



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Antarctic Peninsula

28th January – 7th February 2019

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.



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EXPEDITIONS

Captain Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew

Including:

Chief Officer:	Francois Kwekkeboom	[Netherlands]
2nd Officer:	Romanas Vicas	[Lithuania]
3rd Officer:	Warren Villanueva	[Philippines]
Hotel Manager:	Zsuzsanna Varga	[Hungary]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Alex Lyebedyev	[Ukraine]
Head Chef:	Ralf Barthel	[Germany]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Ivanovic	[Serbia]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	Jodie Sage	[United Kingdom]

AND

Expedition Leader:	Ali Liddle	[United Kingdom]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Adam Turner	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Sara Jenner	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Nicole Janinhoff	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Celine Clement-Chastel	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Eduardo Rubio-Herrera	[Guatemala]
Expedition Guide:	Pippa Low	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Regis Perdriat	[France]
Kayak Guide:	Alexis Belezze	[Argentina]

Welcome you on board!

Day 1 – 28th January 2019

Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS 08.00 Position: 54°50'S / 068°10'W

Wind: SE 7 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Cloudy Air Temp: +9°C Sea Temp: +10°C

So here we are at last in Tierra del Fuego, at the bottom of the world. Well, from Ushuaia we'll be going south...a long way south. But for today, we ambled about this lovely Patagonian city, savouring the local flavours and enjoying the sights.

Ushuaia marks the end of the road in Argentine Tierra del Fuego, but also the beginning – the beginning of a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. During the summer this rapidly growing frontier town of 55,000 bustles with adventurous travellers. The duty-free port flourishes with tourism but also thrives on a sizeable crab fishery and a burgeoning electronics industry. Ushuaia (lit. *“bay that penetrates to the west”* in the indigenous Yaghan tongue) clearly benefits from its magnificent, yet remote setting. The rugged spine of the South American Andes ends here, where two oceans meet. As could be expected from such an exposed setting, the weather has the habit of changing on a whim. However, temperatures during the long days of the austral summer are relatively mild, providing a final blanket of warmth before heading off on our adventures. For many of us this is the start of a lifelong dream. The excitement comes in different forms for each unique person, but even the most experienced of us feels genuine excitement to depart on a journey to the Great White Continent of Antarctica. Most passengers were promptly at the gangway at 16:00, ready to board our ship MV *Plancius*, home for our Antarctic adventure!

We were greeted at the gangway by members of our Expedition staff who sent us on board to meet Hotel and Restaurant Managers, Zsuzsanna and Alex. We were then checked into our cabins with the assistance of our fabulous Filipino crew.

A little while after boarding we convened in the lounge on deck five to meet First Officer Francois, who led us through the details of the required SOLAS (Safety Of Life At Sea) Safety and Lifeboat Drill, assisted by the crew and staff.

Shortly after our first briefing we departed the jetty of Ushuaia and entered the Beagle Channel with an escort of black browed albatross. On hearing the general alarm, we reconvened at the 'muster station', the lounge, for the mandatory safety briefing and abandon ship drill donning our huge orange life jackets that will keep us safe should the need arise.

After all the safety drills were taken care of we were invited once again to the lounge to meet our Hotel Manager Zsuzsanna who gave us an overview of the ship, a floating hotel which will be our home for the next 10 days or so. We then met our Expedition Leader, Ali Liddle and the rest of the Expedition Team who will guide us in Antarctica.

This was also a chance to meet our Captain, Artur Iakovlev and toast our voyage with a glass of Prosecco. At 19:30 we sampled the first of many delicious meals on board, prepared by Chef Ralf and his galley staff. This first evening on board was occupied with more exploration

of the ship, adjusting to her movements, and settling into our cabins. In the early hours of the morning we would be out into the open waters of the Drake Passage!



Day 2 –29th January 2019

At sea to Antarctica – Drakes Passage

GPS 08.00 Position: 56°33'S / 065°33'W

Wind: WNW 5 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Cloudy **Air Temp:** +7°C **Sea Temp:** +6°C

A few of us were already up and about when Ali made the first wake-up call of the voyage, but for those of us still being gently rocked in our bunks it was time to get up and see what the sea day would bring.

It was an overcast and breezy morning (about 15 knots of wind), but we were making good progress across Drakes Passage. After breakfast many of us wrapped up warm and headed out on deck to gaze at the birds that were flying around the ship. Birds habitually follow ships at sea looking for food brought up to the surface by the wake, but also to enjoy the uplift created by our passing. We found plenty of Cape Petrels skimming the water close at hand, and further afield Giant Petrels and several species of albatross glided, using the air currents to demonstrate their skill at dynamic soaring. Every now and then they would fly right past the deck or bridge window, allowing for some wonderful photographic opportunities. At 10:30 we gathered in the lounge to learn a little more about these sea birds from Regis who delivered a very informative presentation about the different species, how we monitor them and what is being done towards their conservation.

Those hoping to kayak during this voyage met with Alexis, the kayak guide, in the library where they were briefed on the operations involved with paddling in Antarctica.

After lunch Sara gave a lecture about Penguins; it answered many of our initial questions about these charismatic little creatures, giving us more time to just sit and enjoy their funny and very endearing antics.

At 4:30pm Pippa, Nicole, Celine and Sara gathered the campers in the dining room to explain how their night on the ice would work logistically and of course help answer the inevitable questions we had like – ‘how cold will it be?’ and what happens if a bathroom break is required ashore?’.

As we were still being blessed with relatively calm conditions it was decided that the rubber boot distribution would take place so we were called by deck to proceed to the boot room on deck three to collect them. The staff were on hand to ensure that the system ran with the utmost efficiency, with boots of all sizes being passed along the line to ensure everyone got the correct size ready to go ashore in Antarctica the day after tomorrow.

The final official event of the day was our first daily Recap & Briefing session. Ali explained the plan for tomorrow and showed some weather charts so we knew what to expect for our second day in the Drake. The expedition team also took this opportunity to introduce themselves properly and tell us a little about the role they hope to play in our voyage. There was a lot of enthusiastic chatter as we descended to the Dining Room afterwards, as people shared their hopes and expectations for the forthcoming days with one another.

Our first sea day was drawing to an end and we went to bed dreaming of albatross and penguins.....



Day 3 – 30th January 2019

At sea to Antarctica – Drakes Passage

GPS 08.00 Position: 61°15'S / 062°59'W

Wind: ENE 3 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +3°C **Sea Temp:** +2°C

Our second night onboard the Plancius was spent crossing the Drake passage as we steamed towards Antarctica.

Ali, our expedition leader woke us up and told us what the weather was like and our position, this call was followed by our hotel manager, Zsuzsanna calling us to breakfast.

After breakfast we went to the lounge for our mandatory IAATO and zodiac safety briefings. The International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators briefing explained how we should behave whilst in Antarctica to ensure the protection and conservation of this incredible, but very fragile environment. It is important that we follow certain protocol to ensure that we leave no trace of our visit and only take away nothing more than memories.

In order to ensure we follow these protocol, we had to vacuum our outerwear; ensuring no seeds or plant material is hiding in our pockets and Velcro. The process is complete by mid afternoon and we are able to head back out on deck to enjoy the birds and look out for any other sightings.

We had enough time to get accustomed to the movement of the ship and in the afternoon Pippa gave us a lecture about Whales of the Southern Ocean; we learnt of what whales we could hope to see and their status, range and diets.

We were all super keen to see these giants of the ocean and were soon rewarded of some excellent sightings of humpback and fin whales, we also had some great bird sightings including Wandering and Grey-headed albatross. Our first sighting of the Humpback whales was pretty special as we watched them lunch through the water feeding on dense patches of krill – an incredible sight, and an incredible welcome to Antarctica!

Later in the day Eduardo gave us his lecture about science in Antarctica which gave us some facts about the region as well as what science work is carried out in the region by the different Antarctic Treaty nations.

We now had the first land in Antarctica in sight as well as large tabular icebergs and smaller bergs of varying shapes.

We had a re-cap where Ali told us of the plans for tomorrow and we then eagerly went to dinner full of excitement at what the following days would bring.



Day 4 –31st January 2019

Cuverville & Port Lockroy, Antarctic Peninsula

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°36'S / 062°35'W

Wind: SW 3 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Partly Cloudy Air Temp: +8°C Sea Temp: +2°C

Having finally crossed the Drake Passage (for now!), Ali woke us up early at 6:30am, for a 7:00am breakfast: Today we would have our first landing, and on the Antarctic Continent no less!

At 8:00am, the expedition staff were ready for us at the gangway in the Zodiacs, and our first stop brought us to Cuverville Island.

This is one of the biggest Gentoo penguin colonies on the continent, with some 5000 pairs. Upon landing, in which we practised our newly acquired Zodiac disembarkation skills (slide – face the driver – swing legs over – disembark), the staff had marked two paths for us which we were able to follow in either direction from the landing site, and which gave us beautiful views of a glacier and interesting observations of gentoos and their adorable offspring on the one side, and an unexpected young elephant seal on the other side in the middle of the penguin rookery!

As it was the first encounter with penguins, we couldn't stop to take pictures of them! We were able to see all the care to the chicks, the exchanges of the parents on the nest, the feeding, relationships with neighbours and the continuous shuttles up and down the slopes of Penguin parents coming and going from feeding trips.

After that we shuttled back to Plancius for lunch and a snooze or a bit of relaxation before we got ready for our second landing of the day, after some three hours of navigation.

Our journey took us to Port Lockroy where we visited Base "A" located in Goudier Island among hundreds of Gentoos penguins nesting around and under the buildings. One member of the Port Lockroy team had come on board before our landing and introduced the site. The small, low-lying rocky isle is designated as Historic Site and Monument under the Antarctic Treaty and is operated by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust as a living museum.

Additionally, it has a post office and a gift shop – two very important facts! Many postcards were sent, many a souvenir bought, and plenty of photos taken. Half of us landed at Port Lockroy first, and the other half were invited on a zodiac cruise around in the area before the swap of the two groups. It gave us opportunities to observe Blue eyed shags nesting, crabeater seals resting on small icebergs and a minke whale crossing the bay. Some of us even saw our first Leopard seal swimming through the water and around the zodiacs.

After this first very active day, we got our daily re-cap at 6 :30pm but it was not the end of our activities ! 30 of us had signed for a camping night on the ice in Antarctica ! Ali, our expedition leader, had planned it tonight for good meteorological reasons! So, just after our dinner, we joined a part of our expedition team, Pippa, Celine, Nicole and Jodie, our lovely doctor, ashore on Dorian Bay (Damoy Point). Some tents were put on, but for most of us we were going to use bivia bags, and experience the true sensation of sleeping on the ice in Antarctica. After some chatting and walks around, it was time to enjoy this unique night and try to sleep... until 4 :15am – the time of the wake up call to get back to the ship!



Kayakers Log

Morning

The kayakers first opportunity to get onto the water came about during the expeditions first landing on Antarctic Peninsula at Cuverville Island. It was a full zodiac of all 14 kayakers plus Alexis Bellezze (guide), Francoise (Chief Officer and proactive Zodiac Cruise Driver) and Ferdinand (Zodiac Cruise driver).

We had the best weather conditions, we were able to do a nice trip around the bay, had a nice chat with a Finnish couple who were travelling the world on the Saruma sailing boat. It was a nice first contact with Antarctic waters and was super fun and we did it well. The highlight of the day: we were able to see from very close and quiet a sleeping Humpback whale.

Afternoon:

Beautiful weather conditions. Second chance to appreciate the beautiful landscape of one of the most visited places, Port Lockroy (known as Base A by the British Antarctic Survey). Now it is a small museum with a post office with hundreds of Gentoo penguins around.

We paddled in a completely quiet Bay, looking at sea birds that are in the middle of the breeding season feeding the chicks, primarily the Blue-eyed shag. The kayakers started to feel more comfortable with the paddle techniques, inside the cockpit and with the gear.



Day 5 – 1st February 2019

Petermann Island, Planeau Island & Port Charcot, Antarctic Peninsula

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°52'S / 063°40'W

Wind: NNE 3 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Overcast Air Temp: +4°C Sea Temp: +1°C

As most of us were still waking up, some of our guests already started this new day in Antarctica as they were camping at Damoy Point. They were collected in the early morning. Then we all enjoyed a transit through the very scenic Lemaire Channel, to reach our next destination; Petermann Island. This is the most southerly position for our trip. There, we had the chance to walk and discover Gentoo and Adélie penguin colonies. Both species were raising chicks; the Adélie ones were already big and near fledging, some of them moulting before a soon departure.



The short and accelerate breeding cycle for Adélie (October to February) is one of the reasons. We could stand and watch the penguins as they went about the busy process of feeding their hungry chicks. Many of the chicks were just lying in the sunshine waiting for their parents to come back from sea with food but those that were with their parents created a wonderful show as the chicks chased them around the colony, desperate for some food before they went away again. It was wonderful to watch.



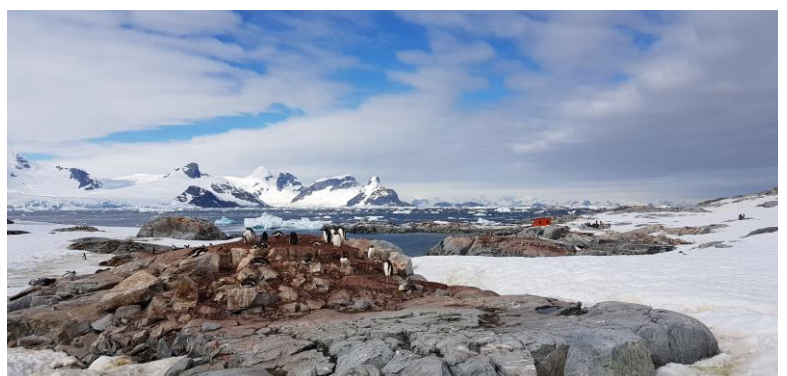
In the afternoon, we then had the chance to land on Pléneau island. The expedition team had arranged a split landing and cruise with half of the passengers going ashore first and the other group going out into the bay for a Zodiac cruise. Pléneau island is 1.2 km long mainly covered by ice. One more time to watch the busy life of Gentoo penguins. On the cruise we sailed between huge and splendid icebergs. On many of them we found a great number of Crabeater seals relaxing and even some Leopard seals. Before dinner, during our daily recap, we learnt more about Seals and the French explorer Jean-Baptiste Charcot. And now we even know why ice is blue!



Kayakers Log

The group definitely had a fantastic kayaking experience. The weather was excellent but we had 15 knots of wind which is the top of the safety standard at the beginning. We face the wind and we did it well. It was our first contact with ice packs surrounding us and we managed them very well.

After an hour of paddling close to the shore the weather conditions get better and we receive the permission to cross the Lemaire Channel to our vessel, the MV PLANCIUS. We were excited and we did it all together, as a solid group of beginner kayakers in one of the most beautiful landscapes to do it. It was a glorious morning.



Day 6 – 2nd February 2019

Damoy Point, Brown Station & Skontorp Cove, Antarctic Peninsula

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°52'S / 063°40'W

Wind: NNE 3 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 8+°C **Sea Temp:** 1+°C

Many people were up and out on deck long before the wake-up call this morning and it was well worth it. It was a clear sunny morning as we sailed towards Damoy Point and with the sun rise making the tops of the snowy peaks glow pink and the moon setting behind the mountains it really was a stunning start.

At Damoy two snow shoe hikes of different length were being offered. Eduardo went with his group a shorter round down to the hut of Damoy bay, where under the historic hut Gentoo penguins found a cosy nesting site. The group enjoyed a break of several minutes silence, taking in the beauty and spirit of the Antarctic surrounding.

Ali was leading the snow shoe hike up onto the long ridge overlooking the bay. This ridge used to be used as a 'ski-way' by the British Antarctic Survey from the 1950's to the 1980's. Staff would arrive by ship and then be flown by small twin otter planes, with skis attached, down to Rothera Base further south. From the top of the ski-way there were stunning views all around and we could look down into Port Lockroy where the cruise ship LÁustrale was anchored. The group walked to the point where the slope got steeper and then made their way back down the slope to Damoy hut. The Damoy Hut, at the bottom of the hill used to be the accommodation hut for passengers waiting to fly, especially if there was bad weather. This hut is now maintained as a little museum by the British Antarctic Heritage Trust. On the way back we passed Gentoo penguins on the higher rocky outcrops near the shore and then near the landing site. It was a lovely morning for a hike and both groups enjoyed the fantastic scenery, brilliant sunshine and moving through the snow.

Back on the ship, lunch was offered as Plancius made her way to Paradise Bay, one of the hot spots for visitors to Antarctica. Once there, several options were offered: landing, zodiac cruise, and more kayaking. The landing took place at the reconstructed Argentine Station Brown, once partially destroyed by fire after the base doctor refused to spend another winter there. For the last 4 years the area has been cleaned and buildings repaired, with scientists carrying out a range of biological work at the station.

Many guests opted for a hike on the high snow towards the higher viewpoint, while the rest were cruising across Skontorp cove, observing nesting Antarctic shags, petrels and terns; Weddell, Crabeater, and Leopard seals hauled out on the ice floes, and the amazing glaciers and icebergs. One elusive Minke whale was seen from the viewpoint, as usual, the animal was moving fast and reappearing in unpredictable places. Some very lucky passengers even witnessed humpback whales feeding from the zodiacs. After more than an hour both groups would swap places, thus appreciating both activities. After an afternoon with sometimes blue skies and great moments, everybody returned to Plancius, where a recap by Ali was offered and a great surprise awaited us.



The Antarctic dinner turned out to be a barbeque on the back deck! While some of us opted to eat inside, the majority took to this open-air dinner with music, very good food, lots of laughter and dancing. It was the grand finale of a very special day in Antarctica.



Kayakers Log

Morning:

This time we decide to do a navigation in more dense ice packs and in between stable icebergs that were in other parts of Damoy. We had the opportunity to stay very close to another Humpback whale but she was moving away from us so we decided to see her from afar. A flock of penguins was jumping in between. The Planet Nine, a beautiful ship, was very close too and at the end we go back to the mothership to have a time of relax after this emotive second whale encounter.

Afternoon:

The waters surrounding Brown station were full of beautiful icebergs, and was a nice place to enjoy the silence of this kind of bay. Calm waters, different ice shapes, lights emerging from them giving us the most incredible views.

We paddled for more than an hour in the absolutely peaceful environment. After that, we visited Brown Base.



Day 7 – 3rd February 2019

Danco Island & Orne Harbour, Antarctic Peninsula

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°43'S / 062°35'W

Wind: Variable **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Clear **Air Temp:** 6+°C **Sea Temp:** 2+°C

In the early hours of the morning, we continued with our sailing plan, which took us along the Gerlache Strait. We cruised without problem enjoying the occasional sight of a whale, and the menacing icebergs.

The Gerlache Strait is the strait that separates the Palmer Archipelago from Antarctic Peninsula. The Belgica Expedition, under command of Lt. Adrien de Gerlache, explored the strait in January and February 1898, naming it for the expedition ship Belgica. The name was later changed to honor the commander himself. This strait is characterized by amazing views of the mountains in the peninsula, as well as the spectacular icebergs that cross the strait.

Shortly after an early lunch, we arrived to our destination for the morning, Danco Island. Danco Island is 1 mile long, and lies in the South part of the Errera Channel, of the West coast of Graham Land. It was originally charted by the Belgica Expedition, under command of Gerlache (1897-1899) and named after Emile Danco, a Belgian geophysicist member of the Belgica Expedition who died on on board the Belgica in the Antarctic. He was a very popular and admired scientist on board this expedition.

As usual, the first to land ashore were the members of the expedition staff, who opened the route to access the lower gentoo penguins and further on to the top of the hill where yet another colony of gentoo penguin nest. The people who opened the route were Adam and Sara who made some steps in the snow aiming for the summit. Once the routes were established, we proceeded to head ashore. The majority of us climbed up, all the way to the summit of the small mountain that rises up to 160 m above sea level (circa 525 feet above sea level). We enjoyed very nice weather, sunny blue skies, and almost no clouds above. From the top we also enjoyed the spectacular scenery of the Errera Channel. This channel was named after Leo Errera, a professor at the University of Brussels who was one of the supporters of the Belgica Expedition. From the top we could appreciate the snowcapped mountains with imposing glaciers, showing an endless collection of crevasses, seracs and bergschrunds. A parade of icebergs showed up below in the waters of the channel.

The guests who opted to stay next to the beach were rewarded also with the calm waters of the channel, as well as with the spectacular views of the icebergs and their endless blue-green colors. Certainly, these guests were not disappointed since they probably enjoyed a long and quiet moment in which they were hear only the gentle splash of the waves, the distant call of gentoo penguins or the murmur of the wind. All this was interrupted twice by the thunderous sound of a couple of avalanches that happened in the mountains opposite to the landing site.



On this landing, due to the shallow and quite waters where we landed, we had the option of having a polar plunge.

For a perfect polar plunge:

- a) the subject needs to find courage to remove his or her clothing,
- b) the subject has to obligate herself or himself to walk towards the cold, cold, COLD, COLD! water and submerge her or his head under the water.

Normally you are allowed to scream (or howl in some cases) in pain or euphoria (you choose which). The aforementioned description for the perfect "polar plunge" was followed by many and at the moment of writing, everyone reported to have enjoyed it very much. As soon as the polar plunge was done, our guests were returned to the ship either to look for a hot shower (those who did the polar plunge) and/or to have a nourishing lunch.



Orne Harbour Landing in the Afternoon.

While our guests were having lunch, the navigation officers repositioned the ship in Orne Harbour, a small cove, 1 mile wide which indents the west coast of Graham Land, 2 miles south west of Cape Anna. The cove was discovered by the Belgian Antarctic Expedition under command of Gelache in 1898. The name Orne Harbor was probably in use by Norwegian whalers, because it was used by Scottish geologist David Ferguson following his geologic reconnaissance of this area aboard the whaler Hanka in 1913. The site is dominated by Spigot Point, a sharp 289m above sea level sharp, ice corniced peak.



Here we offered our guests two activities. For those willing to have a closer look to whales and wildlife along the coast and cliffs, we offered a zodiac cruise. For those wanting a closer encounter with chinstrap penguins, we offer the possibility of a short but steep hike up the ridge where this kind of penguins nest. The hikers were confronted with a steep snowy trail, that led to a rocky ridge from where it is possible to appreciate the Errera Channel, the Gerlache Strait as well as Anvers and Brabant islands. A number of chinstrap penguins were nesting in the ridge and from this height it was possible to contemplate some penguin highways going all the way up. From here we also had the chance to spot some humpback whales in the distance.



Those taking the zodiac cruise were delighted with the nice colors of the mosses and lichens decorating the steep cliffs of Spigot Point as well with the different nests of birds visible from the shoreline. Here nesting at the edge of the cliff, we were able to contemplate different species of birds such as Blue-eyed shags, Antarctic terns and yet more Chinstrap penguins, all of them nesting. Spectacular glaciers and a Weddel Seal were also encountered.

All the zodiac cruises had the chance to encounter a few Humpback whales which, in some instances, came really close to the zodiacs. This was the highlight for many of us. Almost all of us had the chance to take a zodiac cruise, and those who were in the last one, had the chance to enjoy an atmospheric afternoon, with grey clouds enshrouding Spigot Point.

Kayakers Log

Sunny morning in Antarctica.

We did a completely different trip. Heading to the southern part of Danco, we saw the crevasses at the top of the island and many of big icebergs in a clear blue sea.

We stop paddling to see how the melting iceberg succumb at the burning sun of the morning.

With no wind, it was not even cold. We were delighted to be in this delicate and pristine environment.



Day 8 – 4th February 2019

Portal Point & Cierva Cove, Antarctic Peninsula

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°23'S / 061°46'W

Wind: NNE 4 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 1+°C **Sea Temp:** 2+°C

Overnight we had sailed North to Charlotte Bay which was filled with large icebergs, the grey, cloudy weather added to the drama of the landscape. To make the most of our final day in Antarctica Ali woke us at 5am and a light breakfast was served in the lounge.

As per other days we split into our designated groups, the 'Whales' went ashore first to the snowy dome of Portal Point and the 'Penguins' started the morning with a zodiac cruise. Portal Point is a small peninsular connected to the main Antarctic Continent which was used during the first East West crossing by Sir Wally Herbet. It is set within a panorama of high cliffs and snow fields so most walked to the top of the dome to enjoy the spectacular vista, which was only enhanced by the beautiful early morning light. Close to the landing site there were two beautifully marked Weddell Seals hauled out that kept the wildlife enthusiasts and photographers very content. Those cruising were entertained with yet more feeding humpback whales, they really were proving to be the stars of the show on this voyage with countless encounters. A few seals (fur, crabeater and Weddell) were also spotted on a rocky outcrop whilst cruising round the grounded icebergs, which appeared in all sorts of shapes and sizes due to their various phases of melting and erosion.

Back on board there was a full breakfast to enjoy while the ship sailed North to our final destination in Antarctica, Cierva Cove. At about 11:30 it was announced we were pulling into the ice filled bay and it would be worth our efforts to dress warmly and head out onto the deck to enjoy the views as we were going to do a ships cruise of the area. In front of us we could see a vast glacier at the back of the bay and to the right-hand side the Argentinian summer base, Primavera. Alex and some of the expedition staff were on the top deck serving a rum fortified hot chocolate to keep us warm which was much appreciate as there was quite a chill in the air. There was a lovely atmosphere out on deck and it became quite a social event with lots of group picture taking and jovial banter.

After lunch many of us headed out on to deck to enjoy our last views of Antarctica as we made our way through Boyd Strait, before hitting the infamous Drake Passage. At 3:30pm Pippa gave a presentation about the History of Whaling, quite a sobering subject but very relevant considering the wonderful whale encounters we had over the past few days.

It seemed a very fitting end to our time in Antarctic to have Happy Hour at the bar before recap as we certainly had lots to celebrate, we had been blessed with incredible weather and wildlife sightings from the very beginning.

At recap Ali showed us the weather forecast for the Drake Passage before teaching us a little more about krill, the cornerstone to almost all life in the Southern Ocean. This was followed by Pippa who explained more about the



different types of feeding techniques humpback whales use and Eduardo concluded with some very interesting biomass figures.

After dinner the bar was of course open. We celebrated our entry into the Drake Passage with a nightcap and then headed for bed, wondering what tomorrow's weather would bring.

Kayakers Log

Everybody was ready at the early wake up that Ali, our EL, set specially for this morning. Of course, kayakers were ready at six am to start an amazing trip at Charlotte bay with the most beautiful grey light of the morning. Icebergs bigger than our ship surrounding us, a fur seal waiting for these curious paddlers let us stay very close to her.

More seals on our way back to the ship visiting some beautiful ice, like moving sculptures in the meantime. It was simply wonderful, breath taking.



Day 9 – 5th February 2019

At sea to Ushuaia – Drakes Passage

GPS 08.00 Position: 60°40'S / 063°20'W

Wind: WNW 4 Sea State: Rough Weather: Fog Air Temp: +4°C Sea Temp: +2°C

A change from our usual start to the day- no wake-up call- this morning we were awoken by Zsuzsanna calling us to breakfast at 8 o'clock. Our first sea day on the return across the Drake Passage after our amazing time in Antarctica.

We awoke to the movements of Plancius pushing her way through the swell which had built up after the area of low pressure that had been in the area before our arrival. The ship was surrounded by dense fog for most of the day, making spotting anything difficult, however we were occasionally visited by a few birds.



Breakfast was served with acrobatic grace and poise by the hotel staff and we then made our way to the lounge for a lecture by Ali.

'Ice Maidens' looked at the women behind the explorers such as Scott and Shackleton as well as the struggle for equality in working in the Antarctic regions and exploits of those such as Felicity Ashton who was the first solo female to cross Antarctica.

Adam then gave us his presentation on the 'Quest for the South Pole' looking at the background, participants and events of the Norwegian and British attempts to become the first to the geographic South Pole.

We enjoyed lunch in slightly calmer seas and after Sara gave her presentation on 'Seals of the Southern Ocean.' She told us of the range, status, behaviour and breeding of the seals that we have seen on this trip.

Eduardo then astounded us with his presentation 'Eternal Darkness – Exploration of the deep-sea floor' looking at life and research at phenomenal depths.



The afternoon offered a chance to relax in the lounge or our cabins and we then had the daily recap and dinner.

The fog cleared to reveal a beautiful evening sky and sunset, after enjoying the clear evening; Ali showed 'The Penguin Post Office', a documentary of a summer season at Port Lockroy where we had visited on our first day.

Day 10 – 6th February 2019

At sea to Ushuaia – Drakes Passage

GPS 08.00 Position: 56°33'S / 065°33'W

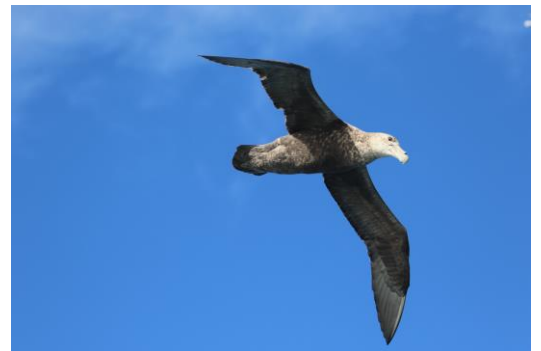
Wind: W 4 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Cloudy Air Temp: +10°C Sea Temp: +6°C

Our last day at sea began with some more gentle rolling, which we will not miss, as by the end of the day we would be in the lee of South America as we head for the Beagle channel.

Celine began the lecture programme with an incredibly interesting lecture on 'Seabirds – The invisible threat.' During our voyage we have seen many seabirds, from the large albatross to the small storm petrels. Celine tells us how they are under threat from pollutants and contaminants, and how we can help.



Later in the morning we are treated to a lecture by one of our fellow passengers – Professor Will Steffen. Will is a Professor at the Australian National University, and is an expert in the field of climate change. The title of his lecture; 'Anthropocene - Surviving the age of humans'. The lecture told us how he has described this geological era, which is viewed as the period during which human activity has been the dominant influence on climate and the environment. We learnt about the main drivers of climate change, where the environment is at, and how we can help prevent further global warming. The talk was very insightful and left us all talking in to the afternoon about the topic.



With the sea calming many of us enjoyed the sunshine out on deck during the afternoon. A little later in the afternoon Eduardo talked to us about Ferdinand Magellan, a Portuguese explorer who completed the first circumnavigation around the world and named many of the places and species in South America. The talk was fitting for the area we are sailing towards today. Eduardo's passion and enthusiasm for the exploration age shone through as he told us about this exciting era.



We said goodbye to our rubber boots in the late afternoon, and many of us packed up our belongings to prepare for our departure in the morning.

Great fun was had in the evening with a toast to the voyage from Captain Artur, thanks given to Ali and her expedition team and fantastic slide show shown of our incredible trip to the Antarctic Peninsula.

The rest of the evening was spent reminiscing and discussing travel plans while we sailed up towards the start of the Beagle channel, often with an escort of Dusky dolphins surfing the waves and bow riding the ship.

A colourful sunset gave us a beautiful end to our incredible adventure.

Day 11 – 7th February 2019

Disembarkation - Ushuaia

At 6am we approached the port of Ushuaia ready to disembark for the final time, no zodiac ride ashore and a dry landing. The last 10 days have taken us on a remarkable journey to Antarctica and allowed us a glimpse of life in this remote and sometimes inhospitable place. We will all have different memories of our trip but whatever the memories, whether it was the Gentoo penguins at Danco or the sight of icebergs for the first time they are memories that will stay with us for the rest of our lives.

Total distance sailed on our voyage:

1780 Nautical Miles



Your Expedition Team!

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



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

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Sara Jenner:

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Eduardo Rubio-Herrera.

First Voyage Around the World Antonio de Pigafetta

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The Global Influence of Localized Dynamics in the Southern Ocean

S. Rintoul. *Nature* 558, 209–218 2018.



PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2019

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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

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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



Ushuaia

55°

Latitude

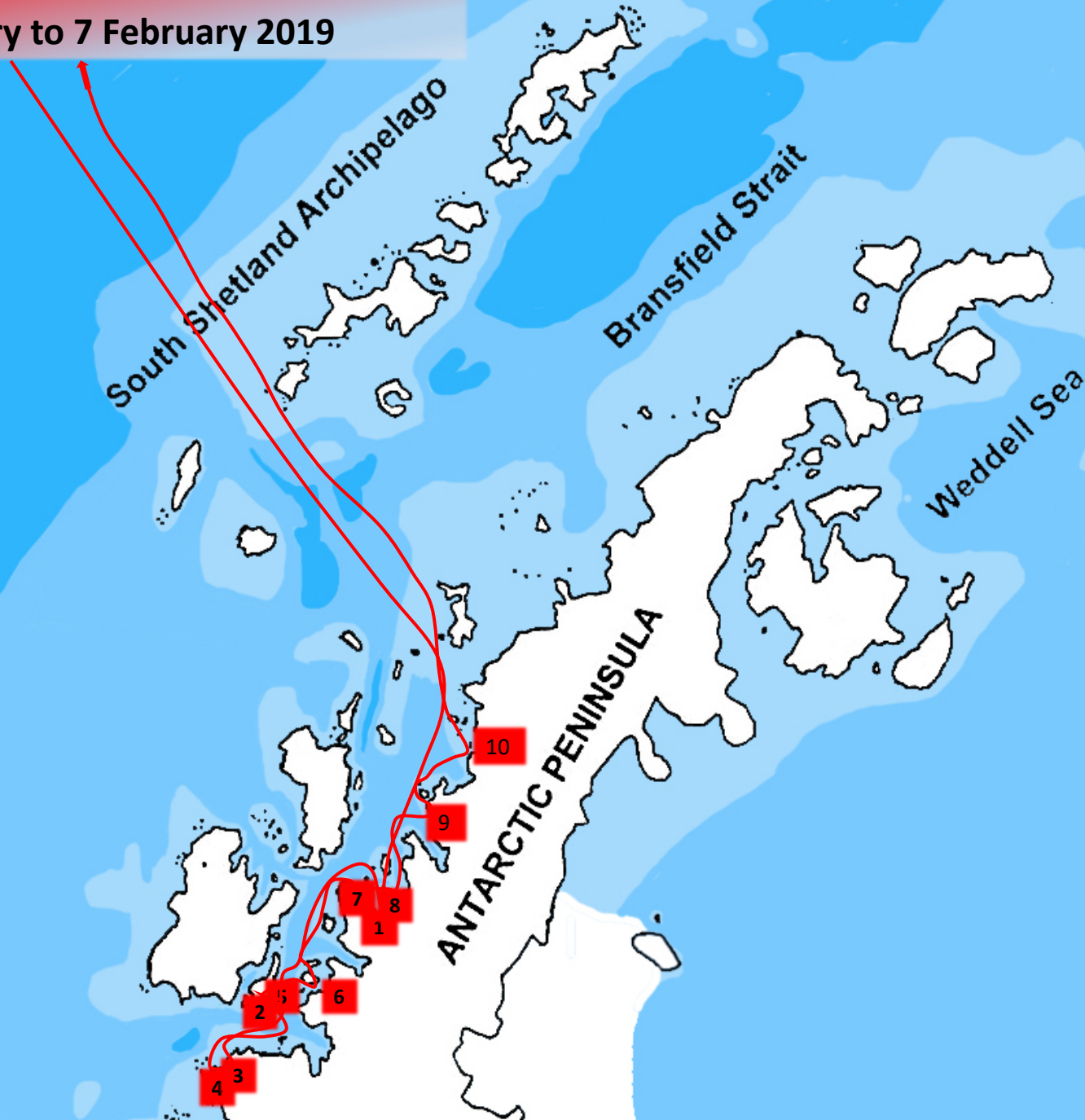
60°

Antarctic Peninsula

65°

PLA26-19- Antarctic Peninsula
28 January to 7 February 2019

PLA26-19- Antarctic Peninsula
28 January to 7 February 2019



1. Cuverville Island
2. Port Lockroy
3. Petermann Island
4. Pléneau
5. Damoy Point
6. Brown Station/Skontorp Cove
7. Danco Isand
8. Orne Harbour
9. Portal Point
10. Cierva Cove

Species list: Common birds and marine mammals of the Antarctic region

English	Latin	28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan	31-Jan	01-Feb	02-Feb
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>						
Adelie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>					X	
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>				X	X	X
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>				X		
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>						
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>						
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		X				
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>		X				
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>		X				
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	X	X	X			
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>		X				
Light Mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>		X	X			
Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
Antarctic Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>			X			
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>		X	X			X
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>			X			
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>						
Soft Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>		X				
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>		X				
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		X	X			
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		X				
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>						
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>						
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>						
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>						
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>		X	X	X	X	X
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>			X	X		
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>						
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>						
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>				X	X	X
Pale-faced Sheatbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>				X	X	X

Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	X					
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>				X	X	X
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>			X	X		X
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>						
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	X					
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	X			X	X	X
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	X					
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>				X		X
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>			X			
White-headed Petrel	<i>Pterodroma lessonii</i>						
Atlantic Petrel	<i>Pterodroma incerta</i>						
Marine mammals							
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>						
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>				X		
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>			X	X		X
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>						
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>			X			
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>						
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>						
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>						
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>						
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>						
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>						
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>						
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>				X	X	X
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>				X	X	X
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>						
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonina</i>				X		
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>				X		X
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>						
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>						

03-Feb	04-Feb	05-Feb	06-Feb	07-Feb
X				
X	X			
X				
		X		
		X	X	
		X	X	
X	X	X	X	
	X	X		
	X			
X				
			X	
			X	
X	X			
X	X			
X				

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



Ali Liddle Expedition Leader

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.



Adam Turner, FRGS

Assistant Expedition Leader

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, and in 2014 Adam left the Police to work 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 often gives lectures on history, in 2017 he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and 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.



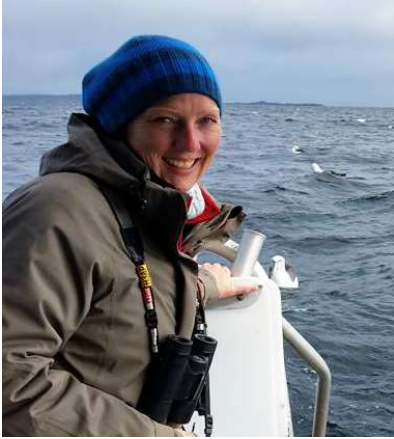
Sara Jenner

Expedition Guide

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

Sara is a keen wildlife photographer and when she is not wrapped up warm in the polar regions she enjoys working as a photographic guide in Botswana, on the beautiful Chobe River and Okavango Delta, so really has a life of two halves.

Sara's love of wildlife and the great outdoors has taken her to all seven continents and she has travelled extensively in the polar regions including the Antarctic Peninsula, Falklands, Spitsbergen, Greenland, Iceland, Baffin Island and Canadian High Arctic. Returning to the UK, Sara used this knowledge to work in the travel industry as a polar specialist for several years, until the travel bug hit again, and Sara decided to swap life on the land for a life at sea and joined the Oceanwide Expedition Team in 2016.



Nicole Janinhoff

Expedition Guide

Growing up in the Northern part of Germany, Nicole developed a fascination for animals and nature at a very young age. She studied Landscape Ecology and lived half a year in Norway.

For ten years she worked as a freelance ecologist in Germany and The Netherlands mainly monitoring plants, biotopes, birds and bats.

In 2009 she joined the aerial survey team from Wageningen Marine Research and has been participating in marine mammal surveys on the North Sea, Atlantic Ocean, Ireland, Dutch Caribbean and Antarctica.

Since 2014 Nicole has been working for the Ministry of nature conservation of the federal state of Lower Saxony, Germany (NLWKN). Her specialisation within the biotope conservation department is coastal biotopes and mires.

After having first been to Antarctica, her visit to the high Arctic and to Svalbard enhanced her fascination for the polar regions even more.

Nicole speaks: English, German and Dutch

Nicole spreekt: Engels, Duits en Nederlands



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.



Eduardo Rubio Herrera

Expedition Guide

Eduardo describes himself as an astronomer by profession with a passion for nature, particularly for the sea, mountains, sunrises and sunsets.

Trained as an astronomer, he got a PhD in Astronomy from the University of Amsterdam in 2010. After a postdoctoral position, in 2013 he decided to split his time between lecture halls and ships. Hence you could find him part of the year lecturing physics and astronomy and the other part giving lectures and guiding in ships to Antarctica and in the South Atlantic Ocean.

Eduardo's interests vary from history of exploration to the intricacies of astronomy. During the trips he has undertaken, he has given lectures about polar explorers, the science carried out in Antarctica (astronomy in particular), our Universe, famous battles at sea and optical phenomena, to mention some. At sea, besides being an engaged guide and lecturer, he loves to show constellations to people, pointing out their names and their lore. Eduardo always aims to raise the enthusiasm of guests towards science, and their awareness towards the unique and fragile planet where we live.



Pippa Low

Expedition Guide

Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 7 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia and New Zealand. A marine scientist specialising in marine mammal research and conservation, she splits her time between the hemispheres, and loves showing the public the marine world and all it has to offer. Growing up on the coast of the incredible Moray Firth sparked a love for the marine world and its inhabitants. Spending every spare minute in, on or under the water; professional life reflected this love from a young age, becoming an instructor in various marine disciplines and going on to study Marine biology at university in Scotland, then later, Australia. Upon completion of her degree, Pippa worked in Australia on marine science research projects as a marine mammal observer, scientific diver and research assistant. After returning to Scotland, Pippa set up a wildlife tour boat company in her hometown of Findhorn and has spent the past 6 years working summer in Scotland, showcasing the wonders of the Moray coastline and wildlife to adventurers on board, and then spending the winter in southern hemisphere working on marine research projects; including photo ID, migration, distribution and behavioural studies on a range of marine mammals. She has developed a keen interest in marine mammal conservation through outreach and research. Most recently, Pippa worked in the Ross Sea on a New Zealand Ecosystem voyage, realising a life dream to work in Antarctica. On this voyage she assisted in the collection of baseline data on the World's largest Marine Protected Area; primarily on the distribution of cetaceans in this region. The 2018/19 season will be Pippa's first working as a guide in this region.



Regis Perdriat

Expedition Guide

A biologist by training, Regis has always been passionate about nature. After a master's degree in ecology and a scientific mediation diploma, he rapidly got involved in the actions of the Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (Birdlife France), where he specialized in seabird care and their rehabilitation after oil spills. Then he joined the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust studying endangered species. In Brittany he worked for the Sept-Iles Nature Reserve.

In 2008, Regis overwintered on the Kerguelen archipelago (very remote French subantarctic islands) as an ornithologist, studying populations of penguins, albatrosses and elephant seals. Regis fell in love with those isolated environments and carried out several fieldwork missions in Crozet and Kerguelen. He finally joined the management team of the natural heritage of French Southern and Antarctic Lands, based on Reunion, and became Head of the Southern Lands Nature Reserve, implementing its environmental policy.

Back in France since 2016, he now proposes his experience for scientific expeditions and shares his passion for birds as often as he can. His last expeditions took him to North-East Greenland, to the steppes of Kazakhstan or to the Antarctic Peninsula. Looking for him? Try outside, you should find him and his binoculars searching for birds or whales.



Alexis Bellezze

Kayak Guide

Alexis previously served in the Army and Air Force and is a qualified veterinarian surgeon, with an expertise in Farming, Equine and Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation.

However, his love of wilderness and adventure took him to train as a kayak guide in Patagonia. He is also a qualified paraglider pilot, trekking guide and a Wilderness First Responder Instructor. He has extensive experience guiding tourists, mountaineers and kayakers, in the form of creating and delivering corporate development days, solo trips, expeditions and educational programmes.

He loves nothing more than being in the outdoors, especially if there is a chance to camp or see wildlife, but most importantly relishes the chance to share this with likeminded people.



Captain Artur Iakovlev

**and his international crew
Including:**

Chief Officer:	Francois Kwekkeboom	[Netherlands]
2nd Officer:	Romanas Vicas	[Lithuania]
3rd Officer:	Warren Villanueva	[Philippines]
Hotel Manager:	Zsuzsanna Varga	[Hungary]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Alex Lyebedyev	[Ukraine]
Head Chef:	Ralf Barthel	[Germany]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	Jodie Sage	[United Kingdom]

AND

Expedition Leader:	Ali Liddle	[United Kingdom]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Adam Turner	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Sara Jenner	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Nicole Janinhoff	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Celine Clement-Chastel	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Eduardo Rubio-Herrera	[Guatemala]
Expedition Guide:	Pippa Low	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Regis Perdriat	[France]
Kayak Guide:	Alexis Belezze	[Argentina]

Welcome you on board!

Welcome on board!

Your luggage should already be in your cabin. Please check that you are not missing any luggage and if there is luggage in your cabin that does NOT belong to you or your cabin mate please tell a member of staff or crew.

Feel free to explore the ship. Tea and coffee is always available in the Lounge on Deck 5

~1715 **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Drill** in the Lounge. **ALL** passengers **must** attend this very important safety briefing.

~1800 Approximate sailing time. As we leave Ushuaia, we recommend that you enjoy the views from the outside decks.

The Bridge and Bridge wings will be closed this evening.

~ 1815 **Lifeboat drill.** Please listen for alarms and announcements and make your way to the Muster Station, the Lounge, on Deck 5.

~1845 After our departure, we would like to invite you to the **Lounge** (Deck 5) for a welcome from Expedition Leader **Ali Liddle** and an introduction to the ship by Hotel Manager **Zsuzsanna Varga**. Afterwards Captain **Artur Iakovlev** invites you to join him for a welcome drink in the Lounge, where you will also meet the Expedition Team.

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

If you think you may require sea sickness medication then please take it at this time! Dr Jodie will be available in the lounge after dinner if you require any additional medication or advice.

Tonight, at around midnight we will be in open waters. Please secure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) in your cabin, keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship and be careful with the heavy doors.



Antarctic Peninsula At Sea towards Antarctica

Tuesday 29th January 2019

- 0730 Your first Wake Up call from your Expedition Leader, Ali. Good Morning!
- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- During the morning we will be sailing South in the Drake Passage. Take some time to get your 'sea legs' and enjoy the seabirds that will follow us on our voyage.**
- 1030 **Seabirds.** The Drake Passage is a great place to see Southern Ocean seabirds. If you would like to find out more about the species we might see and how they are adapted to life at sea then please join Regis in the **Lounge** for his presentation about Seabirds.
- 1200 **Kayakers:** If you have **pre-booked** and pre-paid for Kayaking during this trip please meet our Kayak guide Alexis in the Library to find out more about your Kayaking activities on board Plancius.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Penguins!** We hope to see plenty of penguins during our time in Antarctica. Please join Sara in the **Lounge** if you would like to learn more about these iconic little birds.
- 1630 **Campers:** If you have **pre-booked** and pre-paid for a night of Camping on this trip please meet the camping guides in the Dining Room to find out more about your night on the ice!
- 1715 If the weather conditions are good at this time we would like to give you your Rubber Boots. We will call you by Deck so please listen for announcements over the PA system. Bring a pair of socks with you!
- 1830 Please join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap**. This is where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

- 0730 Wake Up call from Ali. Good Morning!
- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0930 **Zodiac Briefing.** This is a mandatory briefing for all passengers who wish to go ashore during this voyage. It will outline our Zodiac operations on board Plancius. This will be followed by a mandatory IAATO briefing which outlines the guidelines regarding our expedition to Antarctica. Please join Ali in the Lounge.
- ~1030 The briefings will be followed by Bio-security procedures on board which will involve vacuuming your outer clothing, particularly Velcro fastenings as well as camera bags and back packs. You then need to sign a bio-security declaration. We will call you to the Lounge by Deck number/cabin number so please listen for announcements.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.
- Bio security procedures will continue in the Lounge. Don't forget to sign with the staff!
- 1500 **Whales.** We hope to see plenty of whales during our time in Antarctica. Please join Pippa in the lounge where she will give a presentation about the whales that we may see on our trip to Antarctica.
- 1630 **Science in Antarctica.** There are many nations conducting a wide range of scientific research programmes in Antarctica, but why are they there? To find out more please join Eduardo in the Lounge for his fascinating presentation.
- 1830 Please join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap.** This is where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



Antarctic Peninsula

Cuverville Island and Port Lockroy

Thursday 31st January 2019

In the early hours of the morning we will be in the Gerlache Strait and you will see the Antarctic Peninsula for the first time! there will be icebergs and possibly humpback whales. Feel free to enjoy the scenery any time you like! Sunrise is 04:26

0630 Wake Up call from Ali. Good Morning!

0700 Breakfast Buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

~0800 After breakfast we plan to go ashore at **Cuverville Island**. Here we can offer time with the Gentoo penguins who have established colonies on the island and the opportunity to enjoy a walk along the shoreline. Please listen for announcements regarding our landing.

Kayakers please listen for announcements.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

~1500 **Port Lockroy**. This was known as Base A by the British Antarctic Survey and is now a small museum with a Post Office and gift shop. There are also hundreds of Gentoo penguins around the buildings so please take care where you are walking. Due to the island and buildings being small we will split the group so that the first group go ashore at Port Lockroy while the other group will go on a Zodiac cruise in the local area. We will swap the groups after an hour or so. Both groups will do both landings. **At the shop and Post Office they take Credit/Debit cards, Euro, Dollars and Pounds sterling.**

One group will go to Port Lockroy first for the museum, penguins and Post Office. Please no more than 30 people in the museum building at any one time. Guides will be there to assist.

The other group will go to on a Zodiac cruise in the local area.

Please listen for announcements regarding timings.

Kayakers you will have the opportunity to kayak and then visit Port Lockroy at the end of the afternoon. Please listen for announcements from Alexis.

1830 Please join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our daily re-cap.

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

Campers! You will go ashore after dinner for your night on the ice! Please listen for announcements!



Antarctic Peninsula

Petermann Island and Port Charcot

Friday 1st February 2019

In the early morning we will collect our campers from Damoy Point and re-position to our planned morning location.

We hope to transit through the Lemaire Channel to reach our planned destination of Petermann Island but this will depend on the ice conditions we find there. Please listen for announcements.

0700 Wake Up call from Ali. Good Morning!

0730 Breakfast Buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

~0900 **Peterman Island.** After breakfast we plan to go ashore on **Petermann Island**. This will be our most southerly position for our voyage. On shore we will find Gentoo penguins but also a small colony of Adélie penguins as well. Staff will mark the route to the penguins and maybe a longer walk along the island ridge. Please stay on the trails as there are known crevasses and snow overhangs at the edge of the island. **Kayakers** please meet with Alexis in the Boot Room at this time.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

~1430 **Port Charcot.** Our afternoon location is in Port Charcot on Booth Island. This was the place where Jean Baptiste Charcot brought an expedition in 1903. On shore we will take you to the Gentoo penguin colonies and where we can sometimes find Chinstrap and Adélie penguins as well. There will also be an opportunity to hike to the top of the island where there are stunning views over the surrounding area.

1845 Please join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our daily re-cap.

1915 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



Antarctic Peninsula

Damoy Point and Brown Station

Paradise Bay

Saturday 2nd February 2019

0700 Wake-up call.

0730 Breakfast Buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

~0830 **Damoy Point.** We hope to take you ashore at Damoy Point where there are lots of Gentoo penguins around the point as well as some fantastic Antarctic scenery. We will offer you the chance to enjoy the penguins and also take a guided walk up to the top of the ridge which was once used as a runway for planes taking scientists further into Antarctica. There is a small historic hut. Please check with the guides before going in.

1230 Lunch is served in the Restaurant.

TBA We plan to do a split landing/Zodiac cruise at **Brown Station & Skontorp Cove.** This will be a continental landing with Gentoo penguins and a Zodiac cruise in Skontorp Cove with spectacular glacier views, nesting Antarctic cormorants and occasional seals.

The **Whales Group** will go ashore first while the **Penguins** go cruising and we will swap groups on shore.

1830 Join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the daily **Recap** where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.

1900 **Special Antarctic Dinner** is served. Please dress warmly!! Bon appétit.



**Antarctic Peninsula
Danco Island and Orne Harbour
Sunday 3rd February 2019**

0700 Wake-up call from Ali

0730 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

0830 **Danco Island.** This island is home to large colonies of Gentoo penguins so we hope to be able to take you ashore to spend time with these Antarctic residents. If conditions allow, we will also offer a hike to the top of the island. Please follow the marked route and give penguins right of way at their Highways.

At the end of the landing we will offer the chance to do a 'Polar Plunge', an Antarctic swim.

We'll bring the towels, you bring the insanity!

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

~1430 **Orne Harbour.** This afternoon we hope to take you ashore in Orne Harbour where we will take you on a short walk to the Chinstrap penguin colonies on the ridge. This is another continental landing so enjoy your second visit to the Antarctic continent.

1830 Please join Ali and team in the Lounge for our daily **Recap** where staff will tell stories and we will outline our plans for our last day here in Antarctica.....

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



Antarctic Peninsula Portal Point and Cierva Cove Monday 4th February 2019

0500 Wake-up call from Ali.... sorry! At this time there will be juice and pastries available in the Lounge before we go out.

Portal Point and Charlotte Bay. We hope to do an early morning landing and a zodiac cruise in the area of Portal Point and Charlotte Bay. The views from the small dome of the point over Charlotte Bay are beautiful and this is where the zodiacs will be cruising. This bay is often a good place to see humpback whales and there are often nice icebergs in the area.

Whales Group – Please come to the Gangway at 05:45

Penguins Group – Please come to the Gangway at 06:00

0815 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

During the morning we will sail up the Gerlache Strait and ship cruise into Cierva Cove which is a particularly scenic cove on the Antarctic Peninsula. Enjoy the scenery and keep a look out for marine mammals!

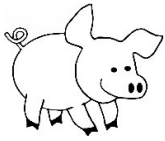
1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

Mandatory Post Lunch snooze!!!

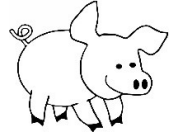
1530 **Whaling in Antarctica.** We have seen lots of fantastic Humpback whales during our voyage but they were almost hunted to extinction at the beginning of the 20th Century. Please join Pippa in the Lounge to hear more about the whaling in Antarctica and the recovery of the species.

1815 Please join Ali and team in the Lounge for our daily **Recap** where staff will tell stories and we will outline our plans for tomorrow.

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



新年快乐



Happy New Year to all of our Chinese guests!
It is the Year of the Pig!

There will be no wake-up call this morning!! But Zsuzsanna will wake you at 0800 for breakfast anyway!

- 0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 0930 **Ice Maidens, Women in Antarctica.** We often hear of the male explorers who made their mark on the continent of Antarctica during the golden age of exploration but who were the women behind the men and which women have made their own mark? Join **Ali in the Lounge** to find out.
- 1100 **Scott and Amundsen, The Race to the Pole.** During the golden age of exploration at the start of the 20th century there were a number of expeditions striving to be the first to the South Pole. Join **Adam in the Lounge** to hear the story of Scott and Amundsen in their quest for the pole.
- 1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Seals.** We have seen a number of different seal species on this voyage and have learnt how to identify them. If you would like to find out more about each of the species, their breeding behaviour and adaptations to life in the Southern Oceans then please join **Sara in the Lounge.**
- 1630 **Eternal Darkness – Exploration of the Deep Sea Floor.** During our voyage we have sailed the Drake Passage and spent time in Antarctic waters. If you would like to find out more about what is below the surface of the waves in the depths of the ocean then please join **Eduardo in the Lounge.**
- 1800 Please join Ali and team in the Lounge for our daily **Recap** where staff will tell stories and we will outline our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
After dinner we will screen a documentary in the Lounge entitled Penguin Post Office, which is all about Port Lockroy.

0745 Wake Up call from Ali. Good Morning!

0800 Breakfast is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

0930 **Seabirds, The Invisible Threat.** During our voyage over the Drake Passage we have seen many seabirds, from the large albatross to the small storm petrels. They are under threat from pollutants and contaminants and **Celine** will tell you more in her presentation which will take place in the **Lounge**.

1100 **Guest Lecture. Anthropocene, Surviving the Age of Humans.** Will Steffen is a Professor at the Australian National University. He is an expert in the field of climate change and he has described this geological era, which is viewed as the period during which human activity has been the dominant influence on climate and the environment. Please join him in the **Lounge** for his presentation about this era.

1230 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

1500 **Magellan.** As we sail towards the coast of South America **Eduardo** would like to tell you all about Ferdinand Magellan, a Portuguese explorer who completed the first circumnavigation around the world and named many of the places and species in southern South America. Please join him in the **Lounge**.

1630 At this time we will collect your rubber boots! We will call you by deck to the boot room on deck 3 so please listen for announcements from the Expedition team.

1815 **Captain's Cocktails.** Please join us in the Lounge for a celebratory drink to toast the success of our Antarctic voyage. Ali will also outline plans for disembarkation in Ushuaia.

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

Accounts. After dinner you will be called by deck to settle your accounts with Zsuzsanna and Alex at Reception. Please listen for announcements.

0700 Your final Wake-up call on Plancius from Ali.

As you leave for breakfast please place your large **check-in luggage** outside your cabin door and return your cards, key rings and card holders to Reception. You may leave your hand luggage in your room but please place it on the floor so the hotel staff can start to change the bed linen.

0730 Breakfast Buffet is served in the Dining Room for one hour.

Your luggage will be moved from the Ship to the pier. Please ensure you collect it from the pier prior to leaving!

~0830 All passengers leave the ship. Please make sure you have all your belongings

- If you are catching the airport bus: please collect your luggage and place it on the bus.
- If you have an afternoon flight: You can have your luggage stored. Please bring it to the luggage truck on the pier and it will be taken to **Avenida Maipú 1226**. This building is located past the service station and approximately 350 m to the left as you leave the pier. ***You will need to pick up your luggage before 1400.***
- If you are staying in Ushuaia: You are free to leave the pier on foot with your luggage by the customs control entrance. Taxis can be found opposite the entrance to the pier.

On behalf of all the Staff and Crew on board Plancius we thank you for travelling with us. We wish you a safe and easy journey home.