



# OCEANWIDE

## EXPEDITIONS

### North Spitsbergen Polar Bear Special

4<sup>th</sup> June – 11<sup>th</sup> June 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 Evgeny Levakov

and his international crew

## Including:

Chief Officer:	<b>Artur Iakoviev</b>	[Russia]
2nd Officer:	<b>Romanas Vicas</b>	[Lithuania]
3rd Officer:	<b>Luis Oroceo</b>	[Phillipines]
Chief Engineer:	<b>Teunis van't Verlaat</b>	[Netherlands]
Hotel Manager:	<b>Michael Frauendorfer</b>	[Austria]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Gabor Ferencz</b>	[Hungary]
Head Chef:	<b>Khabir Moraes</b>	[India]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Yuriychuk</b>	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Nicolette Bester</b>	[South Africa]

## AND

Expedition Leader:	<b>Michael Ginzburg</b>	[Russia/Germany]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	<b>Ali Liddle</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Lynn Woodworth</b>	[Canada]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Frigga Kruse</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Adam Turner</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Julia Wellner</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Marie Brekkhus</b>	[Norway]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Detlef Damaske</b>	[Germany]

# Day 1 – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Embarkation – Longyearbyen

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 078°13'N / 015°36'E

**Wind:** WSW 4. **Sea State:** In Port. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** +6°C. **Sea Temp:** +2°C.



Longyearbyen is situated at 78° north and, as such is one of the world's most northerly settlements. It grew up as a coal mining town but now is home to around 2,000 residents who live and work here all year round. This number temporarily swells during the summer months with the arrival of thousands of visitors on cruise ships.

Some of us had arrived a day earlier than our departure day on board Plancius and had time to explore the town and maybe take a day trip but many of us arrived at the airport during

the afternoon and only had a short time to visit the town before making our way to the port to join our ship for the coming trip.

We were met at the gangway by Ali, the Assistant expedition leader on board who embarked us 10 at a time up the gangway where we were taken to Reception to be checked in by our Hotel Manager Michael and his assistant Gabor. From here we were shown to our cabins by the very welcoming hotel staff and found our luggage already there.

We had some time to familiarise ourselves with our cabin before we were called to the Lounge for the mandatory safety briefing which was given by our 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer Luis Oroceo. This gave us all the information we needed about safety on board the ship and prepared us for the lifeboat drill that was to follow. We then had a briefing from our Hotel Manager, Michael who explained some of the procedures on board Plancius, our home for the week.



After the hotel briefing we heard the abandon ship alarm and gathered at the muster station, the Lounge, wearing our big orange life jackets, the only time we hope to be wearing them. After the roll call we were taken out to the lifeboats to see where they were located and how we would embark if required.

Out on deck we found ourselves departing the pier and on our way out of Isfjord heading north. We met in the Lounge once again to meet with our Captain Evgeny Levakov who explained a little bit about our forthcoming trip and then we toasted our voyage with champagne.

It was then a chance to meet the rest of the Expedition team, who will be guiding us safely here in Svalbard for this trip. We have an international team on board with a wealth of experience both here in the Arctic and Antarctica Our Expedition leader, Michael Ginzburg gave us a little more information about our plans for the trip. He showed us an ice chart and it was clear to see that the pack ice is a long way north this year so in order to find the bears we hope to see on this trip then that is where we must go.





It was then time for dinner, which was a chance to meet with our fellow passengers before our last task of the day which was to collect our rubber boots and zodiac life jackets from the boot room.

With 24 hours of daylight many of us enjoyed some time out on deck during the evening spotting Fulmars, Guillemots, Kittiwakes and the tiny Little auks. It was a very pleasant evening on board.





# Day 2 – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Raudfjorden

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 079°55'N / 011°05'E

**Wind:** NE 5. **Sea State:** Slight. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** +2°C. **Sea Temp:** +6°C.



We woke to our first full day on *Plancius* with quite strong winds, grey clouds, and choppy seas. We had come North and then turned East overnight, and were now on the northern shore of Spitsbergen Island. In the morning, we started early with our Expedition Leader Michael (Misha) giving us a Polar Bear briefing, and now we all understand how important it is to follow the correct behaviour when a bear is sighted, whether on shore or on ship. He followed up with a briefing on the Zodiacs, our little black rubber boats that we will use for cruising and landing. Excited now to put our new knowledge to use, we hurried to our cabins to get ready

for our first landing, at Alicehamna.

We all gathered at the gangway, where Doctor Nicolette helped us sort out our equipment before sending us down the gangway. We all made our way to shore and landed on a sandy and gravelly beach with some kelp and driftwood. Strange to see so much wood on the shoreline of a place with no trees; it comes from both the Atlantic Ocean, where the Gulf stream brings it North, and from the Siberian forests via the Arctic Ocean. We gradually got ourselves organised on shore, and split into Fast, Medium and Slow groups, each group lead off by one of our Expedition Team. All of us went past the Trapper's hut used by Stockholm Sven (now used by the Sysselman), admiring the creativity involved in building from driftwood. From there, we headed up the hill to Stockholm Sven's grave and incredible views, it wasn't a bad place to be laid to rest. The longer walkers headed down the other side of the hill to walk along the beach inside the bay where snow conditions proved to be a little challenging with an icy crust and soft snow underneath. Everybody got a good look at some Purple Sandpipers and Grey Phalaropes along the beach before heading back to the ship for lunch.



After a short break, we came into Hamiltonbukta, but local conditions meant that we could not anchor where we wanted. Michael and the Captain considered the options, and the Captain repositioned the vessel to just off Buchannanbukta. With very little delay, we had our Zodiacs back on the water and we were ready to go again. This landing was on a small curved beach with low snowy hills behind. There was a bit of tundra showing through the snow, and we followed these trails on our various walks up the hill. The icy snow and meltwater forced us to redirect our various paths as it had in the morning, but conditions allowed us to manage longer walks, and we divided the group into

smaller, multiple "Medium" groups. Up on the small summit ridge we could look down onto the fjord on the other side and indeed had 360° views of the surrounding mountains and Plancius in the fjord. We all had time to enjoy the views and take plenty of photographs before heading back down the hill to the landing site.

Back on board, we headed up to the Lounge for a drink and our first recap, where Michael gave us an AECO (Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators) briefing, explaining how the association manages Arctic tourism for the benefit of both the environment and people like us. He then outlined our plans for tomorrow, when we will really begin our search for Polar bears. That evening, many of us stayed in the bar and had a quietly social night, downloading photos and making new friends.



## Day 3 – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018

### Andoyane and Monacobreen, Woodfjorden

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 079°41'N / 013°57'E

**Wind:** NE 5. **Sea State:** Slight. **Weather:** Overcast. **Air Temp:** +2°C. **Sea Temp:** +6°C.



As we were woken this morning we were sailing into Woodfjorden, where we planned to spend the day. Our first planned destination in the fjord was Mushamna where we could see a small trapper's hut on the shore. This particular hut is still used by a trapper to this day, using it as a base to hunt foxes and seals. The conditions on shore weren't ideal so Michael and the Captain made the decision to head further across the fjord and see what we could find elsewhere.

At the western side of the fjord are a series of islands known as Andoyane, the Duck Islands, which are often

good for finding polar bears during the summer months. On approaching these islands in Liefdefjorden the staff were all out on deck on the lookout for polar bears and anything else that might be around. We circumnavigated some of the islands and suddenly a call came from a passenger with a telescope that a bear had been spotted on a very small island but it wasn't just one bear it was a mum and her cub. What a great start to our search! They were still some distance away and we always have to approach mothers and cubs extremely carefully. We watched her walk across the island with her cub and then she entered the water and started swimming closely followed by her youngster. They were heading for a bigger island that would offer more protection. We tracked their progress with binoculars and the cub could be seen riding on it's mothers back at times. At this point a staff zodiac was launched and Ali and Marie set out to try and keep track of the bears when they came out on land while the ship repositioned to the other side in order to launch the rest of the boats. They managed to track them along the ridge of the island and then they disappeared over the hill. The search was back on! The zodiacs were launched and a



with one group of zodiacs going one way and the other going in the opposite direction we hoped to find the bears on land again. Unfortunately, no bears were seen on the cruise but it was an excellent chance to appreciate the harsh condition that Arctic wildlife endures. The cruise allowed us opportunity to see the island from up close and to get a feel for the environment, it was great to see various birdlife including Common Eider, Arctic Terns, Glaucous Gulls and an Arctic Skua.

After the cruise many had the chance to see the zodiac recovery operations from the water to the upper deck, this was followed by a well earned lunch and some warmth within the Plancius.

After lunch we continued further into Liefdefjorden and enjoyed a ship's cruise along the front of the glacier of

Monacobreen, it gave us the opportunity to fully appreciate the scale by viewing from the ship and see



how the movement of glaciers has shaped the landscape. The glacier was named after Prince Albert I of Monaco and it was an impressive sight with blue icebergs floating in front of the ice cliffs and floating out into the fjord.



After spending some time taking photos it was time to head back out of the fjord and continue on our way in search of more bears. At 5.30 we heard a very nice announcement from our hotel manager, Michael that Happy Hour was starting in the bar so it was a cheery atmosphere as Charlotte's rum punches were sampled and enjoyed! Recap followed the Happy Hour with Michael outlining our plans for tomorrow, Ali talking about women in the Arctic, particularly Christiane Ritter who came here with her trapper husband in 1933, Lynn telling us about ice and Frigga helping us to identify some of the more common birds we are likely to see here.

After dinner we were passing Greyhook, where Christiane Ritter lived with Hermann for a year and we could see the hut standing desolate on the shore. Many of us were glad to be in the comfort of Plancius.....



Hermann and Christiane Ritter at Grey Hook in the summer

# Day 4 – Thursday

7<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Hinlopen Strait

GPS 08.00 Position: 079°42'N / 018°02'E

Wind: NNW 8. Sea State: Moderate. Weather: Cloudy. Air Temp: -1°C. Sea Temp: 0°C.



We had all enjoyed a gentle night of sailing and as we were woken up by Michael this morning we found ourselves in very Arctic conditions with some snow and increasing winds. We had entered the top part of the Hinlopen Strait and beginning our search for polar bears. Staff had already been on scouting duties since 6am

There was some brash ice and icebergs in the main part of the strait, which isn't great ice for finding polar bears on so we then turned to our port side and entered the \$\$\$% fjord where we could see some more promising looking ice. The wind and weather conditions weren't ideal and with a wide band of broken brash ice stopping our progress further into

the ice we cruised along the edge of it before turning back into the main Hinlopen Strait where the wind was increasing and reaching over 40 knots at times.

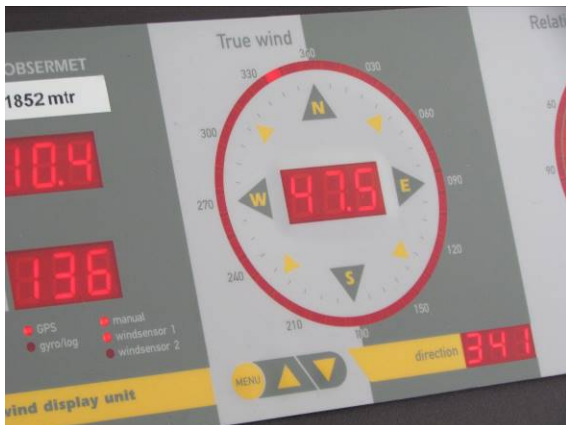
It was very definitely Arctic conditions!

During the morning the visibility improved greatly and staff were scanning every stretch of ice in search of polar bears but it was challenging with the increasing wind, waves and broken brash ice.

At 10.15 Maria invited us to the lounge for a presentation about polar bears, their behaviour, breeding and feeding. It gave us a very good introduction to these iconic Arctic animals that we are all hoping to see during this voyage. There are around 3,000 polar bears around Svalbard and Franz Josef Land but their range and territories are huge so finding them is always going to be a challenge.



After lunch Michael, the hotel manager opened up the 'Ship Shop' so we could indulge in some retail therapy, buying postcards and T-shirts as a memento of our trip. Meanwhile the staff were still on watch



on deck and on the Bridge scanning the ice with binoculars in search of a bear. Their job was ever more challenging as the winds continued to increase during the afternoon but the search continued as the Captain navigated through the ice and around the islands on the western side of the Hinlopen Strait.

At 4pm their efforts paid off and as we were sailing along the ice edge of a stretch of fast ice in \$\$\$% there was a call over the PA system that a bear had been spotted on the ice, a distant bear but still a polar bear. It was in a location close to the land which meant that Plancius couldn't navigate any

closer but staff on deck with binoculars, telescope and cameras ensured that we all had the chance to see the bear or at least take photographs of the general area it had been seen in and then zoom in to get out



own 'pixel' bear. This process wasn't helped by the wind and waves making the ship move and binoculars wobble as it gusted to over 50 knots at times but it made us all appreciate the environment that these polar bears live in as well as the efforts of the guides to find a bear for us!



Later in the day we were invited to the bar for Happy Hour with Charlotte and then for re-cap where Michael explained our plans for the coming days. With a huge storm system in the northern part of Svalbard and the pack ice a long way north he had discussed options with the Captain and they had decided to head south to Freemansundet and around Svalbard in the hope of finding better weather and polar bears on the ice that is still present in these areas. Ali then talked about what to look for when scouting for bears including some photographs from the afternoon which really confirmed how difficult they can be to spot but also how hard the staff were scouting to find them!

After dinner with the winds still blowing at over 40 knots we found ourselves sailing through some stretches of ice which were impressive to watch as they moved up and down on the swells of the sea. Many of us braved the cold and wind to take photos before warming up in the bar afterwards. It had been a truly Arctic day here in Hinlopen Strait!





# Day 5 – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Freemansundet

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 078°12'N / 021°26'E

**Wind:** W 2. **Sea State:** Slight. **Weather:** Cloudy. **Air Temp:** +1°C. **Sea Temp:** 0°C.



The day began at 07:30, when Misha woke us to calm seas and no wind. We had arrived at the Eastern end of Freemansundet, the narrow passage between Barentsoya and Edgeoya, leading us back to the South eastern coast of Spitsbergen. This narrow channel has a very strong current, and combined with the previous strong winds, we did not know where the ice might be compared to our last ice chart. Because of this, the Captain was on bridge from very early in the morning, commanding the ship and looking for a good way through the ice. Expedition staff were also up early, on the lookout for wildlife on shore, the ice or the open water around us.

Our morning started with people out on deck on wildlife watch, then later in the morning we took advantage of the good conditions to land at Sundnesset, at the western end of Freemansundet on Barentsoya.

We again broke into groups, and set off on walks, exploring the area. There were a surprising number of whalebones up high, on the ancient raised beaches, and the extra nutrients made this a good location for flowering plants. Purple saxifrage was flourishing, and there were plenty of reindeer grazing on the grasses and other vegetation. Most of us spent some time approaching the reindeer, to watch them as they grazed, and a few of us even got near to a newborn calf. Along the shoreline, King eiders were visible from shore, and Barnacle geese nested on rocky outcrops, flying up higher to graze near the reindeer. The wind picked up a bit while we were ashore, blowing in sharp gusts and chilling us down at the end of our walks. By the time we reached the lifejackets, we were glad to be heading back to the ship for hot drinks and hot food.



Lunch was appreciated and warmed us up again, so it was back out on deck searching. Misha had heard from another vessel that there was a bear in the area, so we went looking, and found one on the inner edge of the sea ice. A fit looking bear, he or she was at first laying down on the sea ice, closer to the shore than to us. The animal then gradually woke, and walked slowly along the ice, probably looking for food. We watched for a while, but the bear lay down again and appeared to go back to sleep, so we left to check out a couple of walrus. There were two together, on a very small ice floe. Laying head-to-toe, they were younger animals with half-grown tusks who barely raised their heads to

check out the big ship passing so close to them. After sailing past the walrus, we returned to see what the

bear was doing. By this time, the bear was down again, rolling around, lying down properly, standing up, and finally settling in for another rest that looked like it was going to be a long one.



At that point, we headed South, across Freemansundet looking for walrus, bears, and any other wildlife we could find. The evening was beautiful, with still, calm, mirror-like seas, beautiful light over the mountains of Spitsbergen, and incredible reflections of the mountains of Edgeoya in the waters around the vessel. There was a lot of fast and pack ice blocking our access to Edgeoya, so after sailing along the coast admiring the views, we turned for the Southern end of Spitsbergen, sailing across Storfjorden towards the southern tip of Spitsbergen, aiming for Hornsund

in the morning.



In recap, Maria provided an interesting outline of the Svalbard reindeer, a special subspecies, with some interesting adaptations. Detlef followed, speaking on the local geology and how it was formed, and then Ali helped us understand some of the amazing birds we have been seeing as we travelled. After dinner, we were in open water, steaming South west in brilliant sunshine and calm seas, thoroughly enjoying the weather.





# Day 6 – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Gäshamna

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 076°57'N / 015°45'E

**Wind:** 1 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +2°C. **Sea Temp:** +2°C.



During the night we had sailed right around the southern part of Svalbard and were heading up the west coast sailing to Hornsund where we planned to spend the day. Our day started with a wakeup call by Misha followed by another hearty breakfast to prepare us for the days activities.

As we entered the main fjord system of Hornsund we turned to our starboard side and made our way to the anchorage off Gäshamna where the expedition staff went ahead to the beach and scouted

for bears amongst the many areas that they can hide in the area.

Once the area was declared safe the zodiacs then took everyone ashore where we then split into our usual hiking groups.

Ali and Julia led the long hike along the beach to a narrow gap between the rock cliffs. There lying on the gravel was the carcass of a very unexpected bird, a Eurasian crane that had obviously been blown off course during its migration and ended up on Svalbard.

There is no way a bird like this would survive up here so sadly this was its final destination. From here the group continued along the coast past the ruins of a Pomor settlement. The Pomors were from the White Sea in Russia and came to Svalbard in the 17<sup>th</sup> century in order to hunt and fish. They made themselves very comfortable here with well-made huts with brick stoves and chimneys, the remains of which we can still see today. They long walk then took them through some interesting rock structures that felt like the surface of the moon before going up the steep rocky slope to an excellent viewpoint where everyone enjoyed the tranquillity of the location. Some Arctic Silence.



whale skulls could be clearly seen sticking out of the snow.

Lynn, Adam, Misha and Frigga took the medium hikers on a similar route around the coast to the Pomor remains and to enjoy the views to the far shore and bay beyond. The horn of Hornsund standing out clearly across the fjord making for dramatic scenery. Detlef and Maria took the short hike and enjoyed plenty of time with the remains of the whaling industry on the beach and along the shore line to the cliffs on the beach. It was the Dutch and the English who came here whaling and the remains of the blubber ovens and the





Shortly after landing we were treated to the sight of 4 Beluga in the bay including a calf. They are often found in these large fjord systems and we were lucky to see them quite close to the shore. A bird cliff near the beach gave us the chance to hear the noise produced from a large number of Kittiwake that nest there.

The ship repositioned during lunchtime to Burgerbukta, an inner bay of Hornsund, Wedel Jarlsberg Land. This area was named after the court photographer of Count Wilczeks

expedition to Spitsbergen and Novaya Zemlya in 1872.

At 2pm 10 zodiacs were put in to the water and in 2 groups we began an enjoyable cruise of the fjord to the Paerlbreen glacier. The cruise gave us the opportunity to see up close some beautiful blue ice bergs calved from the nearby glaciers and we could also hear the popping as the trapped air was released. At the front of the glacier there was thick brash ice and many of the drivers switched off their engines and drifted in the ice enjoying the quiet and just the cracking of the ice all around. On the Western side of the fjord we could see the tracks of a polar bear that continued for some time but unfortunately, we didn't find the owner of the tracks!! An array of reddish colours could be seen in the rock as we headed towards the glacier which were caused by iron deposits within the rock. A couple of groups were lucky enough to see a Bearded seal on the ice but these are quite shy creatures and it didn't stay on its ice floe for too long!



After we returned to the ship we had a short rest and then re-cap, where Michael outlined our plans for tomorrow, Maris told us a story about ice, air bubbles and kittiwakes and Frigga explained more about the whaling industry on Svalbard. This was followed by a well earned BBQ served on Deck 3 aft. The warm food was just what was needed while we enjoyed the spectacular scenery and reflected on the trip so far.



## Day 7 – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018

### Poolepynten and Alkhornet

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 078°26'N / 011°56'E

**Wind:** E 3 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +2°C. **Sea Temp:** +3°C.



During the night we had sailed north past the entrance to Isfjord to the strait between Prins Karls Fjordland and the mainland, known as Forlandsundet.

As we woke up and went for breakfast the Captain anchored Plancius off the gravel point known as Poolepynten. Our mission for the morning was to visit the Walrus that often haul out on the low-lying spit of land and even from the ship we could see that they were at home. After breakfast we were invited to a briefing about our approach to viewing Walrus and our procedure for the morning was explained. The first group was soon ashore with the guides and we made our way along the beach which was covered with

driftwood, most of which has come from the forests of Siberia and travelled around the Arctic region on the circumpolar currents. We could see Arctic terns gathered by the pond having just arrived from Antarctica to breed for the summer season. We saw some birds mating, certainly getting ready for the short season ahead.

As we got closer to the Walrus we made a line which was controlled by the guides and we slowly made our approach. We could smell the Walrus before we could see them and as we lined up between the navigation marker and the hut we could see over 60 Walrus, all males lying together in a pile. The females and calves are currently out on the sea ice to the east and north as the calves are born in May and June. These males were mostly just sleeping and scratching but occasionally one would try and climb over the pile and those being squashed by 1500kg of blubber would grunt and grumble, raising their tusks and giving us a very nice



show. There were a few Walrus in the water and one made its way into the sea by rolling over like a sausage, an easy way to move a large volume of blubber. We could see young males and older, mature bulls, distinguished by the lumps on their necks, 'bosses' and by much longer tusks. It was a real privilege to be able to spend time with these marine mammals and enjoy watching their interactions in the group.

After everyone had enjoyed their time slot with the Walrus we all were back on board in time for lunch and then it was time to settle accounts with Michael, our Hotel Manager to pay for all the drinks, megabytes and souvenirs as we sailed south once

again for our final landing of the voyage at Alkhornet.

We went ashore just after 4pm and, as usual we split into our regular walking groups with the long hikers heading up the hillside to the bird cliffs while the medium hiking groups all headed off in different directions to explore the tundra area below the huge Horn of Alkhornet. The cliffs are home to thousands of Kittiwakes and Guillemots and we could see and hear the birds as they flew to and from the colony and settled on their nest sites high above. The guano they produce allows rich tundra vegetation to grow on



the lower slopes which in turn provides food for Reindeer and geese and also ensures there is enough food for Arctic fox during the summer months in the form of eggs and chicks.



All groups enjoyed the views of the bird cliffs and watched the Kittiwakes gathering grass to build their nests on the cliffs high above. Some were lucky enough to have close encounters with the Reindeer grazing on the vegetation and some even had a glimpse of an Arctic fox as it made its way back to its den in the rocks. One group even saw a couple of very young cubs sneaking out of the den as the female came back to feed them. These encounters are pure luck and chance.

All too soon it was time to head back down to the landing site but the excitement wasn't over for the afternoon as some brave souls took a Polar Plunge, taking a swim in the freezing waters of the Arctic!

Well done to everyone that too part in this! Back on board we were invited to Captains Cocktails which was a chance to meet with our Captain Evgeny Levakov and share his memories of this voyage which has brought us Polar bears, albeit distant and all the other wildlife that Svalbard has to offer. It brought us 50 knot winds in Hinlopen Strait and glassy calm conditions in Freemansundet. We had the full range of weather and experiences and we hope that you take some very happy memories home with you.



**Brr!!**



**Total distance sailed on our voyage:**

Nautical miles: 977nm

Kilometres: 1809km



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



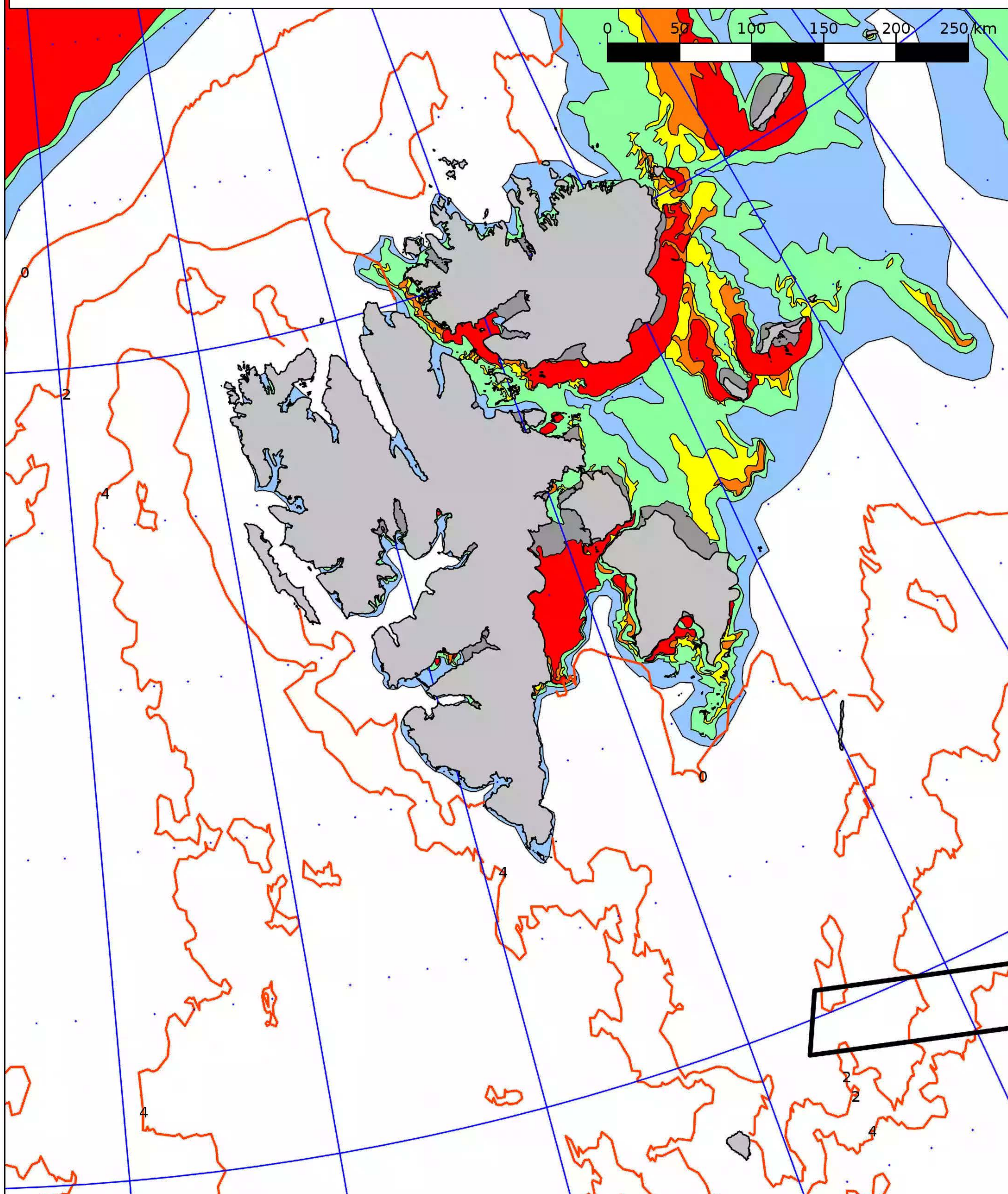
**OCEANWIDE**  
EXPEDITIONS

Plancius 4th June - 11th June 2018								
English Name	Latin	4-jun	5-jun	6-jun	7-jun	8-jun	9-jun	10-jun
Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>							
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>							
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>							
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>							
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>							
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>							
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>							
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>							
Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>							
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>							
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>							
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>							
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>							
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>							
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>							
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>							
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>							
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>							
Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>							
Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>							
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>							
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>							
Razorbill	<i>Uria lomvia</i>							
Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus</i>							
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>							
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>							
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>							
MAMMALS								
English	<i>Latin</i>							
Northern Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>							
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>							
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>							
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>							
Bearded Seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>							
Harp Seal	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>							
Ringed Seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>							
Hooded Seal	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>							
Common /Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>							
Polar Bear	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>							
Arctic Fox	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>							
Reindeer	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>							
Beluga Whale	<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>							
White Beaked Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>							

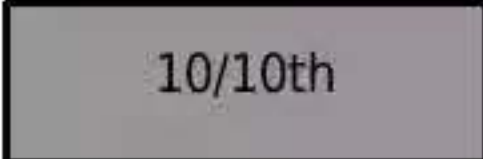

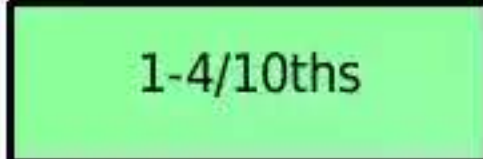
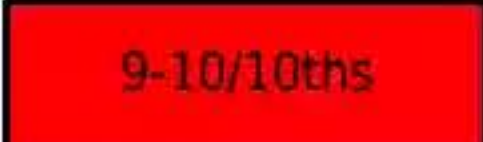
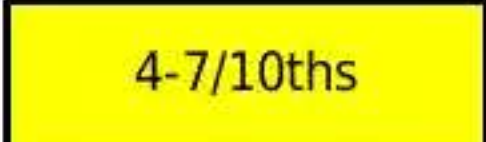
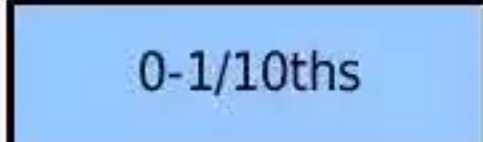








#### Ice Categories

 <b>Fast Ice</b>	 <b>Close Drift Ice</b>	 <b>Very Open Drift Ice</b>
 <b>Very Close Drift Ice</b>	 <b>Open Drift Ice</b>	 <b>Open Water</b>

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84



Scale: 3,792,530

Map Corners:

UL = 82°59'26.367"N, 4°23'24.258"E UR = 80°15'44.998"N, 44°11'58.041"E  
LR = 72°32'49.391"N, 22°45'57.155"E LL = 73°52'48.561"N, 1°53'51.282"E

Coastline Data: GSHHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessel/gshhs/>)



 **Sentinel-1  
Radarsat-2**  **Sea Surface  
Temperature**





# 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**?

## Share your experience!

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

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

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



## PRIZES



**€ 1000**

**GIFT VOUCHER**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 500 gift voucher**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 250 gift voucher**

for Oceanwide Expeditions

UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO AT

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

The size of your photo should be between 2MB and 8MB. Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by 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 mountainous*

# 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**

**GIFT VOUCHER**

for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 500 gift voucher**  
for Oceanwide Expeditions



**€ 250 gift voucher**  
for Oceanwide Expeditions



## ENTRIES CLOSE OCTOBER 30

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

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# Ali Liddle — Assistant Expedition Leader

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## English

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 three books to date: *Plants of the Falkland Islands* and two art and craft books for children using penguins and albatross as the inspiration. Ali is a keen runner, having

completed three marathons in the Falkland Islands and two in the UK, and she also enjoys cycling, hiking and camping. Ali has been working on Antarctic and Arctic expedition cruises with Oceanwide for more years than she cares to remember and works on all of the Oceanwide vessels at some point during the year. She has recently relocated from Northumberland to the Isle of Skye where she is renovating a cottage and enjoying the hiking opportunities of the island.

Her particular interest is natural history and the wildlife, and she enjoys sharing her knowledge of and passion for the polar regions.

## Deutsch

Ali kommt ursprünglich aus Großbritannien und hat 15 Jahre lang auf den Falklandinseln gelebt. Dort arbeitete sie als Grundschullehrerin im sogenannten "Camp" wie auch in der Schule von Stanley. Später war sie zuständig für den Bereich Bildung des Umweltamtes und teilte ihre Zeit zwischen Klassenzimmer und Naturschutz. 1997 verbrachte sie neun Monate in Südgeorgien, wo sie das Postamt betrieb. Gleichzeitig nutzte sie jede Gelegenheit, um zu wandern, Ski zu laufen und die umliegenden Gipfel und Küstenlinien zu erkunden. Sie hat drei Bücher veröffentlicht: *Pflanzen der Falklandinseln* und zwei Kunst- und Handwerksbücher für Kinder, die von Pinguinen und Albatrossen inspiriert sind. Sie ist eine leidenschaftliche Läuferin und hat bereits drei Marathons auf den Falklandinseln und zwei in Großbritannien absolviert. Außerdem fährt sie gerne Rad und liebt das Wandern und Zelten.

Ali arbeitet bereits seit vielen Jahren auf allen Schiffen der Oceanwide-Flotte, sowohl in der Antarktis wie auch der Arktis. Sie ist vor kurzem von Northumberland in England auf die Isle of Skye in Schottland gezogen, wo sie zur Zeit eine alte Kate renoviert. In ihrer Freizeit genießt sie die unglaublichen Wandermöglichkeiten der Insel.

Ihr besonderes Interesse gilt der Natur und der Tierwelt: dieses Wissen und ihre Leidenschaft für die Polarregionen teilt sie gerne mit Euch.

# Lynn Woodworth — Expedition Guide



## English

Lynn comes from the mountains and lakes of western Canada, where she first developed her love for remote wilderness and cold water. She started travelling at 17 and settled in Australia, where she completed two biology degrees, including a PhD in conservation genetics, examining minimum viable population size in wildlife. In 1996, she first went to Antarctica by accident. Travelling again after her time in academia, Lynn left her motorcycle in Argentina to sail to the Antarctic Peninsula. She was hooked on Antarctica and has been working in the polar regions ever since. She has been to the Ross Sea region, and knows the Antarctic Peninsula, the Falkland Islands and South Georgia better than some penguins. In the northern summer, she has taken ships to arctic Canada, Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard, Russia and the North Pole. Lynn stopped counting at somewhere

over 135 voyages, 17 different vessels, and more than two years of her life spent in the Drake Passage. She has held most ship-based roles including lecturer (wildlife and natural history), guide, zodiac driver, Assistant Expedition Leader and Expedition Leader, and has also worked on shore as Operations Manager. She has co-authored two books on the Antarctic, *Antarctica The Complete Story* (published on three continents) and *The Blue Continent* (released in 17 languages at last count). Lynn still calls Australia home and has recently moved to Tasmania, as close to Antarctica as she can get and still be in Australia.

## Deutsch

Lynn ist Kanadierin. Die Bergen und Seen des westlichen Kanadas weckten ihre Vorliebe für entlegene Wildness und kaltes Wasser. Ihre persönliche Odyssee begann mit 17 Jahren: sie zog nach Australien und absolvierte ein Biologiestudium. Ihre Doktorarbeit in Genetik mit Anwendung im Artenschutz behandelte kleinstmögliche Bestandsgrößen. Ein glücklicher Zufall brachte Lynn 1996 das erste Mal in die Antarktis. Nach ihrer akademischen Auszeit war sie mit dem Motorrad in Argentinien unterwegs, dass sie kurzerhand stehenließ, um gen Süden zu segeln. Seitdem haben die Polarregionen sie voll im Griff. Sie kennt die Ross See, die antarktische Halbinsel, die Falklandinseln und Südgeorgien besser als einige Pinguine. Im Sommer der Nordhalbkugel begleitete sie Schiffe ins arktische Kanada, nach Island, Grönland, Svalbard, Russland und zum Nordpol. Lynn hörte mit dem Zählen bei mehr als 135 Reisen auf 17 verschiedenen Schiffen und mehr als insgesamt zwei Jahren in der Drake Passage auf. Sie arbeitete in etlichen auf einem Schiff vorkommenden Positionen: Lektorin für Natürliches und Tierisches, Guide, Zodiakfahrerin, (assistierende) Expeditionsleiterin, sowie Operationsmamagerin an Land. Sie ist Co-Autorin von zwei Büchern über die Antarktis: *Antarctica The Complete Story* (auf drei Kontinenten veröffentlicht) und *The Blue Continent* (bei der letzten Zählung in 17 Sprachen übersetzt). Lynn ist vor kurzem nach Tasmanien gezogen, näher zur Antarktis war nicht möglich.



# Adam Turner, FRGS — Expedition Guide



## English

Adam was brought up in countryside of Essex, England. He began sailing at the age of 9 and began working on the local river aged 12 before leaving school. By 16 he had a small fishing boat and was working on boatyards and taking tourists to see the local seal colonies as well as helping out on the local Lifeboat. Adam then joined HM Forces and was posted to Northern Ireland and in the UK, he also served in Kenya as a boat operator. In 2002 Adam joined the Police and spent several years on a specialist unit working across the UK with his search dog Charley. Since being a young lad Adam had dreamt of working in the Antarctic like his Uncle had done in the late 1980's, in 2014 Adam left the Police and worked as

Boating Officer for British Antarctic Survey at King Edward Point, South Georgia where he spent just over a year. Adam studied at Middlesex University and gives lectures on history, in 2017 he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, he now works as guide and Consultant.

Adam hold a commercial masters certificate and instructs in several marine disciplines, he enjoys diving, climbing, kayaking and outdoor activities.

## Deutsch

Adam ist in Essex, England aufgewachsen. Schon mit 9 Jahren begann er zu segeln und arbeitete mit 12 auf dem lokalen Fluss, bevor er die Schule verließ. Schon mit 16 war er Eigentümer eines kleinen Fischerbootes, arbeitete in kleinen Werften und nahm Touristen auf kleine Ausflüge zu den lokalen Seehundbanken mit. Er war außerdem auf dem örtlichen Rettungsboot beschäftigt. Seine Ausbildung erhielt er in der Armee und wurde in Nordirland, England sowie Kenia als Bootsführer stationiert. 2002 ging er zur Spezialeinheit der Polizei und arbeitete überall in England mit seinem Suchhund Charly und bildete Hunde aus. Seine Liebe zum Wasser hat Adam nie aufgegeben: Er unterrichtet verschiedene Techniken der Seefahrt und ist der Fahrer seines örtlichen Rettungsbootes. Seit seinen jungen Jahren hat er davon geträumt, eines Tages wie sein Onkel in der Antarktis zu arbeiten. Für diesen Traum verließ Adam im Jahr 2014 die Polizei, um als Bootsoffizier für ein Jahr für das British Antarctic Survey auf King Edward Point, Südgeorgien zu arbeiten. In England ist Adam als freiberuflicher Berater und Trainer beschäftigt. Mit seiner kleinen Familie genießt er es, in der Natur unterwegs zu sein. Adam ist sehr an Geschichte und Tieren interessiert.

# Frigga Kruse — Expedition Guide



## English

Frigga comes from the beautiful county of Schleswig-Holstein in northern Germany. She makes her living as an archaeologist, geologist, and guide. When she travelled to the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula in 1999, there was nothing to suggest that the polar regions would become her place of work. In 2008, she first visited Svalbard to carry out archaeological fieldwork as part of her PhD research on the British mining history of the Arctic archipelago, which resulted in the book *Frozen Assets* (2013). She has since become a regular. Her current research focuses on 420 years of natural-resource exploitation (whaling, sealing, fur-hunting, and mining) in and around Svalbard and Jan Mayen and the lasting impact on Arctic marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Since 2015, she

has been sharing her broad polar knowledge and a knack for story-telling as a guide and lecturer on Oceanwide's expedition cruises. You can approach her in German, English, and Dutch.

## Deutsch

Frigga stammt aus dem herrlichen Holsteinland in Norddeutschland. Sie verdingt sich als Archäologin, Geologin und Guide. Als sie 1999 die Südshetlandinseln und die antarktische Halbinsel besuchte, ließ noch nichts vermuten, dass die Polarregionen später ihr Arbeitsplatz werden würden. 2008 reiste sie das erste Mal nach Spitzbergen, um archäologische Feldarbeiten für ihre Doktorarbeit in der britischen Bergbaugeschichte des Archipels auszuführen, was zu dem Buch *Frozen Assets* (2013) führte. Seitdem gehört sie zum arktischen Inventar. Ihre derzeitigen Forschungen konzentrieren sich auf 420 Jahre Rohstoffausbeutung in Spitzbergen und Jan Mayen. Welchen bleibenden Umwelteinfluss hatten Wal- und Robbenfang, Pelzjagd und Bergbau? Seit 2015 teilt sie ihr breitgefächertes Wissen und ein Händchen zum Geschichtenerzählen als Guide und Lektorin auf Oceanwide's Expeditionskreuzfahrten. Ihr könnt sie auf Deutsch, Englisch und Niederländisch ansprechen.

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# Julia Wellner — Expedition Guide

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## English

Julia grew up in northern Germany, roaming and exploring nature from her early childhood. She quickly developed quite a taste for travelling. After studying photography in the tiny village of Vevey on the borders of the Lake of Geneva in Switzerland, she has worked and lived in New York and France. She then moved back to the calm grounds of Switzerland, spending most of her time organizing medical emergency evacuations worldwide while always keeping at least one foot in photography. Several winter months spent in Iceland made her remember that the Far North, the cold and barren landscapes are the place where she feels the most at home. Being a selected artist taking

part in a residency onboard a sailboat brought her to Svalbard in October 2016: two weeks that changed her life. She went back to Switzerland just to move up to Longyearbyen 3 month later. She now lives there all year round, working as a fulltime guide on expeditions cruises but also as a snowmobile guide.

## Deutsch

Julia wuchs in Norddeutschland auf, wo sie von Kindesbeinen an durch die Natur strömte. Sie wurde sehr schnell von Fernweh gepackt. Nachdem sie in dem kleinen Dorf Vevey am Rande des Genfer Sees in der Schweiz Fotografie studierte, lebte und arbeitete sie in New York und Frankreich. Sie zog dann in die gemütliche Ruhe der Schweiz zurück, wo sie hauptsächlich medizinische Notfallevakuierungen organisierte – behielt aber immer einen Fuss in der Fotografie. Einige Wintermonate in Island erinnerten sie daran, dass der Hohe Norden, die Kälte und einsame Landschaften ihr eigentliches Zuhause sind. 2016 kam sie als Teilnehmerin einer Künstlerresidenz auf einem Segelschiff das erste Mal nach Svalbard: zwei Wochen, die ihr Leben grundlegend veränderten. Bereits drei Monate später fand ihr Umzug nach Longyearbyen statt. Dort lebt sie jetzt das ganze Jahr über – bei -25 Grad und viel Wind! - und arbeitet als Guide auf Expeditionskreuzfahrten oder per Schneemobil.



# Marie Brekkehus — Expedition Guide



## English

Marie is Norwegian, coming from a town on the west coast of Norway just south of Bergen. Currently she is however an all year resident of Longyearbyen, Svalbard. Growing up in a mountain loving family, she quickly developed a taste for nature and the outdoors. Becoming a teacher in Norwegian literature, she realized she also somehow had to bring her love for being outdoors into her professional life. She therefore combined her teachers degree with a BA in the Norwegian “friluftsliv”, meaning the hard safety skills of the mountains, but also philosophy and history of nature activities, and how to bring people into

nature. She then went to Spitsbergen for the education program Arctic Nature Guide in 2012 and was quickly smitten with love for the Arctic. Since then she been working both as an outdoor activities teacher in high school, and in the recent years working as a full-time guide in Spitsbergen, Greenland and Antarctica, not only on expeditions ships but also skiing expeditions, hiking, glacier walking and snow mobile guiding. In 2014, she performed the expedition of skiing the island of Spitsbergen from north to south, 700km in 34 days. In her spare time, she is a dedicated member of the Longyearbyen Red Cross Avalanche Rescue Team.

## Deutsch

Marie stammt aus einem Ort an der Westküste Norwegens, gleich südlich von Bergen. Zur Zeit lebt sie allerdings das ganze Jahr über in Longyearbyen, Svalbard. Sie wuchs in einer Familie auf, die in die Berge vernarrt ist, womit die Weichen gestellt waren und Marie schnell eine Vorliebe für die Natur entwickelte. Als sie als Lehrerin für norwegische Literatur arbeitete, stellte sie fest, dass ihre Freude an der Natur einen Platz in ihrem Arbeitsleben finden müsste. Also machte sie einen Bachelor im norwegischen “friluftsliv”, was eine komplette Sicherheitsausbildung für die Berge beinhaltet, aber auch Philosophie und Geschichte der Freizeitaktivitäten in der Natur und eine Ausbildung als Guide. 2012 ging sie nach Spitzbergen, wo sie die Ausbildung zum Arctic Nature Guide abschloss – von der Arktis war sie sofort angetan. Seitdem arbeitet sie sowohl als Lehrerin für “friluftsliv” als auch im Gymnasium. Seit ein paar Jahren arbeitet sie ausschließlich als Guide in Spitzbergen aber auch in Grönland und der Antarktis – auf Expeditionskreuzfahrten, aber auch auf Skitouren, Wanderungen, Gletschertouren und als Schneemobil-Guide. 2014 hat sie Spitzbergen der Länge nach von Norden nach Süden auf Skiern durchquert: 700km in 34 Tagen. In ihrer Freizeit ist sie aktives Mitglied der Lawinenrettungsgruppe vom Roten Kreuz Longyearbyen.

# Detlef Damaske — Expedition Guide



## English

Detlef received his PhD in geophysics and lectured as assistant at the Berlin Free University before taking up a position at the German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources in Hannover. Though initially this employment to work in the Antarctic was meant for only one field season, it turned out that – apart from two geophysical 4-month assignments in Botswana and Zimbabwe – all his career was to be in the polar regions.

As scientist he has participated in 8 expeditions to the Arctic and 21 expeditions to the Antarctic – the majority of these lasting several months - being responsible for the airborne geophysical research. He played a leading role in several international campaigns, most outstanding the IPY (International Polar Year) 2008/09 flagship project AGAP

(Antarctica's Gamburtsev Province) exploring with airborne geophysics a mountain range totally under the ice in central Antarctica.

For more than 20 years he served as German representative to SCAR'S (Scientific Committee of Antarctic Research) Geoscience Standing Scientific Group which he chaired for four years. He was advisor to the German delegation to the ATCM (Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting) and member of several other international committees.

Currently he is co-chair of the SCAR Expert Group on Antarctic Digital Magnetic Mapping project. On a national base he is chairing the science advisory board of the German Society of Polar Research.

## Deutsch

Nach der Promotion in Geophysik und 5 Jahren als Assistent an der Freien Universität Berlin wechselte Detlef zur Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe in Hannover. Zunächst nur für einen Antarktiseinsatz vorgesehen, ergab es sich, dass – abgesehen von zwei jeweils 4-monatigen Geländeeinsätzen in Botswana und Zimbabwe – seine gesamte wissenschaftliche Tätigkeit sich in den Polargebieten abspielen sollte.

Als Wissenschaftler hat er – verantwortlich für aerogeophysikalische Untersuchungen - an 8 Expeditionen in die Arktis und 21 Expeditionen in die Antarktis teilgenommen. Im internationalen Rahmen war er an der Realisierung mehrerer Kampagnen an leitender Stelle beteiligt, insbesondere – im Rahmen des Internationalen Polarjahres 2007/08 – dem Projekt AGAP (Antarctica's Gamburtsev Province) zur Erkundung eines total vom Eis bedeckten Gebirgszuges in der zentralen Antarktis.

Für mehr als 20 Jahre war er deutscher Vertreter in der SCAR (Scientific Committee of Antarctic Research) „Geoscience Standing Scientific Group“, die er über 4 Jahre leitete. Er war „Advisor“ der Deutschen Delegation zum ATCM (Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting) und Mitglied verschiedener anderer internationaler und nationaler Gremien.

Zur Zeit ist er Ko-Vorsitzender der SCAR Expertengruppe des „Antarctic Digital Magnetic Mapping Project“. Im nationalen Bereich ist er Vorsitzender des wissenschaftlichen Beirats der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Polarforschung.

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# Nicolette Bester — Doctor

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## English

Nicolette was born in Cape Town in South Africa. She studied Medicine at Stellenbosch University and worked for several years before adding a Master degree in Family Medicine.

In 2003, she took a vacation to work a contract as a cruise-ship doctor and never looked back.

Nowadays in her vacations, she works at sporting events such as the Cape Epic Extreme Mountain Bike Race, Iron Man events and other-ultra sporting events.

This is her second contract on the *Plancius*.

## Deutsch

Nicolette ist in Kapstadt in Südafrika geboren. Sie hat Medizin an der Stellenbosch Universität studiert. Nach einigen Jahren im Beruf legte sie noch einen Master in Familienmedizin drauf.

2003 nahm sie Urlaub, um als Ärztin auf einem Kreuzfahrtschiff anzuheuern. Diese Entscheidung hat sie nie bereut.

Wenn sie jetzt Urlaub nimmt, arbeitet sie bei Ultra-Sport-Events, wie z. B. das Cape Epic Extreme Mountainbike Race oder Iron Man Wettkämpfe

Dies ist ihr zweites Mal für Oceanwide auf der *Plancius*.





# Polar Bear Special

## Embarkation Longyearbyen

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

- 1600      **Welcome on board!** Your luggage will be delivered to your cabin as soon as possible. Check to make sure you are not missing anything. Feel free to explore around the ship. Refreshments are available in the Lounge Bar on Deck 5.
- 1700      Our Hotel Manager, Michael will give an **introduction to the ship**. This will be followed by a **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Drill in the Lounge. ALL PASSENGERS** are required to attend this very important safety briefing. Please listen for announcements over the PA system.
- 1845      **Captain's Cocktails!** Captain Evgeny Levakov and Hotel Manager invite you to join them for a Welcome Drink in the Lounge. You will meet your Captain and your Expedition Leader, Michael who will introduce the rest of the Expedition Team.
- 1930      **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room located on Deck 3 behind Reception. Bon appétit.

**This evening we will sail into open waters and we expect the ship to roll. Please ensure you secure all of your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) in your cabin to prevent any accidents. Use the handrails when you move around the ship at all times, and especially in rough weather. Always keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship. Thank you.**



# Polar Bear Special

## Raudfjorden

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018

- 0700 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Michael. Good Morning!
- 0730 **Breakfast Buffet** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Mandatory Briefings in the Lounge.** Please attend these essential briefings with your Expedition Team. This will cover aspects of Polar bear safety and Zodiac operations on board.
- ~1100 We hope to make our first landing on the western side of Raudfjorden. We will offer a number of options – a longer hike, which will go higher and further, a medium hike, which will be at a lower level and a leisurely hike, which will have more time for photographs
- 1300 **Buffet Lunch** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- ~1430 **Hamiltonbukta.** We hope to be able to offer a longer landing with more time on shore. Again, there will be a number of hiking and exploring options available.
- 1830 **Re-cap.** This is a chance to meet with the Expedition Team and look back on what we saw during the day and look ahead to our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.



# Polar Bear Special

## Woodfjord

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018

- 0700 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Michael. Good Morning!
- 0730 **Breakfast Buffet** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- ~0845 We hope to start taking you ashore at **Mushamna**, 'Mouse Bay' which is on the western side of Woodfjord. Again, we will offer hiking and exploring options on shore with longer, medium and leisurely hikes with the guides.
- 1230 **Buffet Lunch** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- ~1400 **Monacobreen.** This afternoon we plan to take you on a Zodiac cruise near to the beautiful Monacobreen, 'breen' meaning glacier. For this we will split you into 2 groups. Please listen for announcements regarding which group will go first and the timings for each group.
- Group 1**     **Everyone living on Deck 4**  
**Group 2**     **Everyone living on Deck 6, 5, 3 and 2.**  
**Please dress warmly!!**
- 1830 **Re-cap.** This is a chance to meet with the Expedition Team and look back on what we saw during the day and look ahead to our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.





# Polar Bear Special

## Hinlopen Strait

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Expedition Day in the Ice!

0730 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Michael. Good Morning!

0800 **Breakfast Buffet** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

During the morning we will be in **Hinlopen Strait** in the ice searching for Polar Bears. Please join your guides out on deck to assist with the search. The more eyes the better! We may also see seals and walrus in the area and many sea birds nest on the cliffs nearby so enjoy your morning.

1230 **Buffet Lunch** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

During the afternoon our search in the pack ice will continue and we may offer another activity depending on what we find..... please listen for announcements over the PA system.

1830 **Re-cap.** This is a chance to meet with the Expedition Team and look back on what we saw during the day and look ahead to our plans for tomorrow.

1900 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.

**Please remember that polar bears and other wildlife are sensitive to noise. Keep the voices low and please prevent your tripods and cameras from hitting the railings and metal floors. Thank you very much!**



# Polar Bear Special

## Freemansundet

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Expedition Day!

0730 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Michael. Good Morning!

0800 **Breakfast Buffet** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

During the morning we will be in **Freemansundet**, which is a strait between Barentsoya and Edgeoya in the southern part of Svalbard. It is likely that we are the first cruise ship to travel through here this summer so it will be a true expedition morning to see what we can find.

We hope to be able to take you ashore at some point during the day, either morning or afternoon but this will depend on weather conditions, sea conditions and wildlife. Please standby for announcements and enjoy some time on deck helping to search for wildlife.

1230 **Buffet Lunch** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

During the afternoon our exploration and navigation of **Freemansundet** will continue and, again we may be able to offer a landing depending on the conditions we find when we get there.

1830 **Re-cap.** This is a chance to meet with the Expedition Team and look back on what we saw during the day and look ahead to our plans for tomorrow.

1900 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.

**Please remember that polar bears and other wildlife are sensitive to noise. Keep the voices low and please prevent your tripods and cameras from hitting the railings and metal floors. Thank you very much!**



# Polar Bear Special

## Hornsund

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018

- 0730      Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Michael. Good Morning!
- 0800      **Breakfast Buffet** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- ~0900      **Hornsund.** We will be spending the whole day in the beautiful fjord of Hornsund, which is surrounded by steep mountains, including the third highest peak on Svalbard Hornsuntind at 1,431m and eight large glaciers. It is often described as Spitsbergen in miniature. Our morning activity and location will depend on weather, ice and wildlife but we hope to be able to get you ashore to explore the area and enjoy the views. Please listen for announcements.
- 1230      **Buffet Lunch** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- During the afternoon we will continue our exploration and navigation of **Hornsund**. Again, our destination in the fjord system and activities will depend on the conditions we find when we get there!
- 1830      **Re-cap.** This is a chance to meet with the Expedition Team and look back on what we saw during the day and look ahead to our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900      A special dinner will be served. Don't forget to put on your dancing shoes!

**Please remember that polar bears and other wildlife are sensitive to noise. Keep the voices low and please prevent your tripods and cameras from hitting the railings and metal floors. Thank you very much!**





# Polar Bear Special

## Poolepynten and Alkhornet

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018

- 0730 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Michael. Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast Buffet** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- ~0900 **Poolepynten.** This is a regular haul out site for Walrus so we hope to be able to go ashore and spend some time with these blubbery marine mammals. Due to regulations regarding viewing Walrus we can only take half of you ashore at a time so we will split into two groups once again. Each group will have the same amount of time with the Walrus on shore.
- Group 1 Everyone living on Deck 4**
- Group 2 Everyone living on Deck 6, 5, 3 and 2.**
- Please listen for announcements regarding the landing times for your group.**
- 1230 **Buffet Lunch** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- ~1430 **Alkhornet.** For our last landing we hope to take you ashore at the beautiful location of Alkhornet. There is a large cliff which is home to thousands of seabirds and there are often Reindeer on the slopes below the cliffs. We will offer our usual hiking groups in the area. At the end of the landing we offer you the chance to take a Polar Plunge, a swim in the sea. We will bring the towels!!! Enjoy!
- 1900 **Captain's Cocktails.** Please join us in the Lounge bar for a toast to our voyage with your Captain and the expedition team. We will also give you information about disembarkation tomorrow.
- 1930 A final dinner is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal.



# Polar Bear Special

## Longyearbyen

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018

0700      Your final Wake-up call from your Expedition Leader Michael. Good Morning!

0730      **Breakfast Buffet** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

**When you go to breakfast, please place your check-in luggage outside your cabin for collection by staff and crew and return your keycard to reception.**

0900      Bus transfer to Town.

Please identify **your own** luggage on the pier and ensure it goes onto the correct bus with you. Staff will be there to direct you to your bus.

**Flight DY397 departing Longyearbyen 12:40 Bus transfer from town to the airport at 11:00**

**Flight SK4425 departing Longyearbyen at 14:45 Bus transfer from town to the airport at 13:00**

*On behalf of Captain Evgeny Levakov, his officers and crew, Michael and the Expedition Team, as well as Michael and the Hotel Department, we would like to thank you for travelling with us onboard Plancius, and we wish you a pleasant and safe onward journey.*