



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## North Spitsbergen – Polar Bear Special

on board

*m/v Ortelius*

June 19 – June 26, 2018



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



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Captain Mika Appel and his international crew of 52

including

First Officer:	<b>Toni Salo</b>	[Finland]
Second Officer:	<b>Matei Mocanu</b>	[Romania]
Third Officer:	<b>Igor Nazarov</b>	[Russia]
Third Officer:	<b>Andy Mangilit</b>	[Philippines]
Chief Engineer:	<b>Aleksandr Bondarev</b>	[Lithuania]
Hotel Manager:	<b>Sebastian Duma</b>	[Romania]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Sava Savov</b>	[Bulgaria]
Head Chef:	<b>Heinz Hacker</b>	[Austria]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Ivanonic</b>	[Serbia]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Marieke Timmerman</b>	[Netherlands]

and

Expedition Leader:	<b>Jan Belgers</b>	[Netherlands]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	<b>Christophe Gouraud</b>	[France]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Arjen Drost</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Claudio Ghiglione</b>	[Italy]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Szymon Niezabitowski</b>	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Barbara Post</b>	[Austria]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Melissa Scott</b>	[United States]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Jerry Zhao</b>	[China]

welcome you on board!

## Day 1 – June 19, 2018

### Embarkation, Longyearbyen

**GPS position at 1600: 78°14'N, 015°37'E**

**Air Temp: 5°C Weather: cloudy/rain Wind: SSE 7 Sea state: port**

Our adventure began as we stepped in the zodiac in order to get to M/V *Ortelius*, our comfortable floating home for the next eight days.

Since Longyearbyen's foundation as a coal mining settlement in 1906 by John Munro Longyear, it has been the start point for many historic and pioneering expeditions. With all guests and their baggage safely on board, we departed in the late afternoon. As we cruised into the Isfjord the weather was not perfect but we used the time to gather together in the lounge for briefings and introductions. The lifeboat drill provided an opportunity for dressing up and getting to know each other. The evening continued in safety with drinks and high hopes for a successful voyage. Expedition Leader Jan, together with the Captain and the Expedition staff proposed a toast to our expedition aboard M/V *Ortelius*.

## Day 2 – June 20, 2018

### Fair Haven

**GPS position at 0800: 79°31.8'N, 009°52.2'E**

**Air Temp: 7°C Weather: overcast/partly cloudy Wind: NE 3 Sea state: 3-4**

This morning we were woken by our Expedition Leader Jan, while we were still sailing along the west coast of Spitsbergen. The first part of the morning was spent with some mandatory briefings on how to behave ashore without disturbing the environment and how to behave in Polar Bear territory. Even though we already had first-hand experience from our wet zodiac ride yesterday, we also attended a briefing on how to get in and out of zodiacs safely. After these mandatory briefings, we got to practice our newly learned skills as we went out for a zodiac cruise in the northwest corner of Spitsbergen. Just before the start of the cruise, the plans changed. Plan A, a cruise between some islands towards a glacier, was changed to plan B as Jan found a mother and cub Polar Bear on a nearby island. So, when all of us were in the zodiacs, we headed towards Fuglesangen. The mother and 1.5-year-old cub were walking along the shoreline and allowed us very good views. After a while, they went into the water and slowly swam towards the next island, Klovningen. After a while, many of us were cold and Sebastian and Sava were waiting for us with dinner, so we all went back to the ship. During lunch we moved a little deeper into the Smeerenburgfjord towards Smeerenburg on Amsterdamøya. Here we went ashore for several different activities. First of all, there was a group of Walrus hauled out on the beach. Even though they weren't very active, it was still great to see these true Arctic pinnipeds. Another group went out for a walk along some lakes in the hope to find some birds. Several different species were seen, like the Pomarine and Great Skua's, Sanderling, Red Knot and Ruddy Turnstone. While walking along the shores, we found many pieces of plastic. The expedition team had brought some garbage bags, and many of us helped cleaning up the beach a little. Especially a large fishing net was important (and complicated) to take away, as animals like Reindeer can get entangled in it.

After a great dinner by the hotel team, Jan called us to the bar for one more meeting. This time he explained us the plans for the following day, which would bring us into the sea ice halfway Greenland!! After this, Melissa and Arjen explained a little about the Polar Bears we saw today, after which Arjen continued to show some maps and animations about the disappearance of sea ice due to climate change. A bit a sad story, but everybody was excited to see this very special polar habitat the next day.

## **Day 3 – June 21, 2018**

### **Pack ice in Fram Strait**

**GPS position at 0800: 79°49.9'N, 000°07.9'W**

**Air Temp: 0°C Weather: overcast/fog Wind: SW 5 Sea state: 3**

We travelled overnight almost due west and awoke just as we arrived to the pack ice. We had calm but foggy conditions most of the day yet still a very interesting experience. As we moved through the ice, we spotted ivory gulls, Brunnich's guillemot, northern fulmar, arctic skua, little auk, long-tailed skua, and glaucous gulls. A ringed seal was spotted bobbing amongst the ice floes and later a group of about 24 harp seals porpoised by us in typical fashion. We saw many pieces of sea ice with polar bear tracks across them, some old but some quite fresh. Seeing evidence of these elusive arctic denizens and yet not actually encountering them lends a mystery to their existence that we can only imagine. As we watched these ice pans fade into the fog, we must consider our place in their world and appreciate the small glimpses we have into their lives. We spent a little time learning more about polar bears through a lecture by Melissa and later understood more about the role of sea ice in a presentation by Barbara. Just before dinner Christophe shared with us a little insight into the unique Ivory Gull and Jan briefed us on our progress as well as our plan for tomorrow's adventures. After dinner, guests relaxed in the lounge, roamed the outside decks, or enjoyed a BBC video on polar bears in the lecture room before turning in for the "night."

## **Day 4 – June 22, 2018**

### **Moffen & Sorgfjord**

**GPS position at 0800: 79°56.0'N, 012°24.4'E**

**Air Temp: 6°C Weather: partly cloudy Wind: ESE 3 Sea state: 3-4**

During the midnight sun we sail through sea ice towards north western coast of Spitsbergen. Night was calm but fog accompanied us until early morning hours. After breakfast Barbara gave us very interesting lecture „Secret life of Walruses“ On a lecture we absorbed a lot of information about those bewhiskered beasts. Few minutes after Barbara's lecture, Jan and Hotel department invite us on open deck for hot chocolate with rum and whipped cream to celebrate crossing 80°N parallel. We couldn't choose better moment for that celebration, perfect weather, beautiful landscape of north cost of Spitsbergen and small group of walruses digesting on island. Soon after great celebration during the lunch we heard announcement about spotted Minke whale the smallest baleen whale, we were extremely

lucky, they are really hard to observe because they show up for a moment, dive again and show up again in different place. Minke Whale swam around our vessel not further away than 50 meters. After tasty lunch we landed in Eolusneset, close to whalers graveyard and memorial cross of great battle between French war ships and Dutch whaling ships. During walk we could admire beautiful landscapes, fresh layer of permafrost with flowers and wildlife. At late evening Jan gave us more information about plans for tomorrow and we set course towards Hinlopenstretet and Alkefjellet.

## **Day 5 – June 23, 2018**

**GPS position at 0800: 79°53.9'N, 016°48.5'E**

**Air Temp: 1°C Weather: Cloudy Wind: SSE 5 Sea state: slight**

We woke this morning to beautiful sunshine and surprisingly, we were at the same spot as we were yesterday evening. Through the PA system, Jan explained us that the anchor winch got broken at 5.00 in the morning, reason why we were still at anchor in the Sorgfjord. While we were enjoying the nice view the engineers and sailors cut the anchor chain and marked the position with buoys in order to recover the anchor later. As we were leaving the Sorgfjord Melissa entertained us in the lecture room with a great talk about whales and their incredible sounds. After lunch we found ourselves off Alkefjellet. By 14.00 we left *Ortelius* heading to the southern tip of this amazing bird cliff colony. The zodiacs slowly passed the rocks inhabited by an estimated sixty thousand pairs of breeding Brunnich's Guillemots. Polar Foxes were seen, Barnacle Geese, Black-legged Kittiwakes, Black Guillemots, while Glaucous Gulls were feasting on the carcasses of dead birds. By 15.45 all of us had returned to *Ortelius* where Sebastian and Sava had organised a nice shot of Whisky to warm us up. Christophe invited us in the lecture room for a talk about the Brunnich's Guillemot. He got interrupted as the skies cleared up so we had an amazing view on Nordaustlandet with one of its icecap at a distance. *Ortelius* entered Palanderbukta towards the fast ice in order to search for wildlife.

A BBQ had been organised on our helicopter deck – against the background of the majestic scenery of the Wahlenbergfjord we enjoyed the good bbq'ing by our galley staff.

## **Day 6 – June 24, 2018**

### **The north west: Fuglesangen - Smeerenburfjorden**

**GPS position at 0800: 79°54.9'N, 011°27.7'E**

**Air Temp: 13°C Weather: clear, good visibility Wind: NE 4 Sea state: 3**

During the night we moved along the north-west coast of Spitsbergen and in the morning, we found us next to the island Fuglesangen, where we saw the skinny female polar bear and her cub on our first expedition day. The plans for the morning, a zodiac cruise at the Fugleholmane, changed and we got to know that we do a landing instead. Hurray, a visit to the little auk colony! A short zodiac ride took us to the landing side and we walked over boulders to the nesting site of the cute little auks. What an experience to sit and watch these beautiful little birds flying in huge flocks over our heads. The air was filled with their calls as

came and went from the rocks and a few snow buntings added their song to the day as well. Some of us saw a young walrus swimming by, in the background our ship and the beautiful mountainous landscape. We returned to the ship for a warm lunch and some rest before gearing up for our next adventure. Meanwhile, Ortelius was sailing into the innermost part of the Smeerenburgfjord, called Bjønfjord. There we found a wonderful medium-sized glacier, the Smeerenburgreen. This glacier is unfortunately no exception to the general retreat of glaciers in recent decades! At around 15:30 our zodiac cruise started, and we drove in-between smaller and bigger bits of ice towards the glacier front. The conditions for a cruise were perfect, no wind and calm sea, the beautiful glacier scenery looked almost unreal. Some of us were able to watch three Arctic skuas and a Great skua chasing a kittiwake, what a spectacular flight show! Later we discovered some Barnacle Geese nesting on one of the small islands in front of Smeerenburgreen, well protected from the Arctic fox. As we cruised along the glacier front we encountered a friendly bearded seal in the water. We certainly all experienced nice moments in the fjord which we captured with all our senses and with our cameras. Back on board we were called to the bar for more information of tomorrow's plans and Arjen showed us a wonderful short-movie of our ship's cruise in the Wahlenbergfjord and Palanderbukta. After dinner, for those not too tired of all the excitements of the day, a movie called "Chasing Ice" was played.

## **Day 7 – June 25, 2018**

### **Isfjorden & last zodiac cruises**

**GPS position at 0800: 75°08.9'N, 013°06.7'E**

**Air Temp: 7.5°C Weather: overcast Wind: NW 3 Sea state: 3**

We travelled overnight from the Smeerenburgfjorden to the Isfjord. The day was foggy with calm sea conditions. Before breakfast, around 6:15 in the morning, few whales (Blue whale and Minke whale) moved around the ship giving a very nice experience to all the passengers and staff. After the breakfast we arrived at Alkhornet, in Trygghamna, at the mouth of the Isfjord. Zodiacs with passengers landed in the beach with a good tide condition. After landing the passengers were divided in different groups in order to explore the area and have a good chance to observe animals and plants. Different species were found (and saw) during the hiking. In the specific: Svalbard reindeer, Kittiwakes, Arctic skua, Beluga, Pink-footed geese, Brant geese, Little auk. By 12:15 all of us returned to the ship to enjoy the upcoming lunch. After the meal we had a zodiac cruise in the Ymerbukta and we moved along the front of the glacier Esmarkbreen always keeping an eye at the front and the safety distance from it. We have seen Seal, Arctic skua, Great skua, Arctic tern, King eider, Common eider, Black guillemot. Around 17:30 all the passengers were again onboard for the last operations before the disembarkation but before the last drinks were consumed for the beautiful voyage. We arrive at Longyearbyen in the night at 11:30 pm and few passengers took the flight in the same day. Claudio, Christophe and Szymon help them with the operations before the departure.

**Day 8 – June 26, 2018**

**Disembarkation, Longyearbyen**

**GPS position at 0800: 78°14'N, 015°37'E**

**Air Temp: 6°C Weather: sunny/cloudy Wind: N 2 Sea state: port**

Way too soon our Arctic was now coming to an end and what a remarkable week it had been! After the last breakfast on board, it was time to say goodbye. And all the passengers in the morning disembarked the vessel after a good night in their cabins.

Goodbye to our ship and its crew and staff, goodbye to our new friends. We could look back on an impressive trip, and all of us had many memories of wildlife and spectacular scenery during our days in the ice, our Zodiac-cruising activities and our shore landings. We met really nice people during this cruise and we hope to see them again somewhere, someday!

*Thank you all for joining us on this Arctic adventure, for your great company, good humour and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!*

**Total distance sailed: 1,021 Nautical Miles**

**On behalf of  
Oceanwide Expeditions,  
Captain Mika Appel,  
Expedition Leader Jan Belgers,  
Hotel Manager Sebastian Duma  
and all the crew and staff,  
it has been a pleasure travelling with you.**

## Species List OTL06 June 19-June 26

English Name	Scientific	中文名	6, 19	6, 20	6, 21	6, 22	6, 23	6, 24	6, 25	6, 26
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	红喉潜鸟		x		x				
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	北方暴风鹱		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	粉脚雁				x	x		x	
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	白颊黑雁						x	x	
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	黑雁		x		x	x		x	
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	鸥绒鸭		x		x	x	x	x	
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	王绒鸭							x	
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	长尾野鸭		x		x				
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperb</i>	岩雷鸟								
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	剑鸻				x				
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	三趾鹬		x		x				
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	紫滨鹬		x		x	x		x	
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	红腹滨鹬		x						
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	红翻石鹬		x						



English Name	Scientific		6, 19	6, 20	6, 21	6, 22	6, 23	6, 24	6, 25	6, 26
Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	灰瓣蹼鹬								
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	中贼鸥		x						
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	短尾贼鸥		x	x	x		x	x	
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	长尾贼鸥			x					
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	大贼鸥		x		x	x	x	x	
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	萨宾氏鸥								
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	北极鸥		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Iceland gull	<i>Larus glaucooides</i>	冰岛鸥								
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	银鸥								
Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	小黑头鸥								
Great black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	大黑头鸥								
Black-Legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	三趾鸥		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Ross' Gull	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>	楔尾鸥								
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	象牙鸥			x	x	x			
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	北极燕鸥		x		x		x	x	
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	厚嘴海鸦		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	白翅斑海鸽/黑海鸽		x		x	x	x	x	
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	小海雀		x	x	x	x	x		
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	海鹦		x				x	x	
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	雪鹀		x		x	x	x	x	

MAMMALS										
English	Scientific		6, 19	6, 20	6, 21	6, 22	6, 23	6, 24	6, 25	6, 26
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	海象		x		x	x	x		
Bearded seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	髯海豹				x	x	x		
Ringed seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>	环斑海豹			x		x			
Harp seal	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	格陵兰海豹			x		x			
Hooded seal	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	冠海豹								
Common /Harbour seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	斑海豹		x					x	
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	小须鲸					x			
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	蓝鲸							x	
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	长须鲸								
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	座头鲸							x	
Bowhead whale	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	弓头鲸								
Narwhal	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>	独角鲸								
Northern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	北瓶鼻鲸								
Orca (Killer Whale)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	虎鲸								
White-beaked Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	白瓶鼻海豚								
Beluga	<i>Devinapterus leucas</i>	白鲸							x	
Polar Bear	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	北极熊		x						
Arctic Fox	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>	北极狐					x			
Spitsbergen Reindeer	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhinus</i>	北极驯鹿				x	x		x	



- 1 - Longyearbyen**
- 2 - Fuglesangen (Polar Bears)**
- 3 - Smeerenburg**
- 4 - Pack Ice in Fram Strait**
- 5 - Mofen**
- 6 - Sorgfjord**
- 7 - Alkefjellet**
- 8 - Palanderbukta**
- 9 - Fuglesangen (Little Auks)**
- 10 - Smeerenburgfjord**
- 11 - Alkhornet**
- 12 - Ymerbukta**





# PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2018

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

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

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

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

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



## PRIZES



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**GIFT VOUCHER**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 500 gift voucher**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 250 gift voucher**

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UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO AT

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

The size of your photo should be between 2MB and 8MB. Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by November 30, 2018. The photography contest runs from April, 30 until October, 30 2018.

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





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

# TRAVEL WRITING COMPETITION 2018

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

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

## Write about your experience!

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

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

## Here's what you need to do:

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



## PRIZES



**€ 1000**  
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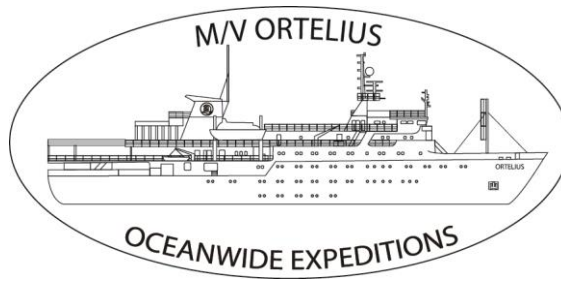
**€ 250 gift voucher**  
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## ENTRIES CLOSE OCTOBER 30

Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by November 30, 2018

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



## North Spitsbergen, Polar bear Special

June 19 - June 26, 2018

**Day 1, June 19, Tuesday: Boarding and departure from Longyearbyen**

### **WELCOME ABOARD!**

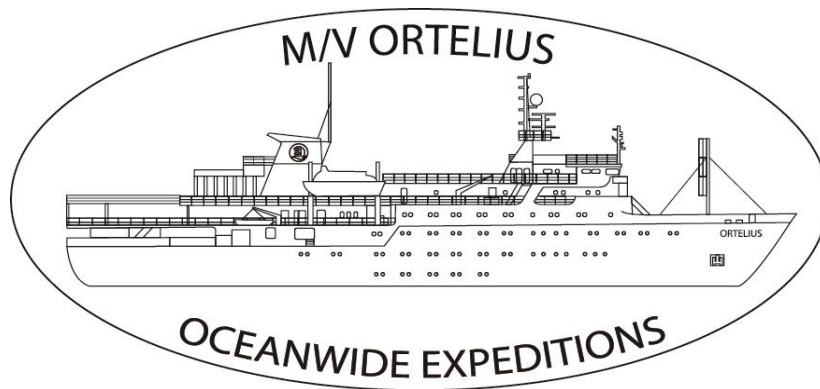
*For the arriving passengers: luggage will be delivered to your cabin as soon as possible. Please check to make sure you have received all your luggage!*

**\*\* Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 6 \*\***

- ±17.15 Welcome briefing in the lecture room (deck 3, forward). Expedition leader Jan and the hotel manager will introduce you to life on board the Ortelius. This will be followed by a mandatory 'Safety at Sea' briefing and abandon ship drill.
- ±18.00 Departure of the Ortelius. Please stay off the bridge during these operations.
- 18.45 Welcome cocktail. The Captain invites all passengers for a toast in the bar (deck 6). Expedition leader Jan will introduce the expedition staff and talk about our plans.
- 19.30 Dinner is served in the dining room (deck 4 behind reception).
- 21.30 Compulsory meeting in the lecture room (deck 3). Please join the expedition team in the lecture room (deck 3) to hear the safety and environmental guidelines.  
After this meeting rubber boots will be distributed. Take thick socks with you to find the good size!

The first part of the evening we will sail through the large Isfjord towards the open sea. Then we head north, along the outer coast of Spitsbergen, towards the far north-west. We stay on the outside of the long and narrow island of Prins Karls Forland, as the passage between this island and Spitsbergen is too shallow. The total distance will be around 180 nautical miles (1 nm. is around 1,9 kilometres so about 330 km) and it will take us approximately 16 hours to reach our destination: the north-west: Fugleholmane.

***Please note that tonight we will be sailing into the open sea. Take your seasickness medication before you really feel the movements of the vessel. Make sure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are tightly closed. Walk slowly on the ship, always use one hand for yourself and one for the ship and beware of your fingers because of doors jamming!***



## North Spitsbergen, Polarbear Special

June 19 - June 26, 2018

### **Day 2, June 20, Wednesday: the north-west: Fugleholmane**

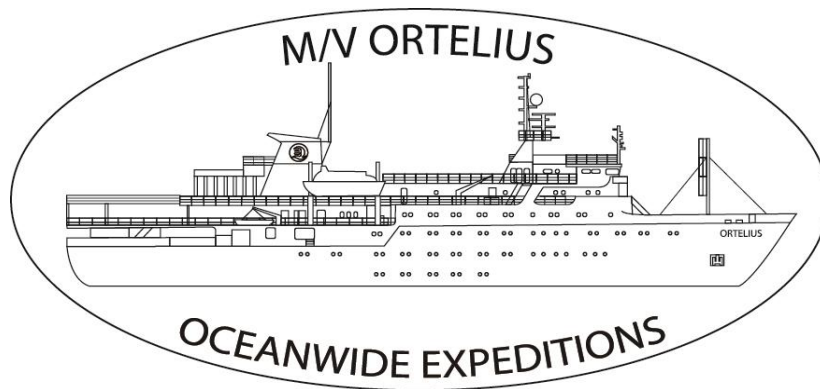
- 07.00 Wake-up call.
- 07.30 Breakfast buffet in the dining room (Deck 4) for one hour.
- 08.30 Please join the expedition team in the lecture room (on deck 3) for a compulsory meeting to hear the safety and environmental guidelines, as well as our Zodiac operations briefing.
- TBA\* Zodiac-cruise at Fugleholmane in the north-west.
- 13.00 Lunch is served in the dining room. (Deck 4, behind reception).
- +/-14.00 Landing planned in the north-west.
- 18.30 Recap in the bar.
- 19.00 Dinner is served.

In the morning, we arrive at the Fugleholmane islands, in the north-west of Spitsbergen, where we plan to go on the zodiacs for a cruise. On the islands Great Skuas are breeding and sometimes seals are found in the area.

For the afternoon, the activity has not been set yet. We will inform you when we know more.

TBA\* is To Be Announced

*The Doctor can be contacted any time during the day (23.00 to 08.00 for emergencies only) in the Hospital on deck 4, via the Bridge, or find a member of the Staff.*



## North Spitsbergen, Polar Bear Special

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### **Day 3, June 21, Thursday: The pack-ice**

07.30 Wake-up call.

08.00 Breakfast.

Somewhere in the morning we hope the meet the pack

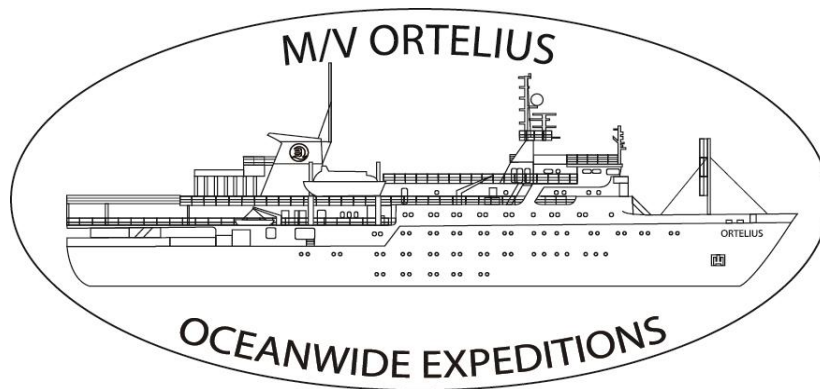
12.30 Lunch is served.

We continue enjoying the pack ice and scout for wildlife.

19.00 Dinner

Today we hope to meet and see the pack-ice. The ice edge is not a stationary, straight line but a labyrinth of thin ice, thick ice and open water. We plan to sail into the pack and scout for wildlife from the ship, during the whole day. There are chances of whales, seals and even Polar Bears, but 'bear' in mind, it is nature, not Disneyland and we cannot predict what we are going to find and see. Be on the lookout, that is what we all should do!





## North Spitsbergen, Polarbear Special

June 19 - June 26, 2018

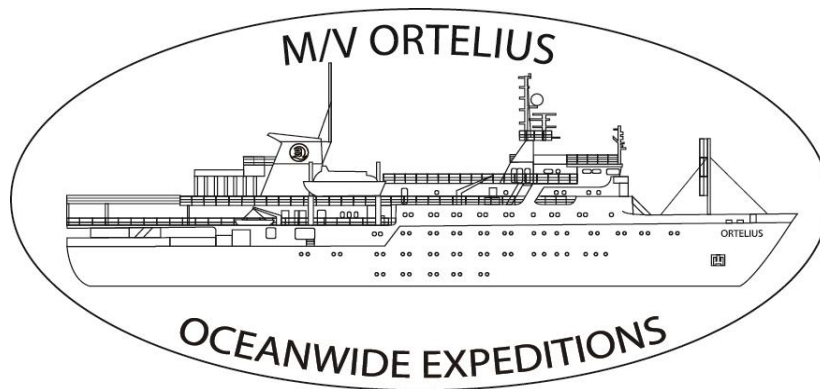
### Day 4, June 22, Friday: 80° Latitude/ Sorgfjorden

- 07.30 Wake-up call.
- 08.00 Breakfast.
- 09.30 Lecture in the lecture room
- Sometime in the morning we hope to pass the 80° Latitude!
- 12.30 Lunch is served.
- TBA Landing at Eolusneset in Sorgfjorden.
- 17.30 Last zodiac back to the ship.
- 18.30 Recap in the bar
- 19.00 Dinner is served.

In the morning we will still be sailing towards Spitsbergen. Sometime in the morning we will pass the 80st parallel. We hope to arrive in Sorgfjorden sometime in the afternoon.

The name of the fjord, which means “Bay of worries”, refers to one of the world’s most northern sea battles that took place here in 1693 when 3 French men-of-war attacked 40 Dutch whaling ships. Graves of the killed whalers can still be seen on the hill at the entrance of the bay.

In the afternoon we plan to land at Eolusneset, near to the graves, and make a walk across the tundra, in a high-Arctic landscape. On the beach sometimes walrus haul out, in case the walruses are there, we will also pay them a visit.



## North Spitsbergen, Polarbear Special

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### **Day 5, June 23, Saturday: Hinlopen Strait: Alkefjellet and Wahlenbergfjorden**

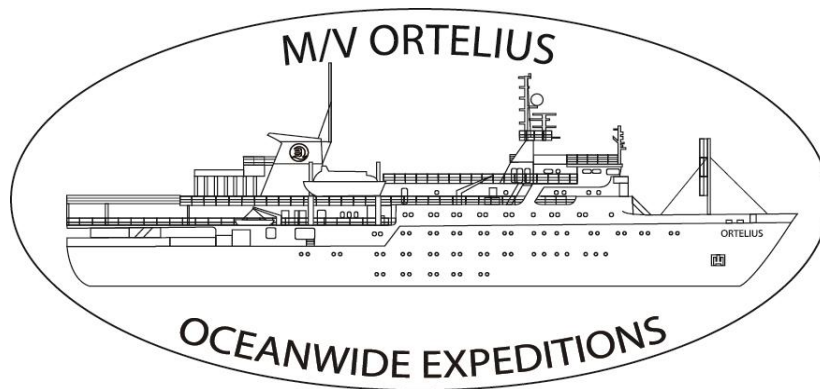
- 07.00 Wake-up call.
- 07.30 Breakfast.
- 08.30 Short meeting in the bar.
- 09.00 Zodiac cruise at Alkefjellet.
- 12.00 Last zodiac back to the ship.
- 12.30 Lunch is served.

In the afternoon we plan to scout for wildlife in Wahlenbergfjorden and possibly do a Zodiac cruise.

- 18.30 Recap in the bar
- 19.00 Arctic Dinner!

In the morning we plan to make a zodiac cruise under the spectacular bird cliffs of Alkefjellet, in Hinlopenstrait, where thousands of Brünnichs Guillemots breed on the steep ice-capped cliffs. This is one of the true spectacles of Spitsbergen!

In the afternoon we plan to scout for wildlife and enjoy the scenery of Wahlenbergfjorden, a true high-Arctic fjord. Without the influence of the Atlantic Warm Gulf Current the area here has become "Life in the Freezer". Still a lot of wildlife can be found here besides a magnificent high-Arctic landscape in the middle of the icecap.



## North Spitsbergen, Polar Bear Special

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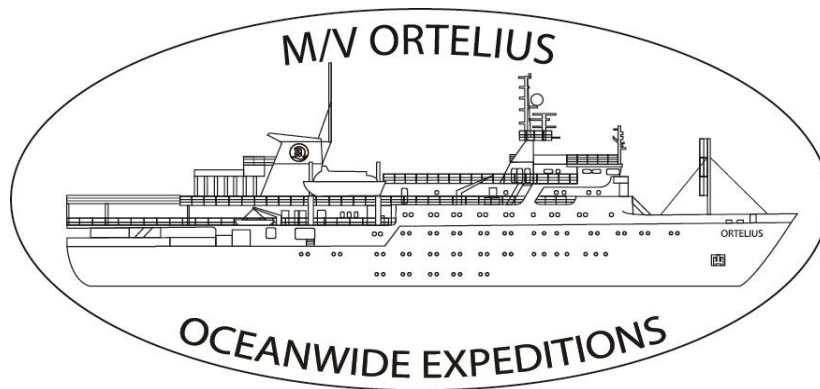
### **Day 6, June 24, Sunday: The north west: Fugleholmane – Smeerenburgfjorden**

- 07.30 Wake-up call.
- 08.00 Breakfast.
- 09.30 Zodiac cruise at the Fugleholmane
- 12.30 Lunch is served.  
Ship-cruise through Smeerenburgfjorden.
- 18.30 Recap and briefing in the bar.
- 19.00 Dinner is served.

In the morning, we arrive again at the Fugleholmane islands, in the area where we met our two Polar Bears in the beginning of the voyage. For the second time we plan to go on the zodiacs for a cruise in between the small islands here, we might succeed this time! On the islands Great Skuas are breeding and sometimes seals and bears are found in the area.

For the afternoon we plan to sail into Smeerenburgfjorden to scout for wildlife and look at the large Smeerenburgreen.

Sometime in the evening we need to sail towards the south again. We will sail overnight.



## North Spitsbergen, Polar Bear Special

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### **Day 7, June 25, Monday: Alkhornet and Ymerbukta**

- 07.00 Wake-up call
- 07.30 Breakfast
- 09.00 Landing at Alkhornet, in Trygghama.
- 12.30 Lunch.

After lunch, please standby for announcements regarding settling your ship accounts.

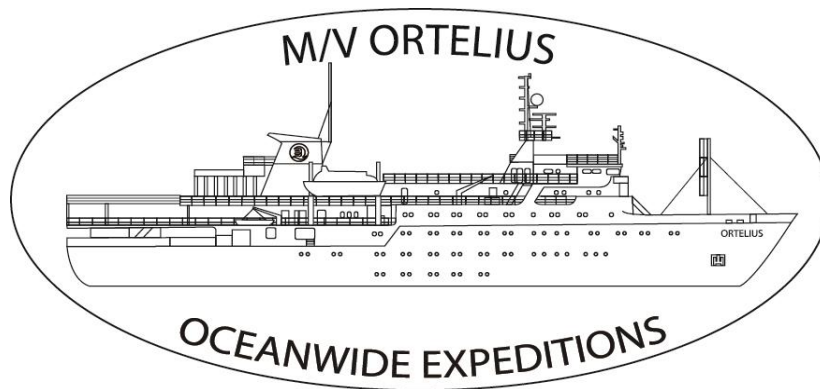
- +/-15.00 Zodiac cruise in Ymerbukta

After the cruise we will call you deck by deck to bring back the rubber boots to the lecture room

- 18.30 Please join Jan and the expedition staff in the bar for a disembarkation briefing and farewell drink.
- 19.30 Farewell dinner.

In the morning we land at Alkhornet, in Trygghama, at the mouth of the Isfjord. Alkhornet is a large bird cliff where thousands of Kittiwakes breed. On the lush tundra below the cliff, Reindeer are often seen.

The last activity of this voyage will be a zodiac cruise in Ymerbukta. In this beautiful bay we can see another nice glacier. Often seals are seen in the bay.



## North Spitsbergen, Polar Bear Special

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### **Day 8, June 26, Tuesday: Disembarkation – Farewell.**

07.00 Wake-up call.

07.30 Breakfast buffet.

**Please ensure your checked baggage is outside your room at 07.30, prior to having breakfast.**

09.00 Disembarkation. A chartered bus will take you to the parking lot at the Svalbard Butikken (the main shopping centre in Longyearbyen).

13.00 Airport Transfer. The same bus will depart from Svalbard Butikken to the Airport, where you will pick up your luggage from the luggage vehicle (If you are late you must arrange your own taxi!).

**On behalf of the Captain, Officers, staff and crew, we would like to wish you a safe onward journey. It has been a pleasure having you onboard the M/V Ortelius.**