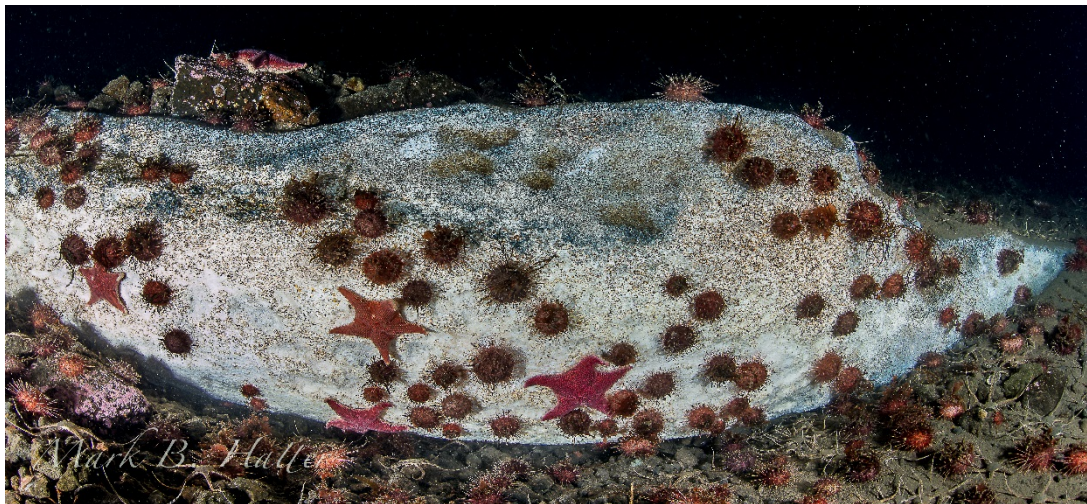


We saw lots of little things in the rocks on the sea bed. Limpets, Sea Spiders, Nudibranch and small fish. As a check dive it made an interesting start to our expedition.

Dive 2 Shag Rock. Brown Base. 64°53'S, 62°53'W



This was our first wall dive of the trip. Even as we kitted up we saw interesting nature, two Skua fought over the carcass of a Juvenile Cormorant. Gruesome but fascinating. We descended to 12 Meters down the cliff and keeping it on our right hand swam back towards the base. We saw more small creatures living on this pretty wall. Lots of bright pink starfish on the Kelp. A few individual Salp

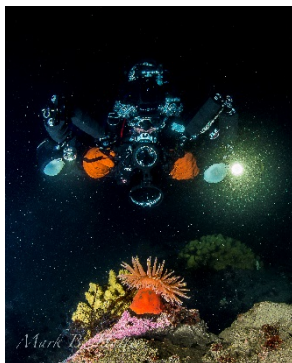


in the water. The visibility was very good and the water was Blue. A great dive which ended too soon as we reached our dive time of 40 minutes. After the dive we went for a Zodiac cruise to a huge glacier, seeing seals amongst the ice was a real treat.

27th January 2018.



Dive 3 Neko Harbour. 64°51' 00" S, 62°32' 00" W



Early in the morning the team were woken for breakfast after which we made a dive in this beautiful place. It was named after a whaling ship which worked in these waters. There were many penguin swimming in the water. The team decided to dive around ice. So after a briefing about how the mix of fresh and salt water effects visibility and buoyancy the divers entered the water. The divers enjoyed the majestic beauty of the ice. The light and visibility were very good. The ice looked almost like a cathedral with its pillars and buttresses. After the dive some went ashore whilst others went back to the ship to watch the Whales in the bay.



28th January 2018.

Dive 4 Iceberg Dive in Pleneau Bay 65°06' 00" S, 64°04' 00" W

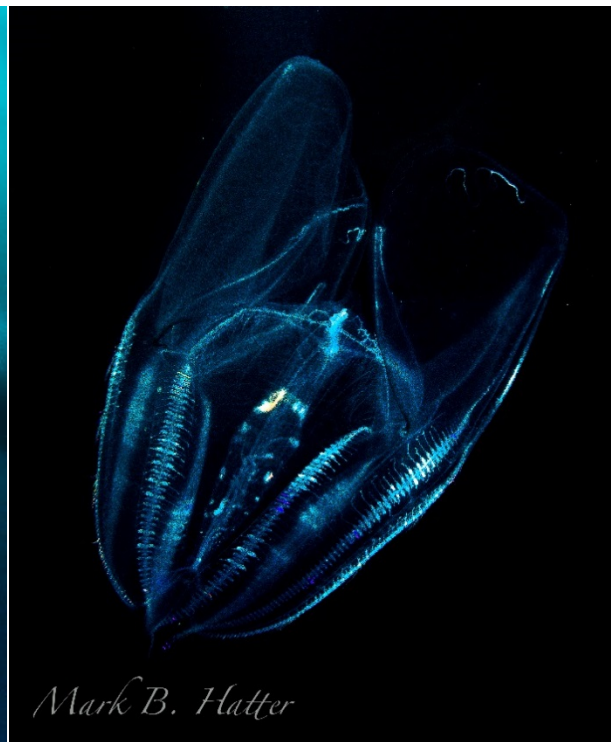
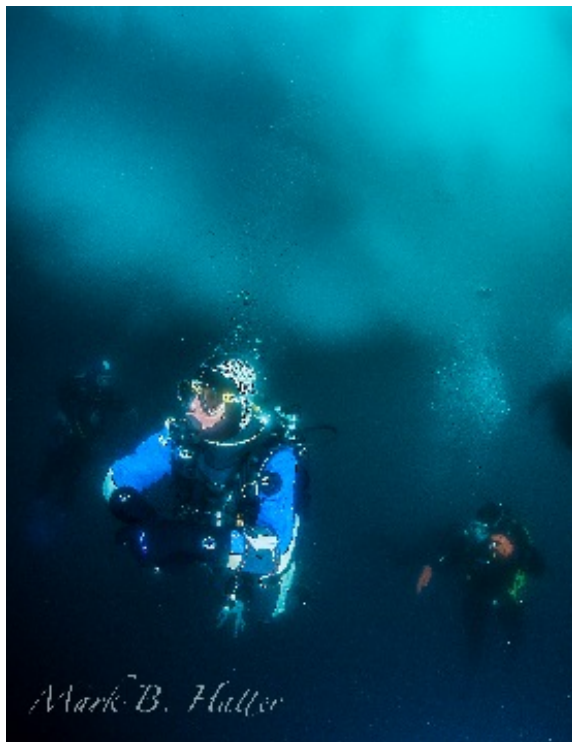


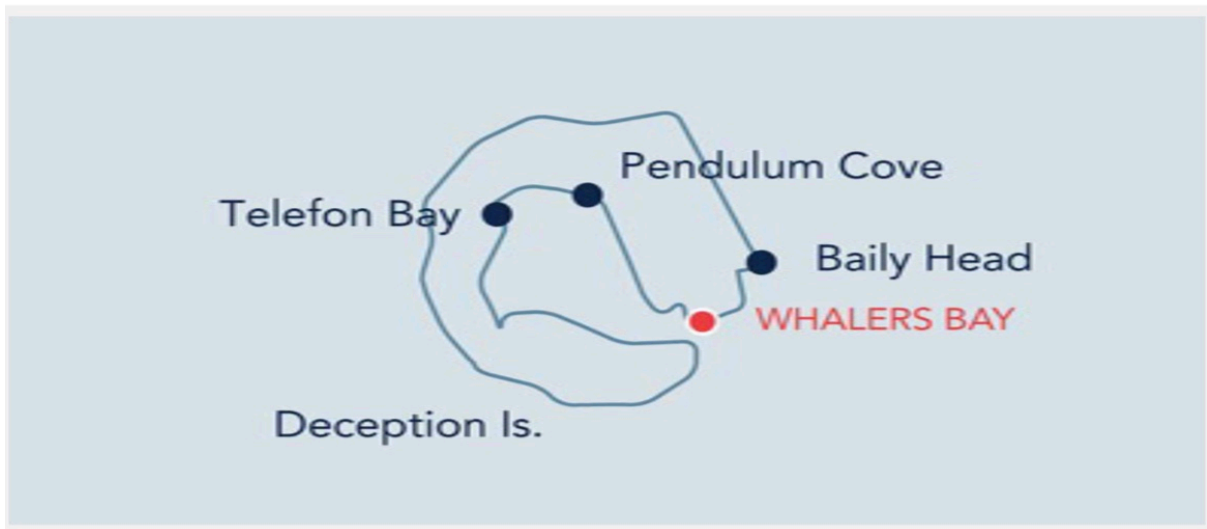
We tried to make a dive in strong wind and rough seas. We found a piece of Ice with a large patch of open water around it. The dive team kitted up and entered the water. Then the wind started to move the ice so a recall was sounded. The team performed a perfect recall and were soon back on the Zodiacs. All were amazed at how much the ice was moving in the wind. All were glad to be recalled on safety grounds. A shore landing was also enjoyed to see the Penguins that live in this beautiful place.

Dive 5 Ice at Peterman Island. 65°10' 00" S, 64°08' 00" W



The dive team again elected to dive ice, so a suitable piece was found in the bay. The team kitted up and entered the water. They enjoyed their time looking at the majesty under the sea around the ice. The swell showed the divers how dynamic a piece of ice can be. All returned with big smiles after a great dive. After a change of clothes some went ashore to admire the Adeline Penguins and to see the historic harbour in which Charcot overwintered. Even finding the PP carved in the rock in the harbour. Then back onboard for barbecue with a difference.





30th January 2018.

Dive 6 Deception Island Whalers Bay. 62°59'S, 60°34'W



We started early this morning at 6.30am. The sea outside Deception was very choppy, the air cold and the wind brisk. The ship passed through Neptune's Bellows and we kitted up. Zodiacs on the water and we motored across to the rocks to make a dive. We descended to 18m and landed amongst Whale bones with Gurnard around on the bottom. Salp floated by in the water feeding. The topography was volcanic and stunning to see. Too soon it was time to surface. We went ashore to explore the old Whaling station. Good dive!

Dive 7 Half Moon Island 62°35' 00" S, 59°54' 00" W



The weather was right on the limit but the dive team managed to make a dive. We went around the island to calmer water and to try for seals. The team kitted up and entered the water. They swam around the rocky seabed for 25 minutes. And saw Antarctic Cod, Isopoda and Small invertebrates in the kelp. After surfacing we returned to the ship to rinse kit and pack away after a great adventure on the Antarctic Peninsula.

**On behalf of
Oceanwide Expeditions,
Captain Mika Appel,
Expedition Leader Cheryl Randall,
Henrik Enckell and the dive team
Catherine Buckland and Michael Green
it has been a pleasure diving with you.**



2018 OTL29 KAYAKING LOG

CUVERVILLE ISLAND

Our first outing! With fourteen strong we might have appeared a might armada but in reality we started with a bit of trepidation. Would we feel comfortable? Would we get cold? Would we capsize??

After a short time we settled into our new water chariots and let the easy breathing return. Paddling slowly and easily through a breeze to the lee side of the island filled us with joy and wonder, and best of all....calm!

First thing up we made our way through the big swells to the penguin colonies along the rocks where we found dozens and dozens of chicks all being protected and fed. What a thrill to finally see them!

Behind the island we wove our way through medium sized icebergs to a tiny rocky island where remnants of the early whaling industry were still visible. Huge rusty chains that held the factory ships and the remains of water boats were mostly intact.

In all it was an outstanding paddling experience for all of us.



PARADISE HARBOUR

A subdued day with heavy wet snow falling found six paddlers out, looking up to the steep cliffs of Almirante Brown Station. One of the dive masters invited us to paddle over and above the divers...he told us they might be surprised to have four red craft darting overhead...and dart we did so no one would be subjected to our presence for too long.

After rounding the point we were treated to a magnificent and unforgettable scene. Skontorp Cove is a relatively small cove jam packed with enormous and active glaciers, reaching down to the sea from a tremendous height.

Alongside the cove we found another and very tiny cove, filled with glacial debris (brash ice) all crowned with tall caps of freshly fallen wet snow. We set up a camera station and snapped shots of the

paddlers as they made their way forward in front of a good sized ice cliff for a dramatic take-home photo.

From there we ventured halfway out into the cove, still well over half a mile from the glacial face, to wait out a calving. It never came but we heard the rumblings of calvings going on inside. Paddling back we saw blue eyed shags swooping low overhead, checking us out. At first they looked as if they could be flying penguins! The markings are remarkably similar, but their long necks and big wings give them away.

A truly memorable experience on our second day of kayaking.



NEKO HARBOUR

By now we'd got our logistical routine all worked out...how to lift and carry the kayaks, how to help others into and out of the kayaks on the water, handing off paddles and locking up the spray skirts. Our team had certainly solidified, to everyone's great satisfaction and pleasure.

This day would become our most memorable and other worldly experience yet due to the exquisite conditions: brilliant blue sunshine, dead flat calm and a long narrow channel leading away from the landing and the ship.

Our twelve paddlers worked effortlessly in the most forgiving conditions ever. Paddling easily along we were treated to an encounter with two curious minke whales. They circled us a couple of times, coming up to blow and reveal their location. We were thrilled to see them so many times after we'd heard how shy they can be!

Further on down Anvord Bay we paddled, always keeping an eye out for those pesky ice bergs yet keeping our eyes on the prize: the actual end of the bay!

Due to outstanding conditions we were able to make our way a very long distance (3-4 miles) due to a lack of heavy brash ice and huge ice bergs. We were rewarded with a view deep into a cove which revealed a small cleft going steeply up into the mountains and toward more glaciers.

The highlight of the trip for many was the unique and unusual reflective phenomenon of the surrounding mountains. Tall, ice clad and glacially covered mountains now surrounded us on three sides near the end of the fjord-like Bay. With these stellar water conditions we now had the effect of

paddling over top of the mountains, including the blue sky overhead, as the mirror-like reflection slipped beneath our hulls. There was some magic in all of this and each person was left to meditate on their own place in the grand scheme of this mysterious world. Some gorgeous photos were the take-home thrill but the memories might be even stronger.

Sadly, subsequent kayaking opportunities were not to be ours, the wind had other ideas for us and our ship. We wouldn't be out paddling here again but to have three outstanding experiences seemed just about right for most of us.

We'll be eternally grateful for this amazing opportunity to paddle away from the crowds, share the experience with such warm and friendly people and to have the privilege of experiencing the beauty of Antarctica with a wide-ranging view all from the seats of our kayaks.





It was an extreme pleasure paddling with you all!

Thank you for the privilege of your wonderful company.

Keep your paddles way up!

...Louise

Antarctic Peninsula (OTL 28
M/v Ortelius 23rd January - 2nd Feb

Species list: Common birds and Marine Mammals from Beagle Channel to Antarctic Peninsula

		Ushuaia	at Sea	at Sea	Antarctica	Antarctica
English	Latin	23-jan	24-jan	25-jan	26-jan	27-jan
PENGUINS						
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>					
Adelie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>					
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua</i>				X	X
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>			X	X	X
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>					
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	X				
ALBATROSS						
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>			X		
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>					
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>		X	X		
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	X	X	X		
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>			X		
Light Mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>			X		
PETRELS						
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	X	X		X	
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	X	X	X	X	X

Antarctic Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialoides</i>				X	X
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>				X	X
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>					
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>				X	X
Soft Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>					
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>		X	X		
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		X	X		
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		X			
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>					
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>		X	X		
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>					
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachvotilaturtur</i>					
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>					
Diving-petrel	<i>Pelecanoides sp.</i>					
SHAGS						
Rock Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>	X				
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	X				
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>				X	X
SHEATHBILLS						
Pale-faced Sheatbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>				X	X
SKUAS						
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	X				
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>				X	X
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>					
GULLS AND TERNS						
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	X				
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	X			X	X
Brown-hooded Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus maculipennis</i>					
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	X				

Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>				X	X
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Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna</i>					
MAMMALS						
English	Latin					
BALEEN WHALES		23-jan	24-jan	25-jan	26-jan	27-jan
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>				X	X
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>				X	X
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>					
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>			X	X	
TOOTHED WHALES &						
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>					
Killer Whale/Orca	<i>Orcinus orca</i>					
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>			X		
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>					
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>					
SEALS						
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>				X	
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>				X	X
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>				X	
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>					
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>				X	

)
ruary 2018

Antarctica					
Antarctica					
Antarctica					
At sea					
At Sea					
Ushuaia					
28-jan	29-jan	30-jan	31-jan	1-feb	2-feb
X	X				
X	X	X			
X	X	X			
		X			
			X		
			X	X	
				X	
			X	X	
			X	X	
		X			
X	X	X	X	X	

		X	X		
X					
			X		
			X	X	
			X	X	
			X	X	
			X	X	
X	X	X	X	X	
			X		
				X	
X	X	X			
X		X			
				X	
X	X	X		X	
				X	

X	X	X			
---	---	---	--	--	--

28-jan	29-jan	30-jan	31-jan	1-feb	2-feb
X	X				
	X	X			
			X		
				X	
	X				
X	X	X			
X					
X					
	X				

Antarctic Peninsula

January 23 to February 2, 2018

Day 4 • 26 January

A – Cuverville Island

B – Paradise Harbour

C – Leith Island Camping

Day 5 • 27 January

D – Neko Harbour

E – Danco Island

Day 6 • 28 January

F – Lemaire Channel

G – Pleneau Island

H – Petermann Island

I – Hovgaard Island Camping

Day 7 • 29 January

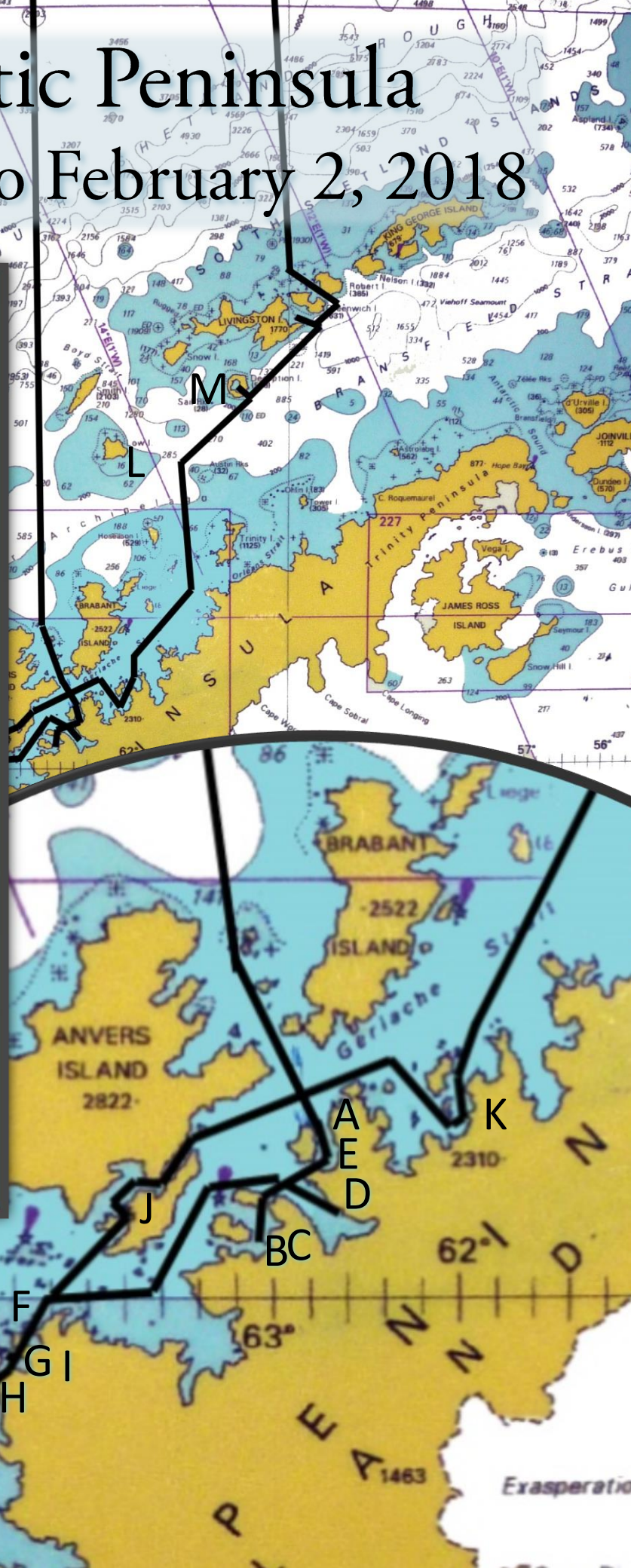
J – Neumayer Channel

K – Wilhelmina Bay

Day 8 • 30 January

L – Whalers Bay, Deception Island

M – Half Moon Island



Cheryl Randall – Expedition Leader



An Oxford law graduate, Cheryl worked as a corporate lawyer at a leading London law firm for four years, before leaving England in pursuit of a more active, outdoor lifestyle. She then spent sixteen months driving around Australia in a Toyota Landcruiser; the perfect segway for a change of career on life's magical journey!

Cheryl decided to turn her passion for adventure to a career at sea. As a professional sailor, Cheryl sailed over 20,000nm on some of the world's most beautiful superyachts, seeking her endless summer in the Mediterranean and

Caribbean, traversing the huge locks of the Panama Canal en route to the blissful isolation of a Pacific crossing. Cheryl loves all watersports; her ultimate diving highlight as a Rescue Diver has been swimming with hammerhead sharks off the Costa Rican Cocos Islands.

Always captivated by Antarctica's rich history, ancient landscapes and abundant wildlife, Cheryl has now crossed the Drake Passage sixty times to reach the great white south. Cheryl's search for sunlight takes her to the Arctic in the boreal summers, whether guiding intimate groups across the vast Canadian wilderness by canoe or sea-kayak or enjoying wildlife interactions in Svalbard, Norway. Fantastic Arctic wildlife experiences include wolves strolling in to camp, sea-kayaking with narwhal, and having a polar bear lick the bow of the ship whilst in the pack ice! In 2014, Cheryl was privileged to be part of the Victoria Strait Expedition which located Sir John Franklin's HMS Erebus (last seen in 1845), in the Canadian Arctic, earning the Erebus Medal recognising her contribution to the discovery.

Always looking for new ways to view the world, Cheryl holds her Private Pilots Licence and this summer gained her float plane rating, flying amongst the stunning 30,000 Islands of Georgian Bay, Ontario.

An avid explorer, Cheryl most recently travelled through the colours, smells and sounds of Rajasthan, India, after having fulfilled her lifelong dream of crossing Russia on the Trans-Siberian Railway. Among her solo travels, Cheryl includes as highlights hiking up Kota Kinabalu in magical Borneo, ballooning over the Serengeti at dawn and being lucky enough to meet Lonesome George in the Galapagos Islands.

Kurtis Randall – Assistant Expedition Leader



Hi there, I am excited to be one of your guides onboard! I am from a small town outside of Ottawa, Canada. Most of my time growing up was spent paddling and hiking on the lakes, rivers and forests of beautiful shield country in Ontario. I have been working in the outdoor tourism industry as a guide for over a decade, spending my summers in the Canadian arctic and sub-arctic leading multi-week canoe and sea kayak expeditions and my winters here, in the south playing around the ice.

As well as being a guide and adventurer, I schooled as a geologist, I have a passion for rocks and landscapes with

particular interests in earth systems and mineralogy. I am happy to talk and share some knowledge over a cup of tea or glass of whiskey in the lounge, not only on geology but on all things natural science. Above all, my biggest passion is living and playing in the outdoors and sharing those experiences with you.

Sara Jenner – Expedition Guide



For as long as Sara could remember she has had a passion for travel and searching for the wildest and most remote places on earth. Back in the UK when she was only 10, she remembers trading in her favourite pink bicycle for the money to start her travel fund. Every birthday and every Christmas she added a little more in the kitty and finally, at 18 she realised her dream of diving at the Great Barrier Reef! At that point, the travel addiction was born!

Sara is a keen photographer and when she is not wrapped up warm in the polar regions she enjoys working as a photographic guide in Botswana, on the

beautiful Chobe River and Okavango Delta, so really has a life of two halves.

Sara's love of wildlife and the great outdoors has taken her to all seven continents and she has travelled extensively in the polar regions including the Antarctic Peninsula, Spitsbergen, Greenland, Iceland, Baffin Island and Canadian High Arctic. Returning to the UK, Sara used this knowledge to work in the travel industry as a polar specialist for several years, until the travel bug again hit and Sara decided to swap life on the land for a life at sea and has just enjoyed her first Arctic season as part of an expedition team.

Louise Adie, Kayak Guide



Trinidadian born Louise has been enthralled with the natural world all her life, encouraged by her Norwegian parents. She's currently a passionate consumer of historical tales, particularly those involving the human exploration of the polar regions of the world.

For the past eight years she has lectured aboard eco tourism cruise ships about the various players in the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration. She has even given the toast numerous times at the graveside of Sir Ernest Shackleton.

In the past two years she has written and acted in two one-act, one-woman plays about luminary Antarctic explorers British Sir Ernest Shackleton and Norwegian Roald Amundsen. Her next play will be about Australian Douglas Mawson.

Setting the stage for this hunger for human exploration, her great grandfather, Alexander Lange, was the first Norwegian whaling manager to begin the taking of whales in Antarctica in 1905, after having worked in the Arctic areas surrounding Svalbard for twenty years.

Now entering her fourteenth year in the expedition cruising world, Louise has worked on ships from the Antarctic to the Arctic as both a kayak guide and a historian.

Living in the US most of her life, Louise has recently been published in two important periodicals, WoodenBoat Magazine and Sea History Magazine. Both articles were focused on the recently launched Norwegian Viking ship, the Draken Harald Harfagre, and its exploratory voyages through the North Sea, the East coast of Greenland and into the Great Lakes of the US.

Benjamin Giunchi – Expedition Guide



Ben comes from the country side of Argentina, known as “The Pampas”. Since very young experienced nature but after a few years traveling around the country he discovered his passion about Patagonia and the mountains. This also woke up a curiosity about glaciers and wildlife and he became a guide around El Calafate and El Chaltén.

Having the chance to share some time with people around the world, he turned into a Tour Leader to expand his knowledge about culture in South America and took a few courses that could take him closer to his dream... Antarctica!!!

As we are probably hitting a dram together, I invite you to share all the good vibes and enjoy a unique place in the world and your life... WELCOME TO YOUR ADVENTURE!!

Martin Berg – Expedition Guide



Martin's passion for birds and mammals has brought him all over the globe in his search for rare species. He has always been drawn to adventures and has participated in numerous expeditions into the Amazon rainforest, the Arctic, Caucasus, and the Himalayas to study rare and endangered bird species. He has also spent several seasons studying seabirds on islands in the North Atlantic Ocean and around

New Zealand and as well as conducted at-sea surveys on seabirds and marine mammals in waters around Antarctica.

Martin has studied biology at Lund University in Sweden and marine biology at Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre in Canada and is currently doing his PhD at Stockholm University where he is investigating what impact overfishing has on seabird survival and population dynamics. Martin is skilled in bird and mammal identification, and while almost always focused with his binoculars, busy finding birds and whales, he always welcomes a good chat about ecology and conservation.

Daniel Rodary – Expedition Guide



Daniel RODARY is an ecologist by training, with a master in wildlife and habitat management from University of Quebec in Rimouski, and a first specialisation on Emperor Penguin in Antarctica.

He overwintered in the French station of Dumont D'Urville, tracking penguins in winter and in the pack-ice with satellite and dive-recording loggers. These 15 months in antarctica were completed with 2 winter scientific expeditions on the Aurora Australis, the icebreaker of the Australian Antarctic Division.

In Spitzbergen he started with an amateur expedition of 800 km from Longyearbyen to

Smeerenburg and back, with a friend, travelling in a Zodiac and camping on shores.

Daniel started guiding in polar regions in 2002, and has since been in Sptizbergen and West Greenland, and the also in warmer water on the Orinoco river in Venezuela.

Among various jobs he was fisheries observer off Newfoundland, and program manager at The Cousteau Society, where he managed polar programs and integrated development programs in the Red Sea. He is now coordinator of a reforestation program in Haiti, Mexico and India for the NGO Biomimicry Europa, which deals with Biomimicry, sustainable innovation inspired by nature.

Michael Green – Expedition Guide



I have always loved the Sea and so joined the Navy as soon as I left School. In the Navy I became a diver and have enjoyed diving and instructing all over the world.

I joined Oceanwide Expeditions three years ago as a dive guide and have led and guided both in the Arctic and the Antarctic. I love both equally. Antarctica is one of the most special places on this planet in my opinion.

I am in my third year of a photography art degree and love seeing your photos they are all fantastic and capture different aspects of what we are going to see. If you need any help with your camera or your photos just ask. White balance is a favourite as our cameras aren't used to an all white background.

I look forward to helping you get the most from your holiday so please don't be frightened to ask any questions you may have.

My only tip for your trip is to take the time to look, then see and most importantly think. Put your camera down once in a while and enjoy your surroundings. The photos you take will be all the better for it. They will trigger your memories of the sounds, smells and amazing things you are about to see.

The nicest moments are when you can be quiet and relaxed, stop listen to the silence and think where you are. Not many people get to do what you are doing so savour every second.

I look forward to helping you have a safe adventure here in the Antarctic.

Henrik Enckell – Dive Master



Henrik has been diving for over 20 years and as a Rebreather Instructor Trainer he is teaching all levels of recreational and technical diving up to Advanced Trimix CCR. He runs the IART (International

Association of Rebreather Trainers) Regional Office for Northern Europe and is a member of the IART Board of Advisors.

Henrik is a keen wreck diver and has been involved in deep wreck expeditions all over the world. Some of the interesting wrecks he has visited are the WW2 disasters General von Steuben and Wilhelm Gustloff in the Baltic and HMS Victoria ("the vertical wreck") at 145 meters/475 feet off the Lebanese coast.

His interest for both the ocean and space has engaged him in projects with the European Space Agency (Mars500 project) and the SeaSpace Exploration and Research Society (Project Poseidon) among other adventures.

He has also led dive expeditions in the Antarctic and Arctic regions during 15 years and he was one of the first persons to take people diving on expedition vessels in these remote, challenging and many times undived waters.

Henrik has a M.Sc. degree in Electrical Engineering and a long experience in software development with project and line management positions in global companies. He has lived and worked in Tokyo, Japan for two years.

He has a military background having served in peace keeping and peace enforcing missions in the Middle East and former Yugoslavia. He is living in Sweden with his wife, his three daughters aged 16, 12 and 11 and his two-year-old son.

Catherine Buckland – Dive Guide and Lecturer



Catherine Buckland is a Commercial Diving Instructor and spends six months of her time working in the UK doing this. Able to teach a variety of marine based qualifications and a diver medic has meant she had worked on various different jobs. Predominantly based around the UK and Ireland, jobs have included safety diving for underwater cameramen and being part of a team supporting one diver who wished to break the world record for the longest cold water scuba dive.

For the other six months she freelances as an instructor or medic working for outdoor endurance events including things like 100km ultra treks, where a love of the outdoors is a must!



Captain Mika Appel

and his international crew of 49

including

First Officer:	Yuri Marin	[Russia]
Second Officer:	Laimonas Choroscia	[Lithuania]
Third Officer:	Warren Villanueva	[Philippines]
Chief Engineer:	Aleksandr Bondarev	[Lithuania]
Hotel Manager:	Dejan Nikolic	[Serbia]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Sava Savov	[Bulgaria]
Head Chef:	Khabir Moraes	[India]
Ship's Physician:	Veronique Verhoeven	[Belgium]

and

Expedition Leader:	Cheryl Randall	[United Kingdom]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Kurtis Randall	[Canada]
Expedition Guide:	Martin Berg	[Sweden]
Expedition Guide:	Ben Giunchi	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Daniel Rodary	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Sara Jenner	[United Kingdom]
Kayak Guide:	Louise Adie	[United States]
Dive Guide:	Hernrik Enckell	[Sweden]
Dive Guide:	Michael Green	[United Kingdom]
Dive Guide:	Catherine Buckland	[United Kingdom]

Welcome you on board!



Tuesday 23rd January, 2018

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 6.

~17.00 **Mandatory Safety Briefing in the Lecture Room (Deck 3).**
ALL PASSENGERS are **required** to attend this important safety briefing. Afterwards, Dejan Nikolic, our Hotel Manager will give an introduction to the ship.

We will conduct the mandatory Lifeboat Drill right after. Please listen for the Alarm.

18.30 Soon after sailing we would like to invite you to the **Lounge** (Deck 6) for a **welcome cocktail with** Captain Mika Appel and our Expedition Leader Cheryl Randall will introduce her expedition team.

19.30 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room located on **Deck 4** behind **Reception**.
Bon appétit!

~20.00 Approximate anticipated sailing time. As we leave Ushuaia we recommend that you enjoy the views from the outside decks.
Please Note: The Bridge will be closed for departure while we navigate the Beagle Channel.



Wednesday 24th January, 2018

Drake Passage

If we have heavy weather, we may close the outer decks.
Should you find the outside doors shut and locked with the silver handles,
for your safety, please do not open the doors and go outside.

Locations and timings for presentations may change.
Listen for announcements on the public address system.

- 08.00 **Breakfast buffet** is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 10.30 Join Victoria in the Lecture Room to hear an **Antarctic Peninsula History**. There are many Antarctic tales of exploration in the area we are going to visit and they are not all well known. Come and learn about them
- 11.30 The Dive team will give an important briefing for the **Divers** in the Lecture Room.
- 12.30 A **buffet lunch** will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 13.30 Please listen for announcements as we call you deck by deck to **collect a pair of rubber boots** from the Lecture Room, yours to use for the duration of the voyage. Bring your thick socks to get the right size.
- 14.30 Antarctica is the land of ice. Join Kurtis in the Lecture Room to learn all about glaciers, icebergs and sea ice in his presentation: **Ice Ice Baby**.
- 15.45 Louise will give an important briefing for the **Kayakers** in the Lecture Room.
- 17.00 Join Martin for his talk: **Sea Birds: Masters of the Sea and Sky**. He will be in the Lecture Room discussing the birds we have been seeing around the ship.
- 18.30 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our first Daily Recap.
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the Dining Room.

When moving around the ship, remember to hold on with one hand at all times. Do not put your hands in door frames and keep doors closed when not in use. Do not leave drinks unattended.



Thursday 25th January, 2018

Drake Passage

- 08.00 Breakfast buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 09.30 Please meet in the Lecture Room for the mandatory briefing on the guidelines from **International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators (IAATO)** with Cheryl. **Everyone must attend** if you want to come ashore in Antarctica.
- 10.30 **Vacuum Party!** As required by IAATO, please come to the Lounge to vacuum camera bags, backpacks, pockets and Velcro of pants and outer jackets that you plan to take ashore. We'll call you deck-by-deck to minimise queues. Staff will be here to help you. Once you've completed your vacuuming please sign the biosecurity declaration.
- 11.30 Louise will have an important meeting with the Kayakers in the Helicopter Hangar on Deck 6 at the back of the ship. Bring the base layers you intend to wear in the kayaks.
- 12.30 A buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 14.00 Please join Kurtis in the Lecture Room for a mandatory briefing on the **Zodiac procedures** we'll be following to get on and off the vessel. **Everyone must attend.**
- 15.30 Sara will be in the Lecture Room with her presentation: **Making the most of your Antarctic Photos**, where she will talk about photography technique and composition to help you prepare for your time on the frozen continent.
- 17.00 Join Martin in the Lounge for his presentation: **Life of a Penguin** in anticipation of visiting our first penguin colonies tomorrow.
- 18.30 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our Daily Recap.
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the Dining Room.
- 20.30 In the Lounge Daniel will be showing a movie on his **Overwintering in Dumont D'Urville**, with light commentary.



Friday 26th January, 2018

Cuverville Island, Paradise Harbour

Today we hope to visit the largest Gentoo penguin colony on the Antarctic Peninsula at Cuverville Island and, in the afternoon we will make our way into Paradise Harbour where we intend visit Brown Station, step foot on the continent of Antarctica and get great views of Paradise. We will also zodiac cruise in stunning Skontorp Cove to round out the afternoon.

- 07.30 Breakfast buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 10.00 Kayakers meet Louise in reception dressed in your kayaking gear. Gangway for kayakers will be at 10.30.
- 10.30 **Excursion at Cuverville Island.**
- 13.00 A buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 15.30 **Excursion at Brown Station.**
- 19.00 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our Daily Recap.
- 19.30 Dinner is served in the Dining Room.
- 21.00 Weather permitting, the **Campers** will head out for a night on the ice.

Timings today are likely to change, so listen for announcements.



Saturday 27th January, 2018

Neko Harbour, Danco Island

This morning we are visiting Neko Harbour in Andvord Bay, Gentoo Penguins and beautiful views await us. In the Afternoon, we will make our way into the Errera Channel where we will visit Danco Island, this small island is home to Gentoo penguins and a great view point up a tall hill.

- 07.30 Breakfast buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 08.30 **Kayakers meet Louise** in reception dressed and ready in your kayaking gear. Gangway for kayakers will be at 09.00.
- 09.00 **Excursion at Neko Harbour.**
- 13.00 A buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 14.30 **Kayakers meet Louise** in reception dressed and ready in your kayaking gear. Gangway for kayakers will be at 15.00.
- 15.00 **Excursion at Danco Island.**
- 19.00 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our Daily Recap.
- 19.30 Buffet dinner is served in the Dining Room for one hour.



Sunday 28th January, 2018

Lemaire Channel, Pleneau Island, Petermann Island

Early this morning we will pass south through the beautiful thousand metre high Lemaire Channel into the Penola Strait.

There we hope to make our way to the shores of Pleneau Island where we will find Gentoo penguin colonies and great zodiac cruising behind the island in Iceberg Alley.

In the afternoon, we hope to visit the Adelie penguins on Petermann Island and have a chance to stretch our legs walking to the other side of the island.

- 06.30 Your early morning wake-up call.
- 07.00 Begin our passage through the Lemaire Channel.
- 07.30 Breakfast buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 08.30 **Kayakers meet Louise** in reception dressed in your kayaking gear.
- 09.00 **Excursion at Pleneau Island.**
- 12.30 A buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 15.00 **Excursion at Petermann Island.**
- 18.30 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our Daily Recap.
- 19.00 Barbeque dinner!
- 21.00 Weather permitting, the **Campers** will head out for a night on the ice.



Monday 29th January, 2018

Port Lockroy, Neumayer Channel

This morning, we hope to visit the site of British 'Base A' established in 1944, now the home of the famous Penguin Post Office at Port Lockroy. Don't forget to bring your Credit Cards (no Amex). Dollars, pounds and euros are accepted too!

From our anchorage at Port Lockroy under the shadows of the stunning peaks of the Seven Sisters, we will make our way north-east through the Neumayer Channel with beautiful mountain vistas.

As we exit the Channel, we will come into the Southern Gerlache Strait, through which we will travel all evening, continuing our lookout for whales. A great afternoon to wrap up and spend it on the outer decks or up on the bridge.

- 07.30 Breakfast buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 09.00 We will welcome onboard the **Port Lockroy team** for a presentation on the Penguin Post Office in the Lecture Room.
- Kayakers meet Louise** in reception dressed in your kayaking gear after the Port Lockroy presentation. Gangway for kayakers will be immediately after launching the kayaks.
- 09.30 **Excursion at Port Lockroy.** The first five zodiacs will come ashore and the remainder will zodiac cruise. Everyone will switch at the halfway point so that everyone can do everything!
- 13.00 A buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- This afternoon we will be ship cruising in the Neumayer Channel and in the evening in the Southern Gerlache Strait. Wrap up warm and enjoy the views of Antarctica from the outer decks.
- 18.30 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our Daily Recap.
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the Dining Room.



Tuesday 30th January, 2018

Deception Island, Half Moon Island

We will sail through Neptune's Bellows, the narrow gap in the caldera wall of Deception Island, one of the Antarctic Peninsula's active volcanoes. This narrow gap is just wide enough to sail our ship through into Port Foster where we will plan to go ashore at Whalers Bay, the site of an old whaling station. At the end of the excursion, we will have towels ready for the brave souls who would like to take a polar plunge.

Wear your swimwear underneath your warm layers to make the transition easier.

In the afternoon we will make our way in between Livingston and Greenwich Islands towards Half Moon Island where we hope to find Chinstrap penguins nesting and possibly some Weddell seals hauled out on shore.

- 04.30 Your early morning wake-up call!
- 05.00 Wrap up warm for our passage through Neptune's Bellows.
- 05.15 **Kayakers meet Louise** in reception dressed in your kayaking gear.
- 05.45 **Excursion at Whalers Bay.** Don't forget to have your swimwear under your clothes if you plan to take the polar plunge! We will bring towels for you
- 08.00 Breakfast buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

Enjoy the glaciated southern edge of Livingston Island as we make our way north towards Half Moon Island. Do keep your eyes peeled for humpback and fin whales as we sail up the Bransfield Strait. Unless of course you're having a siesta!
- 12.00 A buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 13.00 **Excursion at Half Moon Island.**
- 18.15 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our Daily Recap.
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the Dining Room.



Wednesday 31st January, 2018

Drake Passage

After our departure from the Antarctic Peninsula, we anticipate some swell now that we have begun our crossing of the Drake Passage. Remember to reorganise your cabin to Drake-proof your valuables and to take your sea-sickness medication.

- 08.00 Breakfast buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 09.30 Join Victoria in the Lecture Room to hear the amazing story of **Shackleton's Endurance expedition**.
- 11.30 Join Martin in the Lounge for his talk on **Krill and Seals**.
- 12.30 A buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 14.00 Join Kurtis in the Lecture Room to learn about **Geology of Antarctica**.
- 16.00 Henrik will be in the Lounge with tales of **Diving in Antarctica**. Join him to hear all about exploring the underwater world in the polar regions.
- 18.30 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for our Daily Recap.
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the Dining Room.



Thursday 1st February, 2018

Drake Passage

- 08.00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 09.30 Join Victoria in the Lecture room to hear about **The Antarctic Treaty System**, some of its advisory organizations and its enforceability and effectiveness.
- 11.00 Join Louise in the Lecture Room talking about **Early Whaling History** and some of her family history in Antarctica. Follow along as she describes life aboard a whaling vessel in Antarctica in the early 1900s.
- 12.30 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.
- 14.00 In the Lounge Frederique will show two short slideshows from her previous trips with Oceanwide from Vlissingen to Svalbard and the Svalbard Polar Bear Special.
- 14.15 Staying up in the Lounge, we will show a short film called **Rounding Cape Horn**, an entertaining account of traveling through these waters by Captain Irving Johnson, narrating his original footage aboard one of the last square-rigged sailing ships to make the infamous journey around the cape.
- 15.00 Another adventure before reaching Ushuaia: **Settling Your Accounts** at reception! Please listen for announcements as DJ and Sava will call you deck by deck.
- 15.30 We will call deck by deck down to the Lecture Room to collect your **rubber boots and lifejackets**. Please stand-by for your deck to be called.
- 18.00 As we reach calmer waters, the Expedition Team invite you to the Lounge for a final recap of our voyage followed by **Captain's Cocktails**.
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the Dining Room.

Listen for announcements today as locations and times may vary with the weather.



Tuesday 23rd January, 2018
Arrival in Ushuaia & Disembarkation

The bridge, bow and aft will be closed this morning.

Please **put your check-in luggage in the corridor** outside your cabin **before breakfast**. It will be brought to the pier for you.

07.30

Breakfast buffet available for one hour in the Dining Room.

During breakfast the stewards will make a start changing the beds, but of course you are welcome to leave your hand luggage on the table, and to use the bathroom in your cabins after breakfast.

After breakfast, we will announce when the ship has been cleared (by the Argentine Customs Officials). Please do not step ashore before you hear an announcement that the ship has been cleared!

It helps us a lot if you DO NOT wait in reception please.

Once the ship is clear, you'll be able to head down to the pier to identify your luggage.

We anticipate that buses will be ready for disembarkation at around 08.30 if we have cleared Customs by that time. Do listen for announcements for disembarkation and bus timings.

For those of you heading into town or to local hotels, taxis will be available from the end of the pier, a short walk from our berth.

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Mika Appel, and all the crew and staff, it has been a pleasure travelling with you and we hope to welcome you back on board again soon!

2016: Consultative parties to the Antarctic Treaty:

Argentina (1961)
Australia (1961)
Belgium (1961)
Brazil (1975)
Bulgaria (1978)
Chile (1961)
China (1983)
Czech Republic (1962)
Ecuador (1987)
Finland (1984)
France (1961)
Germany (1979)
India (1983)
Italy (1981)
Japan (1961)
North Korea (1986)
Netherlands (1967)
New Zealand (1961)
Norway (1961)
Peru (1981)
Poland (1961)
Russian Federation (1961)
South Africa (1961)
Spain (1982)
Sweden (1984)
Ukraine (1992)
UK (1961)
US (1961)
Uruguay (1980)

2016 Non-consultative parties to the Antarctic Treaty:

Austria (1987)
Belarus (2006)
Canada (1988)
Colombia (1989)
Cuba (1984)
Denmark (1965)
Estonia (2001)
Greece (1987)
Guatemala (1991)
Hungary (1984)
Iceland (2015)
Kazakhstan (2015)
South Korea (1987)
Malaysia (2011)
Monaco (2008)
Mongolia (2015)
Pakistan (2012)
Papua New Guinea (1981)
Portugal (2010)
Romania (1971)
Slovak Republic (1993)
Switzerland (1990)
Turkey (1996)
Venezuela (1999).

Victoria's advice for a good historical read:-

GENERAL

Let Heroes Speak: Antarctic explorers 1772 – 1922 by Michael H. Rosove – contains chapters on the great and the forgotten heroes of Antarctic exploration, including Otto Nordenskjold of the 1901 – 03 Swedish Antarctic expedition to the Weddell Sea.

SCOTT & AMUNDSEN

Scott's Last Expedition/The Voyage of the Discovery – very well-written and readable account by Scott himself

The Last place on Earth/Scott and Amundsen by Roland Huntford – very detailed and well-researched account of Scott and Amundsen's famous race to the Pole. A great supporter of Amundsen and a great debunker of Scott. Very interesting, though extremely (obsessively?) anti-Scott.

Captain Scott by Ranulph Fiennes – A much easier read than Huntford's tome; sets out to debunk the debunking of Scott and vindicate his heroic reputation. Extremely (obsessively?) pro-Scott. Also very interesting – draw your own conclusions!

The Worst Journey in the World by Apsley Cherry-Garrard – A wonderfully written account of Scott's last expedition, with emphasis on Cherry-Garrard/Wilson/Bowers' winter journey to Cape Crozier for emperor penguin eggs.

SHACKLETON

Endurance and Shackleton's Boat Journey by F A Worsley – An easy and fascinating read by a great supporter of Shackleton.

Shackleton by Roland Huntford – Very detailed and well-researched account of Shackleton's life and expeditions. But bear in mind Huntford's obsessive debunking of the Scott myth when considering his objectivity over Shackleton.

Shackleton – A Life in Poetry by Jim Mayer – A recent publication by a personal friend (check for my name in the acknowledgements!). An interesting, new approach to Shackleton and his life via both the poetry he loved and the poetry he wrote. Sheds new light on Shackleton the man, the poet & the explorer.

SHACKLETON'S ROSS SEA PARTY

Shackleton's Forgotten Men by Lennard Bickel – A fascinating account of the fate of Shackleton's Ross Sea Party, who were laying supporting depots for his Antarctic crossing; he never came, but they completed their appointed task at great cost.

Also try:-

Polar Castaways: The Ross Sea Party of Sir Ernest Shackleton by Richard McElrea.

The Ross Sea Shore Party 1914 – 17 by Richard W. Richards.

The Lost Men: The Harrowing Saga of Shackleton's Ross Sea Party by Kelly Tyler-Lewis.

NOVELS ON ANTARCTICA

Antarctica by Kim Stanley-Robinson – a sci-fi, futuristic, political novel set against a backdrop of one version of a future Antarctica. Highly recommended.

Skating to Antarctica by Jenny Diski – a compelling account of a journey to Antarctica and an inner journey of the spirit.

Mrs Chippy's Last Expedition by Caroline Alexander – a cat's eye view of Shackleton's *Endurance* expedition!