



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula

19th January – 7th February 2018

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.



Captain Alexey Nazarov

and his international crew

Including

Chief Officer:	Jaanus Hannes	[Estonia]
2nd Officer:	Matei Mocanu	[Romania]
3rd Officer:	Igor Nazarov	[Russia]
Chief Engineer:	Jens van t Verlaat	[Netherlands]
Hotel Manager:	Sebastian Duma	[Romania]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Bobby Manevski	[Macedonia]
Head Chef:	Heinz Hacker	[Austria]
Sous Chef:	Sean Steele	[Canada]
Ship's Physician:	Hans Frima	[Netherlands]

AND

Expedition Leader:	Andrew Bishop	[Australia]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Ali Liddle	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Daniel Höhne	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Regis Perdrat	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Bob Brown	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Andrea Herbert	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Hans Verdaat	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Marion van Rijssel	[Netherlands]

Day 1 – Friday 19th January 2018

Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS 08.00 Position: 042°45'S / 065°01'W



So here we are at last in Tierra del Fuego, at the bottom of the world. Well, from Ushuaia we'll be going *south* of south...a long way south. But for today, we ambled about this lovely Patagonian city, savouring 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 (lit. "*bay that penetrates to the west*" in the indigenous Yaghan tongue) clearly benefits from its magnificent, yet remote setting. The rugged spine of the South American Andes ends here, where two oceans meet. As could be expected from such an exposed setting, the weather has the habit of changing on a whim. However, temperatures during the long days of the austral summer are relatively mild, providing a final blanket of warmth before heading off on our adventures.

For many of us this is the start of a lifelong dream. The excitement comes in different forms for each unique person, but even the most experienced of us feels genuine excitement to depart on a journey to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica. Most passengers were promptly at the gangway at 16:00, ready to board our ship MV *Plancius*, home for the next 19 days.

We were greeted at the gangway by members of our Expedition staff who were enjoying the warm sunshine having just returned from Antarctica that morning. Our luggage was already on board so after a short wait on the wharf we made our way up the gangway and onto the good ship *Plancius*. We were met at Reception by Sebastian and Bobbi, our Hotel and Restaurant Managers. We were then checked into our cabins with the assistance of our fabulous Filipino crew.

A little while after boarding we convened in the lounge on deck five to meet First Officer Jaanus, who led us through the details of the required SOLAS (Safety Of Life At Sea) Safety and Lifeboat Drill, assisted by the crew and staff. On hearing the alarm we reconvened at the 'muster station', the lounge, for the mandatory safety briefing and abandon ship drill donning our huge orange life jackets that will keep us safe should the need arise. After this lifeboat drill we returned to the outer decks to watch our departure from the jetty of Ushuaia and the last of city life for a while. We entered the Beagle Channel with an escort of Black browed albatross.



Once we were on our way into the channel we were invited once again to the lounge to meet our Expedition Leader, Andrew Bishop and Hotel Manager Sebastian who gave us an overview of the ship, a floating hotel which will be our home for the next few weeks. We then met the rest of the Expedition Team, an international bunch who will guide during our voyage, driving us ashore, giving lectures and ensuring we get the best possible experience during our trip.

This was also a chance to meet our Captain, Alexey Nazarov and toast our voyage with a glass of Prosecco. At 19:30 we sampled the first of many delicious meals on board, prepared by Chef Heinz and Sean and their galley staff. This first evening on board was occupied with more

exploration of the ship, adjusting to her movements, and settling into our cabins. In the early hours of the morning we would be out into the open waters of the Drake Passage and heading north eastwards towards the Falkland Islands.

Day 2 – Saturday 20th January 2018

At Sea Sailing to the Falkland Islands

08:00 GPS Position: 054°15' S / 064°17' W

Wind: W 4/5. **Sea State:** Moderate. **Weather:** Clear. **Air Temp:** +9°C. **Sea Temp:** +9°C



This morning was our first wake-up call of the voyage and Andrew woke us up with news of wind and weather. There was around 15 knots of wind blowing but there was clear blue sky and sunshine. For some of us the smell of food was a perfect start to the day but for others it was all a bit too much for the seasick body and escaping back to the cabin was the best option.

After breakfast some of us headed out on deck for some fresh air, enjoy the sunshine and enjoy the birds that were flying around the ship and

gathering in large numbers behind the ship as we sailed towards the Falkland Islands. The most common species was the Giant petrel, both Southern and Northern but there were also Black browed albatross, Storm petrels and even some Royal albatross. Birds habitually follow ships at sea looking for food brought up to the surface by the wake but also to enjoy the uplift created by our passing. Traditionally they would follow fishing vessels for discarded food but that is not on offer from *Plancius* of course! We saw a fishing boat during the morning and it was surrounded by hundreds of birds as it hauled its net.

At 9.30 we were invited to the lounge for the mandatory Zodiac briefing from Andrew, which gave an overview of our Zodiac operations and how we should embark and disembark the small rubber boats both at the ship and shore. At

3pm we were invited to the boot room deck by deck to collect our Rubber Boots ready for the wet landings on shore. The staff were on hand to ensure that the system ran with the utmost efficiency with boots of all sizes being passed along the line to ensure everyone got the correct size ready to go ashore in the morning.

Lunch was served at 12.30 and there were a few more takers in the Restaurant than there had been for breakfast and but by this time the wind had increased and there was still some rolling as we headed for lunch. With continued sunshine however many of us enjoyed some more time out on deck trying to photograph the Giant petrels that were

flying just a head height on the top deck.

At 3pm we were invited down to the Restaurant where Ali was ready to give the first part of her two part presentation about the Falklands Islands where she lived for 15 years. This first part looked at the history and economy of the islands and gave an insight into island life on this isolated archipelago. It was a great introduction for many of us who knew only a little about the islands and we all looked forward to hearing the second part in the afternoon.

By the time afternoon tea had been consumed in the lounge it was time to go back downstairs to the Restaurant for the second instalment of Ali's presentation about the Falklands. This time she

talked about the tourism in the islands and showed some photographs of some of the wildlife we hope to see during our visit. She also told us about what took her to the islands in the first place and some of her 'character building' experiences as a travelling teacher on the remote farms of the Falkland Islands.

By this was early evening and some of us took a pre-dinner drink at the bar while others enjoyed the warm sunshine on deck. Those of us out on deck got a great view of some Fin whales and Hourglass dolphins that came quite close to the bow of the ship. These whales are the second largest of all the whales and the dolphins often like to bow ride these huge animals as well as the ship so it was great to see the interaction between them both.

At 6.30 we were invited to the lounge for the daily briefing where Andrew explained our plans for tomorrow, at Carcass Island and Saunders Island and Ali used a piece of string to demonstrate the wing spans of the birds we had been seeing during the day. We headed down to dinner with excitement about our first landing in the Falklands in the morning.



Day 3 – Sunday 21st January 2018

Carcass and Saunders Islands

Falkland Islands



08:00 GPS Position: 051°18' S / 060°33' W

Wind: NNW 6/7. Sea State: Slight. Weather: Part Cloud. Air Temp: +11°C. Sea Temp: +10°C



Many were up bright and early to witness the captain's navigation of Woolly Gut, a narrow passage through the small islands en-route to our morning's destination. It was a gorgeous sunny day, but with a very fresh and squally breeze, that particularly gathered strength around the island headlands. The first Gentoo penguins were sighted in a small rookery as we cruised by a low peninsula and then a few Commerson's dolphins made a brief appearance as well—what a nice welcome to the Falklands! But more was waiting for us onshore at Carcass Island.

Plancius anchored off the western end of the bay and almost immediately an expeditionary zodiac went ashore to assess the situation; however it soon became clear that landing at the far end would be hazardous in those waves, so the much more sheltered jetty near the settlement was selected. It didn't take long before we were all ashore, many opting for a longer walk along the side of

the bay – this produced lots of good sightings for the birders amongst us: everywhere we saw tussock birds and the endemic Cobb's wrens, particularly feeding on the small insect larvae to be found in the stranded kelps on the upper beach. We were also greeted by the spectacle of nesting Night herons near the jetty, as well as nesting Blackish oystercatchers further along.

Other species included the famous Striated caracaras who seemed to be fearless of everything, Flightless steamer ducks, Upland and Kelp geese, Magellanic oystercatchers, Black chinned siskins, Falklands thrushes, and Turkey vultures winging their way over the landscape. Despite the fresh conditions offshore, it was almost tropical feeling in the sun around the settlement, so the teas and cakes offered by island owners, Rob and Lorraine McGill and their fabulous Chilean team were especially welcome, and what a spread they put on! It was difficult to decide what to choose so most of us sampled a number of different sweet treats!

We returned to Plancius, upped the anchor, and headed out for our next destination – Saunders Island, whilst lunch ensued. Before we had gone very far, a number of Sei whales made their appearance, giving us remarkably good views, and one producing the classic ring of bubbles as part of its feeding behaviour, trapping prey.



Our landing on Saunders Island was in much gentler conditions, landing on a broad sandy beach dotted with Gentoo penguins, and one of the island residents, Biffo further up with Landrover to greet and advise us. The beach is in fact part of an enormous sandbar joining two sections of the island, with a beach on the other side receiving the oceanic swell. We guessed at some four thousand pairs of Gentoo penguins nesting overall. However, there were many more things to see. We worked our way across the sandbar, and fine views of a small number of King penguins, several of which were incubating eggs and sheltering chicks. From there we worked our way up the slope (avoiding the numerous Magellanic penguin

burrows) and towards the cliffs where no less than three seabird colonies could be appreciated. The first of these was a dense colony of Rockhopper penguins – impressive to realise that this site, about 30m or more above the sea,

had to be reached by the penguins hopping from boulder to boulder up the steep slope. All the more reason to recognise the rule: "Penguins have right of way".



Next along the cliffs was a colony of nesting black browed albatross, tucked into a shallow cleft sloping down to the sea. Almost all the mid 'pot' nests had a well developed chick awaiting, or enjoying, attendance by one of its parents. In the warm summer sunshine all the chicks could be seen panting in an attempt to cool down.

Finally, the last colony along the cliff to be visited was an impressive accumulation of densely packed Black browed albatross, Imperial shag, Southern Rockhopper penguins, and Dolphin gull nests, the whole accumulation seeming to live in relative harmony (apart from the odd neighbourly disputes). We spent some time just sitting and watching the domestic lives of

these birds with their young, and the somewhat ungainly arrivals of the albatrosses who were forced to endure tumble-landings downwind onto the slope.

Finally, we had to draw ourselves away and return to the zodiacs and thence to Plancius, where after dispensing with our field gear, we had a half hour's briefing and recap of the day's events. Bob had brought a couple of Kelp holdfasts to explain about the importance of kelp in the marine ecosystem and Andrea explained about the Sea Cabbage plant and the distinctive protruding crop of the Striated caracara. After that, only one other item on the schedule – a good dinner as Plancius got under way for arrival in Port Stanley tomorrow. After dinner many of us went out onto the upper decks of the ship to watch the sun set behind the mountains of the northern islands of the Falkland Islands. What a wonderful place and a wonderful day. Ali was right.....!!



Pheh.....

Day 4 – Monday 22nd January 2018

Stanley, Falkland Islands

0800 GPS Position: 051°41' S / 057°51' W

Wind: Var 1. Sea State: Calm. Weather: Clear. Air Temp: +14°C. Sea Temp: +15°C



As Andrew made the wake-up call this morning we found ourselves entering the outer harbour of Port William on our way towards Stanley. We could see the black and white lighthouse on the end of Cape Pembroke to our port side and the long white sandy beaches of Yorke Bay, beaches that were sadly turned into mine fields by the Argentinean military during the Falklands war in 1982. Before too long we found ourselves approaching The Narrows, the narrow entrance to the inner harbour and we could see the brightly coloured roofs of Stanley, the capital of the Falkland Islands ahead of us.

Shortly after breakfast, the Zodiacs were lowered and we were soon heading ashore to land on the floating pontoons at the Jetty Centre and to explore the town. The ride was easy on the windless sunny morning!

Many of us headed to the museum to take a look back in time at life in the Falkland Islands while the attraction of tea, cake and Wi-Fi was irresistible for some. Whatever the choice it was lovely to be on shore and to have the time to take a walk around the main part of town as well as some of the back roads amongst the older part of the town. Gift shops were visited and penguin souvenirs purchased, postcards and greetings cards were sent around the world. Before too long it was time to make our way back to the jetty for the ride back to Plancius and get ready to set sail on the next part of our voyage towards South Georgia.



At 4pm, Bob gave his talk about the life of birds. Giving us an insight in the difficulties that they have to deal with. Apparently birds take it slow and grow relatively old. This is because they need time to get experienced being able to navigate precisely to the right places for food and breeding. He also explained to us that there is a trade-off between being able to glide the wind without much effort (like Albatross) or being able to swim very well (penguins). You cannot have it both ways.



As is now the usual routine, the expedition staff invited us for a briefing in the lounge to look back on our Falkland days and look ahead to plans for tomorrow. Marion picked up on the Kelp-story of Bob the other day and showed that Kelp forests are just as productive as rainforests. Ali had good news on the work of Falkland Conservation initiating measures to avoid Albatross being caught in long line fisheries. As a result regional numbers of Albatross are already increasing.

So two days around the Falkland Islands had been fantastic with lots of sun and only a bit windy at times, but the wildlife was there in huge numbers and we all have some wonderful memories of penguins,

albatross, Carcass Island hospitality, dry and wet zodiac rides! Next stop, South Georgia!

Day 5 – Tuesday 23rd January 2018

At Sea Sailing to South Georgia

0800 GPS Position: 052°23'S / 051°50'W

Wind: E 5. **Sea State:** Moderate. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** +9°C. **Sea Temp:** +8°C



After such busy days around the Falkland Islands it was almost nice to have a day at sea to recover, download the many photographs and recharge our own batteries, never mind the camera batteries in preparation for the coming days on South Georgia. When Andrew made the wake-up call there weren't too many people already up and about and the dining room was very slow to fill up for breakfast. Shortly after breakfast we were invited to the back deck of deck 3 where an ARGO float was prepared by the ship's crew ready to be deployed on a preselected spot at sea. Over the last few years Plancius has carried a number of these floats to drop in some remote parts of the ocean to record data and tell scientists more about the sea around

the world. At the deployment location the water depth was at least 2000m which allow the devices to work at their maximum capacity and record as much data as possible throughout the water column. The ARGO floats record water temperature and salinity profiles of the oceans and send the data via a satellite connection to a datacentre on land. There are thousands of these around the globe all continually sending data and thus mapping the oceans in a way that was never possible before. Matei, the 2nd officer with help from Dima, one of the ships sailors charged the device ready for sea and sent it on it's way.

At 10:00 Hans gave a lecture about the Whales and Dolphins of the Southern Ocean. In this talk he focussed the question why many of the whale species are so rare or why there is a poor understanding of the status of many of the whale species. In the second part of the lecture the most likely whale and dolphin species that we can encounter on this journey were introduced. We all hope to be able to see many whales on this trip, particularly around Antarctica where they spend the summer months feeding on the vast quantities of krill that swarm there during the austral summer.

Out on deck many of the birders were having a wonderful time with their binoculars and cameras. Plancius was followed all day by several Southern Royal Albatrosses and Wandering Albatrosses. That provided the photographers on-board great opportunities to photograph these majestic birds. After having enjoyed the lunch in the restaurant there was time to relax in the observation lounge or on one of the outer decks.

By 15:00 Bob started his lecture about Seals of the Antarctic region. He spoke about the different species of seals, their behaviour and breeding biology. We hadn't seen too many seals yet but South Georgia is the main breeding area for Antarctic fur seals and we hope to see Elephant seals there too so it was a great introduction to the days ahead.

At 16:30, Ali invited us to the restaurant for a presentation about South Georgia. As well as spending 15 years living in the Falkland Islands she also overwintered on South Georgia 20 years ago. She took us on a historic journey from the discovery of the island by Captain Cook in 1775 to the evolution of Grytviken as a whaling station, to the current fisheries industry. She also prepared us for the wildlife spectacle that we would experience during our time on the island. We are now ready to enjoy and understand the beauty of the island. We were looking forward even more to the days ahead!

During the evening the wind picked up as Plancius crossed the Antarctic Convergence. Both the sea temperature and the air is getting lower! We are moving nearer to Antarctica. In the night the ships time got adjusted with +1 hour to be on the same time zone as South Georgia.



Day 6 – Wednesday 24th January 2018

At Sea Sailing to South Georgia

0800 GPS Position: 053°13' S / 044°38' W

Wind: SW 4. **Sea State:** Slight. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** +5°C. **Sea Temp:** +5°C



It had been blowing at around 35 knots when we all went to bed last night, after changing our clocks forward one hour to move to South Georgia time but by the time Andrew made the wake-up call the winds had dropped and the sea was calm once again. The sun was shining in a hazy blue sky and it looked like it was going to be a good day at sea.

From the early hours of the morning there had been a number of seabirds following the ship and the Wandering albatross were definitely the stars of the show today. A number of individuals flew circuits around the ship flying right over the heads of passengers on the top of the Bridge deck almost as if they were having a look at us as much as we were looking at them. Very

beautiful indeed. There were increasing numbers of White-chinned petrels and of course Black browed albatross that we had been seeing every day since leaving Ushuaia. Also interesting were the few Grey-headed albatross, with their lovely-coloured yellow beaks and notably darker-shaded heads.

The morning of scheduled activities began in earnest with learning about how to be a responsible visitor to South Georgia and Antarctica. The non-profit group IAATO

(International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators) developed the briefing so that everyone wanting to experience this special place will understand how to do their part to keep it as special and pristine as we can—including how to behave around the animals we will see, and that we should follow the old maxim: “take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints”... and even those we should fill in if our boot prints end up being too deep in the snow so that penguins don't get trapped in the hole by accident! Then the real fun began—the vacuum party. We need to make sure we do not unwittingly transfer non-native material between places we visit, as new introductions could lead to invasive plants changing the native ecosystem-- or even spreading a virus between animal colonies. The first step was to go through all of our outer clothing and vacuum the velcro, cuffs, backpacks—any areas that could trap seeds. Everyone was very diligent in their cleaning activities and most people had completed the task by lunch time!



By mid-afternoon some tiny pinnacles of land were seen sticking up out of the sea ahead of us. These were Shag Rocks and they rise straight up from the sea bed looking very strange in the vast expanse of blue ocean. These areas with steep, underwater mountain slopes are often good for marine mammals as there are upwelling of water and nutrients so all the staff were out on deck to see what could be spotted. Sea conditions were still very calm and visibility was great so we all kept our fingers crossed for something. On our approach to the rocks a Southern right whale was seen ahead of the ship so we slowed down to see if we could catch another glimpse of it when it came to the surface. The first time it came back up it was behind the ship but then we had

another nice view with Shag Rocks in the background as it surfaced, took some deep breaths and dived down once again, showing its tail fluke. Groups of South Georgia shags kept flying past the vessel in aerial formation and an individual Snow petrel was seen flying around the ship which was a real bonus, especially for the keen bird watchers. Everyone was out on deck to watch as we sailed past and Captain Alexey did a great job of taking us so close to the rocks. We could see the fringe of Kelp around each little island and the white of the cormorant guano stained the

70metre high rocks white. Occasional big swells created huge waves on the rocks which everyone tried hard to capture with their cameras. After a few turns beside the rocks we then resumed our course towards South Georgia where we hoped to make our first landing in the morning.

At 5pm we were invited to the Dining room by Marion, who gave a very informative presentation about penguins. We have already seen four species of penguins in the Falklands and we certainly hope to see many more on South Georgia so it was really useful to get some additional information about these birds and how they have adapted to life in Antarctica and the sub Antarctic islands.

Before re-cap a Happy Hour was announced in the bar and during re-cap we learned of our plans for tomorrow. The final part of the briefing was a video produced by South Georgia Government advising us of the do's and don'ts of visiting the island.



Day 7 – Thursday 25th January 2018

Salisbury Plain and Prion Island, South Georgia

0800 GPS Position: 054°03' S / 037°19' W

Wind: Calm. **Sea State:** Calm. **Weather:** Part Cloud. **Air Temp:** +4°C. **Sea Temp:** +3°C



We awoke to the fine sight of the western end of South Georgia, in a gentle sea with light cloud, and Plancius nosing her way into the Bay of Isles. Ahead was one of the key sites on the island, Salisbury Plain, a low-lying band of land covered with tussock and other grasses, and dominated by an enormous King penguin colony and thousands of fur seals. We had finally arrived!

We landed in fairly gentle surf on the western side of a small point to avoid any swell, and as far as possible stay clear of the area's rather inquisitive inhabitants. With excellent visibility we could see along the entire shore and had wonderful views of the impressive mountains backing the plain. At the landing site we were met by a typical January South Georgia Welcome Party with King penguins strolling along the beach and Fur seal

pups playing in the shallow surf and lazing on the beach.

From the landing area Ali had flagged a good route along the back of the beach and we had a penguin paced walk along the shingle ridge, scattered with increasing quantities of seals and penguins, through to the main King penguin colony. It is estimated that around 80-90,000 pairs breed here and this figure doesn't even include the large number of plump young in their brown overwintering plumage. Everywhere there were fur seals, including a very large proportion of young individuals, just a few weeks old, and much given to mock chases and curiosity as we wandered along. In addition to these spectacles, we also had good sightings of South Georgia pipit and the rather dainty South Georgia pintail; both species have benefited enormously from the rat eradication programme on the island.



At the edge of the colony it was wonderful to just sit and take it all in as it was a view that many of us had dreamed of for a very long time. The centre of the crowd of penguins was made up of adults incubating their single egg while at the perimeters there were parading courting adults and some partially fledged chicks. It made for a very impressive scene and amongst the sound of the penguins was the constant click and beep of cameras!

After some three hours ashore in this impressive place, we returned to Plancius for lunch and during this interval Plancius was moved the short distance across to the rocky and tussocky Prion Island. For this operation we split into three groups because regulations limit access to the island to 50 people at a time. This

arrangement not only helps the wildlife, it also meant that as we walked up the boardwalks through the tussock grasses to the viewing platforms we obtained very good views of the wildlife and there was space on all of the platforms. Not least amongst these were the inevitable fur seals who find the boardwalk most convenient for reaching upper parts of the island!

Most notable were the nesting Wandering albatross dotted between the grass clumps and on a shallow depression opposite the viewing platform, about ten apparent nests were counted. Occasionally one of these magnificent birds would stand up from its nest and stretch those enormous wings – to yet another a chorus of clicking cameras...



For many, just the pleasure of sitting on the beach looking at the wildlife was a pleasure in itself; the squabbling Southern giant petrels feeding on a dead seal pup, the Gentoo penguins and beyond a small group of King penguins. Also amongst these was a single Chinstrap penguin, hopefully the first of many as we work our way further south. And everywhere, the friendly little South Georgia pipits picking up small invertebrates from the beached seaweeds, some times so close they could peck at our boots.

In addition to the landings on Prion, we had a series of delightful zodiac cruises around the island and its smaller neighbour Skua island. It is hard to imagine better conditions for this; brilliant sunshine, little wind, and a deep blue sparkling sea, with a swell running in to the swirling bands of kelp weeds fringing the rocky shores. In many places there were deep clefts with caves to explore, and we were able to nose in with the zodiacs, finding imperial shags, fur seals diving around the boats, and Gentoo penguins in small groups stationed on the rocks above. In this way we worked our way around the two islands, finally turning around the western end of Prion Island to find Plancius nicely anchored about half a mile away.

All too soon it was time for us all to make our way back to the ship where there was a short re-cap to prepare us for the next adventure on South Georgia.



Day 8 – Friday 26th January 2018

Shackleton Walk, Stromness and Grytviken, South Georgia

0800 GPS Position: 054°05' S / 036°43' W

Wind: SSW 4/5. **Sea State:** Slight. **Weather:** Part Cloud. **Air Temp:** +6°C. **Sea Temp:** +4°C



All the brave people who had signed up for the Shackleton walk responded to the early wake up call at 06:15. After a quick breakfast at the lounge they were landed in Fortuna Bay to follow in the footsteps of Shackleton and two of his men who made it to Stromness after their heroic trip with the James Caird from Elephant Island to South Georgia. The rest could sleep in till 07:15 approaching Stromness from the sea on the ship.

The walk took the hikers first up through the tussock grass above the beach and from there it was onto typical South Georgia scree. The thin-plated fragments have been sorted into beautiful

patterns by innumerable freeze-thaw cycles over thousands of years and the sun was showing off the variety of colors in the rocks, much of it a rusty red color for the iron oxides becoming exposed. We finally got up and over the highest bit, and were greeted by an expansive view down into Stromness Bay where we could see the Plancius arriving—a perfect greeting from our perch on high.

At this final viewpoint stories were told of dramatic highlight of Shackleton's crossing, explaining that the men had waited to hear the noon whistle to confirm they were in the right valley and then they finally viewed the station, the minute figures walking back and forth, inspiring them to share a congratulatory handshake that they had found their way back to humanity. One last descent remained for them and us with a steep walk down a rocky slope bringing us to the bottom of the waterfall... pretty easy for us; Shackleton's group actually had to descend with ice axes!

For those that had not done the long hike we went ashore in Stromness. The weather was again super and the huge oil tanks from the Stromness whaling station could already been seen from a distance. We landed at the beach near Stromness, which is closed because of danger of asbestos or to go to the Shackleton waterfall to meet with the other passengers who were enjoying their wonderful trip over the mountain.



Grytviken.

The valley to the waterfall was wide and flat, cut in numerous places by the braided stream, and as we found further along there were terns nesting who kept reminding us to stay far to the outside of the gravel outwash plain far away from their chicks, which are hard to distinguish on the gravel. Along the stream the South Georgia Pipit was also seen. The waterfall itself made for a nice destination, flanked by lush carpets of moss and lichens. Down on the beach many people were happy just to sit on the beach watching the Fur seal pups playing in the surf and practising their swimming skills that will be vital in the years ahead. Once everybody returned to the beach with the fur seals howling and their puppies weening we headed back for the ship to be on time for our appointment for



As we sailed into Cumberland Bay East we could see the highest peak of Mount Paget in the distance and the pyramid peak of Sugartop Mountain to the right. As we turned towards the inner harbour the wind began to increase a little so the Captain made the decision to stay a little further out. Ahead of us we could see the whaling station of Grytviken with the church towards the hills at the back and the rusting whale oil tanks nearer the shore. Closer to our position we could see the more modern buildings of the British Antarctic Survey along the low lying beach. Ali went ashore to collect the Government Officer and some members of staff from the museum. They came on board to give a presentation the conservation efforts to eradicate rats from the island. The project had been ongoing for a number of years and with the baiting part finished it was now time to monitor the success of the project. If the island is found to be rat free there could be 100 million more birds breeding on South Georgia.

It was a bit of a long Zodiac ride ashore but thankfully the wind that had been blowing on our arrival had decreased and we found ourselves going to land in calm sunny conditions. On shore we were met by Ali who directed us up to the cemetery past piles of snorting and belching Elephant seals. Up at the cemetery we were given a tot of whiskey ready to pay our respects to Sir Earnest Shackleton who died here on board The Quest in 1922. His wife Emily requested that he was buried with the whalers and sailors here on South Georgia. Andrea told us about his heroic journey finishing her speech with the words of Sir Raymond Priestly, Antarctic Explorer and Geologist:

“For scientific discovery give me Scott; for speed and efficiency of travel give me Amundsen; but when disaster strikes and all hope is gone, get down on your knees and pray for Shackleton.”

After these words we either drank the whisky that we got at the entrance of the graveyard or poured a dram onto Shackleton’s grave. Having fulfilled this traditional act we made our way back past the Elephant seals and Fur seals to our guided tour through Grytviken. From here, some of us took a station tour with Charlotte, some explored the ruins themselves including the beautiful church, while others enjoyed some relaxing time photographing the Fur seals and Elephant seals between the cemetery and the museum. The weather created a very mellow mood on shore with people sitting in the sunshine just watching and listening to the seals in the bay. Everyone paid a visit to the museum, shop and Post Office and by early evening as the sun had dropped behind Mount Hodges at the back of the station, with souvenirs bought and postcards mailed it was time to go back to the ship.



We had plenty of time to take in the full atmosphere of this remarkable place: beautiful, awful, interesting and all. When we came on board a wonderful barbeque was set up on the back deck for everyone including our guests from Grytviken. After the BBQ music and dancing followed in the evening. What a wonderful day again here on South Georgia.



Day 9 – Saturday 27th January 2018

Godthul and St Andrew's Bay, South Georgia

0800 GPS Position: 054°17' S / 036°17' W

Wind: N 6. **Sea State:** Slight. **Weather:** Rain Showers. **Air Temp:** +8°C. **Sea Temp:** +5°C



During the early hours of the morning the anchor had been lifted and we made our way out of Cumberland Bay East to navigate to our destination for the morning; Godthul. As we sailed down the coast the wind was blowing at over 25 knots but as we turned to starboard we entered a sheltered little bay and things were looking much more promising for a landing.

Godthul means 'good cove' in Norwegian and it was going to prove to be just that for everyone this morning. Our options for the morning were varied with a long hike, a medium hike and a Zodiac cruise. As we finished breakfast and prepared

to go ashore the summit that was the target for the long hikers was shrouded in cloud that was blowing up the side of the hill. It wasn't looking promising but landing conditions were good so we soon headed ashore in the Zodiacs.

At the beach we were met once again by Fur seal pups and Gentoo penguins. In the tussac grass behind the beach we could hear, and smell Elephant seals that were laying out in the mud for their annual moult. Ali and Regis had flagged a relatively easy route up through the long tussac grass and we climbed our way up to the open ground above. Our first stop along the way was with the Gentoo penguin colony where, in one of the colonies two 'white' Gentoo penguin chicks were seen by both walking groups. This condition is known as leucistic and is caused by a missing gene which results in almost no pigment for the animal, like the blonde Fur seals. Further up the hill there was a Giant petrel nest with a single fluffy chick waiting for the adults to return to feed it.



Both the long hikers and medium hikers continued upwards heading to the lake, known as Lake Aviemore and then up the hill to the saddle of the mountains. The grassy vegetation was beautiful and a result of the eradication of the large reindeer herds that used to roam this area. The long hiking group could see by this time that the summit was clear of clouds so Ali led the way onwards heading for the 300m summit passing by more Gentoo colonies along the way. The conditions were a little windy they made it up the steep scree slopes to the top where they found perfectly calm conditions due to the wind blowing up the cliffs and over the top of them. The views down the coast of South Georgia were fabulous.



The medium hikers made their way from the lake to the higher colonies of Gentoo penguins that had made the long trek from the sea to almost 200m above sea level. Why they do it is anybody's guess but we all marveled at their efforts! From here the group walked out to a lower viewpoint before making their way back along the grasslands to the lower slopes once more. Meanwhile out in the bay some of us did a zodiac cruise along the shore where Antarctic terns were seen flying just over our heads. The zodiac glided through the sea kelp where Kelp Gulls were foraging and penguins were seen porpoising close by. Andrew took his group around the corner to Cobbler's Cove but conditions out at sea

were very bouncy. One group were lucky enough to see a Leopard Seal swimming near one of the Zodiacs.

So by the end of the morning all the groups had enjoyed a wonderful few hours in the shelter of Godthul whether it was at sea level or high up on a hill. After a beautiful morning Plancius had set a course for St Andrews Bay while all on-board enjoyed lunch. As soon as we left the shelter of the bay the winds increased and the sea conditions became a little uncomfortable again.



Upon arriving at St Andrews Bay the wind had picked up and had reached epic speeds with over 40 knots and it became clear that no landing at St Andrews Bay would be possible this afternoon. It was disappointing but very obvious to everyone that it was just too windy; the whole bay at St Andrew's was smoking with the surface of the sea being lifted up and spun in what are known as 'williwaws'.

The weather in itself became an event during the course of the afternoon and everyone enjoyed either bracing themselves against it on deck or watching from the comfort of the lounge.

Captain Alexey directed Plancius further south with Plan B in mind. We made our way into Royal Bay heading towards Moltke Harbour

where it was hoped there would be some shelter. Royal Bay is often described as the windiest place on South Georgia and it was exactly that as we sailed in with wind speeds increasing even more. Thankfully at the back of the bay near Moltke Harbour things were a little less windy but still borderline for operations. Andrew decided to take a scout boat ashore but as soon as he was on the water it was clear that it was too windy and the Captain was finding it hard to hold Plancius in a safe position so we cancelled the operation and headed out of the bay. Next destination, Plan C Drygalski Fjord. We sailed through the narrow channel between Cooper Island and the mainland and made our way into the long fjord. It was still raining and windy and the visibility wasn't great but it was certainly atmospheric. Hundreds of Wilson's storm petrels could be seen along with Snow petrels.



Plancius sailed until the end of the fjord passing glaciers and steep cliffs and we finished at the Reisling Glacier at the head of the bay. On the way we passed jagged black peaks, remnants of the super continent Gondwanaland, hanging glaciers and small icebergs that had calved from the glacier. This fjord ship cruise lasted until the end of the evening. As the ship moved quite into the night, and most of us chose to have an early night it was early quite on board as a very early start the next day had been planned.



Hans Verdaat

Day 10 – Sunday 28th January 2018

Gold Harbour and Cooper Bay, South Georgia

0800 GPS Position: 054°43' S / 035°44' W

Wind: N 6. **Sea State:** Moderate. **Weather:** Part Cloud. **Air Temp:** +6°C. **Sea Temp:** +4°C



After the winds of yesterday many of us had been awake through the night feeling for the motion of the ship to see if we were going to be able to go ahead with the early morning landing at Gold Harbour. We had been navigating up and down outside the bay area throughout the night ready to try for a 4am start in the morning.

At 3.20am Andrew made the wake-up call to let us know that a scout boat was going ashore and that the staff were pretty hopeful that conditions would allow us to land. It was only just beginning to get light as Ali drove the staff ashore but the team found a safe, relatively surf free area on the beach and the Doctor at the gangway was given the green light to start

loading passengers into the Zodiacs.

As we went ashore we could smell the penguin colony and see the dramatic back drop of the Bertrab Glacier falling down over the steep cliffs. The sun was beginning to cast a pink and orange glow over the horizon. It looked like it was going to be a beautiful day.

Once ashore we were met by hundreds of King penguins and a number of young male elephant seals that were sparring and play fighting in small groups towards the back of the beach. It was just an overwhelming sight of wildlife and as the light improved we could see the colony along the beach and more penguins and seals. Ali had flagged a route along the beach avoiding as many of the groups of King penguins as possible to minimise our disturbance and further along the beach we had to take detour around a



Giant petrel chick that was sitting on its nest. We all walked at penguin pace and took in the spectacle that was all around us. As the sun started to come up the mountain peaks of the Salvesen Range were touched with pink and the views of this King penguin colony of around 30,000 breeding pairs emerged even more. At last the sun rose over the horizon basking Plancius in golden light and illuminating the penguins all along the beach. It was a photographer's paradise!

Along the tussac fringe at the back of the beach there were moulting Elephant seals and sleeping fur seals with Gentoo penguins busily walking to and from the colony high up at the back of the beach. The end point of the walk took us to the main penguin colony where thousands of King penguins stood incubating their eggs only moving to peck any other penguins passing through the colony on their way to relieve their mate on the egg. There were a few moulting chicks in various stages of brown down fluff and adult plumage and they were very curious about the early morning visitors to the colony.

Everyone had plenty of time to take photos and just stand and watch the wonderful scene that is Gold Harbour in the early morning light. All too soon it was time to head back along to the landing site and back to Plancius for breakfast, which we were all more than ready for.

Once back on board we made our way back along the coast heading for Cooper Bay where we hoped to go on a Zodiac cruise to see the Macaroni penguins that breed on the cliffs in the bay. As we approached the wind was blowing over 30 knots but the Captain was hopeful that we could find some shelter closer in the bay. It certainly



looked better but the wind was still strong and increasing as we dropped the anchor. Ali went to get into a Zodiac to see if the conditions there and at the gangway were going to be suitable but the Zodiac was swinging dangerously on the crane and the Captain and Andrew decided it wasn't going to be safe for either passengers or crew. Sadly the cruise was cancelled and we hauled the anchor and made our way out of the bay. This was not the end of things though and we were told we would be going back towards Drygalski Fjord for a cruise in a side fjord known as Larsen Harbour.

As we headed back out into open water the winds increased once again and we had over 30 knots of wind blowing with katabatic winds coming over the mountains but as we entered Drygalski Fjord once again we found calm waters and sunshine. What a transformation!

The Captain dropped the anchor in the only relatively shallow place in the fjord and before too long the Zodiacs were lowered and Group 2 were off into the tranquil waters of Larsen Harbour. At the entrance to the inlet some boats got a fleeting glimpse of a Macaroni penguin in the water but it was just a glimpse. Further up the fjord we were surrounded by steep mountain sides which ensured sheltered water and glassy calm reflections.

The staff turned off their engines for a short while so we could enjoy the peace and quiet with only the sounds of Kelp gulls a meltwater in the background. Magical!



On the way back down the inlet Ali made a call on the radio to say that she had seen a Weddell seal on the shore and after seeing this individual seal we then saw a group of four lying on the beach. They were very well camouflaged on the rocks but we could see their individual colours and markings. This is the only breeding colony outside of Antarctica with around 25 to 30 pups born each year. They are really seals of the ice with males defending territories and breathing holes in the ice and the pups being born straight onto the ice on October.

From here we made our way back to the ship where the second group of cruisers went out to experience the magic of Larsen Harbour.

Back on board it was time for lunch although after such an early start to the day it almost felt like dinner time. The early start meant that most of us decided to take a nap or at least rest a little after lunch before we were invited to the dining room to hear South Georgia stories from Howard Platt, one of our fellow passengers who had overwintered on South Georgia in the 1970's. He entered the dining room in his old winter clothes issued by the British Antarctic Survey and then told us many humorous stories of his time on the island including adventures in the snow and wind in pyramid tents and the Mid-Winter celebrations. He was a natural story teller and we all enjoyed hearing of life on the island over 40 years ago.

At re-cap Andrew outlined plans for tomorrow and Ali told her stories from when she overwintered at King Edward Point in 1997. There were some similarities with Howard's experiences on the island and it was interesting to hear how life was for her. Bob then told us about the choices faced by female penguins when finding a mate in the colony. A challenge for any species!!

Dinner was served and most people had an early night to make the most of the extra hour in bed with the clocks going back once again!



Day 11 – Monday 29th January 2018

At Sea to the South Orkney Islands.

0800 GPS Position: 057°57' S / 040°07' W

Wind: ESE 6. **Sea State:** Moderate. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** +4°C. **Sea Temp:** +3°C



We had a leisurely start today because we dropped our clocks back one hour from South Georgia time to return to Argentina time. However, as with every new arrival in Antarctica, vacuuming and/or re-vacuuming was essential, but happily this was cleared through in the morning with the minimum of fuss. With so much grass seed in South Georgia at this time of year it was essential to double check everything as tussac grass and other sub Antarctic species could quite easily find a niche in these islands. We had a good day for whales. After relatively brief sightings of Southern bottlenose whales, the middle of the day had us out on deck looking at a series of excellent encounters with Fin whales, many of them shallow diving

and lunge feeding. Captain Alexey slowed Plancius right down to a crawl, and with the whales preoccupied with food, they came very close to the ship, allowing everyone to see the long, low profiles with swept back, sharp dorsal fins, and even occasionally the asymmetric colouring of the jaw. In all, at this time some 10 – 14 individuals were

seen, but since not all of them were at the surface at the same time it's difficult to be precise. Later on, another group were seen, but at a greater distance. These oceanic whales are heading south at this time of year to make the most of the feeding bonanza that summer brings in the form of Krill. The afternoon was also a busy affair. Andrew gave a detailed lecture on the fascinating geological history of South Georgia, from its origins in Gondwana, through to today's scenery and the distinctive rock formations of the Drygalski Fjord, and the folded sedimentary rocks of much of the rest of the island. Less erudite, but equally interesting, was the subsequent 'Happy Hour' in the bar and whilst we were all in the usual good



form following this, Ali held an auction of South Georgia souvenirs to support the South Georgia Heritage Trust; whilst their main project of rat eradication has finished, hopefully successfully, much work (including the monitoring of results) has to be done.

There were many interesting items available from Penguin hats to a watercolour painting that Bob, one of our guides had done. There was even bottle of home brew beer, Rattus Nomoricus made on South Georgia by member of the rat monitoring team was donated by Ali. In all we raised €1,100 for this important charity, so well done to all concerned, especially the bidders!



Day 12 – Tuesday 30th January 2018

Orcadas Station, South Orkney Islands.

0800 GPS Position: 060°44' S / 044°43' W

Wind: N 6. **Sea State:** Snow Showers. **Weather:** Slight. **Air Temp:** +2°C. **Sea Temp:** 0°C



Already before the morning wake-up call at 7am there were people outside to see what the South Orkneys look like: dark mountains with snow and ice with their tops in the clouds. Also there were many big ice bergs stranded in the shallow waters around the islands. What an impressive introduction to these remote islands. During breakfast the Orcadas Station came into view, orange buildings in the distance. Unfortunately the wind started to pick up and the anchor could barely hold us and with heavy rain it wasn't ideal conditions for a Zodiac cruise along the shore where hundreds of Fur seals were waiting for us. We were

still going to be able to go ashore at the base though.

We split into two groups in order not to crowd station too much. The first group could visit the station and the other group started with the movie about Shackleton's adventures with the Endurance.

After a bumpy ride with the Zodiac we set food on the shore of Laurie Island where we were welcomed by the

members of our staff from the base, some of whom had been here for nearly 14 months. The male Fur seals were watching us but they did not respond to our presence at all. They were resting after their long journey from South Georgia at the end of the breeding season there in December. It was quite different from our encounters with the pups and juvenile seals on the beaches of South Georgia. We were told by the people from the station that the seals had just arrived last week and that they usually stay for a month resting on the beach. In between the Fur seals there were some Chinstrap penguins and some young Adelle penguins.

The crew from the station kindly showed us the historical sites including the small museum, the remains of the first building and the graveyard. On the other side of the station there was also a beach with a lot of ice, some fur seals and a one crab eater. The base was already founded in 1904 by William Spiers Bruce who was hear with the Scottish Antarctic Expedition and has been permanently occupied since then studying weather, climate and tectonic processes. In summer some other specialists live on the station such as the biologist that worked on penguins last year. Hence the green marking on the belly of one of the Adelle penguin on the beach.



After the tour we were welcome in the main building where the crew of the station lives. They had tea and coffee ready as well as matte, a traditional herb brew from Argentina that you have to take sips from. It was also possible to have our passport stamped and/or to send postcards. One of the other locations on our tour was the small museum where there was history of the base through the years and an interesting display of stuffed penguins.....

After about 2 hours the groups swapped over with the group that had been on board coming ashore to enjoy the hospitality of the base personnel while the other watched the first part of the Shackleton movie on board.

As soon as we had said our farewells to our friendly hosts the weather improved remarkably and we could enjoy the view on the icebergs on our way to the south. One of the icebergs had a huge arch in it and Captain Alexey circumnavigated it so we could photograph it from every possible angle. On our way a number of Fin whales were spotted too along with huge groups of Fur seals continuing their voyage to the summer feeding grounds of Antarctica.



In the afternoon Andrea presented her talk on the Antarctic treaty, what it entails and how geopolitics are involved and Dan gave us tips on photography. We have all taken hundreds of photos during this voyage but it was useful to find out how we might improve our techniques, especially when taking photos in sunshine and snow in the days ahead.

The programme of the day ended as usually with the daily briefing where Andrew explained the plans for the following day (sailing to the Antarctic Peninsula), Bob told us about the remarkable life cycle of ice algae and Ali gave us her view on the behaviour of the Fur seals that we had seen today.

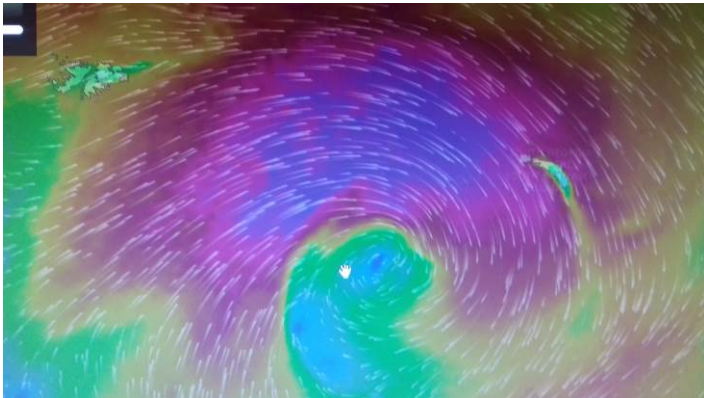


Day 13 – Wednesday 31st January 2018

At Sea to Antarctica

0800 GPS Position: 061°56' S / 051°23' W

Wind: SSE 6. **Sea State:** Rough. **Weather:** Fog. **Air Temp:** +0°C. **Sea Temp:** +1°C



We had another full day at sea ahead of us and the day started as any other day with Andrew's morning call before breakfast. Many of us hit the snooze button for a while before getting up for a leisurely breakfast followed by an extra coffee. It was set to be a quiet day at sea with a lecture programme in place, as always.

As we made our way from the dining room in the morning we could all see and feel that the winds had increased since yesterday and it was certainly making deck time for the keen birders and sea watchers a little cold and uncomfortable. The 30 knots winds were set to remain throughout the day and indeed increase

slightly. This was a result of being on the edge of a huge storm system that was a long way to the north of us around the Falkland Islands. They were experiencing hurricane force winds and a number of cruise ships were sheltering in the outer harbour of Stanley waiting for the storm to pass. Very different to the conditions we had enjoyed a few weeks ago.

In the morning Marion gave a lecture on plankton and its role in the marine ecosystem a food web. We all travel to these polar regions to enjoy the wildlife, such as penguins, seals and whales but it is the small zooplankton and phytoplankton that sustains life throughout the food chain. Without it the oceans would be empty.

Around noon the winds continued to increase and most of the outside decks were closed off for our safety but it didn't matter too much as we had a movie afternoon planned with the second part of the Shackleton film being screened in the lounge.

When we reached the part where Shackleton was travelling from Elephant Island to South Georgia in the James Caird we found ourselves in very rough seas and passing through the first fields with floating ice pieces. With stormy seas on the screens and waves crashing on the windows outside it created a wonderful atmosphere in the lounge! On these ice fields several seals and penguins were resting and a number of Fin whales and the first Humpback whales were



seen. It was beginning to feel properly Antarctic with the wind peaking at 40 knots....

Later in the afternoon Bob gave a presentation about the benthic life in the world's oceans, the deep water species found at the bottom of our oceans. It is a world that is only just beginning to be explored and there are likely to be many species that are yet to be discovered. Bob will need to update his presentation in the coming years.....!



At re-cap this evening Andrew explained our plans for tomorrow when we would arrive on the Antarctic Peninsula at last. He explained about the geological formation of Brown Bluff, a volcanic feature where we hope to land in the afternoon. Ali then gave a short presentation about Krill, the small pink critters that are the diet of all Antarctic species during the summer month but are increasingly fished for human consumption.

After dinner Plancius was nearing the Antarctic Peninsula and icebergs could be seen all along the horizon. With a spectacular sun down Antarctica smiled at Plancius and its passengers. The light on the clouds was fantastic and people stayed out on deck and on the Bridge to watch the colours fade. Everyone was excited about the coming days in Antarctica!

Day 14 – Thursday 1st February 2018

Antarctic Sound and Brown Bluff, Antarctica

0800 GPS Position: 063°36' S / 056°28' W

Wind: SW 7. Sea State: Moderate. Weather: Snow. Air Temp: +1°C. Sea Temp: -1°C



Many people had been up and on deck at 3am hoping for a spectacular Antarctic sunrise but on making their way outside they were only met by wind, low cloud and poor visibility. A bit of a contrast the beautiful sunset we had experienced the night before. Some went back to bed to wait for Andrew's wake-up call while others just soaked up the atmosphere of the early morning.

The wake-up call came at 7am and by that time conditions were slowly beginning to improve although the strong wind was still blowing across Antarctic Sound. The Captain tried to navigate through Fridtjoff Sound between Andersson and Johannsen Islands but at the bottom end of the sound he was met by sea ice and icebergs that there was no way

through or around. We sailed back northwards to go around the islands and see what we could find on the other side. As we did so we saw the blows and tall dorsal fins of some Orca, Killer whales but they were travelling quite quickly and in the windy conditions it was difficult to see them in the waves and spray.

On the way we sailed past spectacular icebergs and on many of the bergs and sea ice there were Adelie penguins. We were all entertained by the way they ran and slid on their bellies to escape the big blue ship sailing past. Some seals were also seen hauled out on the ice. Most of them were Weddell seals but we saw a Leopard seal lazing on the ice as well.

During the course of the morning we all braved the cold and windy conditions at some point before diving back indoors to warm up ready to go out again. The Captain did a great job of navigating close to some large ice floes and a smaller tabular iceberg. He was hoping to 'park' the Plancius next to it but the wind was too strong to hold the ship in position. As we continued on our way the sun began to break through the clouds and we found ourselves in a sparkling wonderland of ice and snow and sea.

Off in the distance was a huge tabular iceberg that measured around 14km along its edge. We could see clouds of snow blowing off the top of it creating a snowy edge as we



approached. Being such huge pieces of ice these large icebergs often make their own weather and it did seem as if there were clouds along the surface of the berg. To the side of this iceberg and spreading all across Antarctic Sound at the top end of the Weddell Sea there was a fairly solid line of sea ice with icebergs held fast within it. This was the end of our southern exploration.

From here it was an easy run northwards once again to our afternoon's destination of Brown Bluff. Thankfully the winds we had been enduring all morning seemed to ease and as we neared the anchorage position the continent of Antarctica created enough protection from the wind and it seemed that we were going to be able to go ashore.

Conditions were a bit bumpy at the gangway and it was a splashy ride ashore but as we made our way past the grounded icebergs we could see the staff waiting for us along with a welcome committee of Adelie and Gentoo penguins.





The impressive brown bluff, remnants of an underwater volcano, towered over the landing site and there were a number of huge, wind sculptured rocks near the shore which. Stepping ashore we arrived on the seventh, and icy continent and the penguins on the beach set the scene perfectly! We gathered by the large volcanic rocks and from that point on the Adélies simply charmed us, walking in waves down the beach, constantly assessing where it might be safe to jump in the water. We were able to take a walk along the beach towards the colony but it was a slow walk with lots of stops to stand and sit and watch the penguins busily making their way along the shore. They clearly had their preferred swimming beach and were very adamant about where

they were going to attempt to brave the water! They gathered in large groups at the water's edge and after lots of calling there was a rush to the water and they launched themselves off into the surf.

At the breeding colony at the end of the beach, which we could smell before we could see, we could stand and watch the penguins as they went about the busy process of feeding their hungry chicks. Many of the chicks were just lying in the sunshine waiting for their parents to come back from sea with food but those that were with their parents created a wonderful show as the chicks chased them around the colony and down to the beach, desperate for some food before they went away again. It was wonderful to watch. At the water's edge there was a constant stream of penguin traffic as they made their way backwards and forwards along the beach. It was a photographers paradise, albeit it a rather smelly one.



Those who had a bit more wanderlust in their feet returned to the landing site and continued around the corner of the beach before braving the slippery snow slope in order to see the head of the glacier and other interesting geologic features. It was a little windy up on the glacier compared to the peaceful, sunny beach but it only added to that sense of being properly in Antarctica and the views of the bay were stunning, with large icebergs appearing to dwarf Plancius in her position at anchor. Back at the beach two more



Weddell seals had hauled themselves up onto the snow and were happy to lie peacefully and have their photos taken. Back at the landing site there was still plenty of time to walk along the cobbles, find a decent rock and just sit and enjoy the penguin parade along the shore line. What a wonderful afternoon.

Back on board there was time for re-cap where Bob told us exactly why the penguin chicks chase their parents and Andrew explained the physics of penguin poop..... Hmm scientific research?

After dinner we found ourselves sailing into fog and Antarctica was hidden in the mist once more. We had been lucky to see so much today.

Day 15 – Friday 2nd February 2018

Mikkelsen Harbour and Portal Point, Antarctica

0525 GPS Position: 063°54' S / 060°46' W

Wind: NE 5/6. **Sea State:** Slight. **Weather:** Snow. **Air Temp:** +1°C. **Sea Temp:** 0°C



We awoke to a very snowy scene, Plancius decks well covered and slippery as an ice-rink. Further out, there was a grey sea, topped by dark grey clouds and continuing snow swirling around the ship and disappearing into the water without a trace.

Our Zodiacs were in similar state, and looked rather pretty under snow, but it soon melted off the engines as we got going for our first landing, D' Hainaut Island in the middle of Mikkelsen Harbour at the south end of Trinity Island. The staff had gone ashore on the rocks near an old Argentine refuge hut and both the shore staff and drivers did a great job of ensuring we all managed to scramble ashore for the landing. At the landing we were met by a colony of Gentoo penguins all of whom were trying to shelter from the wind and the driving

snow. Many of the chicks were trying to hide underneath their parents to try and keep warm but they were getting a little big for complete shelter. Those that were waiting for their parents to return from sea were huddled with their back against the wind and their beak under their wings. Even some of the adult penguins could be seen shivering; it was a truly Antarctic morning.

This is a small island, and we easily established two routes across an around the island with our marker poles, steering clear of the small colonies of Gentoo penguins and some Weddell seals. On the far side from our rocky landing place, there was a wrecked water boat, a covered craft that shipped water (from snow) out to whaling ships. It's bleached wooden ribs stood up in ironic context with a small forest of parched whale bones, predator and prey meeting the same end. Despite the snow and mist, perhaps even because of it, the surrounding scenery of steep glaciers and high outcrops disappearing into the mist looked very dramatic. During the morning the visibility began to improve as the snow stopped and in the distance the mountains of the Antarctic Peninsula began to emerge from the clouds. It was what we had all hoped for.



From here Plancius had about four hour's cruise to our next destination; Portal Point, another mainland destination in Charlotte Bay. On the way we were lucky enough to come across groups of feeding Humpback whales, some of whom were quite close to the ship as we sailed by. Staff on deck promised us more whales in the coming hours and they were to be proved correct as the day continued.

Portal Point is a small landing area but again it is set in a panorama of high cliffs and snow fields, whilst offshore there was a veritable parking lot of grounded icebergs,

many of fantastic shapes due to their various phases of melting and erosion. The Expedition team had arranged a split landing and cruise with half of the passengers going ashore first and the other group going out into the bay for a Zodiac cruise. On the cruise we sailed around the majestic arches and caves (but staying clear!) whilst on a large ice floe there was a group of Crabeater seals relaxing, and seemingly oblivious to our approach. Better was yet to come: the Captain on the bridge had reported feeding humpback whales at some distance off the ship, so off we went, and were treated to some truly remarkable sightings of these magnificent creatures as they shallow lunge-fed, or dived deeper, flukes rising high above the water. At times with the Zodiacs switched off, we were surrounded by them – a

true case of the whales approaching us, rather than the other way round.



Back at Portal Point, everyone had enjoyed a walk around the summit of the dome with the views out over Charlotte Bay improving as the low cloud and snow showers disappeared. It was lovely just to stand and take in the beauty of the surroundings. At the end of the landing some hardy souls had opted to go for an Antarctic swim, and the rocks down by the water were full of these shivering folk kitted out in a diverse array of swimming gear. Not one “chickened out”- all

plunged in to whoops of laughter and encouragement from the spectators, doing a few strokes and then springing out to the comfort of towels provided by Plancius. Well done to all who took part! Back on board Bobbi was there at the gangway to welcome us back with steaming hot chocolate which had been much improved by a tot of rum! A perfect warmer for us all!

Back on board we continued on our way further south and the rest of the evening was spent in doing a ship cruise around Wilhelmina Bay. The snow was long past, and the visibility was excellent. In the calm conditions it was classic whale spotting, and every few moments there was a sighting, some in the clear far distance, some remarkably close to the ship. Indeed there were so many that, with some on the surface, others below, at any one time it was difficult to say how many Humpbacks whales we had actually seen. Certainly enough to keep everyone happy, and bring a fine end to an exciting day! By 9pm we found ourselves sailing through a patch of snow covered brash ice which was a magical experience topped off coming across two Humpback whales ‘logging’ or sleeping in the icy water. What a lovely end to the day.



Hans Verdaat



Day 16 – Saturday 3rd February 2018

Cuverville Island and Paradise Harbour, Antarctica

0800 GPS Position: 064°40' S / 062°37' W

Wind: Var 1. **Sea State:** Calm. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** + 1°C. **Sea Temp:** + 1°C



After the feeding display of Humpback whales the evening before, some of us already got up at 5:30 hoping to see more whale action as we slowly sailed in an area of the Gerlache Strait. At around wake-up call a group of Humpback whales was spotted feeding, 'bubble netting' by blowing bubbles whilst swimming to the surface in a circular pattern which chases the krill into a tight swarm ready to eat in one whale sized gulp. These whales were approached quietly and then for a show they seemed to synchronise their swimming showing their flukes, their tails many times. It was a little cloudy and windy but every now and then there were glimpses of the mountains behind the clouds giving some lovely views of the distant peaks. Not quite the clear blue sky and sunshine we had been

hoping for but definitely Antarctic. When we arrived at Cuverville Island during breakfast time the wind dropped and we prepared for our visit the largest Gentoo penguin colony on the Antarctic Peninsula with around 4,000 breeding pairs.

The Zodiac ride ashore took us through a maze of icebergs that were grounded in the shallow water and with glaciers in the background it was an impressive arrival. At the beach we were met by staff, penguins and Fur seals and as usual the staff had prepared a walk through a penguin free zone to reach the other end of the beach.

One there we were able to observe different types of behaviour and chicks of different sizes. Some pairs were still busy building their nest with small stones, probably inexperienced young penguins because they were much too late to raise young this season. Some tiny chicks sometimes peeked from under their parents and bigger but still downy chicks stood patiently waiting for some food. Most of the chicks were extremely dirty and only the adults that just arrived on the beach had white bellies ready for photographing. Dotted all around the beach and on the rocks were many scruffy looking penguins, adults in the process of their annual moult. Each year after they have finished breeding penguins need to replace their feathers which get worn over time. They



do this in what is known as a catastrophic moult, a process which can last around three weeks and during this time the birds cannot go into the water to feed. We made sure we gave them plenty of space so that they could conserve as much energy as possible. Skuas once in a while caused the penguins to panic, with the adults screaming and the chicks fleeing in all directions. In the distance Ali had a glimpse of two Leopard seals patrolling in the water clearly watching and waiting for some penguins to dive in and head off on their foraging feed. They were out of luck this morning.



There was also an option to take a walk up to a higher viewpoint which gave us lovely views out over the icebergs and the mountains beyond where the clouds were slowly beginning to clear. There were a number of Skua nests dotted around the rocky slope and the young fluffy chicks could be seen sheltering amongst the rocks waiting for their parents to return with food. We also marvelled at the rock climbing skills of the Gentoo penguins that were making the long climb up to the highest colonies. They

had real determination and focus with feeding their chicks the goal of their climb.



Back on the ship we enjoyed the spectacular view during our passage of the Errera Channel, passing close by icebergs as we made our way to our afternoon's destination in Paradise harbour. On the way we passed the Chilean station Gonzalez Videla where a military vessel was anchored, obviously on an official visit and possibly re-supplying the station for the summer season. A little while later we found ourselves in calm water in Paradise Harbour and before too long we were going ashore at the Argentinian station Almirante Brown.

Like yesterday, the group was split in two and the first

group landed near the station while the others went for a Zodiac cruise into Skontorp Cove and vice versa. The small station of Almirante Brown is made up of a couple of red buildings, a small Maria sanctuary and a sign that tells you how far away you are from other places in the world including the North Pole. Behind the station the staff had flagged the safe route up the snow covered slope, it was a steep 50 metre climb to the top. The snow conditions were a little soft but it was well worth the effort as the views from the top were spectacular, looking down into the bay and across the water to glaciers and mountains. While sitting enjoying the views sounds like thunder came from behind where large parts of the glacier fall into the sea. After one had enjoyed the view above the preferred way of going down was definitely to slide, in fact many people climbed back up for another slide.

During the Zodiac cruise in Skontorp Cove there was no wind at all and the dramatic surroundings were reflected in the water. At the back of the cove is a huge glacier known as Avalanche Glacier and everyone had some fantastic views of the jagged blue ice at the front of the glacier. Out in the bay there was icebergs of all shapes and sizes and on some of the lower lying ice floes Crabeater seals were seen and some groups were lucky enough to see a Leopard seal as well. On the cliffs near the station nesting Antarctic cormorants could be seen high up on their guano and seaweed nests and Cape petrels were seen, and heard on the cliffs as well. It was a wonderful afternoon both on land and on the water.



At the re-cap Andrew announced two more landings for the following day, Deception Island early in the morning and Half Moon Island in the afternoon. With glacier ice in our drinks we all toasted yet another fine day in Antarctic but there was a sense of sadness too, with only one day left in this beautiful part of the world.

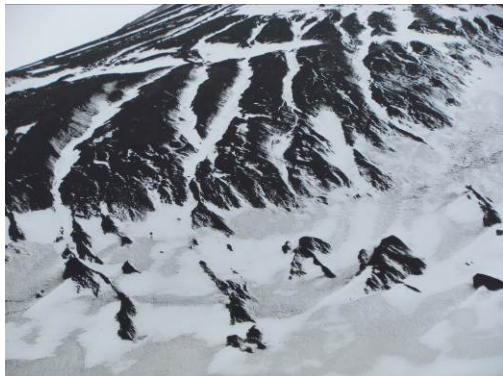


Day 17 – Sunday 4th February 2018

Whaler's Bay and Halfmoon Island, Antarctica

0800 GPS Position: 062°59' S / 060°33' W

Wind: Calm. **Sea State:** Calm. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** + 4°C. **Sea Temp:** +2°C



During the night we had sailed up the Gerlache Strait and across the Bransfield Strait towards the South Shetland Islands where we were planning to spend our last Antarctic day. At 05:45 Andrew woke us all up as Plancius was ready to sail into Deception Island through the infamous 'Neptune's Bellows'. On the cliffs surrounding 'Neptune's Bellows' the Cape Petrels can be seen breeding. The whole of Deception Island is classed as an active volcano and the entrance was where the rim of the volcano collapsed and allowed the water to flood in creating Port Foster. As we passed through the bellows we then turned into the shelter of Whaler's Bay where we planned to go ashore. We could see the buildings of the old whaling station appearing out of the gloom; giant

rusting barrels and tanks used to store whale oil and old derelict buildings and there is a feel of gloom hanging heavy in the air. After the whales had been almost hunted to extinction the whaling station then became a British Research Station but after the famous volcanic eruption in 1970 all stations in the bay had to be abandoned. Apart from the whale oil tanks, ovens and other buildings also an aircraft hanger remain as the first ever flight to Antarctica took off from here and the British Antarctic Survey used to fly from here to the Antarctic Peninsula for many years.

Once on shore at the old dry dock there was an option to walk along the beach to Neptune's Window. It is said that from this viewpoint the Antarctic Peninsula was seen for the first time by any human, Nathaniel B

Palmer and American explorer. It was an easy walk along the shore past the old waterboats that were used to take water out to the whaling ships in the bay and past the old water and whale oil barrels where the Fur seals and Antarctic terns had found shelter and a new home. There were a number of young male Fur seals along the shore play fighting in preparation for the future when they would be fighting to defend their breeding territories and females on the beaches of South Georgia.



A Neptune's Window we had great views down to the sea but we could re-enact the first viewing of the Antarctic continent as the visibility was a little limited. There was a lone Gentoo penguin high up near the window, hiding in the rocks for its annual moult.

Back down at the whaling station many people took a walk around the buildings and visited the old cemetery where Norwegian whalers were buried. It was a slightly eerie atmosphere with low cloud and an abstract black and white scene broken only by the rusting brown buildings. Just as the time ashore was coming to an end the wind suddenly started to blow and within minutes the water in the way was white with choppy waves and the anchored Zodiacs had to be rescued as they drifted towards Plancius. It was a splashy ride back to the ship for those that took the last boats home.

After this visit in the early morning at 10:00 Plancius departed from Deception Island to set sail up the Bransfield Strait to the last landing site of this trip before setting sail to Ushuaia. In the few hours it took to go from Deception Island to Half Moon Island, next to Livingston Island in the South Shetlands, the wind had picked up. As the anchor was dropped in the bay there was wind, freezing rain and hailstones making driving conditions very cold and wet for the staff and crew drivers taking



us ashore. This landing at the Chinstrap Penguin colony on Half Moon Island was the last landing of the trip and it seemed that Antarctica showed its wintery face one more time.



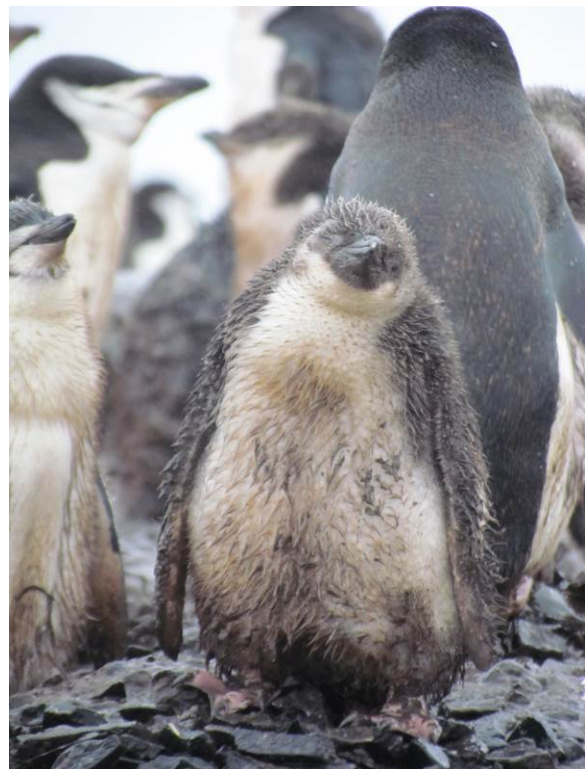
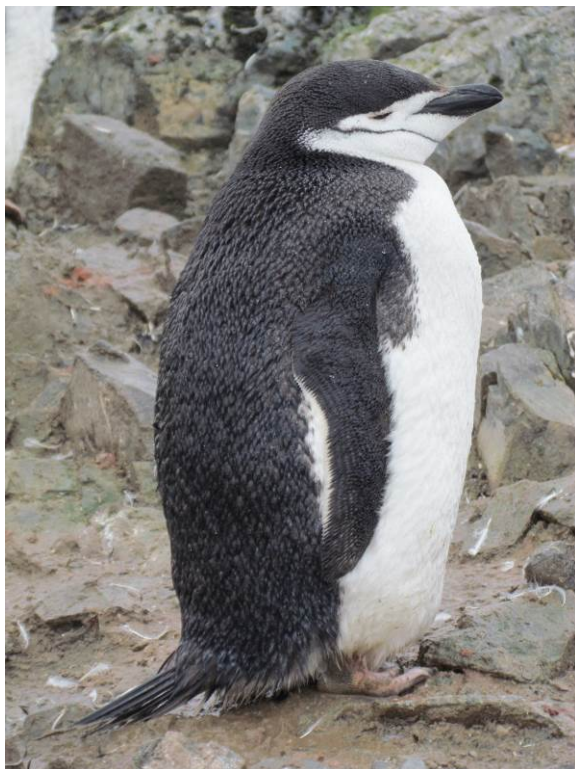
Like Ali said whatever the weather the wildlife will still be there and sure enough as we landed on the cobble beach we were met by Chinstrap penguins and Fur seals. From the landing site we walked up to a small Chinstrap colony at the top of the hill with interesting towering rock formations all around it. The chicks that had spent all their lives in the colony were covered in mud and guano with only the adults coming up from the beach looking ready for a photograph.

Further along the island we came to the penguin traffic lights at the highway, the penguin's daily route up and down the hill from the sea to the colony. We all commented on how clean the penguins were coming up the hill but how dirty they were coming back down. We also admired their determination and focus on their task of collecting food for their chicks. From here we walked down through the valley towards the other side of

the island where penguins were on the beach preening before making their way up to their chicks, some peace and quiet maybe before the demanding children!

The last stop was at the far colony where we could get good views of the chicks and adults in the colony and inhale the smell of penguin for the last time. The weather conditions didn't really improve much during the afternoon but we had all enjoyed the opportunity to visit a Chinstrap colony and experience some of the challenging weather conditions these tough little birds endure throughout the summer, never mind the winter. Leaving Half Moon Bay at the end of the afternoon also meant a departure from Antarctica for Plancius.

The Captain took us through the English Strait away from the South Shetlands where we had glimpses of the rocky islands and experienced the tides and currents that run through the narrow channels between the islands. From here we were into the Drake Passage. 'The Drake' is famous for its rough weather and today Plancius was met by several metres high swell. Was this a taste of things to come? With all measures taken for a good crossing back to Ushuaia Plancius continued north into the night.



Day 18 – Monday 5th February 2018

At Sea in the Drake Passage

0800 GPS Position: 060°08'S / 061°53'W

Wind: W 5. **Sea State:** Moderate. **Weather:** Part Cloud. **Air Temp:** + 4°C. **Sea Temp:** +3°C



For this day at least, the much discussed Drake Passage was being reasonably kind to us! We awoke to a gentle sparkling sea (by Drake standards) and blue skies although some people commented that they hadn't managed to get much sleep during the night due to the rolling of the seas. This rolling was also proving too much for passengers who were susceptible to seasickness and there were a few spare seats at the breakfast buffet this morning. Thankfully this was very much a leisure day for us, out in mid ocean, and landfall in Ushuaia some way off yet.

To start the programme of presentations for the day

Ali gave us a talk entitled Ice Maidens, looking at the history of women folk in the Antarctic, their belated arrival due to a variety of spurious prejudices, and tracing events from the times when they were strong supports in the background for men like Scott and Shackleton, through to the modern days where their contributions, within Antarctica are advancing exploration and science.

After the presentation many people got wrapped up and headed out onto the outer decks for some fresh air and sunshine. There were a few comments about how they wished the sunshine had been there for us in the preceding days in Antarctica but there isn't much we can do about the weather systems..... there weren't too many birds around the ship during the morning, an occasional Black browed albatross and a few Prions were seen drifting by but for the most part the skies and seas were very quiet.

In the afternoon Andrea gave us a talk on the human History of Antarctica, the key phases of exploration, its triumphs and tragedies, acknowledging that sometimes it's hard to tell the difference. She went on to look at further aspects of women in Antarctica, speculating on the reasons why it took so long for women to be accepted there. This proved to be a good follow up to the presentation that Ali had given in the morning.



Finally Howard continued the day's theme, in a more conversational manner, looking at his time spent in Antarctica 45 years ago, and the changes in technology, regulations, buildings and many other aspects. These included fascinating videos from the old cine, of huskies which were being used as key means of transport, now replaced by motorised sledges etc. For Howard this whole trip has been a walk back down memory lane and all the members of the expedition team have really appreciated his input through his public talks and chats in the bar. We all hope that the trip has lived up to expectations and we all wish him well for the future.



The day concluded with a suitable introduction to the daily recap – a 'Happy Hour' in the bar, which of course brought on even more cheer to the spirits of happy expeditioners! Re-cap was the usual plans for tomorrow including paying bills and with an interesting talk from Bob about how to become a whale. The final part was a short video from Hans showing his trip to the Neumayer Station

down on the Antarctic continent.

With warnings of winds and high seas in the night we all had an early night to try and sleep before the ship started to roll again.

Day 19 – Tuesday 6th February 2018

At Sea in the Drake Passage

0800 GPS Position: 056°07'S / 065°32'W

Wind: N 6. Sea State: Moderate. Weather: Overcast. Air Temp: +8°C. Sea Temp: +8°C



Well the forecast winds hadn't really arrived during the night as the Captain had managed to find a course that took between two areas of wind meaning we had found some relatively calm weather. This meant we were all able to get a good night of sleep and not be rolled out our bunks.

With no wake-up call again this morning the first call of the day was to breakfast where once again we were amazed that there was still fresh fruit available after nearly 3 weeks at sea.

There was still some wind from the north and occasional rolls but generally life on board was gentle and not the stormy Drake Passage that secretly some of us had hoped for.

The first presentation of the day was given by Bob who explained in his usual enthusiastic fashion why penguins don't fly. These birds have been the highlight of our journey in many ways, from the Rockhopper penguins high on the cliffs at Saunders Island to the first unforgettable views of the King penguin colony at Salisbury Plain. The Adelie penguins at Brown Bluff entertained us all and we left with memories and smells that will last for a very long time to come.

After lunch there was time in the programme for a nap or to pack, easier to pack going home as it all has to go in the bag. The smell of Antarctic penguins will be packed as well to remind us of our penguin days when we get home!

We also had a visitor to the ship after lunch in the form of a Peregrine falcon that landed on the back deck. These birds often feed on Prions at sea so it was obviously having a rest on its way back from a foraging trip. It posed nicely for photos before taking off and flying home.

Soon we were called to return our rubber boots to the boot room.

These sturdy 'Muck Boots' had kept our feet warm and dry during the voyage and we were grateful to have had them, especially in the cold of Antarctica where penguin poop was on every rock and boulder.

During the afternoon a film entitled Around Cape Horn was screened in the lounge. This documentary was filmed by Captain Iving Jonstone in the 1920's, and is about his first time rounding The Horn on the Peeking, one of the famous 'Flying P-Liners'. It was entertaining and fascinating in equal measures!



The rest of the afternoon was at leisure with some people taking a walk around the decks, watching the Dusky dolphins that occasionally came to the bow and stern of Plancius for a closer look. Others relaxed in the lounge enjoying the views of the Beagle Channel as we made our way towards Ushuaia.

At 6pm we were invited to the lounge for Captain's Cocktails where we met with Captain Alexey once again to toast the wonderful voyage. He did some amazing navigation with Plancius, taking us close to whales and icebergs and into narrow channels for unforgettable experiences. Ruedi, from Polar News had put together a short movie of our trip and the staff

had contributed photos for a slide show that Dan had put together for us. It was lovely to look back over the last 20 days on board Plancius and remember the places we had visited and the wonderful things we had seen.

Cheers everyone!



Day 20 – Wednesday 7th February 2018

Disembarkation Ushuaia

We were woken by the last wake-up call from our Expedition Leader Andrew and got ready to disembark for the final time. We didn't have to turn our tags, there was no zodiac ride ashore and it was a dry landing. The last three weeks have taken us on a remarkable journey from the Falkland Islands, to South Georgia and to Antarctica and allowed us a glimpse of life in these remote and sometimes inhospitable places. We will all have different memories of our trip but whatever the memories, whether it was the King penguins in the sunshine at Salisbury Plain or the sight of the icebergs in Antarctic Sound they are memories that will stay with us for the rest of our lives.

Total distance sailed on our voyage:

Nautical miles: 3526 nm

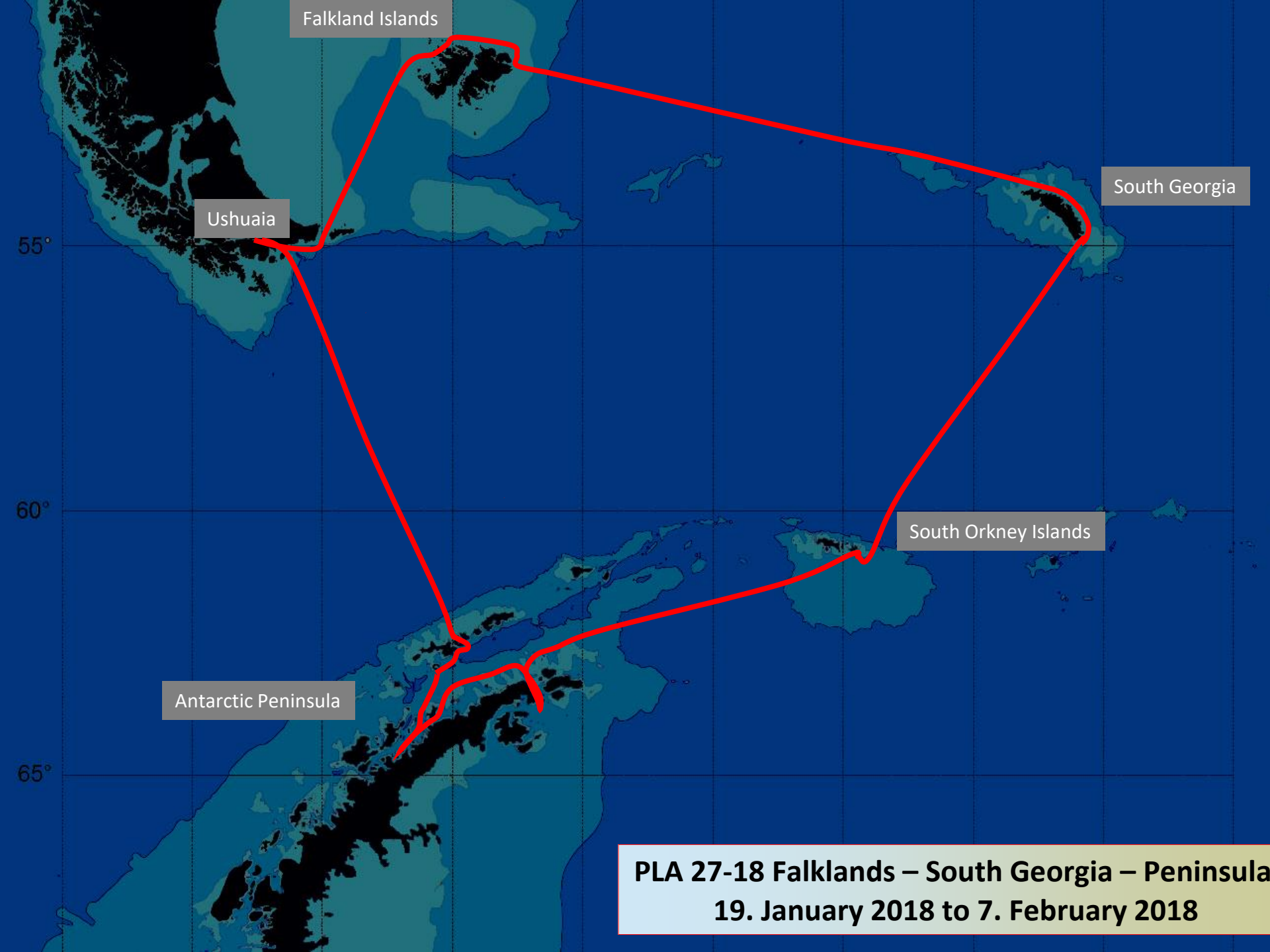
Kilometres: 6530km



Your Expedition Team!

On behalf of everyone on board we thank you for travelling with us and wish you a safe journey home.





Falkland Islands

Ushuaia

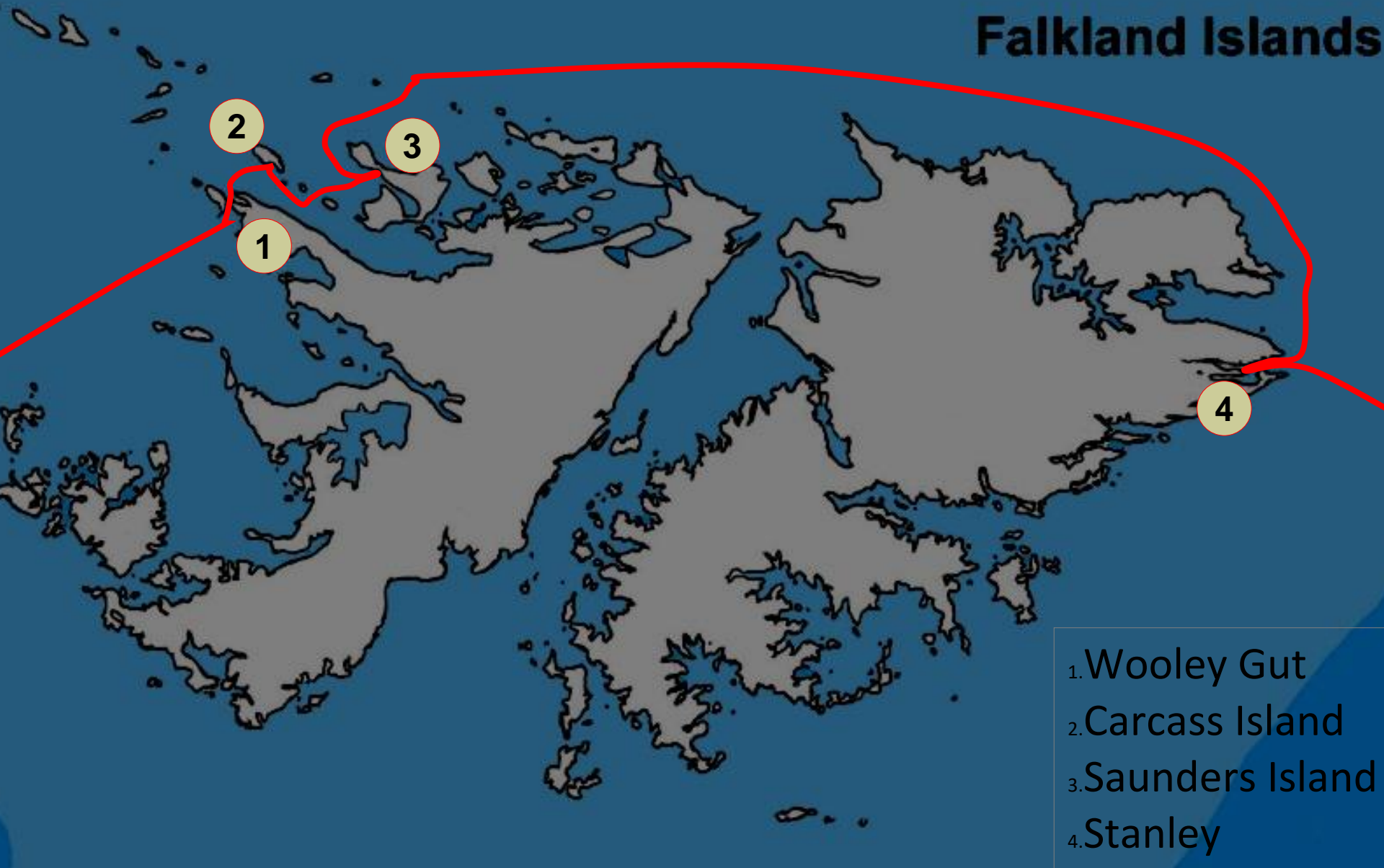
South Georgia

South Orkney Islands

Antarctic Peninsula

PLA 27-18 Falklands – South Georgia – Peninsula
19. January 2018 to 7. February 2018

Falkland Islands

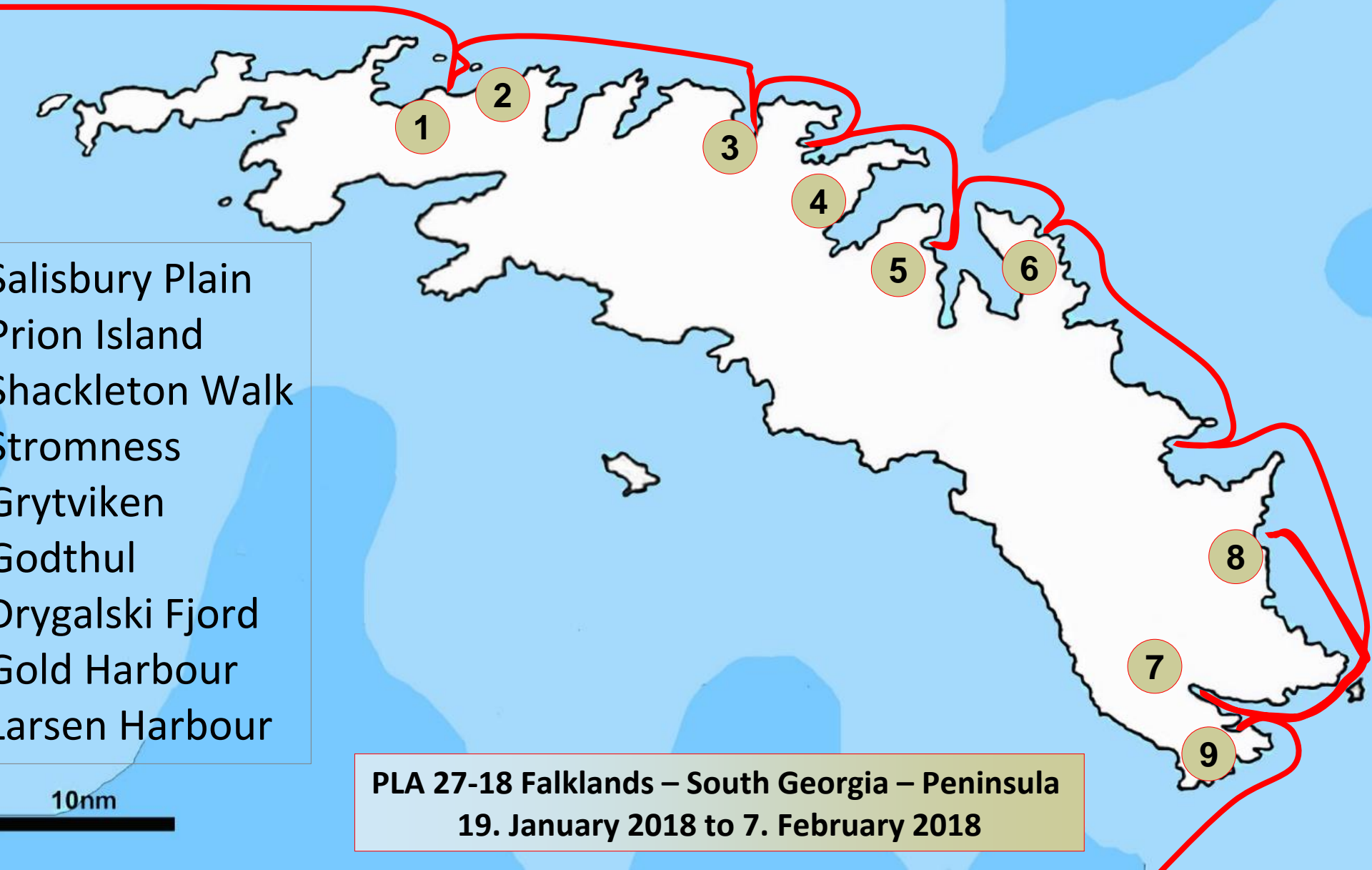


- 1. Wooley Gut
- 2. Carcass Island
- 3. Saunders Island
- 4. Stanley

PLA 27-18 Falklands – South Georgia – Peninsula
19. January 2018 to 7. February 2018

10nm

South Georgia



- Salisbury Plain
- Prion Island
- Shackleton Walk
- Stromness
- Grytviken
- Godthul
- Drygalski Fjord
- Gold Harbour
- Larsen Harbour

10nm

PLA 27-18 Falklands – South Georgia – Peninsula
19. January 2018 to 7. February 2018

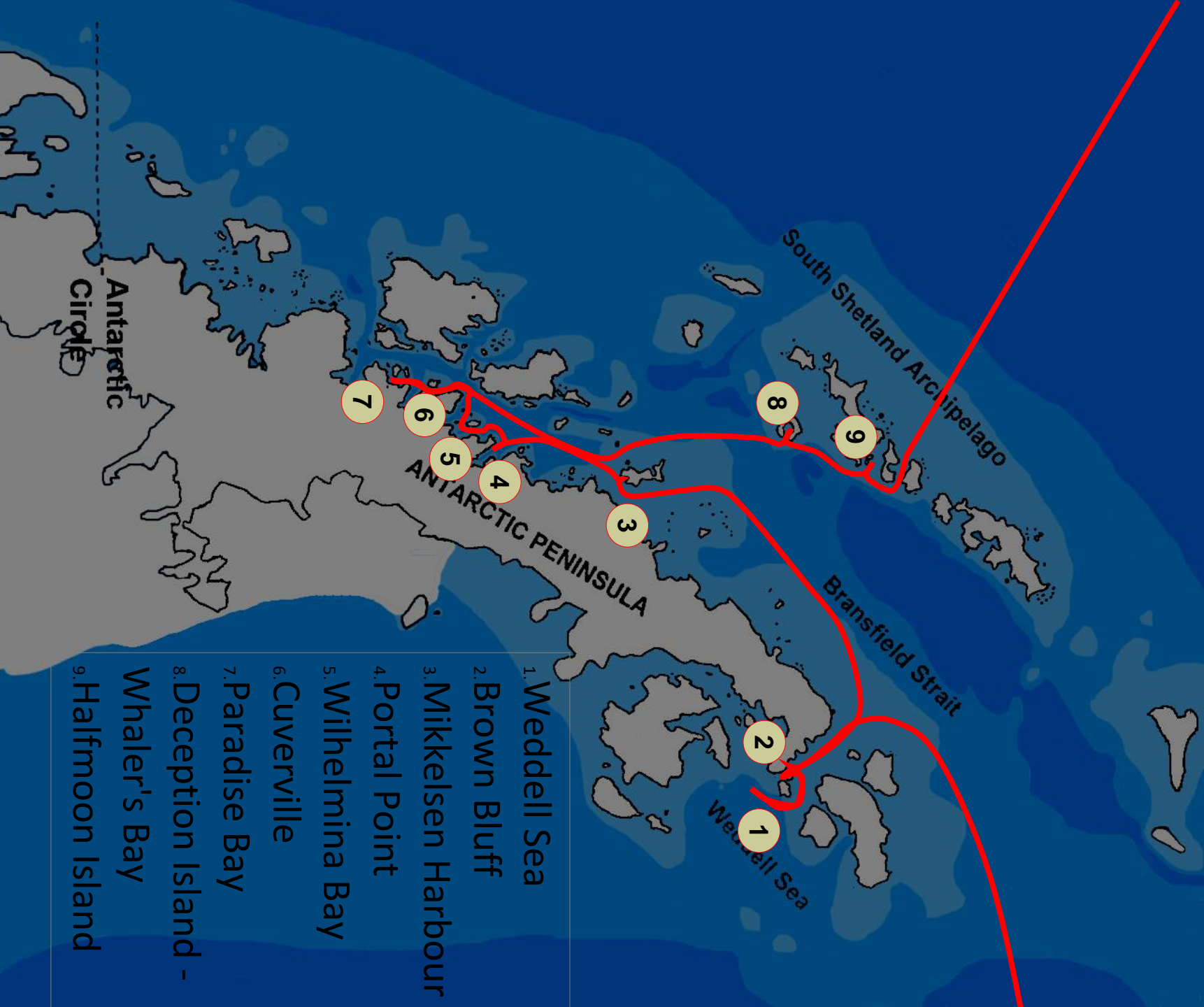
South Orkneys



Orcadas Station

**PLA 27-18 Falklands – South Georgia – Peninsula
19. January 2018 to 7. February 2018**

10nm



- 1. Weddell Sea
- 2. Brown Bluff
- 3. Mikkelsen Harbour
- 4. Portal Point
- 5. Wilhelmina Bay
- 6. Cuverville
- 7. Paradise Bay
- 8. Deception Island - Whaler's Bay
- 9. Halfmoon Island

PLA 27-18 Falklands – South Georgia – Peninsula

19. January 2018 to 7. February 2018

Species list: Common birds and marine mammals of the Antarctic region			Ushuaia	at sea	Falklands
			19/01/2018	20/01/2018	21/01/2018
English	Latin	Deutsch			
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>	Kaiserpinguin			
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonica</i>	Königspinguin			X
Adelie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>	Adeliepinguin			
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>	Eselspinguin			X
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>	Kehlstreifpinguin			
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>	Goldschopfpinguin			
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	Magellanpinguin	X	X	X
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wanderalbatross			
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	Nördliche Königsalbatros		X	
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>	Königsalbatross		X	
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	Schwarzbrauenalbatross	X	X	X
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>	Graukopfalbatross			
Light Mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>	Rußalbatross			
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Nördlicher Riesensturmvogel		X	
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Südlicher Riesensturmvogel	X	X	X
Antarctic Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialoides</i>	Südlicher Eissturmvogel			
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>	Kapsturmvogel		X	
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>	Weißflügelsturmvogel			
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>	Schneesturmvogel			
Soft Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>	Weißfedernsturmvogel			
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	Blausturmvogel			
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Weißkinnsturmvogel	X	X	
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Dunkelsturmtaucher		X	X
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Atlantiksturmtaucher			
Correndera Pipit	<i>Anthus correndera</i>				
Silver teal	<i>Spatula versicolor</i>	Silberente			
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>	Großer Sturmtaucher		X	X
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>	Taubensturmvogel			
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>	Feensturmvogel		X	
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>	Belcher-Sturmvogel		X	X
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	Buntfußsturmschwalbe		X	X

Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>	Schwarzbauchmeerläufer		X	
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>	Graurücken-Sturmschwalbe		X	
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>	Lummensturmvogel			X
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>			X	
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	Blauaugenscharbe	X		X
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>	Antarktikscharbe			
Pale-faced Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>	Weißgesicht-Scheidenschnabel			X
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	Chileskua	X		
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>	Antarktiskua			
Falkland (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>	Subantarktiskua			X
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>	Subantarktiskua			
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	Blutschnabelmöwe	X		X
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Dominikanermöwe	X		X
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	Falklandseeschwalbe	X		X
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>	Antipodenseeschwalbe			
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe			
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Falkenraubmöwe			
Atlantic Petrel	<i>Pterodroma incerta</i>	Schlegelsturmvogel			
Kerguelen Petrel	<i>Aphrodroma brevirostris</i>	Kerguelensturmvogel			
Royal Penguin	<i>Eudyptes schlegeli</i>	Haubenpinguin			
Specific to Falkland Islands					
Southern Rockhopper Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysocome</i>	Felsenpinguin			X
Rock Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>	Felsenscharbe			X
Upland Goose	<i>Chloephaga picta</i>	Magellangans			X
Kelp Goose	<i>Chloephaga hybrida</i>	Tanggans			X
Ruddy-headed Goose	<i>Chloephaga rubidiceps</i>	Rotkopfgans			X
Falkland Grass Wren	<i>Australasian wren</i>	Stegen Zaunkoenig			X
Black-throated finch	<i>Poephila cincta</i>				
Black chinned siskin	<i>Spinus barbatus</i>	Bartzeisig			X
Flying Steamer Duck	<i>Tachyeres patachonicus</i>	Langflügel-Dampfschiffente			
Falkland Flightless Steamer Duck	<i>Tachyeres brachypterus</i>	Falkland-Dampfschiffente			X
Crested Duck	<i>Lophonetta specularioides</i>	Schopfente			X
Chiloe Wigion	<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>	Chilepfeifente			

Speckled Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>	Chile-Krickente			X
Falkland Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Truthahngeier			X
Red-backed Hawk	<i>Buteo polyosoma</i>	Rotrückenbussard			
Striated Caracara	<i>Phalacrocorax australis</i>	Falklandkarakara			X
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	Schopfkarakara			
Magellanic Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus leucopodus</i>	Feuerland-Austernfischer			X
Blackish Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ater</i>	Südamerikanischer Austernfischer			X
Two-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>	Falkland-Regenpfeifer			
Rufous-chested Dotterel	<i>Charadrius modestus</i>	Rotbrust-Regenpfeifer			
Magellanic Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguayiae magellanica</i>	Falkland-Bekassine			
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	Falklandseeschwalbe			X
Blackish Cinclodes (Tussack Bird)	<i>Cinclodes antarcticus antarcticus</i>	Einfarb-Uferwipper			X
Dark-faced ground- tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola m. macloviana</i>	Maskentyrann			X
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Hausperling			
Cobb's Wren	<i>Troglodytes cobbi</i>	Falklandzaunkönig			X
Chilean Swallow	<i>Tachycineta leucopyga</i>	Chile-Baumschwalbe			
Falkland Thrush	<i>Turdus falcklandii falcklandii</i>	Magellandrossel			X
Long-tailed Meadow Lark	<i>Sturnella loyca falklandica</i>	Langschwanz-Soldatenstärling			X
Falkland Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax falklandicus</i>	Nachtreiher			X
Brown-hooded Gull					
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus cassini</i>	Wanderfalcke			
Specific to South Georgia					
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>	Königspinguin			
South Georgia Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax georgianus</i>	Südgeorgienscharbe			
South Georgia Diving Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides georgicus</i>	Breitschnabel-Lummensturmvogel			
South Georgia Pipit	<i>Anthus antarcticus</i>	Riesenpieper			
South Georgia Pintail	<i>Anas georgica georgica</i>	Südgeorgien-Spitzschwanzente			
Broad-billed prion	<i>Pachyptila vittata</i>	Großer Entensturmvogel			
Marine mammals		Meeres säugetiere			
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	Südkaper			
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>	Zwergwal			
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Buckelwal			

Antarctica	Antarctica	Deception	Drake	Beagle	Ushuaia
02/02/2018	03/02/2018	04/02/2018	05/02/2018	06/02/2018	07/02/2018
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	

Andrew Bishop – Expedition Leader



Andrew hails from King Island, a small island just north of Tasmania, Australia. He completed his university studies in Hobart at the University of Tasmania in 2001, earning a double major in Geology and Environmental Geography.

Since then he has travelled the world, visiting all seven continents, climbing a few high mountains and enjoying the experiences and challenges different nations and cultures can offer.

In 2010, after spending several years mainly focussed on working as an exploration geologist in the remoter areas of Australia, he began working as an expedition guide and lecturer to the Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands. Since then he has completed over 50 trips to this region working as a guide in various positions, and for the past few seasons as Expedition Leader.

Ali Liddle — Expedition Guide



Ali has lived on both the Falklands and South Georgia, has published 3 books and when she is not running marathons is either on ships in the south or teaching children in the north.

Originally from the UK, Ali spent 15 years living in the Falkland Islands where she worked as a Primary school teacher both teaching out in 'camp' and at the school in Stanley.

Latterly, she was employed as Education Officer for Falklands Conservation and shared her time between classroom teaching and conservation. In 1997 she spent 9 months living on South Georgia where she ran the Post Office and took every opportunity to hike, ski and explore the surrounding peaks and coastline.

She has published 3 books to date – Plants of the Falkland Islands and 2 art and craft books for children using penguins and albatross as the inspiration. Ali is a keen runner, having completed 3 marathons in the Falkland Islands and 2 in the UK and enjoys hiking and camping, particularly in remote corners of the Falkland Islands.

Ali has been working on Antarctic and Arctic cruise ships with Oceanwide for a number of years and, for now, she shares her time between working on board *Plancius* and teaching in Northumberland in the UK, where she is currently based. She hopes to return to the Falkland Islands at some point in the future to continue living the island life she loves so much.

Daniel Höhne – Expedition Guide



Daniel studied Geography and Geology in Tübingen, southern Germany, and has been fascinated by the vigour and sensitivity of our ecosystems ever since. A professional photographer and guide, his focus is in Iceland, where he spends 18 weeks a year guiding and taking his own pictures. He also guides in Svalbard/Spitsbergen, Finnish Lapland and north-eastern parts of Germany. Daniel believes that taking people into the outdoors and teaching them to see and feel is one of the best things you can do: helping people understand why things happen in nature, what our role is in different environments, and why it is so important to protect the ecosystem.

Daniel hat Geografie und Geologie in Tübingen, Süddeutschland, studiert und ist seitdem fasziniert von der Vitalität und der Empfindlichkeit unseres Ökosystems. Als professioneller Fotograf und Führer ist sein Fokus in Island, wo er 18 Wochen pro Jahr verbringt. Er arbeitet auch in Svalbard/Spitzbergen, Finnisch-Lapland und Nord-Ost-Deutschland. Daniel liebt es, Leute in die Natur zu begleiten und ihnen zu helfen, sie zu fühlen und zu sehen: warum passieren bestimmte Dinge in der Natur? Welche Rolle spielt der Mensch? Warum ist es so wichtig, das Ökosystem zu schützen?

Regis Perdriat – Expedition Guide



Regis, a behavioural biologist, has a passion for wildlife protection and natural heritage conservation. His fieldwork has brought him to the French Southern Territories in the South Indian Ocean, the Kerguelen Islands, where he studied albatrosses and penguins for one year. He has worked as a fieldwork ornithologist in diverse environments such as Kazakhstan, South Africa, and Greenland. On top of this, Regis loves being a wildlife photographer.

Regis, ein Verhaltensbiologe, hat eine Leidenschaft für den Wildtier- und Naturerbe-Schutz. Als Teil seiner Feldarbeit hat er ein Jahr damit verbracht, auf den Kerguelen-Inseln (Teil des französischen Südlichen Territoriums im Südindischen Ozean) Albatrosse und Pinguine zu studieren. Als Feld-Ornithologe hat Regis in verschiedenen Gebieten gearbeitet, unter anderem in Kazakhstan, Südafrika und Grönland. Er ist außerdem ein begeisterter Naturfotograf.

Bob Brown È Expedition Guide



Bob Brown was brought up in Sussex, as a child getting soaked exploring for marine beasts and birds. University in Belfast and a PhD on mollusc ecology and oystercatcher feeding, led to research in Sweden, before moving to Jamaica to develop oyster farming based on mangrove systems, as well as lecturing, rearing hawksbill turtles and discovering the diverse butterfly life.

Back in Northern Ireland, for about ten years he managed the National Trust's Strangford Lough Wildlife for its birds and marine wildlife, writing a widely acclaimed book on them. In 1991 he became Director of RSPB's operations in N Ireland, working on the Province's most important birds and their habitats. In 2004 he became Chair of the Northern Ireland Biodiversity Group; and for nine years contributed to the work of Northern Ireland's Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside. For many years he has been a member of the UK's Joint Nature Conservation Committee, chairing their Marine Protected Areas working group.

He also travels widely, notably in the Arctic, Antarctic, and Patagonia as well as other parts of South America, where he leads natural history tours. His main interests are the rich bird life (particularly seabirds), whales and other sea mammals, and the wealth different habitats to be found. In 2004 he was awarded an OBE for services to nature conservation.

Andrea Herbert – Expedition Guide



Andrea was born in Germany but now lives in New Zealand. A socio-cultural anthropologist with a South American regional focus (Peru, Argentina), she holds a PhD in Anthropology and Antarctic Studies. A Postgraduate Certificate of Antarctic Studies (2017) brought her to the Ross Sea region and the New Zealand Antarctic Station (Scott Base). Andrea works in the Antarctic sector, currently as an editor for the Antarctic Environments Portal.

Andrea ist in Deutschland geboren, dann aber nach Neuseeland ausgewandert. Sie hat einen Doktorgrad in Anthropologie und Antarktikstudien. Ein Graduiertenzertifikat in Antarktistudien brachte sie 2017 in die Ross Sea Region und in die neuseeländische Antarktisstation (Scott Base). Andrea arbeitet im Antarktissektor, zur Zeit als Editor für das Antarktis-Umwelt-Portal.

Hans Verdaat – Expedition Guide



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 and 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 und www.observation.org inne und verifiziert Sichtungen von Seevögeln und -säugern, die gemeldet werden. Hans spricht Niederländisch, Englisch und Deutsch.

Marion van Rijssel – Expedition Guide



At the age of eight Marion started a herbarium and found out that the seemingly monotonous green meadows harbored an immense diversity of herbs and grasses. By snorkeling in the Mediterranean she discovered the underwater world and was fascinated by the animals alien to the terrestrial environment. She studied Biology and got acquainted with the absurd physiology of microbes that consume and breathe other things than the organisms she was familiar with. Marion loves to share her fascination for all forms of life by being a lecturer in Marine biology at the university and as a guide for scuba divers/tourists.

Mit 8 Jahren startete Marion ein Herbarium und entdeckte, dass die monoton aussehenden grünen Wiesen sich in Wirklichkeit aus immens diversen Kräutern und Gräsern zusammensetzten. Beim Schnorcheln in der mediterranen See entdeckte sie die Unterwasserwelt und war fasziniert. Sie studierte Biologie und entdeckte die absurde Physiologie von Mikroben. Marion teilt ihre Faszination für alle Lebensformen in ihrer Arbeit als Meeresbiologin an der Universität und als Tauchlehrerin.



Kapitän Alexey Nazarov

und seine international Crew

Erster Offizier:	Jaanus Hannes	[Estonien]
Zweiter Offizier:	Matei Mocanu	[Rumänien]
Dritter Offizier:	Igor Nazarov	[Russland]
Hotel Manager:	Sebastian Duma	[Rumänien]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Bobby Manevski	[Mazedonien]
Küchenchef:	Heinz Hacker	[Österreich]
Sous Chef:	Sean Steele	[Kanada]
Schiffsdoktor:	Hans Frima	[Niederlande]

UND

Expeditionsleiter:	Andrew Bishop	[Australien]
Asst. Expeditionsleiter:	Ali Liddle	[Großbritannien]
Expedition Guide:	Daniel Höhne	[Deutschland]
Expedition Guide:	Regis Perdrat	[Frankreich]
Expedition Guide	Bob Brown	[Großbritannien]
Expedition Guide:	Andrea Herbert	[Deutschland]
Expedition Guide:	Hans Verdaat	[Niederlande]
Expedition Guide:	Marion van Rijssel	[Niederlande]

Heißen Sie herzlich willkommen!



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea towards the Falkland Islands

Friday 19th January 201

Welcome on board! Your luggage will be delivered to your cabin as soon as possible. Please check that you are not missing anything. Feel free to explore the ship.

Willkommen an Bord! Ihr Gepäck finden Sie in Ihren Kabinen; bitte überprüfen Sie, ob Gepäckstücke fehlen und erkunden Sie anschließend das Schiff.

~1700 **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Drill in the Lounge.** ALL passengers are required to attend this very important safety briefing. The drill will take place after the briefing.

Obligatorische Sicherheitseinweisung und Rettungsbootübung in der Lounge. Diese Einweisung ist verpflichtend für ALLE!

~1800 Approximate sailing time. As we leave Ushuaia we recommend that you enjoy the views from the outside decks and watch our departure.

Geschätzte Ablegezeit. Wir empfehlen Ihnen nach dem Ablegen die Aussicht auf den Aussendecks zu genießen und nach Walen Ausschau zu halten.

The Bridge and Bridge wings will be closed this evening.

Die Brücke ist während des Ablegens geschlossen.

~1845 After our departure, we would like to invite you to the **Lounge** (Deck 5) for a welcome from Expedition Leader **Andrew Bishop** and an introduction to the ship by Hotel Manager **Sebastian Duma**.

*Sobald alle an Bord sind, laden der Expeditionsleiter **Andrew Bishop** und Hotelmanager **Sebastian Duma** Sie herzlich zu einem Willkommenstreffen in der Lounge ein.*

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

*Danach findet der Cocktailemfang mit Kapitäns **Alexey Nazarov** statt. Bei dieser Gelegenheit lernen Sie auch das Expeditionsteam kennen.*

1930 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room located on Deck 3 behind reception. Bon appétit!

Das **Abendessen** wird im Restaurant auf Deck 3 (hinter der Rezeption) serviert.

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

Thank you.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea en-route to the Falkland Islands

Saturday 20th January 2018

- 0730 Wake Up call. /*Weckruf.*
- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
Das Frühstück steht eine Stunde lang für Sie im Restaurant bereit.
- 0930 Please come to the **Lounge** for a **MANDATORY Zodiac briefing**.
Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge fuer eine verpflichtende Sichereinweisung fuer die Zodiacs.
- ~1000 Following the briefing we will hand out your Rubber Boots. You will be called by deck number, please listen for announcements.
Im Anschluss an die Einweisung werden wir die Gummistiefel aushändigen. Wir rufen Sie jeweils Deck fuer Deck auf. Bitte achten Sie auf die Lautsprecheransagen.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

As we continue sailing towards the Falklands please keep a lookout for birds and mammals. / Während wir unseren Weg zu den Falklandinseln fortsetzen, halten Sie Ausschau nach Vögeln und Meeressäugern.

- 1500 **Ali** is a Falklands Islands local and would like to give a presentation to introduce you to this special area. This will be part one of a two part lecture and will be in the **Dining Room** in **English and translated to German**.
Ali war lange auf den Falkland Inseln zu Hause und möchte Ihnen diese wunderschönen Inseln vorstellen. Der Vortrag findet auf English im Restaurant statt und wird simultan ins Deutsche übersetzt.
- 1700 **Ali** will give the second part of her presentation about the Falklands Islands. This will be in the **Dining Room** in **English and translated to German**.
Ali wird den zweiten Teil Ihres Falkland-Vortrages praesentieren. Auch hier findet eine Übersetzung ins Deutsche statt.
- 1830 Please join **Andrew** and the Expedition team in the **Lounge** for the Daily Briefing. This is where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.
***Andrew** und das Expeditionsteam laden Sie zum Recap in die **Lounge** ein zu einem kurzen Rückblick auf den heutigen Tag und einen Ausblick auf Morgen.*
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!

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

Bitte sichern Sie zerbrechliche Gegenstände, wie zum Beispiel Kameras und Computer in ihrer Kabine. Bei Seeganag halten Sie bitte immer eine Hand zum Festhalten bereit. Vielen Dank!



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Carcass Island and Saunders Island

Sunday 21st January 2018

At approximately 0700 we will be navigating through the **'Wooly Gut'**, a very scenic and narrow stretch of water between the mainland of West Falkland and West Point Island. Here we can see Black browed albatross, various penguin species as well as cormorants and local birds. We may even see dolphins.

Gegen 07.00 Uhr fahren wir durch die 'Wooly Gut', eine landschaftlich sehr schöne Engstelle zwischen West Falkland und West Point. Zu sehen gibt es dort Schwarzbrauenalbatrosse, unterschiedliche Pinguinarten, Kormorane und andere regionale Vogelarten. Möglicherweise sogar Delphine.

0630 Wake-up call/ *Morgendlicher Weckruf*

~0700 'Wooly Gut' navigation/ *Passage von 'Wooly Gut'*

0730 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour/ *Das Frühstück steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.*

0830 This morning we would like to go ashore at **Carcass Island**. If the weather allows we would like to offer a long hike before visiting the settlement for morning tea. Long hikers will disembark first.

Morgens wollen wir in Carcass Island an Land gehen. Sofern die Wetterbedingungen gut sind, begeben wir uns auf eine ausgedehnte Wanderung um die Insel, bevor wir dann zur Siedlung kommen. Dort besteht die Möglichkeit für Kaffee, Tee und Kuchen.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. / *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

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

*Am Nachmittag ist eine Landung auf **Saunders Island** geplant. Man kann hier Esels-, Felsen-, Magellan-, und Königspinguine sehen, ebenso wie Blauaugenscharben und brütende Schwarzbrauen Albatrosse.*

1900 Join Andrew and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the Daily Briefing.
Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge zum Rückblick des Tages und Ausblick auf morgen.

1930 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit!
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Port Stanley
Monday 22nd January 2018

At approximately 0700 this morning we will be sailing through 'The Narrows' and into the harbour of Port Stanley. If the weather is good this is a nice introduction to the township of Stanley.

Gegen 07.00 Uhr am Morgen werden wir durch 'The Narrows' fahren und danach den Hafen von Stanley erreichen. Wenn die Witterungsverhältnisse gut sind, ist es ein schönes Willkommen.

0630 Wakeup call. / *Werkuf*

0730 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour. / *Das Frühstück steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.*

~0830 In the morning we plan to visit **Port Stanley**. Landing will be by zodiac onto a floating pontoon. There are special notices posted on the whiteboards with information about some of the shops and attractions that will be open. Please note that not all shops can accept credit/debit cards, so it is advisable to carry some cash. Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Falkland pounds and Euros are accepted in most places.

*Am Morgen hoffen wir in **Stanley** anzulanden. Dies ist eine trockene Landung vom Zodiac auf einem Anleger. An der Whiteboards auf dem Schiff befinden sich Ausdrücke mit den Öffnungszeiten der Geschäfte und Sehenswürdigkeiten. Bitte beachten Sie, dass manche Läden keine Kreditkarten akzeptieren. Bringen Sie deshalb bitte Bargeld mit; britische Pfund, US-Dollar, Falkland-Pfund und Euro werden in den meisten Geschäften akzeptiert.*

1300 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

1600 Please join **Bob** in the Restaurant as he delivers his fascinating talk 'On a wing and a prayer: **Seabirds**'. This will be in English and translated into German.

*Sie sind herzlich eingeladen zu **Bob** Vortrag im Restaurant über **Schwarzbrauenalbatrosse und Albatross-Schutzmaßnahmen**. Der Vortrag wird auf Englisch sein und wird simultan auf Deutsch übersetzt werden.*

1830 Please join the Expedition team in the Lounge for the Daily Briefing. / *Bitte kommen Sie in der Lounge für unseren Tagesrückblick und Ausblick auf morgen.*

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit. / *Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!*

Please ensure breakables are secured in your cabin and keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship. / Bitte sichern Sie zerbrechliche Gegenstände und halten sie eine Hand frei um sich fest zu halten.



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to South Georgia
Tuesday 23rd January 2018

As we continue sailing towards the biologically rich waters of South Georgia keep a lookout out for birds and large mammals! / *Auf unserem Weg in die artenreichen Gewässer Südgeorgiens lohnt es sich nach Seevögeln und Walen Ausschau zu halten.*

0745 Wake Up call. /*Weckruf.*

0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour. / *Das Frühstück steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.*

1000 The Southern Ocean is a well-known feeding ground for marine mammals. Join **Hans** in the **Dining Room** as he introduces us to these enigmatic creatures.
Die südlichen Ozeane sind bekannt für ein enormes Nahrungsangebot und daher Lebensgrundlage vieler Meeresbewohner. Hans wird uns in seinem Vortrag diese fabelhafte Lebewelt vorstellen. Kommen Sie dazu ins Restaurant. Der Vortrag ist auf Englisch und wird simultan auf Deutsch übersetzt werden.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. / *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

1500 We will be seeing many **seals** over the next few days. **Bob** will be in the **Dining Room** to talk about these fascinating creatures. This will be in the Queens English and translated to German.
In den nächsten Tagen werden wir viele Robben zu sehen bekommen. Bob wird seinen Vortrag über diese faszinierenden Tiere geben. Kommen Sie dazu ins Restaurant. Es findet eine Übersetzung ins Deutsche statt.

1630 Ali spent several months on **South Georgia** and would like to introduce you to this magical island in the **Dining Room**. This will be in English *translated to German*.
Ali hat mehrere Monate auf Südgeorgien gelebt und möchte Ihnen diese zauberhafte Insel vorstellen. Kommen Sie dazu ins Restaurant. Der Vortrag ist auf Englisch und wird simultan auf Deutsch übersetzt werden.

1800 Polar News/Ikarus meeting in the Lounge. / *Treffen für Polar News/Ikarus im Lounge.*

1830 You are invited to the **Lounge** for the **Daily Briefing**. / *Bitten kommen Sie in die Lounge für unseren Tagerückblick.*

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit. / *Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!*

**Please remember to close your curtains and minimise light usage tonight to help avoid seabird strikes.
Bitte denken sie daran heute nacht die vorhänge in ihrer kabine zu schliessen, um zu verhindern, dass vögel vom licht angelockt werden.**



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to South Georgia

Wednesday 24th January 2018

- 0745 Wake Up call. /*Weckruf.*
- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
Das Frühstück steht eine Stunde für Sie im Restaurant bereit.
- 1000 Please meet **Andrew** in the Dining Room for a **mandatory briefing** for all visitors to Antarctica and South Georgia. This will include IAATO guidelines and biosecurity measures. English, translated to German.
Bitte kommen Sie in das Restaurant zu einer Pflichtveranstaltung in Englisch und Deutsch für alle Besucher der Antarktis und Südgeorgiens. Dies beinhaltet die IAATO-Richtlinien und Bio-Sicherheitsmaßnahmen.
- ~1100 Vacuuming stations will be set up in the **Lounge** to remove invasive species from your clothing and equipment. You will have to sign a declaration regarding these important measures. Please listen for announcements; you will be called by deck [600, 500, etc.]
Staubsaugerstationen werden in der Lounge zur Verfügung stehen, um Samen und Erde von Ihrer Kleidung und Ihrer Ausrüstung zu entfernen. Sie müssen für diese wichtige Sicherheitsmaßnahmen eine Erklärung unterzeichnen. Bitte beachten Sie die Lautsprecherdurchsagen; wir werden sie nach Deck aufrufen [600, 500, etc.]
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. /*Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*
- 1330 Vacuuming continues. / *Staubsaugen wird fortgesetzt.*
- 1430 Polar News/Ikarus meeting in the Dining Room. / *Treffen im Restaurant für Polar News/Ikarus*
- 1530 As we make our way towards South Georgia, please join **Marion** in the **Dining Room** for a talk about **Penguins**. This will be in English and translated to German.
Während wir unseren Weg Richtung Süd Georgien fortsetzen laden wir Sie herzlich zu einem Vortrag von Marion ein. Thema wird sein: Pinguine. Es gibt eine Übersetzung ins Deutsche.
- 1700 **Regis** would like to offer a more in depth talk on **King penguins** in the **Dining Room**. English, translated to German.
Regis wird während seines Vortrages einen tieferen Einblick in das Leben der Königspinguine geben. Auch hier findet eine Übersetzung ins Deutsche statt.
- 1830 Daily Briefing - please join the Expedition team in the Lounge./ *Recap und Ausblick auf Morgen: Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge.*
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit./ *Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit*

**Please remember to close your curtains and minimise light usage tonight to help avoid seabird strikes.
Bitte denken sie daran heute nacht die vorhänge in ihrer kabine zu schliessen, um zu verhindern, dass
vögel vom licht angelockt werden.**



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Salisbury Plain and Prion Island
Thursday 25th January 2018

We will be cruising down the north-eastern coast of South Georgia from the early hours of the morning. / In den frühen Morgenstunden, werden wir an der Nordost-Küste Südgeorgiens entlang fahren.

0700 Wake-up call / Weckruf

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
Das Frühstücksbuffet steht eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.

0830 This morning we hope to take you ashore at **Salisbury Plain**, which is home to the second largest King penguin colony on South Georgia. There will also be Fur seals on the beach. The last 16 passengers at the gangway will have the opportunity to go for a Zodiac cruise first before they land (if you wish you can also return to the ship after the cruise).

*Heute morgen möchten wir in **Salisbury Plain**, der zweitgrößte Königspinguinkolonie Südgeorgiens an Land gehen. Am Strand finden wir ausserdem Pelzrobben und See-Elefanten. Für die letzten 16 Passagiere an der Gangway möchten wir zunächst eine Zodiacausfahrt anbieten bevor sie an Land gehen. (Wenn Sie möchten können Sie danach auch dirket zum Schiff zurückkehren.)*

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room / *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

1400 This afternoon, weather and wildlife allowing, we plan to go ashore at **Prion Island**, home to the Wandering albatross and many Antarctic fur seals. We will do this in three groups and rotate after a set period. One group will land, one will Zodiac cruise while the third waits on board. Please see the notice board at Reception for your group and listen for announcements.

*Am Nachmittag, wenn es das Wetter und die tierischen Bewohner erlauben, planen wir eine Anlandung auf **Prion Island**, hier ist das Zuhause von brütenden Wanderalbatrossen und Pelzrobben. Wir werden dies in drei rotierenden Gruppen machen. Eine Gruppe an Land, eine Gruppe bei einer Zodiacfahrt, die Dritte auf dem Schiff. Bitte beachten Sie die Aushänge und achten Sie auf Durchsagen!*

1900 Please come to the Lounge for our daily briefing.
Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge für unseren Tagesrückblick.

1930 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!

**DON'T FORGET TO CLOSE YOUR CURTAINS TO PREVENT BIRD STRIKES.
BITTE SCHLIESSEN SIE ALLE VORHÄNGE, UM VOGELSCHLAG ZU VERHINDERN.**



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Stromness and Grytviken

Friday 26th January 2018

0615 Wake-up call - if we are going hiking / Weckruf - Falls wir wandern gehen

Pastries and juice will be available in the bar for those going ashore. Please make sure you have water and have sufficient warm/emergency clothes and medication if needed. You can wear your hiking boots.
Gebäck und Aufschnitt stehen in der Lounge bereit. Wasser, persönliche Medikamente und ausreichend warme Kleidung mit auf die Wanderung nehmen. Reguläre Wanderschuhe können genutzt werden.

0645 We would like to take those who have signed up for the Shackleton Walk ashore at Fortuna Bay.
Wir werden die Shackleton Wanderer in Fortuna Bay an Land bringen.

0715 General Wake up-call / Allgemeiner Weckruf

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
Das Frühstücksbuffet steht eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.

~0930 Wildlife and weather allowing, for those still onboard, we would like to take you ashore at Stromness, an abandoned whaling station. For those who are interested, we will offer a walk to 'Shackleton's Waterfall', but you will be also able to stroll along the beach and nearby areas.
Wenn das Wetter und die Tierdichte es erlauben, wollen wir mit denen, die noch auf dem Schiff sind, bei Stromness, einer verlassenen Walfangstation, an Land gehen. Für alle die Lust haben, werden wir eine Wanderung zum 'Shackleton Wasserfall' anbieten, man kann aber auch am Strand bleiben.

1300 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

~1430 Please come to the lounge for an introduction to Grytviken and information about the rat eradication program, conducted by staff from the SGHT museum while we are clearing customs. / *Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge für eine Einführung über Grytviken und einen Vortrag über das Rattenausrottungsprogramm, der von einem Mitglied des SGHT Museums gehalten wird, während wir die Einreiseformalitäten klären.*

~1500 First zodiac to shore to the Cemetery. Here we will visit the grave of 'The Boss' and offer him a toast. Following this a staff member from the museum will offer a guided tour through the whaling station, starting from the Pump House, alternatively you can roam freely and visit: Church, museum, post office, and gallery. All other buildings are closed! Zodiacs back to the ship will leave from the two ship wrecks in front of the museum.
Das erste Zodiac für die Anlandung am Friedhof. Wir werden das Grab vom "Boss" besuchen und einen Toast ausbringen. Danach bieten wir eine geführte Tour durch die Walfangstation. Sie können auch alleine Grytviken erkunden folgende Gebäude besuchen: Kirche, Museum, Postamt und Gallerie. Alle anderen Gebäude sind geschlossen!

1900 Dinner with a difference: Please dress warmly and make your way onto the aft deck (Deck 3 behind the dining room).
Abendessen mal anders: Bitte warm anziehen und aufs Achterdeck kommen (Deck 3, hinter dem Restaurant).

**DON'T FORGET TO CLOSE YOUR CURTAINS TO PREVENT BIRD STRIKES.
BITTE SCHLIESSEN SIE ALLE VORHÄNGE, UM VOGELSCHLAG ZU VERHINDERN.**



Falkland Islands & South Georgia

St Andrews Bay and Godthul

Saturday 27th January 2018

0630 Wake-up call / Weckruf

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
Das Frühstücksbuffet steht eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.

~0830 If conditions (and wildlife) allow, we would like to go ashore at Godthul, (meaning 'good cove' in Norwegian). For those who enjoy a leg stretch, we will offer an energetic and steep 5km round trip hike to a view point above the bay. Shorter walks will also be on offer as well as a zodiac cruise if the weather is favourable. Please listen for announcements.

Falls es das Wetter erlaubt, wollen wir in Godthul (norwegisch für "gute Bucht") besuchen. Für die Wanderbegeisterten werden wir eine 5km lange Rundwanderung zu einem Aussichtspunkt oberhalb der Bucht anbieten. Kürzere Wanderungen und Zodiac-Ausfahrten werden ebenfalls angeboten, falls das Wetter mitspielt. Bitte achten Sie auf Lautsprecherdurchsagen.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

~1500 We would like to take you ashore at St. Andrews Bay, home to South Georgia's largest king penguin rookery (an estimated 250,000 breeding pairs). Landings here are highly weather dependent as considerable surf can form on the beach. Please listen for announcements.

Wir möchten mit Ihnen in St. Andrews Bay an Land gehen. Hier findet man die größte Königspinguin-Kolonie (etwa 250.000 Brutpaare) Südgeorgiens. Die Anlandung hier ist extrem wetterabhängig da hohe Brandung den Strand oft unzugänglich macht. Bitte achten Sie auf Lautsprecherdurchsagen.

1900 Come and join the Expedition team in the Lounge for the Daily Briefing.
Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge für unseren Tagesrückblick und die Pläne für morgen.

1930 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit

**Please close the curtains in your cabin to avoid bird strike.
Bitte schließen Sie die Vorhänge in Ihrer Kabine um Vogelschlag zu verhindern.**

~0330 Wake-up call - if we are going ashore / Weckruf - Falls wir an Land gehen

~0400 Gold Harbour has an incredible backdrop of hanging glaciers and vertical cliffs. Weather allowing we plan to go ashore and enjoy more wildlife – look out for Light-mantled sooty albatrosses flying overhead. / Gold Harbour hat wunderschöne hängende Gletscher und vertikale Felswände. Wir planen eine Anlandung um noch mehr Tiere zu beobachten – halten Sie Ausschau nach Rußmantel-Albatrossen.

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room. / *Das Frühstücksbuffet steht für eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.*

0930 If conditions allow we would like to zodiac cruise Cooper Bay in order to see the Chinstrap, King and Macaroni penguin colonies and explore the scenic coastline.

We would like to do this in two rounds.

0930 Could **Group 1** be ready at the gangway.

1100 Could **Group 2** be ready at the gangway.

Please standby for announcements.

Wenn das Wetter es zulässt, möchten wir eine Bootsfahrt in der Cooper Bay anbieten.

Dort können, wir Kehlstreifpinguine, Königspinguine und Macaronipinguine (Goldschopfpinguine) sehen. Es wird zwei Gruppen geben.

09.30 Uhr Gruppe 1 fertig an der Gangway

11.00 Uhr Gruppe 2 fertig an der Gangway

Bitte achtet auf unsere Durchsagen.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. / *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

1600 A fellow passenger, Howard Platt, spent some time working on South Georgia in the 1970's. Please join him in the Dining Room as he talks about '**Winter in South Georgia**'.

Einer der Mitreisenden namens Howard Platt, verbrachte viele Arbeitsjahre in Süd-Georgien während der 1970er Jahre. Wir laden Alle ein, seinem Vortrag 'Winter in Süd-Georgien' beizuwohnen. Dieser findet im Speisesaal des Schiffes statt.

1830 Join the Expedition team in the Lounge for the daily briefing. / *In der Lounge warten Andrew und das Team auf mit der Zusammenfassung des Tages & dem Ausblick auf Morgen.*

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

Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit

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

Heute Nachmittag werden wir offene Wasser befahren, bitte sichert eurer Equipment und verschließt alle Schränke und Türen. Und nicht vergessen; Eine Hand fürs Schiff, und eine Hand für Euch.

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to Antarctica

Monday 29th January 2018

- 0745 Wake-up call / *Weckruf*
- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
Das Frühstück steht eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.
- 0900 Come and see Sebastian and Bobby at Reception to collect your passports. Please don't forget to sign the collection form.
Wir bitten Alle zur Rezeption zu kommen und bei Sebastian und Bobby die Reisepässe abzuholen. Bitte unbedingt hierfür das bereitgestellte Formular dort unterschreiben.
- 1000 Vacuuming for Antarctica in the Lounge! We will call you by deck.
Staubsaugen in der Lounge für die Antarktis! Wir rufen deckweise auf.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*
- 1330 Vacuuming for Antarctica will continue if needed! We will call you by deck.
Das Staubsaugen wird fortgesetzt! Wir rufen deckweise auf.
- 1430 Polar News/Ikarus meeting in the Dining Room. / Treffen im Restaurant für Polar News/Ikarus.
- 1530 Join Andrew in the Dining Room for his talk 'South Georgia: A rock in a hard place'.
Wir laden Alle herzlich ein, Andrews Vortrag beizuwohnen. Der Titel: Süd-Georgien 'Gestein in rauher Umwelt'
- 1630 **Happy Hour!!** Please feel free to come up to the **Lounge** and enjoy good company and a drink or two prior to our Auction!
Happy Hour in der Bar!! Genießen Sie ein oder zwei Drinks und gute Gesellschaft. Im Anschluss daran findet in geselliger Runde unsere Versteigerung/Auktion statt.
- 1730 To assist the SGHT in their efforts to keep South Georgia rat free we would like to run an **Auction**. Items will be displayed from 1630 in the **Lounge**.
Die Versteigerung dient der Unterstützung des Rattenvernichtungsprojektes von SGHT.
Die Versteigerungsgegenstände stehen ab 16.30 Uhr in der Lounge zur Besichtigung bereit.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!

As we expect continuous motion of the ship, remember to secure your belongings and take your medication. Always remember to have one hand for the ship!
Da wir uns auf dem offenen Meer befinden, sichern Sie bitte zerbrechliche Gegenstände und nehmen Sie ggf. Medikamente gegen Seekrankheit. Wie immer gilt: Eine Hand für das Schiff.

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

South Orkney Islands

Tuesday 30th January 2018

- 0700 Wake-up call / *Weckruf*
- 0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room. / *Das Frühstücksbuffet steht für euch eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.*
- ~0900 Weather and ice allowing we would like to go ashore and visit Orcadas Station on the South Orkney Islands. Due to the Station Leaders request we will conduct a split landing.
 Could **Group 1** be ready to disembark first to visit the Station. **Group 2** will have the chance to Zodiac cruise first before going to the Station. The first group will be offered a Zodiac cruise at the end of their visit.
 There will be some souvenirs available for purchase and you can send postcards as well. The base personnel will accept USD, Euro and Argentinian Pesos at the exchange rate of the day.
 There is also the chance to stamp your passport, this must be done at your own discretion.
Please listen out for announcements regarding timings.
Wenn es das Wetter und die Eisbedingungen es zulassen, möchten wir mit euch an Land gehen bei den South Orkney Inseln und die Orcadas Station besuchen. Um auf die Wünsche des Stationsleiters Rücksicht zu nehmen, werden wir die Landung in zwei Gruppen aufteilen. Die Einteilung erfolgt in zwei Gruppen. Während die Passagiere der Gruppe 1 die Station besuchen, werden derweil alle Passagiere der Gruppe 2 die Möglichkeit haben eine Zodiac-Rundfahrt zu machen, bevor sie dann anschliessend die Station besuchen. Dann werden wir wechseln und die, die bereits die Station gesehen haben, werden die Chance haben eine Zodiac-Rundfahrt zu machen. Es gibt die Möglichkeiten auf der Station ein paar kleine Andenken zu kaufen und Postkarten zu verschicken. Man wird allerdings nur in bar zahlen können mit USD/Euro/Argentinischen Pesos zum jeweiligen Tageskurs. Es wird auch die Möglichkeit geben einen Stationsstempel in seinen Passport zu bekommen, das geschieht allerdings nach eigener Wahl und Verlangen. Bitte den Reisepass NICHT VERLIEREN !!! Bitte aufmerksam den Lautsprecheransagen zu hören bzgl. der Zeiten.
- 1300 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*
- 1530 Andrea would like to tell you all about the **Antarctic Treaty**, in the **Lounge**. This will be in **English**.
 Dan would like to give an **introduction to photography** in the Dining Room in **German**.
*Andrea hält einen Vortrag über den Antarktis Vertrag in der Lounge. Dies findet auf Englisch statt.
 Daniel gibt eine kleine Basis-Einführung in das Thema Fotografie im Restaurant. Dies findet auf deutsch statt.*
- 1700 Andrea would like to tell you all about the **Antarctic Treaty**, in the **Dining Room**. This will be in **German**.
 Dan would like to give an **introduction to photography** in the Lounge in **English**.
*Andrea halt einen Vortrag über den Antarktis Vertrag im Restaurant. Dies findet in deutsch statt.
 Daniel gibt eine kleine Basis-Einführung in das Thema Fotografie in der Lounge. Dies findet in Englisch statt.*
- 1830 Come and join the Expedition team in the Lounge for the Daily Briefing. / *In der Lounge warten das Team auf euch mit der Zusammenfassung des Tages und dem Ausblick auf Morgen.*
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit *Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!*

Please ensure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are secure in your cabin to prevent any accidents.

Always keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship. Thank you!

Bitte sichern Sie zerbrechliche Gegenstände, wie zum Beispiel Kameras und Computer in ihrer Kabine. Bei Seegang halten Sie bitte immer eine Hand zum Festhalten bereit. Vielen Dank!



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea towards Antarctica
Wednesday 31st January 2018

0745 Wake-up call / *Weckruf*

0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
Das Frühstück steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.

1030 **Marion** would like to talk about the marine food web of Antarctica in the **Dining Room**.

Marion wird einen Vortrag über die marinen Nahrungsketten in der Antarktis halten. Der Vortrag ist im **Restaurant** zu sehen.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. / Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.

1400 Part 2 of the Shackleton movie will be showing in the Lounge.
Teil 2 des Shackleton Spielfilmes wird in der Lounge gezeigt.

1600 **Bob** knows a lot about benthic feeders and would like to reveal the mysteries of 'Life in the Depths' in the **Dining Room**.

Bob hat einiges über den benthischen Lebensraum (Tiefsee) zu berichten und möchte Ihnen die Geheimnisse des Lebens in der Tiefe im **Restaurant** näher bringen.

1830 Please join the daily briefing in the Lounge with the expedition team.
In der Lounge findet der Tagesrückblick und Ausblick auf morgen statt.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!

Please remember to secure your belongings and always have one hand for the ship! Thank you./ Bitte daran denken, alle Gegenstände sicher zu verstauen und immer eine freie Hand fürs Schiff.

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Expedition Morning and Brown Bluff
Thursday 1st February 2018

At sunrise we will be in the very scenic Antarctic Sound, well known for icebergs and stunning scenery (if conditions are good).

Zum Sonnenaufgang werden wir bereits im wunderschönen Antarktischen Sund sein, welcher für seine Eisberge bekannt ist, sofern die Bedingungen passen.

0700 Wake-up call / *Weckruf*

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
Das Frühstücksbuffet steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.

This morning is an ‘Expedition morning’ and as such, all activities will depend on weather conditions. Please standby for announcements!!

Unsere Aktivitäten an diesem Morgen sind extrem abhängig von den Wetterbedingungen. Bitte achten Sie auf Lautsprecherdurchsagen!

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

1400 This afternoon, if conditions allow, we plan to go ashore on the Continent of Antarctica at Brown Bluff, where we hope to visit a breeding colony of Adelie penguins and explore the local area. Please listen for announcements.

Wenn es das Wetter erlaubt, wollen wir heute nachmittag den antarktischen Kontinent bei Brown Bluff betreten und dort Adélie Pinguine zu sehen. Bitte achten Sie auf Lautsprecherdurchsagen.

1830 Come and join the Expedition team in the Lounge for the Daily Briefing.
Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge für den Tagesrückblick und den Ausblick auf morgen.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Mikkelsen Harbour and Portal Point

Friday 2nd February 2018

This morning we will be sailing south down the **Bransfield Strait** and into the stunning **Gerlache Strait** for our planned morning activity at Mikkelsen Harbour. An diesem Morgen fahren wir entlang der Bransfield Strasse in die wunderschöne Gerlach Strasse, für unsere planmässige Aktivität bei Mikkelsen Harbour.

0700 Wake-up call. / Allgemeiner Weckruf

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
Das Frühstücksbuffet steht für gut eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.

~0830 If conditions allow we hope to take you ashore at D'Hainaut Island in Mikkelsen Harbour. Here there are colonies of Gentoo penguins and often Weddell seals can be seen along the shore on the far side of the island. The island is surrounded by glacial scenery.

Sofern die Bedingungen gut sind, werden wir in D'Hainaut Island, in Mikkelsen Harbour an Land gehen. Hier befinden sich Kolonien von Eselspinguinen und einige Weddell Robben, welche entlang der Küste zu sehen sein können. Die Insel ist von Gletschern umgeben.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. / Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.

1430 After lunch we plan to go ashore at **Portal Point** for our second Continental Landing! If conditions are good we will conduct a split landing with **Group 2** Zodiac cruising while **Group 1** lands, and swapping half way through. Please listen for announcements.

Nach dem Mittagessen ist eine Landung in Portal Point vorgesehen. Die zweite Landung auf dem Kontinent. Sofern es die Bedingungen zulassen, wird die Landung geteilt stattfinden. Gruppe 2 geht an Land, Gruppe 1 auf eine Bootstour und im Anschluss wird gewechselt. Bitte auf die Lautsprecherdurchsagen achten.

1830 Please come to the Lounge for the Daily Briefing. / *Tagesrück- und Ausblick in der Lounge*

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Wir wünschen guten Appetit.

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DEPENDENT UPON WEATHER, ICE AND WILDLIFE CONDITIONS.

Alle Aktivitäten des Tages sind stark vom Wetter abhängig, sowie vom Eis und der Lebewelt.

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Cuverville Island and Paradise Harbour

Saturday 3rd February 2018

Early this morning we will be sailing through the Gerlache Strait. If conditions are favourable we recommend getting up early to enjoy the spectacular scenery.

Früh am Morgen werden wir durch die Gerlache Straße fahren. Bei gutem Wetter lohnt es sich, früh aufzustehen und die antarktische Landschaft zu genießen.

0700 Wake-up call. / Weckruf.

0730 Breakfast buffet is available for one hour in the dining room.
Das Frühstücksbuffet steht eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.

0830 After breakfast we plan to go ashore at **Cuverville Island**. Here we can offer time with Gentoo penguins and a walk along the shoreline. Please listen for announcements.

*Nach dem Frühstück wollen wir in **Cuverville Island** an Land gehen. Hier können Sie Eselspinguine beobachten oder einen Spaziergang am Strand machen. Achten Sie auf Durchsagen.*

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

1430 This afternoon we will travel into Paradise Harbour where we hope to make a continental landing at Almirante Brown Station and Zodiac cruise in Skontorp Cove. There is an Argentine station here which is currently occupied so please do not enter any buildings. This will be a split landing and cruise with **Group 2** going ashore first and **Group 1** going for a Zodiac cruise.

Am Nachmittag fahren wir Richtung Paradise Harbour wo wir hoffentlich eine weitere kontinentale Landung an der Station Almirante Brown Station, sowie eine Bootstour in der Skontorp Cove. Die argentinische Station ist derzeit besetzt, daher bitten wir, keine Gebäude zu betreten. Es wird eine geteilte Landung, bei der Gruppe 2 zuerst an Land geht und Gruppe 1 auf Bootstour.

~1845 Come and join the Expedition team in the Lounge for a quick Daily Briefing.
Bitte kommen Sie in die Lounge für Informationen über unsere morgigen Aktivitäten.

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Wir wünschen guten Appetit.

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DEPENDENT UPON WEATHER, ICE AND WILDLIFE CONDITIONS.
Alle Aktivitäten des Tages sind stark vom Wetter abhängig, sowie vom Eis und der Lebewelt.



Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Deception and Halfmoon Island

Sunday 4th February 2018

Early this morning we hope to sail into Deception Island through the infamous 'Neptune's Bellows'. Be sure to be out on deck as the Captain navigates Plancius through this narrow gap and into Port Forster.

Wir hoffen, am frühen Morgen durch den berühmten "Blasebalg von Neptun" in Port Forster in Deception Island zu fahren. Genießen Sie den Anblick von den Aussendecks, während der Kapitän das Schiff durch dieses Engstelle bugsiert.

~0600 Wake-up call. / Weckruf.

0630 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
Das Frühstück steht eine Stunde lang im Restaurant bereit.

0730 We would like to take you ashore at Whalers Bay, the site of an old research and whaling station. Weather permitting there will be a walk to Neptune's Window. Please listen for announcements.
Wir möchten in Whalers Bay an Land gehen. Hier finden wir die Überreste einer alten Walfang- und Forschungsstation. Wenn es das Wetter erlaubt, wollen wir einen Spaziergang zu Neptuns Fenster anbieten. Bitte achten Sie auf Lautsprecherdurchsagen.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room./ *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

~1430 This afternoon we hope to land at Half Moon Island, a well-known nesting site for Chinstrap Penguins./ *Wir hoffen heute auf der Half Moon Insel anzulanden, eine bekannte Brutstelle für Zügelpinguine.*

1830 Come and join the Expedition team in the Lounge for a Daily Recap.
Kommen Sie bitte in die Lounge für unseren Tagesrückblick und Ausblick auf

1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!

Please ensure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are secure in your cabin to prevent any accidents.
Always keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship.
Bitte sichern Sie zerbrechliche Gegenstände und halten Sie immer eine Hand frei um sich fest zu halten.

There will be no wakeup call this morning!! *Kein Weckruf heute morgen!!*

- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
Das Frühstück steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.
- 1030 It is not just men who have influenced and been involved with Antarctic exploration, please join Ali in the Dining Room for her talk 'Ice Maidens'.
Es waren nicht nur Männer, die die Arbeit und das Leben in der Antarktis beeinflussten. Ali wird hierzu einen Vortrag über die eisernen Frauen der Antarktis halten.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. / *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*
- 1430 Andrea would like to takes us on a journey through Antarctic History. This will be in English and translated to German in the Dining Room.
Andrea will un smit auf die Reise durch die Geschichte der Antarktis nehmen. Dieser Vortrag findet auf englisch statt und wird ins deutsche übersetzt.
- 1600 Howard will be in the Dining Room to regale us with more of his personal insights, this time about 'Antarctica, then and now'. This will be in the Dining Room.
Howard wird uns im Restaurant nochmals an seiner Lebensgeschichte teilhaben lassen. Dieses Mal über die Antarktis früher und heute.
- 1830 Daily Recap will be in the Lounge with the expedition team.
Bitte kommen Sie für unseren Tagesrückblick in die Lounge.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
Das Abendessen wird im Restaurant serviert. Guten Appetit!

We are in open waters, please move carefully around the ship.
Wir sind auf dem offenen Meer, bitte seien Sie vorsichtig.

There will be no wakeup call this morning!! Kein Weckruf heute morgen!!

- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour. / *Das Frühstück steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.*
- 1030 Bob will be in the Dining Room to explain 'Why Penguins don't fly'.
Bob wird einen Vortrag darüber halten, warum Pinguine nicht fliegen können. Der Vortrag findet im Restaurant statt und wird übersetzt werden.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room. / *Das Mittagessen wird im Restaurant serviert.*

At some stage this afternoon we will ask you to return your **rubber boots** to the boot room. This is depending on sea conditions, please listen for announcements. / *Heute Nachmittag werden wir Sie bitten Ihre **Gummistiefel** zurückzugeben. Dazu bitten wir Sie, in den Stiefelraum zu kommen. Dies ist abhängig vom Seegang, bitte achten Sie auf Durchsagen.*

- ~1430 We would like to show the historical film 'Rounding Cape Horn'. This documentary was filmed by Captain Iving Jonstone in the 1920's, and is about his first time rounding The Horn on the Peeking, one of the famous 'Flying P-Liners'. This is in English but still worth watching!
Wir zeigen den Fil klassiker 'Around Cape Horn'. Diese Dokumentation wurde von Captain Irving Johnson in den 1920er Jahren gefilmt und zeigt die erste Umrundung des Kaps auf der Peeking. Das Schiff war eines der bekannten fliegenden P-Liner. Der Film ist in englisch, aber allemal sehenswert.
- ~1700 If you would like to settle your **on board account** with cash please come to Reception. Sebastian will call you by Deck number.
Wenn Sie wünschen, besteht bereits jetzt die Möglichkeit, Ihre onboard Rechnung für Getränke zu zahlen. Bitte kommen Sie dazu an die Rezeption, Sebastian wird Sie dort erwarten und nach Decknummern aufrufen.
- 1800 Please meet with Andrew and the expedition staff in the Lounge for a **final briefing** and a farewell toast from your Captain. / *Der letzte **Tagerückblick** mit Andrew und dem Expeditionsteam findet in der Lounge statt. Im Anschluss stoßen wir mit dem Kapitän auf unsere erfolgreiche Reise an.*
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit. / *Das letzte Abendmahl im Restaurant!*

After dinner: Electronic payments will commence at reception. Please listen for announcements.

Nach dem Abendessen: Sie können Ihre Schiffsrechnung per Kreditkarte zahlen. Bitte achten Sie hierzu auf die Lautsprecherdurchsagen.

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Arrival in Ushuaia

Wednesday 7th February 2018

Although we will be alongside TONIGHT (6TH) you are not permitted to disembark until we have been cleared by the port authorities. Please wait for announcements!

Obwohl wir angelegt haben heute Abend (6.), dürfen Sie das Schiff NICHT verlassen, bevor wir das OK der Behörden haben. Bitte warten Sie auf unsere Durchsage!

0700 Wake Up Call. / Weckruf

0730 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour. / *Das Frühstück steht für eine Stunde im Restaurant bereit.*

As you leave for breakfast please place your **check-in luggage** outside your cabin door and return your **keys to reception**.

*Bevor Sie zum Frühstück gehen, stellen Sie bitte Ihr **großes Gepäck** vor die Kabine und geben Sie Ihren **Schlüssel an der Rezeption** ab.*

0830 *Der Bus für die **Polar News Reisenden** ist am Pier. Bitte bringen Sie Ihr Gepäck zum Bus.*

0830 All passengers leave the ship. Alle Passagiere bitte das Schiff verlassen.

- If you are catching the airport bus: please ensure you collect your luggage and place it on the bus.
- If you have an afternoon flight: You can have your luggage stored. Please bring it to the truck on the pier and it will be taken to 'Il Gatto' at **Avenida Maipú 1210**. This building has a green roof and is located past the service station and approximately 350 m to the left as you leave the pier. **You will need to pick up your luggage before 1400.**
- If you are staying in Ushuaia: You are free to leave the pier on foot with your luggage by the customs control entrance. Taxis can be found opposite the entrance to the pier.
- Wenn Sie den Flughafenbus nehmen: Bitte stellen Sie sicher, dass Sie selbst Ihr Gepäck einsammeln und es in den Bus bringen.
- Wenn Sie am Nachmittag fliegen: Können Sie Ihr Gepäck zwischenlagern, dazu bringen Sie es bitte zum Laster am Pier und es wird zu 'Il Gatto' in der **Avenida Maipú 1210** gebracht. Das Gebäude hat ein grünes Dach und liegt hinter der Tankstelle links, ca. 350 m vom Pier entfernt. **Sie müssen ihr Gepäck vor 1400 Uhr wieder abholen**
- Wenn Sie in Ushuaia bleiben: Gehen Sie zu Fuß mit ihrem Gepäck durch das Zollgebäude, Taxis stehen am Ende des Piers an der Straße bereit.