



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA Base Camp

on board

m/v Ortelius

November 7th-18th 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 13 knots and one diesel engine generating 3200 kW.



Captain Ernesto Barria

and his international crew of 56

including

Staff Captain:	Remmert-Jan Koster	[The Netherlands]
First Officer:	Yuri Marin	[Russia]
Second Officer:	Mindaugas Oginskas	[Lithuania]
Third Officer:	Luis Oroceo	[Philippines]
Third Officer:	Andy Mangilit	[Philippines]
Chief Engineer:	Aleksandr Bondarev	[Lithuania]
Hotel Manager:	Dejan Nikolic	[Serbia]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Oleksandr Lyebedyev	[Ukraine]
Head Chef:	Khabir Moraes	[India]
Sous Chef:	Stefan Zivojinovic	[Serbia]
Ship's Physician:	Laura Dunn	[UK]

and

Expedition Leader:	Lynn Woodworth	[Canada]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Tobias Brehm	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Celine Clement	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Tiphanie May	[UK/The Falkland Islands]
Expedition/Snowshoe Guide:	Martin Berg	[Sweden]
Expedition/Photographic Guide:	Esther Kokmeijer	[The Netherlands]
Camping Guide:	Rustyn Mesdag	[USA]
Camping Guide:	Benjamin Giunchi	[Argentina]
Kayak Guide:	Fran Potheary	[UK]
Mountaineering Guide:	Tim Blakemore	[UK]
Mountaineering Guide:	Martin Doyle	[UK]

welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Wednesday November 7th, 2018

Embarkation, Ushuaia

GPS position at 0800: 54°51.1'S, 068°01.4'W

Wind: NW 3 Bft Sea State: 1 Weather: Air Temp: 10 °C Sea Temp: - °C

It is late afternoon on Ushuaia dock when the first new passengers arrive to board the Ortelius. As the buses start to arrive the excitement in the air is palpable. The expedition staff greet each guest as they climb the gangway for the first time and direct them to the reception to check in. The hotel manager, DJ, and his assistant Alex, quickly have all passengers assigned and shown to their cabins where they will spend the next 10 days. After a brief period to settle in, all guests were invited to the lounge for house rules and security drills. DJ gave a presentation on how the ship works and meal times, followed by a full abandon ship drill. Passengers tried out their lifejackets before moving to their appropriate life boat. Once these drills had been completed, the Ortelius was ready to depart.

Pulling gently away from the dock and heading out through the Beagle Channel, the Ortelius made her way out to open ocean surrounded on both sides by mountains. A group of Magellanic Penguins raced the vessel as she steamed away. At 6:30pm the passengers were once again invited up to the lounge for Captain's cocktails. Captain Ernesto introduced himself to the crowd giving his thoughts on the first time he saw Antarctica. Next up Lynn introduced herself as Expedition Leader before introducing her expedition staff all with their own anecdotes about how they "caught the Antarctica bug".



After all the introductions were out of the way, it was time for dinner in the dining room. A wonderful three course meal was served by DJ and his team, much to the delight of all those new aboard. After dinner, with no more briefings or meetings to be had, most of the new passengers and expedition staff met again in the lounge. Getting to know one another and discussing the numerous activities to be undertaken in the next 10 days, all bonded over a few drinks in the bar with Rolando providing both wonderful service and witty banter. The doctor also dropped by to discuss with those concerned how to manage sea sickness over the next few days on the infamous Drake Passage. The staff informed the passengers that during the night we will enter the passage and that more than likely there will be a lot more movement of the vessel. Armed with this information the passengers retired for the evening to spend their first night with their new cabin mates on this new adventure.

Day 2 – Thursday November 8th, 2018

At Sea in the Drake Passage

GPS position at 0800: 56°18.5'S, 065°17.8'W

Wind: WSW 7 Bft Sea State: 5 Weather: Air Temp: 5 °C Sea Temp: 2 °C

The first full day onboard *Ortelius* welcomed passengers and crew with moderate winds – at least in terms of the Drake Passage after a rolling night.



Some remaining swell from an earlier low-pressure system (approx. 5m waves) reminded everybody that it might be summer in the region, but that the Drake Passage is one of the most challenging parts of the global oceans a ship can navigate. DJ announced the breakfast buffet to be open at 8.00. The queue at the buffet was not as long as one could have had thought, as many of us experienced seasickness. Nevertheless, those adventurous people who wanted to join mountaineering and kayaking had to attend the mandatory briefings for their respective activities, kayaking with Fran and mountaineering with Tim and Martin.

After another hour or so of relaxing, coffee-drinking and chatting with the staff, bird watching with Celine and Martin the birder, it was time for lunch.

At 14.30, it was time to join Ben and Rustyn, our two dynamic camping guides in the Lecture Room for an introduction to camping. Most of the passengers were present, impatient and scared at the same time, but ready to live such an experience.

At 16:00, our lovely photo guide Esther presented her famous “Tips and Tricks to Polar Photography” to help people to take the best pictures they possibly could with any camera! After the lecture, it was time to practice on the outer decks before gathering in the lounge for the first daily recap of the trip.

At recap, Lynn told us the plans for tomorrow : another day at sea, thus there wasn't too much on the agenda of today's recap but recap time is also usually the moment to explain more in depth some topics. Today was a good time to talk about seabirds, which Martin was happy to oblige.

Recap will become one of the most important formats over the next couple of days. All staff are definitely prepared to handle our questions and if time might be too short, discussions can always be continued after dinner in the Bar.

Altogether, a quite calm day onboard *Ortelius*, but a perfect day to prepare for Antarctica itself.



Day 3 – Friday November 9th, 2018

At Sea in the Drake Passage

GPS position at 0800: 60°33.7 S, 063°00.6'W

Wind: SW Bft 6 Sea State: 4 Weather: Air Temp: 0°C Sea Temp: -2°C

The second day of our Drake Passage we woke up on a somewhat calmer ocean than yesterday. During the night, we have passed the Antarctic Convergence and we are now officially in Antarctic Waters. The temperature has also dropped significantly and the early passengers out on the deck were met by the first snow and ice. After breakfast, our Expedition Leader, Lynn, gave a briefing about how to operate down in Antarctica and how to respect wildlife on the sites we are to visit. Soon after lunch we cruised through some pretty exciting waters with a lot of wildlife around the ship and a few lucky of us on the bridge got to see both Fin Whales and Humpback Whales together with all the Giant Petrels and the Cape Petrels that followed the ship since our journey started.



Introduced organisms is a big problem in Antarctica. To prevent new non-native species becoming established in this pristine environment, all gear we intend to use down south also needs to be properly cleaned before disembarking the ship. So, during the afternoon, we started our “Vacuum Party” in the bar where all of us made sure to pick away seeds and clean dirt from hiking equipment and camera bags.

Late during the afternoon, we eventually arrived to the South Shetland Islands, the gateway to Antarctica. The wind had gone down and even the sun was shining as we cruised past our first icebergs for the trip. The last highlight of the day was a breaching Humpback Whale just a few hundred meters’ port of the ship. Good to have arrived in Antarctica!



Day 4 – Saturday November 10th, 2018

Orne Harbour/ Cuverville Island

GPS position at 0800: 64°37.9'S, 062°32.4'W

Wind: WSW 4 Bft Sea State: 2 Weather: Air Temp: 1°C Sea Temp: -2°C

The morning started with a perfect first Antarctic sunrise.

The wind picked up and for a while the planned zodiac cruise in Orne Harbour and the other activities were unsure. In Antarctica weather conditions can change quickly and luckily enough this time for the best. Only the Kayaking had to be cancelled.

At 7:30 we brought the Mountaineers on land and they headed off to the Spigot Peak.

At 8:15 the first group of cruisers could approach the gangway and the zodiacs were filled one by one. All the zodiacs went straight to the Chinstrap Penguin colony. Probably the only time we will see Chinstrap penguins. The first encounter with the penguins made a deep impression.

One group is nesting on the high ridge. Looking up, exposed also, the group of Mountaineers high up looked like a line of Penguins following the ridge line.



Orne Harbour is a very species rich place with breeding Chinstrap penguins, breeding Snow petrels, Storm-petrels, Sheathbills, Skuas, Kelp Gulls, Antarctic Terns and Blue-eyed shags. All of them were present during the morning cruise. The Blue-eyed shags were especially impressive to watch. Making their nests they kept on hovering over with heaps of nesting material in their beaks.

Orne Harbour is also home to some grounded icebergs. The sun was still a little visible through the clouds but not too much, perfect conditions to really see the light blue colors that made a nice contrast with the slightly grey sky. Just before heading to the ship a Weddell seal was perfectly placed and a good last gift to finish this cruise as a very successful one.



After lunch in the afternoon, we went to Cuverville Island. Early in the season this place is at its most beautiful with a thick layer of fresh white snow. The largest colony of Gentoo penguins are breeding here. They just arrived from being many months at sea, now waiting for their partners and meantime resting on their bellies on the snow. Some couples already found each other and every now and then we could be the spectators of the intimate moments of a penguin's life.

Kayaking

Orne Harbour

For those lucky enough to see it, dawn in the Gerlache Strait around 5am was a spectacle of smooth water and pink and golden light. However, as we turned into Orne Harbour and headed under Spigot Peak the wind rose to 25+ knots only briefly abating to around 15knots, small downdrafts from the mountain peaks around creating a dappled "cat's paws" on the water. This was not going to be the morning for kayaking so - a little disappointed but with the knowledge that it might all come good later in the week - we prepared for a morning's cruise

Cuverville

As the day went on the weather improved in that the wind dropped. The deep grey sky produced a little light snow and rather limited visibility, we were under no illusions that we were kayaking at the back end of an Antarctic winter season. However, Cuverville never fails to deliver and for a couple of hours we escaped the noise of the ship and enjoyed an incredibly peaceful journey back towards the rocky prow of the mountain and the penguin colonies nestling beneath it. The silence was only ever broken by the calls of gentoos on the water and the splash of our paddles. This is why we go kayaking!



Mountaineering

Spigot Peak from Orne Harbour. 8 Guests, 2 Guides



Spigot Peak, Martin Doyle

Overnight MV Ortelius cruised into the Antarctic Peninsular arriving in the area around 0800 to enter Orne Harbour. First footfall for the mountaineering group was scrambling up soft snow from the Zodiac onto the slopes below the ridge leading to the summit of Spigot Peak. Snowshoes were ideal for the climb up to the col. These were to be a regular choice in the maritime conditions of the following days.

At the col we were greeted by a numerous chinstrap penguins all settling into their nesting sites and awaiting the melt of the snow from the rocks. The two roped parties of a Guide and 4

guests switched into crampons and shortened the rope for the steeper climb ahead. The snow was firm so the crampons provided welcome reassurance on the steady steep walking to the small summit. Spigot Peak has 360 degree views into the harbour and out into the Gerlache Strait. Cameras were busy with clear views all around. Some concentration was needed for in the descent to the col before the final easy slopes down to sea level and the Zodiac pick up.



Chinstrap Penguins, Spigot Peak, Martin Doyle

Saturday November 10th pm

Cuverville Island. Guides Tim and Martin accompanied by 12 guests

Cuverville Island, Tim Blakemore



We walked up the slopes beyond the Gentoo Penguin rookeries before changing into crampons and roping up for the climb on the snow-cap covered island. We tracked up to the summit and followed the heavily corniced summit ridge around the plateau before a steep descent returning to the shore and busy penguin life.

Camping

Camping Kerr Point

There was a lot of anticipation for the first night camping at Kerr Point. They arrived at around 20:30 and immediately started working as a team to transform this remote camp spot into their home for the night. After the work was done and the sun was set, they were all surprised by a massive ice fall that broke and started roaring down from the cliffs directly above them. Everyone stopped what they were doing and had eyes pinned on the white cloud coming down, which seemed to be pointed directly at the camp. Although Ben and Rustyn knew the campsite was out of harm's way, the avalanche gave everyone pause with the true realisation of how fragile we all were in this environment. After the snow cloud cleared the air, and everyone relaxed, they all crawled into their bivys. Everyone tried to get some sleep so they would be rested for the

05:30 zodiac pick up.

Day 5 – Sunday November 11th, 2018

Waterboat Point

GPS position at 0800: 64°49.0'S, 062°40.0'W

Wind: W 5 Bft Sea State: 1 Weather: Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: -1°C

The morning started with the 6:45 wake up call from Lynn just before breakfast. Earlier in the morning, Ortelius had picked up the campers from Kerr Point and they joined the rest of the passengers with stories of their adventures from the previous night. The plan had been to go to Neko Harbour and Danco Island. Unfortunately, as the morning wore on the weather and fast-moving ice wasn't playing ball causing plans to have to change.

So instead Ortelius headed to Waterboat Point, an Argentine Base almost completely surrounded by a Gentoo penguin colony. Guests were brought ashore in 10s by zodiac and allowed to wander between the empty base buildings. Many sat in the snow observing the antics of the penguins splashing around in the shallows near the shore. Many comical moments to be had as they attempted to jump on small pieces of floating ice, often bumping off another penguin as they did so. This provided great amusement to the bystanders along with the bobbing dance of the snowy sheathbills on the roof tops.



As lunchtime approached, the guests were ferried back to the ship to enjoy a wonderful buffet prepared by DJ and his team. After lunch the guests were called to the bar for an update on the day's activities. Sadly, due to the worsening weather and some essential engine maintenance, the afternoon's landing and activities were cancelled. There was some disappointment but one look outside confirmed the decision was right. DJ then saved the day by announcing that he would be throwing a karaoke party and competition in the evening, lifting spirits all around.



Guests enjoyed the rest of the afternoon playing board games, chatting and observing the wild weather outside. At 18:30 guests were invited back to the lounge for recap. Lynn gave a brief overview of the plans for tomorrow, followed by Tobias's fascinating and comical lecture based on the scientific calculation of the pressures at which penguin poo is expelled. Still tickled by this lecture, the guests then descended to the dining room to enjoy a delicious 3 course meal.

After dinner most returned to the bar to choose their favourite songs for the karaoke contest. Everyone was game and soon a long

list of requests was compiled for the night. Rolando provided the party with cocktails and very soon afterwards the party was in full swing. Groups and solo acts kept the mood high through the night until finally a winner was chosen, the grand prize being a bottle of prosecco.

The party was then drawn to a close, guests returned to their cabins for a night of well-earned rest, ready for tomorrow's adventure.

Kayaking

Waterboat Point

After picking up the campers we headed for Neko Harbour but were unable to get in due to the ice. However, steaming further south to Waterboat Point, we found a place opposite Gonzalez Videla Station with a gentoo colony, which was much freer of ice so provided excellent kayaking opportunity. The weather remained almost completely still and overcast with occasional snow-flakes. We were charmed by the sight of penguins going to and from the colony, to fish and to feed and wash themselves which they do by rolling over rapidly in the water using their flippers as a kind of loofah! We only had a relatively short time of the water but the team made the most of the opportunities to take photos, and see large icebergs from the sea level perspective. Another beautiful start to the day.



Andvourd Bay

We got as far as getting all the equipment and clothing, and fitting ourselves out in the kayaks – we even got to sit in them but unfortunately due to some essential engine maintenance, and the weather turning sour later in the afternoon, this group did not manage to kayak.

Mountaineering

Duthiers Point Guides Tim and Martin accompanied by 11 guests.



We landed on the point and were immediately inspected by a small group of Penguins. We geared up into three ropes and wore snow shoes in the fresh soft snow. After a steep start we made a gentle curving line across the glacier to a subsidiary summit which provided open expansive views of the surrounding islands of Lemaire Island and across Andvourd Bay. We descended to the shore and more visitors who proved the Gentoo Penguins are full of curiosity.

Camping

After closely watching the weather all day, and after speaking with the captain, the camping team was forced to make the difficult decision to call off the camping for the night. Although the weather seemed to be alright, in the end the winds were too high for a safe night on the ice. Everyone stayed positive, and back on the ship made the best of the situation with a fun night of karaoke and an extended happy hour. A truly memorable evening.

Day 6 – Monday November 12th, 2018

Brown Station/ Stony Point

GPS position at 0800: 64°53.6'S, 062°52.8'W

Wind: N 2 Bft Sea State: 1 Weather: Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: -1°C



Wakeup call was not easy for some of passengers this morning because of the amazing karaoke party we had yesterday evening.

At 8:30, the Argentine station Brown, made up of several orange structures, greeted us after a nice ship cruise through superb peninsula scenery of icebergs, glaciers and looming mountains. We were then split into two groups, with one going for a fascinating Zodiac cruise through brash ice and floating ice, getting a closer look at the glacier fronts in Skontorp Cove, while the other half shuttled over to Brown. The landing site was slippery rocks, but we managed to

land safely and followed the paths that the Expedition Staff had marked for us. There were several options, one leading all the way up to the top of the hill behind the station, the other leading to the station itself. Both spots provided stunning views over the harbour, the ice, the Zodiacs, and towards Ortelius. At 10:00, we switched groups so that everybody was able to enjoy each activity.

After lunch, we reached Stony Point, a great place to try out the snowshoes.

When all of us were safely down again the bravest joined the polar plunge at the landing site. An incredible amount of passengers splashed about as much as the Gentoo Penguins in the -1°C “warm” water, may be a record of participation in the history of Polar Plunge.

After a such intense day, we arrived back at the ship in time for our daily recap, in which Lynn outlined the anticipated process for tomorrow.

Happy passengers laughed and chattered in the bar late into the evening with everyone highly delighted at their experience of Antarctica.



Kayaking

Brown Station and Skontorp Cove

This was really a magical morning. Light snow had fallen overnight and continued to do so for the first half of the day. We had to brush snow off the kayaks before launching them. Skontorp Cove is always a favourite as it has steep cliffs rich in birdlife and we were entertained by the vivid screeches of the terns divebombing and harassing the much larger kelp gulls in the vicinity of their nesting sites. Further along we observed the streaks of verdigris in the rocks – a bright green stain associated with copper deposits – then around the corner into a bay of brash ice. Up closer to the glacier – but not too close we saw a small ice calving and heard some definite cracks within the glacier – but kept our distance remembering the Neko Harbour video clip. After a quick visit to Brown Station and the gentoos coming on and off the water, we paddled into some clear water, climbed back into the waiting Zodiacs and returned to the ship.

Stony Point

Stony Point is another of those sites where you can creep across from the landing site to some small islands on the other side of the strait. Here there were more penguins, in early season activity, greeting their mates, competing for nesting places and waiting for the snow to reveal more nesting opportunities. It was a fabulous afternoon with delicate clouds draping the mountains on Anvers Island.

Mountaineering

Monday November 12th am

Almirante Brown. Tim and Martin with 20 guests

Almirante Brown Peak & Glacier, Tim Blakemore



Our first day in Paradise Bay. Stunning views all-around of glaciers tumbling down and ice bergs calving into the water. We enjoyed a unique and simple landing on the concrete wharf at the Argentinean base. Guests geared up and set off up pristine snow towards the summit beckoning above. Normally an easy track, this early in the season we were climbing in snow shoes in the deep soft snow! The summit itself was negotiated in small groups with steep drops all around. All the mountaineers stood on the lofty summit! We then roped up in three teams for a glacial journey overlooking Skonthorp Cove where we observed the calving seracs below.

Almirante Brown Peak & Glacier, Tim Blakemore



Boys from Mumbai, Almirante Brown Peak, Martin Doyle

Monday November 12th pm
Mt Hauron Tim and Martin with 14 guests.



On the flank of Mt Hauron., Tim Blakemore

Low tide and the presence of sea ice forced a landing on a small island off the coast. We were able to portage our kit along the boulder beach past a sleeping Weddell seal to a wading point to get onto the Mainland. We geared up into three roped parties and travelled on snow shoes in the soft snow. We climbed, zig zagging

up the steepening slopes which offered great views into Paradise Bay. Deteriorating weather and fresh snowfall with steep soft snow and crevasses caused the parties to descend again back to the shore.



Mt Hauron, Martin Doyle

Camping

Camping Stoney Point

With the winds calm the team was able to make camp at Stoney Point. The evening started with some clouds but after working on the camp spots, the clouds broke and the evening presented them with beautiful views and landscapes. As everyone started winding down and the camp grew quiet, two penguins confidently hopped up on shore to inspect our camp. They seemed happy to share their spot with us. As we watched the Ortelious sail out of view, this gave the sensation of being completely disconnected from the world. The team fell asleep with a true feeling of self-sufficiency, alone in this pristine environment.

Day 7 – Tuesday November 13th, 2018

Danco Island / Neko Harbour

GPS position at 0800: 64°43.9'S, 062°37.2'W

Wind: W Bft 1 Sea State: 0 Weather: Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: -1°C

After picking up the campers at 5:30 on Stony Point we once again went to Danco Island. Our hopes for the morning was climb its peak to admire the view and the Gentoo Penguins nesting up there. Clouds in shades of grey covered the sky but luckily no wind this morning. Soon after breakfast we arrived to Danco Island. Zodiacs were put into the water and soon we were all on land. Most of us aimed for the peak straight away to find out that too many penguins prevented us from reaching the top. Never mind, views were amazing anyway! The snow storm that so far had been further out



in the fjord eventually came rolling in later in the morning and soon before lunch the wind picked up and snow began to fall. Perfect time for some lunch and to head for our next destination!

After lunch, we headed towards Neko Harbour, but once again the huge blocks of ice prevented us from reaching the shoreline. Instead, we slowly cruised through the icy fjord. Despite the heavy snowfall, we managed to see a couple of Crabeater Seals, Weddell Seal and Snow Petrels.



At three o'clock we put Zodiacs into the water for an afternoon cruise. The snow was falling from a grey sky and visibility was low, but luckily the wind had declined which ended up in a pleasant cruise with snow, ice and, for some, an Antarctic Fur Seal resting on the ice. Once back to the ship, Lynn and her Expedition Team, announced the plans for tomorrow followed by a barbeque dinner in the dining room. Last event for the evening was dropping off the campers in the wintry landscape. Fingers crossed that weather doesn't get worse during the night.

Kayaking

Danco Island

The morning began well with flat calm seas and a magical ambience. It was a strong team of paddlers who took to the water with the ambition of circumnavigating Danco Island. We headed south and went around the corner, guided by Philip in the Zodiac who with his superior visibility, found a way through the brash ice for us. We were diverted by the sight of two crabeater seals on an ice floe and made a decision to turn back the way we had come as we couldn't see easily if we could have got through the channel back to the ship. It was a good decision as the wind started to get up and by the time we got back into the Zodiac and headed

back to the ship, the snow has started to fall and the wind was up to 20 knots. The team all agreed that it would not have been much fun to have tried to paddle back against that!

Andvourd Bay

The bay was still beset by too much ice and wind so although we had prepped and got ready to kayak, sadly the session had to be cancelled – though quite a few of the team opted to go cruising instead.

Mountaineering

Danco. This morning was a totally different activity with 13 guests trying their hand at steep ice climbing. Three top rope systems were put in place and everyone tried a couple of lines using two ice axes and crampon front points to climb the ice face of a serac above the sea. The weather closed in towards the end with a winter feel of fresh snow and horizontal snow. There was lots of enthusiasm and a great deal of energy applied.



Danco Ice Climbing, Martin Doyle

Tuesday November 13th pm

Cancelled as a landing was prevented by sea ice. Zodiac cruising instead meant we spotted a fur seal and numerous sea bird species.

Camping

Camping Leith Cove

Camping at Leith Cove started with a heavy snowfall that made Ben and Rustyn both wondered how the night might play out. But with everyone being very positive and enthusiastic it seemed that the team could handle it - and they decided to push forward. Their determination was rewarded and the snow slowed and stopped, leaving them with a beautiful and fresh snow cover. The campers had an entire island to themselves, surrounded by hanging glaciers and multiple ice falls and avalanches. Everyone looked on as Ben and Rustyn built the privacy walls for the Potty and they agreed that is might just be the best views a bathroom could ever offer. As everyone settled into their bivys, a group of penguins walked up near the camp and decided to stay with us for the night. In the morning the team was in good spirits and broke down camp quickly and efficiently and got back to the ship for some hot coffee and showers by 05.30am.

Day 8 – Wednesday November 14th, 2018

Port Lockroy & Jougla Point

GPS position at 0800: 64°43.1'S, 063°13.8'W

Wind: ENE 5 Bft Sea State: 2 Weather: Air Temp: 2°C Sea Temp: -1°C

The day started with the good news from Lynn that the shop in Port Lockroy will be open. The Port Lockroy team arrived one day before and managed to get everything unpacked, the stamps ready and the credit card machine working. Next to memories and photo's this is the only possibility to bring souvenirs home from Antarctica. When we arrived at Gaudier Island we picked up Heidi, the team manager, and one guy from the conservation team who liked to have a warm shower. Heidi told us interesting stories about their research and conservation works, and of course how to send postcards from the most southerly post office and get stamps in our passports.



Goudier Island is small and even though the shop is quite extensive, not everybody can get on land at the same time. So, the morning's operations consisted of a split landing and half of the passengers went first to Jougla Point while the others went shopping. Jougla is a beautiful place with a lot of fauna, like breeding Blue Eyed Shags, Kelp Gulls and Gentoo Penguins. Some of the rocks are already uncovered and penguins started



to build their nests with the rocks from last year. A great place to see the offering and stealing stone rituals. The penguins we saw on the other landings were living still on top of layers of snow and had their bellies white as snow. Here most of the penguins are very muddy and only patches of their white bellies are visible. Around Jougla there is still a lot of sea ice present. The path we made went partly over this sea ice, but after one hour, more and more cracks showed that the ice was breaking and breathing up and down. To make sure everything was safe we changed our route.

Although nobody can get enough of watching penguins, the penguins today that got the most attention are the ones on coffee cups and woolen jumpers.

The museum gives an interesting view into how explorers were living in Antarctica in the early years. It feels like they could still be somewhere around and this feeling brings us back in time. The date on the calendar is frozen like the surroundings of this historical place.

Kayaking

Goudier/Jougla

This was one of those days when it very nearly happened – but didn't. The team got ready as usual but we were a little later arriving so we stood by until we could see what conditions were like. The Neumayer Strait

was windy and icy – as we got closer to Goudier there was some shelter and less wind, but unfortunately still too much for kayaking. Although it did actually drop and clear later, we had already committed to cancelling the session and by way of compensation, we were able to visit the Penguin Post Office and stock up with some souvenirs, and post cards home.

Dorian Bay

The calmer conditions that had prevailed in the latter part of the morning, did not hang around. Back out in to the Neumayer more wind and ice delayed our decision and the sight of an impending snow shower was the final nail in the coffin. Sadly, the last kayaking opportunity of the voyage was cancelled – but hey that’s Antarctica for you, its unpredictability makes it so rewarding when it does come good!

Mountaineering

Goudier Island/Jougla Point Guides Tim and Martin accompanied by 14 guests

We roped up as two parties wearing snowshoes for the deep soft snow cover. We crossed the early season sea ice of Alice Creek across from Port Lockroy. Flexing of the ice with the tides meant there were numerous cracks revealing the sea water 30cm down. Crossing the creek led us past a snoozing Weddell seal. We crossed and returned over the sea ice before ascending a short narrow snow ridge. Finally, we returned to shore past several Gentoo Penguin colonies where neighbours were squabbling over nesting sites at the start of the season.



Walking on sea ice, Martin Doyle



A Cheval near Jougla Point, Tim Blakemore



Sleeping Seal, Tim Blakemore

Wednesday November 14th pm

Damoy Hut, Dorian Bay, Old Landing Strip Glacier. Guides Tim and Martin accompanied by 14 guests

With soft snow we again used snow shoes and walked across to Damoy hut before roping up for glacial travel and a journey on the former Damoy runway. Cold windy conditions meant a journey with spindrift and snow build-up. Cornices were noticeably building up on the ice cliffs above Damoy Bay. On the return trip we visited Damoy Hut which is a fine little museum illustrating early life for Antarctic staff.



Damoy Glacier, Martin Doyle



Signing the Visitor Log, Damoy Hut, Martin Doyle

Camping

After an otherwise beautiful day, the wind picked up and it became clear that their last chance for camping was blown away. Everyone again witnessed the quickly changing weather of Antarctica. Using this as an opportunity to head to our next destination, the next day everyone was able to visit Deception Island. The old whaling station built in the crater of an active volcano.

Thank You for coming camping with Oceanwide Expeditions

Day 9 – Thursday 15th November, 2018

Deception Island

GPS position at 0800: 62°59.3 S, 060°29.3 W

Wind: SW 4 Bft Sea State: 3 Weather: Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: 0°C



As the wakeup call woke everyone for breakfast you could feel the excitement of all on board. The previous night the passengers had been delighted to hear that Ortelius would be entering the centre of Deception Island, an active volcano. Just after 08:00 the PA announced the arrival at the island and encouraged everyone to take a look out the starboard side as the ship past through the narrow entrance to the islands centre, aptly call the Neptune's Bellows. The ship had to pass hard up against the cliff face of the entrance making for a spectacular photo opportunity.

Finally, in position around 08:30, it was difficult to see the lagoon of Deception Island in its full glory as

a snow storm constantly disrupted visibility. The staff went ashore and gave the all clear to ferry passengers ashore.

Three routes were set for viewing. One was a challenging mountain trek set up by the mountaineering team, the second a beach walk which ended in the stunning views over a cliff edge out to sea called Neptune's Window and lastly a stroll through the whaling station itself ending at the graveyard.

The weather finally cleared allowing Deception Island to be viewed in its full magnificence. The high cliff edges completely surrounding the ship and the black sands made for an impressive backdrop. As time wore on and it was time to return to the ship, a pod of Minke whales decided to join the zodiacs in their ferrying duties, marking the end of a wonderful landing.



Once all were aboard and the passengers descended to the dining room for lunch, Ortelius quietly made her way out of Deception Island and made a course for Ushuaia. Many passengers spent the afternoon watching the last of the ice go by before entering the Drakes Passage tomorrow.

Kayaking

Whalers Bay

We were hopeful for a last paddle here as it really is the most dramatic place to do so – a donut shaped island ringed by precipitous slopes, the stony beaches and the relics of the old whaling industry. Although it did calm a bit as we came into Neptune's Bellows, it did not subside quite enough and many of the team opted to go ashore and do a leg stretching climb instead.

Mountaineering
Deception Island

Volcanic ridge above Whalers Bay. 33 guests and 4 guides

Our last morning and final landing before heading north to the Drake Passage. The ship entered through the very impressive Neptune's Bellows entrance to Whalers Bay at 0830. The weather was unpromising with low cloud and light snowfall largely concealing the ash covered slopes above the shoreline.

By 0900 thirty three hikers were ready with Guides Tim, Martin, Fran and Tobias to walk up the prominent volcanic ash ridge into the gloom. Kicking steps in fresh snow and buffeted in the wind the group made an intermediate summit in 90 minutes before tracking out towards the east. We were blessed with gradually improving visibility and finally sunshine, blue skies and fantastic views of the cliffs and ocean beyond. The hikers ran down and glissaded the freshly covered snow slopes to the shore where they were greeted by views of Weddell Seal, Northern Petrel, Antarctic Terns, and numerous Cape Petrels enjoying a meal of krill on the shoreline. A really enjoyable morning.



Setting Off – Deception Island, Martin Doyle



Glissading, Tim Blakemore

Our thanks to all the passengers who climbed with us this week, Tim Blakemore & Martin Doyle



Tim Blakemore & Martin Doyle, Mountain Guides.

Day 10 – Friday November 16th, 2018

At Sea

GPS position at 0800: 59°58.9'S, 062°22.0'W

Wind: NW 4 Bft | Sea State: 3 Weather: Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: 1°C

This morning we were allowed to stay in bed longer! 8.00 wakeup call!

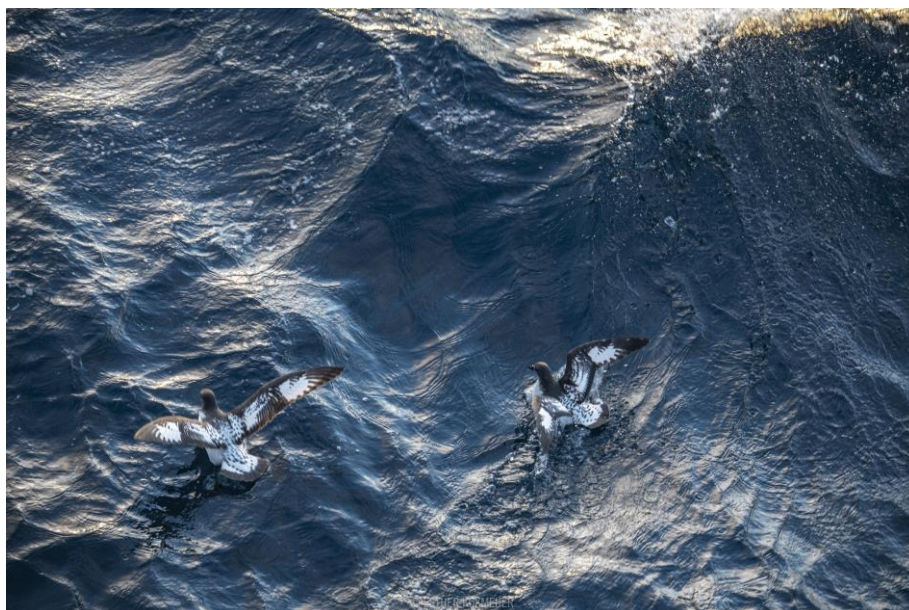
Once again the Drake was not so rough and around the middle of the morning, the ship approached and crossed the Antarctic Convergence, an undulating line in the Southern Ocean between 50 and 60 degrees south encircling the continent. It is well defined by water temperature differences and can be determined by regular temperature readings. It is sometimes also marked by a belt of fog or mist where warm, currents coming south from the tropics meet cold, denser, currents moving north from Antarctica. These conflicting currents clash, converge, and the Antarctic waters sink below the warmer tropical ocean waters. The resultant mixing provides a sympathetic environment for abundant plankton which nourishes huge numbers of sea birds and mammals but this phenomenon is rarely seen. Few organisms are able to cross this marked boundary of temperature, salinity and dissolved oxygen, so the convergence defines Antarctica both physically and ecologically.

At 10:00, we were invited to attend Tobias's lecture on Ice and Glaciers. An important one when you know that 85% of the continental ice of the world is in Antarctica. It was very informative. He explained how a glacier is formed and functions, and many other topics like, icebergs, colour of the ice, classification.

Sailing north, the sun was appearing while some of us did succumb and took to our bunks. Outside, we were constantly accompanied by Cape petrels, prions and a few albatrosses. Some of the keen birders even spotted some grey headed ones and a sooty albatross.

In the afternoon, those who weren't enjoying an afternoon nap attended the talks from Tim and Fran about their experience in living in a base in Antarctica. Both have worked for the British Antarctic Survey.

Just before dinner, we met in the bar for a special daily recap. Esther had organised a photography contest. It was time to show the pictures taken by the passengers divided in three categories: landscape, wildlife and wild-card (funny, action, people). Just after that, everybody was allowed to vote. The results will be given on our last day on board.



Day 11 – Saturday November 17th, 2018

At Sea

GPS position at 0800: 56°03.6'S, 065°03.1'W

Wind: NW 6 Bft | Sea State: 4 Weather: Air Temp: 7°C Sea Temp: -°C

So finally, we are on our last day in the Drake. The swell has gone down a bit since yesterday and the rolling today has actually been quite pleasant. On deck, the sun has been shining all day and the moderate temperatures tells us that we have left Antarctica behind and are approaching South America. The seabirds have been going on about their business. Some are following the ship. We had a squadron of Cape Petrels in tow and the obligatory Giant Petrels. Three species of albatross crossed our bow this morning. Their realm is the sea and the air and today most of them were better off in the air. The albatrosses might travel a few hundred miles in a single day. A highlight of the day was seeing a Southern Royal Albatross, a gigantic bird that actually nests in New Zealand but disperses eastward to feed in the rich shelf waters off Patagonia during its first couple of years. The Sooty Shearwaters that nest down here also make a long trek to the North Atlantic for the Austral winter. We might think of ourselves as world travellers, but seabirds have been doing it as a matter of course for a long time.

During the morning gave a talk about penguins and after lunch, we approached the coast of the southern tip of South America. Proximity to shore means less fetch and slighter seas. As we approached Isla de Los Estados, the sea was almost flat calm. At 18:15 we gathered for our last Recap and some closing remarks from Captain Ernesto – and a toast to our voyage! From there, it was onward to the Farewell Dinner during which we got to know the galley team whom we cannot thank enough for the fantastic meals we got to enjoy during our cruise. It's been a great trip, and some of us passed the last hour of daylight enjoying the scenery and more birds, including a handful of Blue Petrels from the Antarctic. Tomorrow will be the last day of trip. Sad to leave, but also eager to see the beautiful scenery that awaits us in the Beagle Channel tomorrow morning.



Day 12 – Sunday November 18th, 2018

Ushuaia

GPS position at 0800: 54°48.6'S, 068°17'W

Wind: 0 knots Sea State: 0 Air Temp: 8°C Sea Temp: 8°C

All good things come to an end, as they say. Today was our last morning on Ortelius. After a last night in the cabin, which had started to feel like home already to some of the guests. Guests were instructed to put their suitcases in the corridors this morning as instructed so the crew could take them out and off the ship. After one more breakfast it was time to say goodbye. Goodbye to the ship and its crew and staff, and to all new friends made. Appointments were made to stay in touch and farewells were said. All could look back to a very nice and successful trip.



At 8:30 all handed in the keys to the cabins, picked up the luggage from the pier and walked towards Ushuaia. Heading for new adventures and with many great memories.

Thank you all for such a wonderful voyage, for your company, good humour and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!

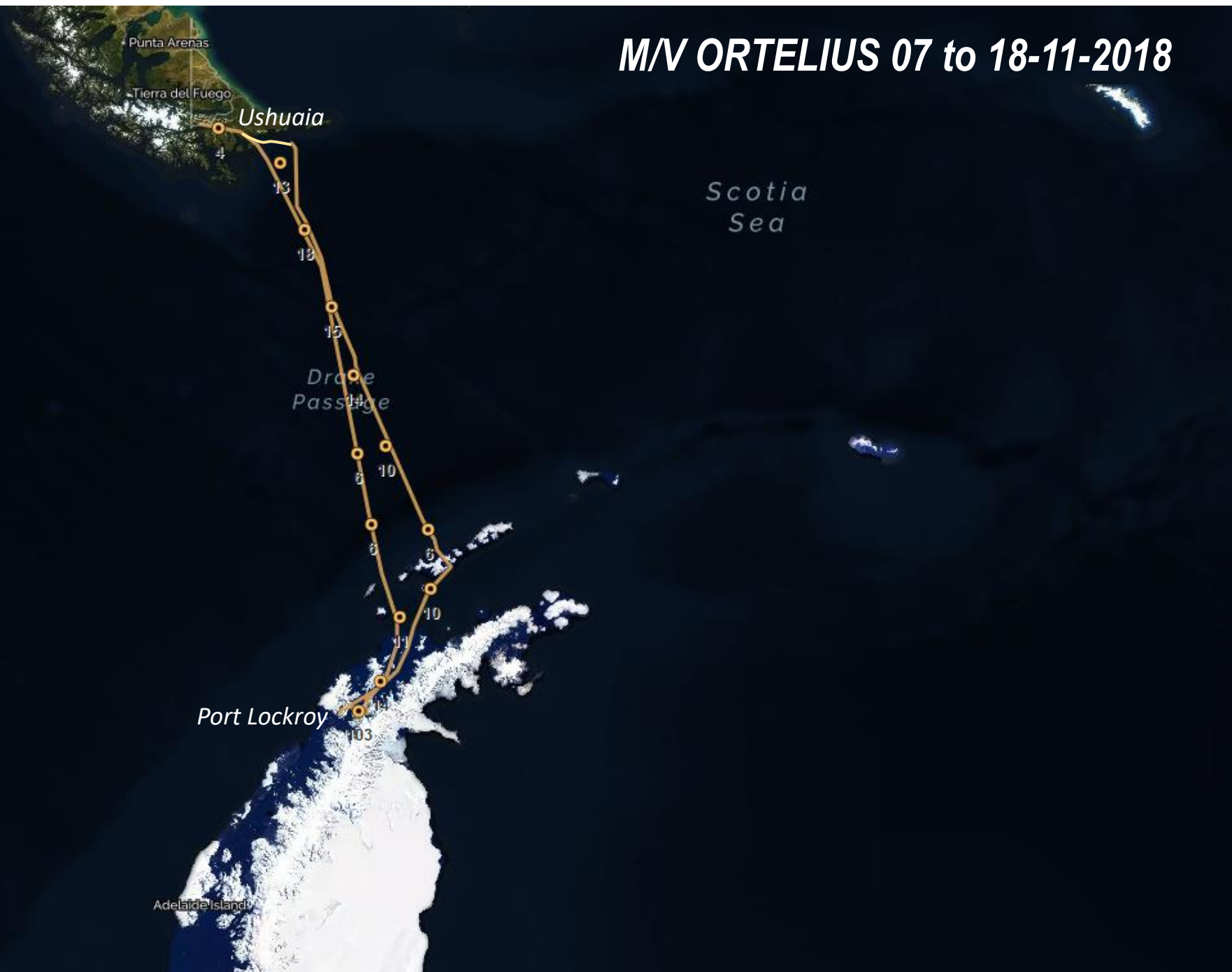
Furthest South: 64°49.4' S 63°29.7' W

Total Distance Sailed: 1709 NM

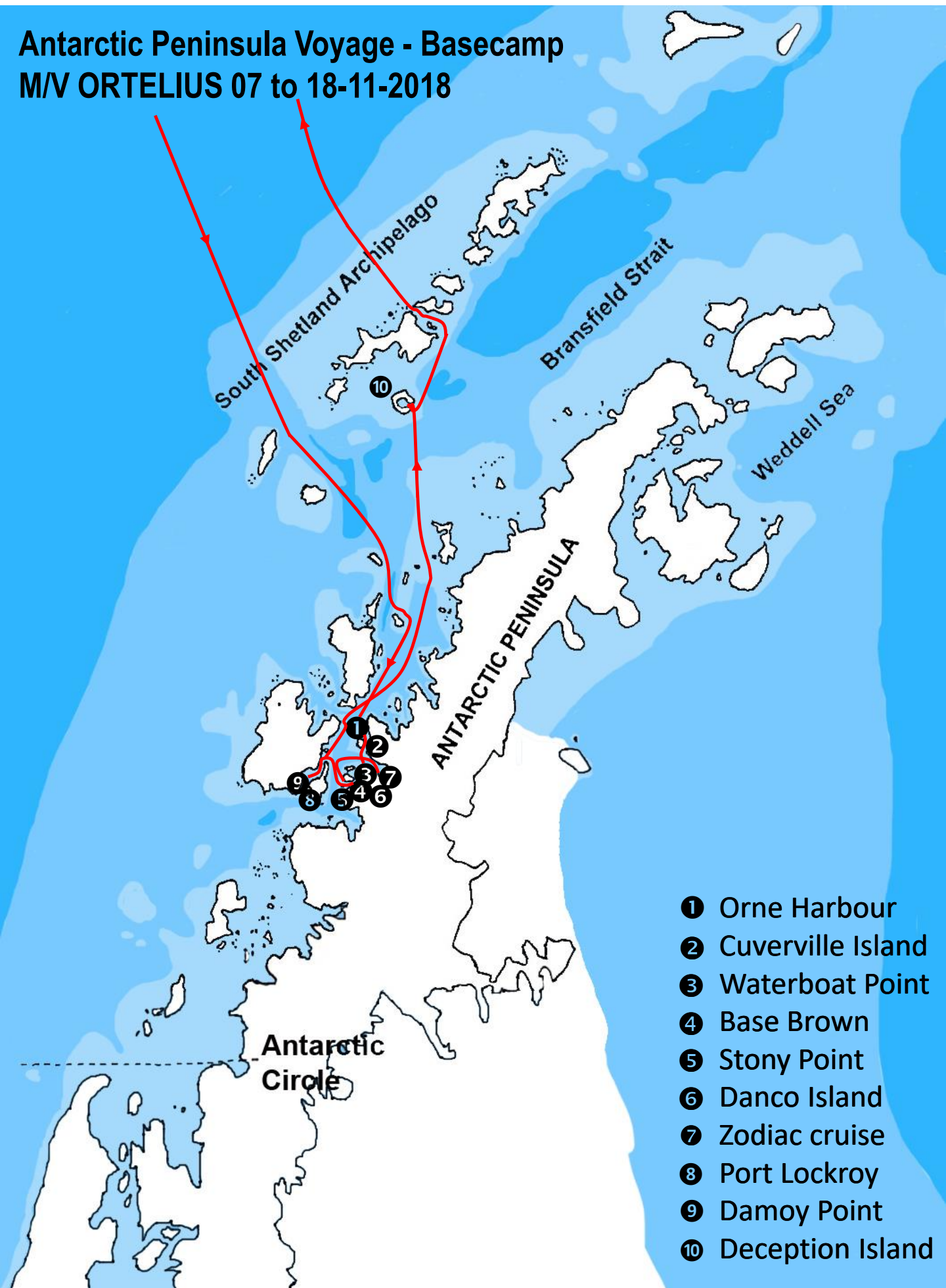
On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Ernesto Barria, Expedition Leader Lynn Woodworth, Hotel Manager Dejan Nikolic and all the crew and staff, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.

Antarctic Peninsula Voyage Basecamp

M/V ORTELIUS 07 to 18-11-2018



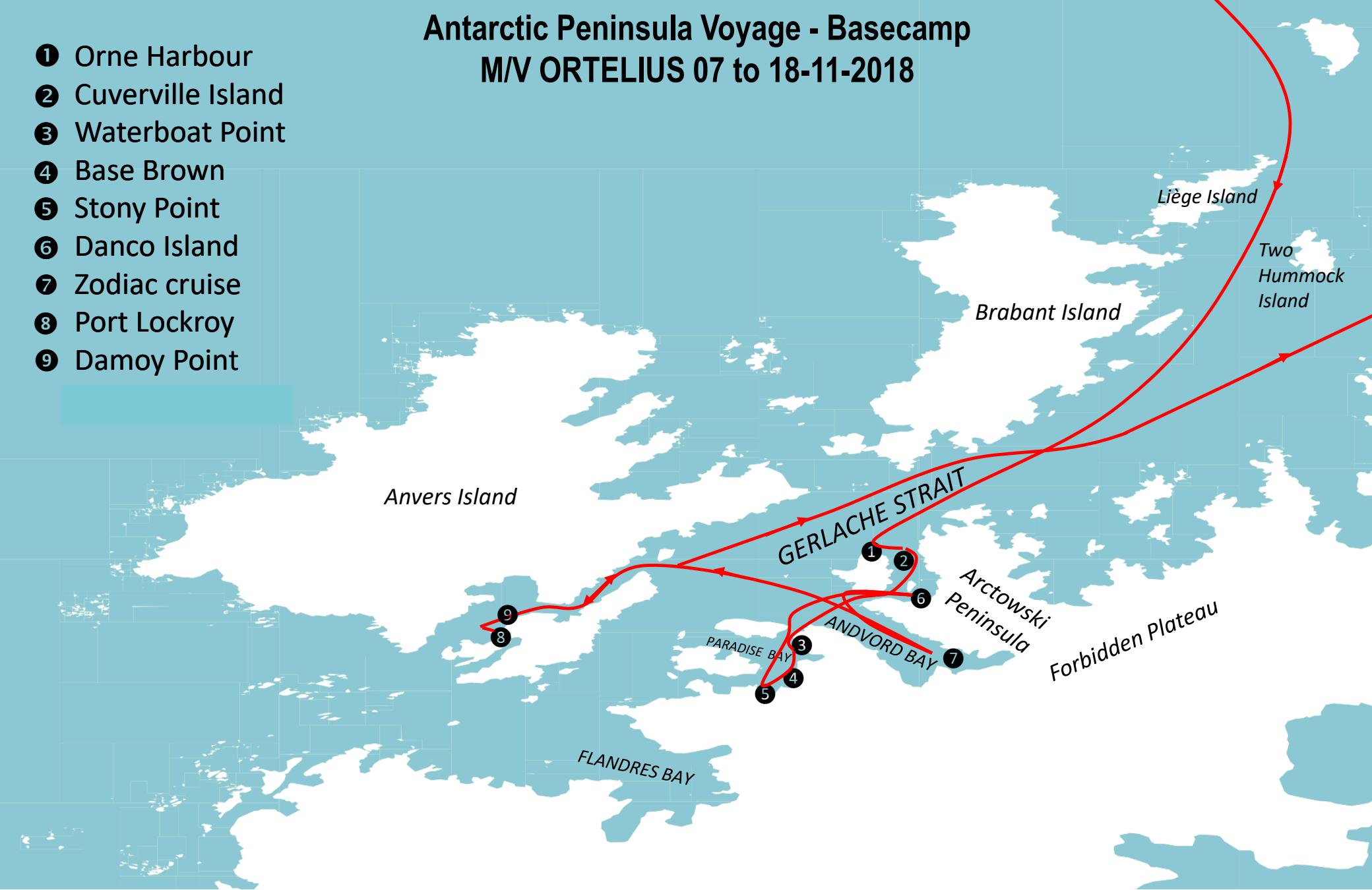
Antarctic Peninsula Voyage - Basecamp M/V ORTELIUS 07 to 18-11-2018



Antarctic Peninsula Voyage - Basecamp

M/V ORTELIUS 07 to 18-11-2018

- 1 Orne Harbour
- 2 Cuverville Island
- 3 Waterboat Point
- 4 Base Brown
- 5 Stony Point
- 6 Danco Island
- 7 Zodiac cruise
- 8 Port Lockroy
- 9 Damoy Point





PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2019

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.



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UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO AT

WWW.OCEANWIDE-EXPEDITIONS.COM/GALLERY

The size of your photo should be between 2MB and 8MB. Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by 30 April 2019. The photography contest runs from 01 November 2018 until 31 March 2019.

Read the terms and conditions of the contest on www.oceanwide-expeditions.com/page/contest-terms

Lynn Woodworth – Expedition Leader



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 eventually settled in Australia, where she completed two biology degrees, including a PhD in conservation genetics, examining Minimum Viable Population Size in wildlife. While in academia, Lynn lectured in topics ranging from population and quantitative genetics to basic animal structure and function, managed international conferences and research labs, and worked briefly in biological patents. In her spare time, she qualified as an Exotic Wildlife Zookeeper, and has raised and released quite a range of orphaned marsupials, kookaburras and the occasional snake.

Lynn's first trip to the Antarctic happened by accident. In 1996, she was lucky enough to join a Ross Sea voyage after her intended travel plans fell through. Two years later, she began an around the world motorcycle trip by travelling down the coast of South America. In Ushuaia, she left her motorcycle behind 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 Falklands and South Georgia as well as some penguins. In the northern summer, she has taken ships to arctic Canada, Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard, Russia and the North Pole. Lynn stopped counting in 2007, 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, 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 Antarctica, *Antarctica The Complete Story* (published on three continents) and *The Blue Continent* (released in 17 languages at last count).

Lynn still calls Australia home. She has recently moved from the big smoke of Sydney to just South of Hobart, Tasmania - as close to Antarctica as she can get and still be in Australia.

Tobias Brehm – Assistant Expedition Leader



Tobias spends as much time as possible out in nature to observe and learn from and about Earth and Nature. He likes to share this passion with interested people and has facilities to explain these fascinating mechanisms and phenomena.

With a B.Sc. in Geosciences and a M.Sc. in Economic Geology, Tobias' experience mainly originates from his work as an exploration geologist within the mining and metals industry. He has worked on projects in Australia, Iceland, Greenland and all across Canada with a focus on remote, helicopter-based fieldwork within the Yukon Territory and northern British Columbia; in areas that not many people have a chance to see and enjoy.

When telling about his work and experiences, Tobias realized numerous times that there are many misconceptions in regards to geology and that geologists are generally not trying well enough to reach out to the 'general public'. In addition, many people seem to be 'disconnected' from nature in some ways. This led him to join the Oceanwide Expeditions team in 2014 to share his love and knowledge about Earth and Nature, especially of Polar Regions, with others.

Throughout his geological career, Tobias has travelled all across the world experiencing many different cultures and environments. He has been to Alaska and the "Lower 48" (i.e. Yellowstone National Park), to nearly all of Canada, Australia & Tasmania, Peru, Iceland, to nearly all of Europe and to desert countries like the Sultanate of Oman. However, he feels most comfortable in rugged, mountainous terrain of Polar Regions.

At home, he spends his time climbing mountains and exploring the mystical spheres of caves or abandoned mines.

Tobias verbringt möglichst viel Zeit in der Natur, um die Erde und Natur zu beobachten, von ihnen und etwas über sie zu lernen. Er möchte diese Begeisterung gerne mit anderen teilen und ihnen diese faszinierenden Mechanismen und Phänomene näher bringen.

Durch seinen B.Sc.-Abschluss in den Geowissenschaften und M.Sc.-Abschluss in der Rohstoffgeologie hat Tobias seine Erfahrung hauptsächlich aus seiner Arbeit als Explorationsgeologe in der Bergbau- und Rohstoffindustrie. Er hat an Projekten in Australien, Island, Grönland und ganz Kanada mitgearbeitet. Bei seiner Tätigkeit in Kanada lag der Fokus hauptsächlich auf hubschraubergestützter Geländearbeit in entlegenen Gegenden des Yukons und im nördlichen Teil British Columbias. Nicht viele Menschen bekommen die Gelegenheit, diese zu sehen und zu genießen.

Wenn er von seiner Arbeit und seinen Erfahrungen erzählt, hat Tobias schon zahlreiche Male feststellen müssen, dass es viele Missverständnisse in Bezug auf die Geologie gibt und dass Geologen in der Regel nicht gut genug versuchen, die ‚normale Bevölkerung‘ zu erreichen. Zudem scheint es, als wären viele Menschen in gewisser Weise von der Natur ‚distanziert‘. Dies führte ihn 2014 zum Oceanwide Expeditions Team, wo er seine Liebe zur und sein Wissen über die Erde und die Natur, vor allem in den Polargebieten, mit anderen teilen kann.

Während seiner geologischen Karriere ist Tobias durch die ganze Welt gereist und konnte zahlreiche verschiedene Kulturen und Gebiete kennen lernen. Er war schon in Alaska und in den „Lower 48“ (z.B. Yellowstone Nationalpark), in fast ganz Kanada, Australien & Tasmanien, Peru, Island, in nahezu ganz Europa und dem Sultanat Oman in der Wüste. Am wohlsten fühlt er sich jedoch in den schroffen Gebirgslandschaften der Polarregionen.

Wenn er zu Hause ist, klettert er auf Berge und erkundet die mystischen Sphären von Höhlen oder aufgelassenen Bergwerken.

Céline Clément-Chastel – Expedition Guide



With a passion for travel, nature and marine animals, Celine was initially Research Manager at the Department of Geography of the University of Bergen, Norway, investigating fisheries management issues in the Barents Sea.

Since 1998, various contracts for France's national scientific research center (CNRS) have led this cartographer to participate in fifteen scientific missions in the Arctic (Northern Norway, Bear Island, and Spitsbergen) and Antarctic Peninsula. This work was primarily conducted as part of research programs funded by the French Polar Institute (IPEV) and focused on the adaptations of polar seabirds to changes in their environment. She knows all the ins and outs of capturing, bird banding, biometric measurements, blood sampling, and activity recorders.

During the same period, Celine has been a hiking guide in Spitsbergen and has regularly accompanied cruises in the Polar Regions, which has given her a taste for science outreach programs. She currently works as Scientific Mediator and ensures the coordination and the carrying out of communication events in scientific culture. Member of the Board of APECS France, the national committee of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists, she contributes to communicating the latest scientific discoveries in the polar world.

Tiphanie May – Expedition Guide



Tiphanie May is an 8th generation Falkland Islander living in Stanley. She was raised in the outer islands where her parents still work as farmers today. At 16 she travelled to the UK to continue her studies, eventually gaining her Msc in Marine Biology from Bangor University in Wales. She returned home to work as a Scientific Observer aboard the fishing fleet for 3 years before becoming a freelance Environmental Consultant for oil, fishing and construction industries. Tiphanie's current project is setting up the Falkland's first commercial fish farm where she manages hatchery and cage site operations.

The Falklands requires everyone do their part for the community, so everyone volunteers as a tradition. Tiphanie volunteers for Falkland Islands Fire and Rescue, where her favourite specialty is Breathing Apparatus Wearer and Casualty Care. She is also a serving member on the Diplomacy Program, Media Trust, Waste

Management Board and the local charity shop. When she's not working or volunteering, Tiphanie enjoys the outdoors, playing sport or the occasional drink down in her local pub.

This will be Tiphanie's first trip with Oceanwide and she's very excited to tell everyone about her home.

Martin Berg – Expedition Guide



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

studying seabirds on islands in the North Atlantic Ocean and around New Zealand and as well as conducted at-sea surveys on seabirds and marine mammals in waters around Antarctica.

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



~

Esther Kokmeijer - Expedition photographer on board

Esther Kokmeijer born in Dokkum, The Netherlands (1977), is an artist, explorer, designer and photographer, currently residing in Rotterdam and working around the globe. From 1996 until 2001 she studied graphic design at the ArtEZ Institute of the Arts. Between 2001 and 2008 she managed her own design studio, besides working as a travel photographer for magazines and newspapers. Since 2008 she works as an independent artist. Her work has been exhibited and published worldwide. For various projects, she had visited 83 countries. Furthermore, she has participated in art residency programs in The Netherlands, Indonesia, South Korea, Greenland, Antarctica, Spitsbergen, Germany, France, Mongolia, and China.

In 2013 she studied Arctic and Antarctic Science, a minor at the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG). Since 2013 she seasonally works as an expedition photographer in the Arctic and Antarctic. From 2015 on she is in the board of Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) in The Netherlands.

Esther is interested in how art and science could reinforce each other. For various artistic research projects she collaborates with scientists and other professionals. With these collaborative projects she is trying to open up alternative routes to lucid and 'visual comprehension' of scientific research. For one of the projects she is collaborating with the scientist Maarten Loonen (Station manager of the Dutch Arctic Station on Spitsbergen; affiliated with the University of Groningen), to depict the tremendous migration route of the Arctic tern. Every year this bird flies from the Arctic to the Antarctic and back. A journey that can entail more than 90.000 kilometer annually. For another project she collaborates with oceanologist Gerbrant van Vledder on a project about wave navigation on the Marshall Islands. Navigating through reading the waves and finding the path between the waves.

The world at large and the connections and movements within it are the main focus of Esther's work as an artist and photographer. This stems from an urge to discover, order and represent the world's (natural) phenomena on the macro and micro level.

At the moment Esther is working on publishing the first international magazine which is entirely dedicated to Antarctica. It will bring together artistic and scientific exploration within the context of an 'awe inspiring and thought-provoking' place; Antarctica.

www.estherkokmeijer.nl

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Rustyn Mesdag – Expedition Guide



Rustyn was born in Seattle, Washington where grew up in the mountains of the Pacific Northwest. He quickly discovered his love for snow and ice which led to climbing and then travelling abroad. After working as an alpine guide for a few years in the United States, in 2004 he relocated to Patagonia where he started a guide service outside of Torres del Paine National Park. For 15 years he has been leading big wall climbers, travellers and trekkers through the most extreme terrains of Southern Chile. Aside from the guide service, he operates an equipment rental centre, backpackers hostel and

conducts daily lectures to eager Patagonian backpackers looking for tips and pointers about trekking in the wild. He also moonlighted as a travel writer, focusing on Southern Chile, and for many years he published an english speaking travellers newspaper in Patagonia and this led to his first trip to Antarctica - writing about his experiences there. Always looking for the next adventure, Rustyn now finds himself working for Oceanwide Expeditions and helping others explore this incredible region. When Rustyn isn't travelling or working in the outdoors, his other passion is his love for old motorcycles and long, multi day rides through Southern Chile and Argentina. Rustyn is fluent in English, Dutch and Spanish and is more than happy to sit and spend time discussing world travels, alpine climbing and the in's & out's of cold weather equipment management.

Benjamin Guinchi – Expedition Guide



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

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

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



2018 FRAN POTHECARY

Though originally from the flatlands of east England, I have lived in the Highlands of Scotland for the past 28 years where I started my career in outdoor guiding and instruction. I love the wild and remote places of the world – including my backyard – and am happiest walking, kayaking, climbing, biking and skiing in these places. I have a Diploma in Outdoor Education and a M.Sc. in Managing Sustainable Mountain Development. In 2013 after 10 years working in recreation management for the Cairngorms National Park, I joined the British Antarctic Survey first as a General Assistant and then as a Field Guide, which included a winter season at Rothera on Adelaide Island. After a brief spell working for the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust I started with Oceanwide Expeditions and now split my time between kayak guiding in Antarctica and working in the Alps as trekking guide during the summer. This season also sees a return to Rothera for a short field season 'on the ice' putting fuel, equipment and provisions in place for a large collaborative US/UK science programme next year.

Tim Blakemore



Tim is an international (IFMGA) mountain guide with over twenty years of experience in the outdoor industry. From the UK, he is now based in Chamonix, France and guides all over the world. He is a current trainer and assessor of new mountain guides.

He has climbed new routes and skied first descents in Scotland, Norway, Greenland, Svalbard, Alaska and Antarctica.

He has led many ski and sail expeditions to Svalbard, Arctic Norway, Greenland and Antarctica.

He first visited Antarctica with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) in 2000 and he spent half a year working from Rothera Research Station. He's since visited the Peninsula many times; Mostly working as a guide for Oceanwide Expeditions and other providers but more recently (January 2016) he chartered a 30 metre yacht and led a thirty day ski expedition to the continent with clients (climbing and skiing new peaks).

Martin Doyle

Mountaineering Guide



Martin has 30 years experience as an international (IFMGA) mountain guide and worked for many years at the National Mountain Training Centres in the UK. . He now divides his time between North Wales and the Chamonix valley mountaineering and skiing.

He has extensive guiding experience in the European Alps as well as expeditions in the Himalaya, South America, Alaska, Norway, Africa and Antarctica. Ascents include, Denali, Elbrus, Kilimanjaro and Everest.

He has two previous visits to Antarctica having guided ascents on Mount Vinson in 2004 and 2017.

He is also active in rock and ice climbing having visited the steep ice falls of the Canadian Rockies and worldwide rock climbing venues.



DAILY PROGRAM

Embarkation

Wednesday 07 November 2018

Welcome on board! Your luggage will have been delivered to your cabin. After we are all onboard, please check and notify Reception if you are missing anything or have luggage that does not belong to you. While we are embarking please feel free to explore the ship. The Lounge is located on Deck 6.

~17.00 **Mandatory Safety Briefing in the Lecture Room (Deck 3). ALL PASSENGERS are required** to attend this important safety briefing.

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

~18.00 Approximate sailing time. As we leave Ushuaia we recommend that you enjoy the views from the top outside decks.
Please Note: The Bridge will be closed for departure while we navigate the Beagle Channel.

18.30 Soon after sailing we would like to invite you to the **Lounge** (Deck 6) for a **welcome briefing** by Expedition Leader Lynn and an introduction to the ship by Hotel Manager DJ.

Afterwards there will be **Captain's Cocktails** with Captain Ernesto Barria. You will also meet the rest of the Expedition Team.

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

Tonight we will enter the Drake Passage, please ensure your belongings are secure and will not roll, slide or fall when the ship starts to move with the swell.



DAILY PROGRAM

Drake Passage

Thursday 08 November 2018

- 0745 Wakeup call
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- Join the **staff** in the **Lounge** (Deck 6) for introductory briefings on various activities (***the briefings are mandatory for those interested in doing the selected options***)
- 0930 - 1030 **Kayaking**
1045 - 1145 **Mountaineering**
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 Join **Ben & Rustyn** in the **Lecture Room** (Deck 3) for an introduction to **Camping** (***the briefing is mandatory for those interested in camping***).
- 1630 Almost everybody has brought a camera on this voyage – join **Esther** in the **Lecture Room** (Deck 3) for some **Tips and Tricks to Polar Photography**. This is suitable for people with all kinds of cameras.
- 1830 **Recap:** This is our daily opportunity to revisit the events of the day and look forward to tomorrow's plans. Lynn and the Expedition Team will meet you in the **Lounge**.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Today we are in open waters, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells.



DAILY PROGRAM

Drake Passage Friday 09 November 2018

- 0745 Wakeup call
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0930 Please come to the Lecture Room and join Lynn for the **mandatory IAATO and Zodiac safety briefing**. Everybody who wants to go ashore in Antarctica will have to come to this briefing!
- 1100 We will start distributing your **Rubber Boots and Life Jackets**. To ensure a smooth operation we will call you by Deck number so please listen out for announcements. The boots will be in the Lecture Room, located on Deck 3 forward. Bring your thick socks!
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Biosecurity vacuuming time!** We will call you by deck to the Lounge to vacuum your outer clothes and the bags that you will be taking ashore. Please listen out for your turn and don't forget to sign the IAATO biosecurity declaration.
- 1830 **Recap:** This is our daily opportunity to revisit the events of the day and look forward to tomorrow's plans. Lynn and the Expedition Team will meet you in the Lounge.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Today we are in open waters, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells.



DAILY PROGRAM

Orne Harbour and Cuverville Island

Saturday 10 November 2018

- 0645 Wakeup call
- 0700 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0730 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
- 0745 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.

This morning we would like to offer a Zodiac cruise in **Orne Harbour**. This bay has steep mountains and glaciers on all sides, so is not suitable for landing, but ideal for a Zodiac cruise. Apart from stunning scenery, this place is also known as one of the few places in the Gerlache Strait which has a colony of Chinstrap Penguins.

- 0815 **Group 1 – Cabins 451 to 529** - please come to the gangway for your cruise.
- 1000 **Group 2 – Cabins 334 to 450** - please come to the gangway for your cruise.

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

- 1300 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
- 1315 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.

1400 This afternoon we plan to land on **Cuverville Island**. Home to the largest Gentoo Penguin colony on the Peninsula, this is a good opportunity to sit and take in the life of a penguin, as they move around the island.

1830 Please join Lynn and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Please let the campers go first! Enjoy your meal.

2015 **Camping at Kerr Point, Ronge Island**
Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 1945. Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget: **The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!**



DAILY PROGRAM

Neko Harbour and Danco Island

Sunday 11 November 2018

- 0645 Wakeup call
- 0700 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0730 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
0745 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- 0900 We hope to land at **Neko Harbour** on the Antarctic Continent. This small indentation in Andvord Bay is named after a whaling ship that used the bay as a home base for a couple of years around 1910-1913.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1300 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
1315 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- 1400 After lunch we plan to land at **Danco Island**. This is another opportunity to see Gentoo Penguins and if conditions allow we hope to offer a longer snowshoe hike up to the top of the island for views of the Errera Channel and the Antarctic continent.
- 1830 Please join Lynn and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Please let the campers go first! Enjoy your meal.
- 2015 **Camping at Kerr Point, Ronge Island**
Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 1945. Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget: **The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!**



DAILY PROGRAM

Brown Station and Stony Point

Monday 12 November 2018

- 0645 Wakeup call
- 0700 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0745 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
0745 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- 0900 We hope to land at **Brown Station**, an Argentine science station which is only temporarily occupied (except its permanent residents of Gentoo penguins). **This is an Antarctic CONTINENT landing.** We will also have a zodiac cruise through Paradise Harbour to **Skontorp Cove**. the first five Zodiacs will go ashore first, and the second five will cruise first. We then swap on shore, so everybody can do everything.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1330 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
1330 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- 1500 This afternoon we hope to go ashore at **Stony Point, on the Danco Coast, also the Antarctic continent.** Here we can walk up to a view point. At the end of the landing, we are planning to have our **Polar Plunge!** You do not need to bring your own towels. We will provide them for you.
- 1830 Please join Lynn and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Please let the campers go first! Enjoy your meal.
- 2015 **Camping at Stony Point**
Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 1945. Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget: **The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!**



DAILY PROGRAM

Danco Island and Neko Harbour

Tuesday 13 November 2018

- 0645 Wakeup call
- 0700 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0745 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
0745 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- 0900 We plan to land at **Danco Island**. This is another opportunity to see Gentoo Penguins and if conditions allow we hope to offer a longer snowshoe hike up to the top of the island for views of the Errera Channel and the Antarctic continent.
Polar Plunge - swim suit under your regular landing clothes and we bring the towels!
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1330 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
1330 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- 1400 We hope to land at **Neko Harbour** on the Antarctic Continent. This small indentation in Andvord Bay is named after a whaling ship that used the bay as a home base for a couple of years around 1910-1913.
- 1830 Please join Lynn and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Please let the campers go first! Enjoy your meal.
- 2015 **Camping - location Leith Cove**
Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 1945. Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget: **The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!**



DAILY PROGRAM

Port Lockroy and Damoy Point

Wednesday 14 November 2018

- 0645 Wakeup call
- 0700 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0745 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- Mountaineers:** Stand By for announcements from Tim regarding your timings.
- 0900 We will bring on board two of the **Port Lockroy team**, who will meet us in the **Bar** for a quick chat about past and present Port Lockroy.
- ~0945 We plan to land at Port Lockroy. This is a **split landing**, where you will get to visit two sites. One half will start at **Jougla Point** with the wildlife, and the second half will start at the museum on **Goudier Island**. We will swap locations half way through the morning, so everybody gets to visit both spots.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1330 **Mountaineers:** meet Tim in the **Heli Hanger**, dressed and ready to go.
1330 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.
- 1500 We hope to land at **Dorian Bay**, near **Damoy Point** on Wiencke Island. This small bay and associated point are home to two small huts, one Argentine and one British, plus several thousand Gentoo penguins.
- 1830 Please join Lynn and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Please let the campers go first! Enjoy your meal.
- 2015 **Camping - location Damoy Point**
Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 1945. Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget: **The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!**



DAILY PROGRAM

Deception Island Thursday 15 November 2018

0715 Wakeup call.

0730 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.

This morning, we plan to enter **Deception Island**, in the South Shetland Islands. The island is a donut shaped ring with a bite out of one side, where ships can sail through the gap, called Neptune's Bellows. The volcano last erupted between 1967 and 1970, and is expected to erupt again. Inside, the waters are geo-thermally heated, and there are the remains of a shore-based whaling factory, called Hektor Whaling Station, which was operational between 1906 and 1931, and a British Antarctic Survey Base. This was Base B, part of Operation Tabarin, which opened in 1944 and closed in 1969, after buildings were destroyed and damaged by a lahar (mud slide). We hope to land at Whalers Bay, a small bay just inside Neptune's Bellows.

~0830 We plan to sail through Neptune's Bellows, the hole in the side of the walls of the island. The best place to watch this spectacular navigation is out on the top or bow decks.

0815 **Kayakers:** meet Fran in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6. You can watch our sailing through the Bellows from the Heli Deck.

~0900 Listen for announcements as we enter Port Foster, if possible we will have a landing in Whalers Bay. We will land on a broad gravel beach with walking opportunities ranging from a short, flat stroll around the historical remains (Please keep your distance!) to a vigorous, leg-stretching climb lead by Tim.

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

This afternoon we will be entering the Drake Passage. Please prepare both yourself and your cabin for potentially rough seas. While we do not expect bad weather, it is best to put cameras, computers and other valuable fragile items down low, between layers of clothing, and where they cannot roll off onto the floor. Please remember - one hand for the ship!

1800 Please join Lynn and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for an extended version of our **Daily Recap**. Bring your questions!

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Enjoy your meal!



DAILY PROGRAM

At Sea Towards Ushuaia

Friday 16 November 2018

- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 1000 Tobias will be in the **Lounge** talking about the magic world of **Ice**.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 Tim will be in the **Lounge** talking about **Living and Working in Antarctica** - 6 months with the British Antarctic Survey.
- 1630 Fran will be in the **Lounge** talking about her work for the **British Antarctic Survey**.
- 1830 Please join Lynn and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for an extended version of our **Daily Recap**. Bring your questions!
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Enjoy your meal!

Today we are in the open ocean, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells.



DAILY PROGRAM

Drake Passage

Saturday 17 November 2018

- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 1000 Please join **Martin** in the **Bar** for his talk on “**The Life of a Penguin**”, all about what goes on in the penguin world.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- ±1500 Time for **settling accounts** with DJ and Alex at **Reception**. We will call you by deck number, please wait till your deck is called to avoid queues. You can pay with Cash Euro, USD, Visa or MasterCard. Please listen for announcements.
- Later this afternoon we will would like to collect the **boots** and **lifejackets**. Please stand by for **announcements**.
- 1815 Please meet with Lynn and the expedition staff in the **Bar** for a quick briefing about plans for disembarkation tomorrow and afterwards a **farewell toast** from your **Captain**.
- 1900 **Farewell Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Today we are in the Drake Passage, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells.



DAILY PROGRAM

Disembarkation

Sunday 17 November 2018

We will be arriving in Ushuaia sometime this morning. The Bridge, forward Bow Deck and rear Stern Deck will be closed as the officers and crew will be working to bring us to dock. Once we dock, please **DO NOT go down the gangway** until an announcement has been made that we have been cleared to disembark by the local authorities.

Please ensure your luggage is outside your cabin by the time DJ invites you to breakfast at 07:30. We will move your main luggage to the pier, and after the busses have arrived we will call you to come down the gangway. You must ensure your own luggage is moved to the correct bus or the truck to the luggage storage place if you wish to use these services.

0730 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.

0830 We expect the busses to arrive and to begin **Disembarkation**. **Please listen and wait for announcements**, and it will be a great help to all the crew if you do not wait in the Lobby, which will be a very busy place. The Bar will offer good views of Ushuaia, and long-awaited cell/mobile phone coverage.

The Captain, Crew, Staff and all of Oceanwide thank you for joining us on this incredible voyage and wish you all the best in your travels.

We hope to see you again, North or South!

"Fair winds and following seas"